

**1999 - 2000
SUMMARY OF SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES
DEPARTMENT OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE**

I. ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN BOOKS AND JOURNALS

A. Full length published articles.

C.R. Abee. Squirrel Monkey Breeding and Research Resource. Lab. Primate Newsletter 38(2):13-14 (1999).

C.R. Abee. The Squirrel Monkey in Biomedical and Behavioral Research: Introduction. ILAR J. 41(1):1 (2000).

C.R. Abee. Squirrel Monkey (Saimiri sp.) Research and Resources. ILAR J. 41(1):2-9 (2000).

A.G. Brady. Research Techniques for the Squirrel Monkey (Saimiri sp.) ILAR J. 41(1):10-18 (2000).

A.G. Brady, L.E. Williams, D. Haught, and C.R. Abee. Use of the Feed Additive Sodium Hexametaphosphate to Eliminate Dental Calculus in Squirrel Monkeys (Saimiri sp.). Contemp. Topics in Lab. Anim. Sci. 39(2):27-29 (2000).

W. Hofman, D. Schubert, J. LaBont, L. Munson, S. Gibson, J. Scammell, P. Ferrigno, and J. Sodroski. Species-specific Barriers to Primate Immunodeficiency Virus Infection. J. Virol. 73(12):10020-10028 (1999).

L.E. Williams and M. Glasgow. Squirrel Monkey Behavior in Research. ILAR J. 41(1):26-36 (2000).

B. Articles in press.

None.

II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

M.E. Glasgow and L.E. Williams. Effects of Timing of Environmental Stress on Social Behavior Patterns During Pregnancy in Captive Squirrel Monkey (Saimiri boliviensis). Am. J. Primatol. 51(Suppl. 1):58 (2000).

L.E. Williams, A. Steadman, and B. Kyser. Increased Cage Size Affects Aotus Time Budgets and Partner Distance. Am. J. Primatol(Suppl. 1):98 (2000).

III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

None.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

A.G. Brady. Squirrel Monkey Obstetrics. APV Workshop, Indianapolis, IN (1999).

L.E. Williams. Increased Cage Size Affects Aotus Time Budgets and Partner Distance. ASP, Denver, CO (2000).

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Christian R. Abee, D.V.M., Chair of the Department, became The Charles M. Baugh Professor of Comparative Medicine (March 30, 2000); he is also a member of the Council on Accreditation of the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International, 2000-2003; member, Comparative Medicine Group of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges; and served as Special Guest Editor of the National Research Council's ILAR Journal, Volume 41, 2000.

Alan G. Brady, D.V.M., Associate Professor, is a member of the Board of Directors, American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine Foundation, and head of grant reviews for the ACLAM Foundation; a member of the Board of Directors, Alabama Association for Biomedical Research, 1992-present; secretary, Association of Primate Veterinarians; member of the Board of Directors, and editor of the APV Newsletter, 1997-present; and *ad hoc* member of the site visit team for the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International, 1991-2000.

Susan V. Gibson, D.V.M., Assistant Professor, is chair of the Committee on Continuing Education, American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine, 1999-2000.

Lawrence E. Williams, Ph.D., Associate Professor, is a member of the Membership and Finance Committee and the Education Committee, American Society of Primatologists, 1994-1999.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The Department of Comparative Medicine is one of the six basic medical science departments of the College of Medicine. In addition to research and educational responsibilities, the department provides professional and technical support for all animal research laboratory facilities and for the administration of the laboratory animal care and use program for the University. Comparative Medicine occupies approximately 47,000 square feet divided between two geographically separate sites. Renovation of existing facilities within the Medical Sciences Building Biologic Research Laboratory was completed in 1996 and has increased the overall size of this facility to approximately 35,000 square feet. The Primate Research Laboratory occupies 12,000 square feet. The department is composed of five core units. These are the laboratory animal medicine core, the animal diagnostic laboratory core, the biological resource core, the computer operations/database core, and the administrative core.

The department's Primate Research Laboratory maintains a large breeding and research colony of Bolivian squirrel monkeys (Saimiri boliviensis). Departmental research efforts are primarily in two areas. Studies of the reproductive biology of the squirrel monkey have been carried out as a multi-disciplinary program, including investigators from the Departments of Pharmacology and Comparative Medicine. A second area of investigation is focused on development of medical and husbandry management strategies to optimize squirrel monkey reproduction in captivity. This is a major program for the department, which has resulted in the development of one of the largest neotropical primate breeding colonies in the United States.

The department is carrying out a major research program aimed at improving our understanding of blood product safety. With the emergence of a new variant of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (vCJD) associated with Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in Europe, considerable concern has been raised regarding the safety of human blood products. This research program is investigating the transmissibility of CJD and vCJD from blood and tissues obtained from patients suffering from these diseases.

The department is committed to meeting the needs of the complex biomedical research program within the College of Medicine and providing an environment conducive to departmental and interdepartmental research. Comparative Medicine is composed of four full-time, one joint, and three adjunct faculty members. Dr. Jonathan Scammell, Professor, has a primary appointment in the Department of Pharmacology with a joint appointment in the Department of Comparative Medicine. Dr. Dan H. Lochner, Adjunct Assistant Professor, serves on a part-time basis in the departmental pathology laboratory. Dr. Julio Ruiz, Director of the Argentine Primate Center (CAPRIM), serves as Adjunct Associate Professor. Dr. Sezer Aksel served as Adjunct Professor through September 2000. In addition, there are 21 administrative, technical, and research staff.