A microbe for me?

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Aaron Ericsoon, DVM

Aaron Ericsson received his DVM from the University of Missouri in 2006 and went on to perform a residency in the MU Comparative Medicine Program, followed by a PhD in Pathobiology. He now serves as lead scientist on microbiota research for the MU Mutant Mouse Regional Resource Center and Rat Resource and Research Center. His work focuses on characterizing the commensal gut microbiota of laboratory animals and its role in modulating animal models of disease.

His talk will describe differences in the microbiota of laboratory rodents with regard to different strains/stocks, vendors, and housing conditions; the effect of these differences in various animal models; and what this might mean to you.

When: Friday January 24, 2014 @ 5:30pm

Where: IDEXX RADIL
4011 Discovery Dr
Columbia, Mo
65201

Food: PIZZA!

Congratulations for your Achievement

Sinclair Research Center

Jennifer Blair received her RALAT in October 2013.

Jessica Schwartz received her RLAT in November 2013

Please send in your technicians accomplishments from your company. We want to hear from you!

AALAS National Tech Week

2014 International Laboratory Animal Technician Week is February 2-8, 2014. Some companies may have committees to plan festivities for the week. What do you hope to see during this week? Send your responses to your manager. Another option is to share your idea or celebration activities here and have it seen by all!
I had driven by Shryock’s Corn Maze many times, but had never stopped there, so when I got to go with the Mid MO AALAS group I was excited. Even more so that my three sons, aged six, five, and three, were able to come along and enjoy it too, they had an incredible time. My favorite part was watching my sons lead our small group through the maze. They were so excited to lead us to the bridge located in the middle of the maze and to find a checkpoint. Although we did not find all of the checkpoints it was still an amazing experience, definitely worth repeating next year. Both before and after we were in the maze we watched the giant gumball machine take gum balls all the way to the ceiling, before they came back down in a Rube Goldberg Machine fashion. When I asked my kids what their favorite part of the night was all three loudly answered “the giant gumball machine!” So it’s no surprise that I spent several dollars on gum balls.

Having the campfire after was the perfect way to relax and enjoy some hotdogs and s’mores, plus stay warm as the temperature was dropping. I hope everyone that came had a good time as I did. Lastly being a veteran with nine years of service I very much appreciated the theme of Salute Our Troops, and would like to thank Shryock’s Corn Maze for the recognition of this country’s service members.

-Chas Maupin, SRC
David Stock, Honorary AALAS Board Member

Hi, I am David Stock. Glenda, my wife of 39 years and I have two sons. They have blessed us with 4 wonderful grandsons, Brady and Eli, and Will and Cash. Having worn a number of hats, and having had several different job titles in my life, the one that suits me best came from my grandsons, “PaPa”. When I am not gardening, I like to spend time coaching midget league baseball for Eli, Will and Cash and working with Derendinger Auction Service, along with a little huntin’ & fishin’ every now & then.

My “Merial journey” began in June of 2013, when I was hired as an associate supervisor. My “MU journey” ended in May of 2012 after 32 years involved in biomedical research. Oh the changes I have seen! I actually worked on the Vet. School Campus long enough to see both Conaway Hall, Veterinary Science & Vet. Medicine animal facilities through 2 major renovations each. I worked at the now non-existent “North Farm” (the old Vet. Med. Research Farm on Brown Station Road), and at the new Vet. Med. Research Farm on highway 63 near the airport (still referred to as the old “Equine Center” by those of us long enough in the tooth to remember it). I have left animal research a couple of times in my life to pursue other interests, but always seem to find my way back. It’s good to be back home again.

ILAM-Institute of Laboratory Animal Management

As a previous Assistant Facility Manager this was a really great conference for taking my position to the next level. However, that does not go into half of what this informational, fun filled week is about.

ILAM is an AALAS educational program developed to provide instruction in management concepts that is applicable to the laboratory animal science industry and to enhance communication, team building, and networking among colleagues with mutual interests. Directors, managers, and supervisors of laboratory animal facilities have seen their roles grow more and more complex over the years, and they have found themselves in a unique profession. People in management positions must be able to interpret the social, political, and economic environments in which they operate and use administrative and technical skills to maintain and improve their animal care and use programs.

Upon completion of the 2-yr program, each student will receive a certificate for the successful completion of the program.

-Jennifer Blair, ILAM 2013

AALAS 63rd National Meeting

My learning experience at AALAS Baltimore 2013 was amazing. Being surrounded by other members of the lab animal science community, I was able to ask questions about their careers, and gain valuable advice for my career advancement in LAS. While at AALAS, I sat in on several lectures regarding Non-Human Primates, ranging from enrichment to positive reinforcement training tools. I also sat in on seminars regarding USDA updates and the new Guidelines of Euthanasia. All of these lectures were very educational and pertinent to my career in LAS. I had the chance to go to dinner with several vendors that gave me further insight into their products. There was even a party in one of the hotels that practically the entire conference attended. The opportunity to go to AALAS was extremely rewarding educationally, and I had fun while learning. –Alyssa Ingerson, RLAT

Let me know if you see David.

Sign up for ILAM by January 13, 2014.

Check them out at: http://www.aalas.org/association/ilam.aspx

Or check it out for next year!! Scholarships available.
Mission Statement of AALAS: AALAS is an association of professionals that advances responsible laboratory animal care and use to benefit people and animals.