

ICLAS Grant for Training the Trainer in LAS Education in Europe

I greatly appreciate the ICLAS European Regional Committee awarding me ICLAS sponsorship to attend the Workshop on Teaching Experimental Design for Animal Experiments on September 12th - 13th 2022, at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Porto, Portugal.

The main purpose of participating in this workshop was to develop and strengthen knowledge and experience in teaching experimental design to researchers who use animals in their studies and to students who might link their careers to animal science. This workshop helped me to get ideas about the content and design of the courses and the improvement of the teaching material.

As an immediate result of the activity, I should mention the initiative to strengthen the application of appropriate experimental design both at the project planning and evaluation stages. To do this, my colleague and I have proposed a National Animal Welfare and Ethics Committee workshop where we plan to discuss ways to ensure compliance with existing best knowledge and practice regarding experimental design. The main benefit of this workshop was the integration into a network of other experimental design educators representing different countries, backgrounds, and experiences. In the future, I will use the new teaching strategies discussed in the seminar in my lectures to university students.

I highly value the network that shares various materials and resources, and in the near future, we will discuss several activities together with colleagues on how we can spread knowledge about experimental design in Latvia and the Baltic region. I am grateful to ICLAS for their support in attending this workshop and I look forward to a successful collaboration in the future.

Sincerely,
Laila Silamiķele
Researcher at Latvian Biomedical Research and Study Centre