

5TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE BASEL DECLARATION SOCIETY

Openness and Transparency: Building Trust in Animal Research

14th – 15th February 2018 | at swissnex, Pier 17, San Francisco



Conference Information

Animal research has made key contributions to all fields of (bio-) medical and basic research. The welfare of research animals is guaranteed by the most restrictive rules that govern animal use by society. Nevertheless, the perception that animal research is cruel and does not contribute to improving human health and should therefore be replaced by animal-free research remains widespread.

This underscores the need to improve communication on all aspects with the aim to increase public trust in animal research. However, calls for openness and transparency are often met with serious worries by scientists and research institutions alike. There is concern that increasing openness and transparency will provoke backlashes and trigger campaigns by militant activists and organizations opposing animal research.

Therefore, the International Basel Declaration Society (BDS) has decided to organize this conference in close collaboration with the National Association for Biomedical Research (NABR), Americans for Medical Progress (AMP) and the Foundation for Biomedical Research (FBR). This conference provides a unique opportunity for all stakeholders from academia and industry to meet and discuss best-practice examples of improved open communication and other innovative efforts to increase trust.

There is no registration fee and participants are accepted on a first come first serve basis. However, participants must cover all costs for travel and accommodation (recommended hotels will be listed on the BDS website). Participants attending the conference dinner are requested to make a contribution of U\$40 to offset costs. Please register NOW for the conference using the registration tool on the Basel Declaration Society website:

www.basel-declaration.org/meetings/5th-international-bds-conference/

Wednesday, February 14, 2018: Invited & Registered Participants

8:15 a.m.	REGISTRATION & COFFEE
9:00-12:30	PLENARY SESSION PART I
9:00 a.m.	Welcome Rolf Zeller (BDS) Matt Bailey (NABR/FBR) Sheila Fakurnejad (Swissnex)
9:15 a.m.	Dario Ringach (UCLA): Moral Disputes in Science
9:40 a.m.	William Newsome (Stanford University): The Importance of nonhuman Primates in Neuroscience Research: Scientific and Ethical Issues
10:05 a.m.	Larry Carbone (UCSF): Universities Views on Openness and Transparency
10:30 a.m.	COFFEE BREAK & NETWORKING
11:00 a.m.	Margaret Snyder (NIH): NIH – supported Extramural Research and Transparency
11:25 a.m.	Stefan Treue (BDS): The Basel Declaration and other European approaches to increase Transparency and Communication about Animal Research
11:50 a.m.	Wendy Jarrett (UAR): A step-change in openness: Results of the UK Concordat



- 12:15 p.m. Q&A
- 12:30 p.m. LUNCH & NETWORKING**
- 1:30-03:00 p.m. PLENARY SESSION PART II**
- 1:30 p.m. **Kirk Leech** (EARA):
How greater Openness with the Public can ease Pressures on the Animal Research Supply Chain
- 1:55 p.m. **Tom Holder** (SR):
The Case for Openness: Why Institutions benefit from a Proactive Approach to Animal Research Communication
- 2:20 p.m. **Servan Grüninger** (BDS):
Blogging on Animal Research and -Ethics
- 2:45 p.m. **Ann Turner** (AALAS)
Advocacy Efforts to Increase Understanding of Biomedical Research Conducted by the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (ALAAS)
- 3:00-3:15 p.m. Q&A, General Comments
- 3:15-6:15 p.m. Workshops
COFFEE BREAK around 4:30 p.m.
- 6:15-7:30 p.m. Workshop Leaders and Experts
(supported by Conference Staff)
- Finalization of all workshop documents/position papers for discussion in plenum (2nd day) and for the press briefing package (2nd day).
- 8:00 p.m. CONFERENCE DINNER**

The Workshops 3:00-6:00 p.m.

The two workshop leaders introduce the topic and issues to be discussed in 10-12min presentations each. Experts are included to provide additional input and stimulate discussion. After introducing the topic and sketching the aims of the workshop, the round table discussion aims to reach concrete proposals/conclusions that can be presented to the plenum on the second day. These draft documents/position papers from each of the four workshops will be discussed in plenum (2nd day) and will be adopted as new position papers of the BDS. Afterwards, these documents will be made available to all stakeholders and should form the basis for activities at the BDS conference and at workshop topics. These documents and position papers should not only be an important matter at the conference, but will hopefully help communicating openly and transparently about animal research afterwards (see in particular workshop 1). Furthermore, these documents will be included in the press briefing on the second day of the BDS conference.

1. Openness and Transparency in Animal Research

Workshop Leaders: **Paula Clifford** (AMP)
 Allyson J. Bennett (U Wisconsin)
Additional Experts: Wendy Jarrett (UAR) and Stefan Treue (BDS)

The aim of this workshop is to work on a written document that can be seen as a commitment to a process aiming to increase openness and transparency concerning animal experimentation in the USA. Therefore we intend to invite major US stakeholders (Universities, NIH and relevant government agencies, laboratory animal organizations, major research institutions, granting agencies, publishers and so on) to participate in this workshop.

2. Outreach to Students and General Public

Workshop Leaders: **Richard W. Bianco** (BDS)
 Rhonda Wiler (Genentech)
Additional Experts: Ann Turner (ALAAS)

Like in other countries, universities and research institutions are often reluctant to openly and transparently inform the general public about the importance of their animal research. Also students are not made sufficiently aware of the necessity of animal research in modern biomedical and life science research. How can proactive openness on sensitive issues like animal research become normality?



3. Science Communication and Social Networks

Workshop Leaders: **Tom Holder** (SR)
Dario Padovan (ProTest Italy)
Additional Experts: Servan Grüninger (BDS/reatch) and Aimée Zuniga (BDS)

Reaching out to the young generation and having a bigger impact depends on innovative communication in times of information overkill and debunking. To achieve this, effective and informative webpages must be combined with social media, to ensure the public can find clear and factual information about the role of animals in research. This workshop is lead by experts that very successfully use social networks, blogging and who advocate for easy-to-find, informative web information concerning all aspects of animal experimentation and life science research. They have successfully worked to engage the public, including younger audiences, in a proactive, open and transparent dialog on animal research.

4. Transparency and the 3Rs

Workshop Leaders: **Mary Ann Vasbinder** (NA3RColl)
Natalie A. Bratcher (ABBVIE)
Additional Experts: Rolf Zeller (BDS) and Lida Anestidou (NAS)

The attention and focus on the 3Rs for both improved animal welfare and scientific impact continues to evolve in the United States. In a time where resources are sparse but the demand for alternatives and improved scientific methodology and relevance is high, we must be creative in our approach to achieving 3Rs impact. One way to achieve such impact is by getting involved in or supporting external consortia and participating in consortia-led committees and working groups. This panel will provide an overview of multiple US, 3Rs-based consortia, their initiatives, impacts and discuss both advantages and challenges of working with consortia. Common challenges addressed will include time required to contribute, time to obtain meaningful outcomes, financial involvement and support, and working in the precompetitive space. Benefits far outweigh the challenges and include increased probability of success when experts work together toward a common goal, greater influence in numbers and often improved ease of implementation or adoption of change. Finally, while these groups share the common goal of advancing the 3Rs for optimized impact, there is room for alignment.

**Thursday, February 15, 2018:
Participants, Journalists and all Stakeholders (open)**

9:00-12:45

PLENARY SESSION

9:00 a.m.

Welcome, Introduction & Purpose of the Meeting
Richard W. Bianco (BDS)

9:15 a.m.

Presentation and discussion of the topics, resolutions and draft documents of the workshops. Adoption of the resolutions and draft documents (pending final revisions)

Leaders of workshops 1-4 (presentation & discussion)

10:30 a.m.

COFFEE BREAK

11:00 a.m.

Eric Sandgren (UW Madison):
If we say it, will they hear? Student and Faculty Interest in Animal Research Outreach

11:10 a.m.

Ken Gordon (NABR):
The Imperative of engaging Millennials in building Trust for Biomedical Research

11:35 a.m.

Leland S. Shapiro (AMP):
The Patients Voice – why we need Animal Research

12:00 noon

Panel Discussion on Animal Research, Openness and Transparency

Moderated by **Aimée Zuniga** (BDS)

12:45 p.m.

Concluding Remarks by Conference Organizers
(BDS & NABR/FBR)

1:00 p.m.

LUNCH & NETWORKING

Participants can meet and discuss with Press, Science Writers and other Media

2:00 p.m.

Media Training for interested Researchers and Participants
(workshop attendance only through registration possible)



Organization Committee

This conference is organized by the Basel Declaration Society (BDS) in collaboration with the National Association for Biomedical Research (NABR), Americans for Medical Progress (AMP) and the Foundation for Biomedical Research (FBR).

Rolf Zeller (BDS President)
Richard Bianco (BDS Vice-President)
Matt Bailey (NABR and FBR)
Paula Clifford (AMP)

Larry Carbone (UCSF)
Ophir Klein (UCSF)
Mickey Goldberg (Columbia University)
Stefan Treue (BDS)
Rhonda Wiler (Genentech)
Aimée Zuniga (BDS)

Sheila Fakurnejad (Swissnex)
Benjamin Bollmann (Swissnex)
Astrid Kugler (BDS)
Sabine Schrimpf (BDS)
Susan Willson (Genentech)

Sponsoring



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