

Marriane Hamlet

From: Elizabeth Coulson
Sent: Tuesday, 14 September 2021 4:12 PM
To: Marriane Hamlet
Subject: FW: Update on animal ethics processes

From: Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) pvcr@research.uq.edu.au
Sent: Tuesday, 14 September 2021 3:00 PM
Subject: Update on animal ethics processes

Dear colleagues

I am emailing to provide an update on animal ethics processes at UQ. At the outset, I wish to acknowledge that some of you will have experienced delays in the review of your applications for animal ethics approval. These delays have been precipitated by an increase demand for new applications that has overwhelmed some of the Animal Ethics Committees (AECs) and administrative processes. Unfortunately, despite the affected committees holding additional meetings each month, delays in reviews are ongoing.

Establishment of an additional AEC

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation), Professor Bronwyn Harch, has recently approved establishment of an additional AEC at UQ. This committee will add much needed capacity to the review of lab mammal work. The new committee will be supported by an additional animal ethics Administrative Officer in Research Ethics and Integrity. Establishment of a new AEC is a substantial undertaking, but it is hoped the new committee will be operational in the first quarter of 2022.

The establishment of an additional AEC provides an opportunity to examine the optimal way in which different types of lab mammal work is allocated to the AECs. The criteria for determining how work will be distributed amongst the AECs has yet to be determined, but it is important to note that your work may not continue to go to the same committee that has reviewed your applications in recent years. If you have any questions about the establishment of the new AEC please contact Dr Marc Kamke, Director Research Ethics and Integrity (director.ethics@research.uq.edu.au).

Over the coming months, to assist in working through the backlog of applications, priority will be given to reviewing items that have been carried over from a previous meeting. In addition, some

applications for new projects will be allocated to alternative committees, with additional meetings held to review those applications. It is envisaged that this approach will allow the backlog to be cleared by the end of the year, with projects moving to the new AEC upon its launch in 2022.

Update on MyResearch Ethics

Work continues on updating and improving MyResearch Ethics. For animal ethics processes, recent changes include the ability to enter animal strains by their common name (as used by UQ's Biological Resources) and a major reorganisation of the application output document. Further details on the changes are available on the [Systems Update Page](#).

Thank you again for your patience as we work through the current challenges.

Sincerely

Mark

Prof Mark Blows

FAA

Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research)

The University of Queensland

Brisbane Qld 4072 Australia

T +61 7 336 59044

E pvcr@research.uq.edu.au

<https://ugz.zoom.us/my/markblows>

CRICOS code: 00025B