

# Chair's Message

As I look back over the almost 10 years that the AALAS Foundation has been an affiliate of the national organization, I see a period of tremendous change and impact. The increase in the number and quality of grants and requests for public outreach and education has been nothing less than phenomenal. These accomplishments are due to the exceptional commitment of everyone involved, particularly our donors. However, the AA-LAS Foundation faces critical challenges in raising the money necessary to continue funding deserving grant proposals. In a time of tight budgets and near recession, individual donors are not always able to fund at past levels. This is particularly true for corporate donors who face the realities of today's financial markets.

I believe that the future of the Foundation lies not with big corporate support, but with the support of individual members and people who have either directly or indirectly experienced the benefits of advancements resulting from ethical animal research. The Foundation must challenge AALAS members and their families to financially support the public outreach mission, and to counter the animal rights campaigns, especially those of well funded organizations such as PETA and HSUS.

I will start by challenging all AALAS Trustees to make a contribution. The best leaders lead by example. I also ask that everyone keep in mind that giving to the AALAS Foundation is not just a donation, but an investment in our future. Whether through countering the animal rights movements and ensuring our continued careers or ensuring that medical advancements are made to improve the health and welfare of all animals and people, support of the Foundation's mission is a commitment to have a positive impact.

In 2007, the AALAS Foundation approved funding for the following new grant proposals:

- Americans for Medical Progress
   Raising Voices, Savings Lives: Veterinarians
   Speaking for Research—\$30,000
- California Society for Biomedical Research
  Creation and implementation of a Science Biotechnology Badge for the Girl Scouts—\$8,500
- Upstate New York Branch AALAS
   Research Benefits Awareness for young adults in the greater Syracuse area—\$3,600
- National Institutes of Health (NIH)/National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) Training in Basic Biomethodology for Laboratory Rats—\$10,000

In 2007, the AALAS Foundation has received new or renewed corporate funding from:

- BioMedic Data Systems—Annual pledge of \$5,000 per year for the next five years
- Lab Products—Annual pledge of \$10,000 per year for the next five years

It is our hope and belief that the efforts of the AALAS Foundation will not only thrive, but continue to grow in the coming years. Remember, giving to the Foundation at any level grants us the opportunity to disseminate our message in a positive way. The steps we are taking to promote our scientific community as a responsible and professional organization are noticed.

On behalf of the AALAS Foundation Board, I thank you your continued support.

Sincerely,

Robert K. Jackson, DVM, DACLAM

2008 Chair, AALAS Foundation Board of Directors





# **Executive Director's Message**

The public outreach projects funded by the AALAS Foundation have had great impact over the years, especially in the past year. We have made inroads with high school teachers, especially science and agriculture educators, and are increasing our efforts at both the elementary school and middle school levels. The Kids 4 Research website continues to gain recognition as "the place to go" to find out about the importance of animals in the research process by teachers, parents, community leaders, and kids. The AALAS Foundation computer mouse, which advertises the Kids 4 Research website, was the subject of a telephone call from a US Congressman whose Chief of Staff's child had received one in a class. The congressman thanked the Foundation for the work we do and was very complimentary about the website. The Animal Roles in Medical Discoveries poster was updated in 2007 and continues to be the most popular piece of literature in our collection.

The work of the Foundation is of great importance to those who benefit from the research using laboratory animals as depicted in the Living Proof: Faces of Research project conducted by the North Carolina Association for Biomedical Research with funding from the AALAS Foundation. Understanding the complexity and consequences of laboratory animal science and the contributions of those who work in the field has been enhanced by the Accept the Challenge to Care DVD, which has been placed on the Foundation website and can be downloaded for free. These are but a few examples of the array of projects funded by the Foundation that are listed in this report.

As summarized in this report, the Foundation fundraising efforts have been fruitful. Your support, both monetary and personal, is the reason the AALAS Foundation is successful. Thank you for supporting the efforts to educate more people about the importance of animals and the people who care for them in the research process.

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Ann Turner, PhD, CAE

**Executive Director, AALAS Foundation** 

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# AALAS Foundation Projects and Programs Supported During 2007

#### Public Outreach

The AALAS Foundation contributes to the public's awareness of ethical issues in the use of animals and the advances made that help both animals and people. There has been an ongoing educational effort, with particular emphasis on schools, to inform the public about the knowledge gained through the use of animals in research.

#### Kids 4 Research Website

Funded by Charles River Laboratories, www.kids4research.org provides age-appropriate material, including educational games and activities. It is used by teachers and others to stimulate interest and understanding about our field. Look for updates and a fresh new look to the website in 2008.

#### "Product Safety" Poster



The AALAS Foundation developed this 11- by 17-inch poster, suitable for display in classrooms, to reinforce the necessity of responsible laboratory animal care and use to advance health. This poster will educate today's youth on the importance of product safety testing. Order this free poster from the

AALAS Bookstore (www.aalas.org/bookstore).

## "Public Outreach and Communications: A Handbook for Science Professionals"

States United for Biomedical Research (SUBR) developed this handbook as a comprehensive and strategic guide discussing humane and responsible animal research, and how best to communicate with the public. This book is for use by all stakeholders in the animal research community. For availability, email foundation@aalas.org.

#### Public Outreach for School-Aged Children

With Pharmacal Research Laboratories, the AALAS Foundation supports ongoing projects directly reaching students in the classroom.

#### **Outreach at Teacher Conferences**

AALAS staff exhibited at the annual meetings of the National Science Teachers

Association (NSTA), National Association for Biology Teachers (NABT), Future Farmers of America (FFA), Association of Career Technical Educators (ACTE), and American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) to provide teachers and students with educational and informational resources promoting the awareness of research animal care and the benefits of biomedical research. The Foundation approved a grant which will provide funding for AALAS staff to exhibit at conferences in 2008.

# "Saving Lives with Biomedical Research" Comic/Activity Book

Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) developed a comic/activity book to educate elementary students about using animals in research. This book is perfect for career days or for parents with young children. For availability, email foundation@aalas.org.

#### "Together for Life...Every Day of the Year" Poster

This third version is a joint project of Millennium Pharmaceuticals Inc. and the AALAS Foundation. The beautiful full-color 11- by 17-inch calendar/poster is a



multi-purpose outreach tool for students and teachers in grades 6 to 10. The calendar's objectives are to increase awareness of the benefits people and animals receive from medical research using animals, pique curiosity about current issues within the biomedical research field, and teach students more about laboratory animals

and the magnificent contributions they have made to our lives and the lives of animals. Order for free through the AALAS Bookstore.

# Careers

As strides are being made in research laboratories across the country, it becomes increasingly important to attract talented students to the laboratory animal science field. The AALAS Foundation endeavors to help students explore careers in the field with two projects.

# Accept the Challenge to Care: Careers in Laboratory Animal Science video

This video informs students about the variety of careers in laboratory animal science. Through interviews with professionals in the field, students can learn more about biomedical research using ani-





mals, its necessity, and the importance of the work. This video was funded by an \$80,000 joint grant from Novartis Pharmaceuticals, Inc and Novartis Institute for Biomedical Research, Inc. It is available to schools at no cost through AALAS. Thousands of these videos/DVDs are distributed at science teacher meet-

ings to middle school and high school teachers.

#### **Education and Training**

Knowledge has advanced rapidly within the field of laboratory animal science, and it is essential to provide personnel with educational programs and materials to keep them well trained and to enhance the level of research being performed in the laboratory. The AALAS Foundation has supported education and training with these programs.

#### **AALAS Learning Library Web-Based Training**

Funded by a \$125,000 grant from Merck & Company, AALAS is developing web-based training courses on animal research biomethodologies for common laboratory animal species on the AALAS Learning Library (ALL, www.aalaslearninglibrary. org). The course design delivers brief vignettes with streaming video presentations, which allows learners to focus on training related to specific procedures of interest.

Work is ongoing for three other biomethodology courses in development, Working with the Laboratory Zebrafish, Working with the Laboratory Ferret, and Working with the Laboratory Rat.

#### Coming Soon

Look for further information about these grants the AALAS Foundation, approved for funding in 2007 to be developed in 2008:

- Creation and Implementation of a Science and Biotechnology Badge for the Girl Scouts of the USA—California Society for Biomedical Research (CSBR)
- Raising Voices, Saving Lives: Veterinarians
   Speaking for Research—Americans for Medical Progress
- Training in Basic Biomethodology for Laboratory Rats—National Institutes of Health (NIH) and National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI)
- Outreach at Teacher Conferences in 2008





# **Financial Statement**

#### **Current Assets**

Cash	\$232,859
Pledges Receivable (Current Portions)	\$140,450
Prepaid Expenses	\$2,350
	\$375,659
Investments	\$771,529
Pledges Receivable (Less Current Portion)	\$67,800
	\$839,329

Total: \$1,214,988

#### **Liabilities and Net Assets**

**Current Liabilities** 

Accounts Payable	\$619
Grants Payable	\$32,025
Payable to AALAS	\$44,760
	\$77.402

**Net Assets** 

Unrestricted	\$496,041
Temporarily Restricted	\$464,595
Permanently Restricted	\$176,950
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Total: \$1,214,988

## 2007 Contributors to the AALAS Foundation

The AALAS Foundation gratefully recognizes the companies, organizations, branches, and individuals that made financial commitments or contributions to the future of laboratory animal science during 2007.

#### AALAS Foundation Current Corporate Contributors

Our sincere appreciation goes to the following companies and organizations that supported the foundation by making a gift or pledge installment during 2007. Please consider adding your company or organization as a supporter of our efforts.

#### Founder (\$20,000+)

Charles River Laboratories\*
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We would like to thank the following company who worked with the Foundation in 2007 through their support of special events.

# AALAS Foundation Appreciation Reception Sponsor Harlan

#### **AALAS Foundation Current Branch Contributors**

Our sincere appreciation goes to the following branches that supported the Foundation by making a gift or pledge installment during 2007. Please consider adding your branch as a supporter of our efforts.

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#### **AALAS Foundation Current Individual Contributors**

Our sincere appreciation goes to the following individuals who supported the Foundation by making a gift or pledge installment during 2007. Please consider adding your name as a supporter of our efforts.

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