WELCOME
Welcome to the first CDU AEC Newsletter of 2015.

Much has happened since the last newsletter so. It is important that lines of communication are able to be maintained.

Animal Ethics Training:
New researchers and existing investigators are required to undertake Animal Ethics training on a two yearly basis.

Training will be conducted on 30th March at the new Menzie’s Building Red 9 1.45 in conjunction with the Higher Degree Research Training program. It will be from 1.30 pm until 4:30 pm.

Training in Alice Springs is expected to happen in April with the chance to video conference to Katherine Rural Campus.

LEGISLATION UPDATE
Currently the Animal Welfare Branch of the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries are conducting a wholesale review of the Act with a view to strengthening and clarifying some aspects of the legislation. The CDU AEC has put a proposal forward as the only AEC in the Northern Territory which has been accepted in principal and will hopefully lead to more efficient ethics decisions and administration.

PREMISE INSPECTIONS
If you are working in the NT in animal research it is a requirement for the AEC to annually inspect the premises being used for the work.

Inspections for 2015 have started with 5 premises visited in February. A recent inspection and assessment by the AEC is a license requirement in the NT.

AEC STAKEHOLDERS

The CDU Animal Ethics Committee (AEC) is currently the only such committee based in the Northern Territory and as such it has taken on the responsibility for the majority of organizations wanting to carry out research and teaching in the NT.

This commitment has resulted in a huge workload for the AEC. The AEC has reached its maximum workload with more than 35 organizations on the books, and has resolved not accept any new organizations..

IMPORTANT DATES
Please see below table which outlines submission deadlines for AEC Meetings in 2015:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Number</th>
<th>Submission Deadline (Mondays)</th>
<th>Meeting Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/15</td>
<td>12 January</td>
<td>04 February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/15</td>
<td>09 March</td>
<td>25 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/15</td>
<td>06 May</td>
<td>20 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/15</td>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>15 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/15</td>
<td>24 August</td>
<td>09 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/15</td>
<td>12 October</td>
<td>28 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/15</td>
<td>16 November</td>
<td>02 December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Annual Progress Report:
Failure to submit an annual Progress Report will mean that a project may be officially suspended (unless adequate reasons are given for the late submission and a new deadline agreed on).

You will receive notice from the AEC of the suspension and work cannot proceed on that project until a satisfactory report is received and approved by the AEC.

Final Report:
Final Reports should be sent to the AEC at the end of the 2 year approval or
earlier if you have completed or closed the project before the approval term has ended. Failure to submit the Final Report will mean that the AEC will not accept any new applications from your team.

Please note: when you are planning to make a submission to the AEC, always download the current version of our forms from the CDU AEC website as use of old version of forms may delay your approval.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE AEC

Due to the need of our two very experienced Category D members (Lay members of the public) and the retirement of one of the Category A (Veterinary) member the CDU AEC has been in the process of recruiting new volunteers and is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Derek Pugh and Ms. Lea Aitken as new appointees to the committee. Derek is a teacher, speaker and author with experience in remote contexts while Lea’s background in business, mediation and as a French citizen brings will add value to the committee. Appointments of the new Veterinary member are in the process of being finalized.

Finally the AEC is very thankful for the long periods of hard work put in by our retiring members Deborah Brackenreg, Marion Davey and Dick Morton. Without their hard work and dedication the work of the AEC would not have been able to operate as effectively as it has recently.

PROJECT PARTICIPANTS – CONTACT DETAILS

If you change contact details, or are no longer involved in an AEC-approved project please let us know ASAP by email so we can update our records and stop you from receiving unnecessary correspondence.

DIVESTMENT OF MATARANKA STATION

Charles Darwin University and the Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that will guide their strategic collaboration associated with infrastructure and resources for primary industry research and training.

The initiative formed part of a strategic assessment and realignment of CDU’s rural industry training in the Katherine region. The university has consulted with industry, the NT Cattlemen’s Association, the Government and the CDU Mataranka Station Advisory Committee and determined that training programs currently delivered at Mataranka Station will be more effectively and efficiently delivered through a combination of intensive and practical programs at CDU’s Katherine Rural Campus and on private properties.

The university has advised the Government and the Northern Territory Land Corporation, which holds a Crown lease in perpetuity over Mataranka Station, that it will not require the station for rural industry training from 2015. This decision would allow CDU to focus available resources to develop activities and facilities at Katherine Rural Campus that would better meet the aspirations for improved training for primary industries and other educational services for the Katherine region.

CONTACTS

ANIMAL WELFARE OFFICER

Cameron Hokanson
08 8946 6498

ANIMAL ETHICS ADMINISTRATION

Mark Li
08 8946 6063

Email: ethics@cdu.edu.au