



# 1<sup>ST</sup> SBCAL REGIONAL MEETING

IDEALIZER AND PRESIDENT OF ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

JOSY CAROLINA COVAN PONTES, DVM

## ICLAS REPORT

### EVENT SUMMARY

The first regional meeting of Brazilian Association for Laboratory Animal Science (SBCAL) took place in Natal at the Brazilian Northeast coast from April 23 to 26. The event was motivated by the demands from local and neighbor institutions, whose operational difficulties were beyond the scarcity of available knowledge and training in laboratory animal science. Accordingly, the meeting counted on the attendance from 30 institutions from 16 states (figure 1). This coverage far exceeds the original expectation that the event would embrace the nine states composing the northeast of Brazil. In this sense, each participant could take to his/her niche considerable improvement in laboratory animal science, hence becoming a local source for a wider spread of knowledge.



**Figure 1:** Natal, the city that housed the meeting, is indicated by the location point. The grey colored states indicates the origin of participants.

The meeting was organized in a way that the lectures covering subjects of particular interest for specific audiences were concentrated in different days. The final program is listed below. This approach allowed to deepen into each topic, which altogether covered a broad picture of the laboratory animal science. Some of the lectures were mostly expositive, while others had a more dynamic approach, encouraging attendees to learn important concepts through discussion of representative cases. In both situations, the audience was always actively engaged and highly inquisitive, reflecting considerable interest in the lectures.

The event also prompted the connection among colleagues. This emerging network favors collaboration and share of knowledge among peers, which is highly desirable and useful for solving problems and for the advance of laboratory animal science.

At last, the discussions fostered throughout the meeting were an important source of information for an accurate description of current context of animal facilities and laboratory animal science in the region. This portrait was forwarded to regulatory councils to orientate the adjustment of guidelines according to the actual demands.

As whole, the meeting completely fulfilled its objectives, bring knowledge of immediate practical application for and prompting the development of the laboratory animal science in a highly underprivileged region. Such significant accomplished was not possible without ICLAS, whose financial support was indispensable and very appreciated.

# **FINAL PROGRAM**

## **Day 1 (April 23<sup>rd</sup>)**

- Laws & Regulation;
  - Advising researchers: What should I do?;
  - Anesthesia, analgesia, post-procedure care;
  - Euthanasia;
  - Acquisition, transport and quarantine.
- 

## **Day 2 (April 24<sup>th</sup>)**

- Ethics;
  - Laboratory Animal Science;
  - Laboratory animal welfare;
  - Animal facilities and sanitary status;
  - Humane endpoints.
- 

## **Day 3 (April 25<sup>th</sup>)**

- Animal models;
  - Breeding and genetics;
  - Administration routes;
  - Common diseases;
  - The importance of enjoying your job.
- 

## **Day 4 (April 26<sup>th</sup>)**

- Reproducibility in biomedical research;
- Principles of Experimental Design;
- When is the animal use not necessary? Alternative methods;
- IACUCs: troubleshooting audience's problems.

## INVITED SPEAKERS

- André Silva Carissimi
- Ekaterina Botovchenco Rivera
- Josy Carolina Covan Pontes
- Luisa Macedo Braga
- Octavio Presgrave
- Thiago Zaqueu Lima
- Vera Maria Peters



**Figure 2:** Some representative pictures of the dynamic of the meeting.



**Figure 3:** Pictures from lectures, speakers and audience. Some of the speakers: Andre Carissimi (upper left), Ekaterina Rivera (upper medium), Josy Carolina Pontes (upper right) and Luisa Macedo Braga (bottom right).

Josy Carolina Covan Pontes  
Brazil, May 23, 2019.