BEST WISHES FOR A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON

TRAINING COURSES AND EVENTS 2019

- **January**
  - 2nd Italian Zebrafish Meeting

- **February**
  - Course: Organizing and operating activities in a rodent animal facility & Intensive course on experimental design and biostatistics

- **March**
  - Course: Microbiota and gnotobiotic rodents

- **April**
  - Course: The management of genetically altered rodent colonies

- **May**
  - Workshop: Pathology of Laboratory Animals Module 3: non-human primates, pigs, ferrets and leaps shrews

- **June**
  - Course: Microbiological monitoring of rodents: traditional and innovative approaches

- **July**
  - Course: Severity and humane endpoints in fish research

- **August**
  - Course: Refinements in husbandry of ferrets and pigs

- **September**
  - Course: Organizing and operating activities in a laboratory animal facility: II - Critical points and bottlenecks

- **October**
  - Course: Organizing and operating activities in a laboratory animal facility: III - Critical points and bottlenecks

New events will be added soon, check the website regularly to stay updated

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2019 FGB TECHNICIAN TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP
The Fondazione Guido Bernardini is pleased to announce that in **2019** two 
**Technician Scholarships** will be offered. 
FGB Technician Scholarships are designed to provide scientific/technical training to 
technicians involved in the care of animals used in biomedical research. They will be 
assigned to persons with at least two years of experience in laboratory animal care. 
The scholarships consist in complimentary registration to attend one of the 2019 FGB 
training courses, run in a prestigious research facility; travel and accommodation will also be provided.

Applicants are requested to apply by e-mail no later than February 1st, 2019 
to: secretary@fondazioneguidobernardini.org

**FGB Scholarship 2019**

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**The winner of 2018**
**FGB TECHNICIAN TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP**

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**The main purpose of the visit**
I was particularly interested in the development of principles of health monitoring in other animal 
facilities, in procedures for maintaining conditions free from specific pathogens and in methods for 
controlling such conditions and operating in case of infections in the animal facility.

**Description of the work carried out during the visit**
The training took place from 11 to 12 October 2018 at IFOM-IEO CAMPUS in Milan, in the 
northern Italy. This period can be divided into two parts: lectures and workshops.

**The main results obtained:**
The course was conducted by well-educated and experienced employees of different animal 
departments. They shared their knowledge in such a topics like: methods of screening of animals 
and facilities, the influence of animal caging system on the protection from potential infections, 
innovative approaches for health monitoring, role of pathology, the action in case of infection 
detected, and possible way of infection like incoming animals. 
I was given the opportunity to introduce many different health monitoring procedures and the 
teachers answered all my questions. It was also very valuable exchanging opinions and 
experiences with the other participants. 
This allowed me to develop new skills and to gain broader understanding of a proper approach 
towards health monitoring of rodents. What’s more, I acquired new qualifications and I learned 
new techniques in the field of health monitoring (for example: analysis or acting in case of 
problems). 
I am very grateful for the opportunity to participate in the course, as well as the time and patience 
of my hosts. I would like to use the knowledge gained to improve the quality of work in our animal 
facility.

**Krystyna Wandzel**
Jagiellonian Center for Experimental Therapeutics (JCET)
Jagiellonian University
Cracow, Poland
One of the more appreciated characteristics of FGB courses is the emphasis given to practice by creating realistic situations in which attendants can actively participate and learn in an informal and friendly environment.

We structure and design our training courses so that attendees can work in small groups, so to maximise interactivity, by applying extensive “question and answer” techniques, and stimulating the exchange of participants’ experiences.

The faculty of FGB training courses, composed of renowned and expert professionals in the field of laboratory animal science, is another aspect that is very much appreciated by the attendees as it results from feedbacks of all our courses.
This course was the result of a fruitful collaboration of the Fondazione Guido Bernadini with the University of Bergen. Marine research is a priority area of the University of Bergen that offers a variety of marine-related educational programs, including an Integrated Master in Aquaculture leading to a professional degree.

The course has seen 41 participants whose comments were very positive overall; considering the presentation informative and relevant. Discussion on advantages/disadvantages with different methods, variety of lecturers from the field which created a diversity of experience, practice use and handling of fish using different sedative/anesthetic were particularly appreciated.

In 2019, the collaboration with the University of Bergen will lead to another course: Severity classification and humane endpoints in fish research (see 2019 FGB Calendar)

The Fondazione Guido Bernardini (FGB) is an international non-profit organization dedicated to education and training of personnel involved in laboratory animal care and use. FGB courses and scientific events provide continuing professional development on the most relevant and timely aspects of laboratory animal science, such as:

• high quality standards of hygiene
• husbandry practices
• personnel health and safety
• animals' health monitoring
• management of genetically modified rodents
• management of facility resources including human resources
• and the implementation of the Three Rs

Such themes are addressed taking into consideration new technological developments and scientific needs of research. The FGB motto is: NEVER STOP LEARNING!
I attended this course as I was not familiar with the practical aspects of gnotobiotic rodent husbandry and experimental work. I expected to learn more about the theoretical and practical considerations and also about issues encountered in daily life in a gnotobiotic animal facility and potential solutions.

My expectations have been fully met, the speakers have been exceptional, giving very interesting talks with a lot of examples and illustrations (processes, images). I found the course very useful and informative and an absolute "must" for all persons that will start working with gnotobiotics or are enrolled in the ECLAM programme (as I am). It was a perfect combination of theoretical presentations and practical examples and I particularly enjoyed the descriptions of the gnotobiotic facilities.

The speakers answered all our questions in detail and were very open to discuss the issues that the participants have encountered in practice and gave useful advice. I truly appreciated the presentations of the speakers’ experiences from the start to the current status of their gnotobiotic facilities.

Dr. med. vet. Corina Berset
Residency in Laboratory Animal Medicine
AO Foundation - AO Research Institute Davos - Preclinical Services
Davos - Switzerland

"THE MANAGEMENT OF GENETICALLY ALTERED RODENT COLONIES"
24-25 MAY 2018

WHAT DO A PARTICIPANT SAY ABOUT IT

It is always with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I attend the courses and scientific events organized by the Fondazione Guido Bernardini and the course "The management of genetically altered rodent colonies" confirmed my opinion.

I have enjoyed very much the interesting talks, combining theoretical and practical approaches, as well as the interactions with the other participants. In addition to learning new things, this course was also a great opportunity to network and share valuable experiences with colleagues from other countries.

A big thank you to Laura for the great organization, as usual!

Dr. med. vet. Corina Berset
Residency in Laboratory Animal Medicine
AO Foundation - AO Research Institute Davos - Preclinical Services
Davos - Switzerland

"ORGANIZZAZIONE ED ATTIVITÀ IN UNO STABULARIO DI RODITORI!"
19-21 SEPTEMBER 2018
WHAT DO A PARTICIPANT SAY ABOUT IT

Recently, I attended the course “Organizzazione ed attività in uno stabulario di roditori” organized by Fondazione Guido Bernardini at the IFOM Institute. Three days of full immersion with the aim to back home with a general overview about many aspects in the organization of an animal research facility with rodents. Now, I can say: “Mission accomplished”. This thanks to a well structured course based on a robust theoretical part that was spent for the first two days and the last day with a visit on one of the biggest animal facility for rodents located in the north of Italy. I have truly appreciated all teachers and their easily way to explain the different topics and the raise questions regarding the various aspects of an animal facility. Although the course had a basic imprint, as suggestion that I fell to say to improve the course could be to show some critical situations that might happen into the facility and then find out how to solve them. Lastly, this was my first course with this program and I also found very useful to have in my hands all topics showed, that will surely be helpful for my job.

Giuseppe Germano, PhD
Istituto di Ricerca Pediatrica IRP - Fondazione Città della Speranza
Padova, PD Italy

WHAT DO A PARTICIPANT SAY ABOUT IT

I attended the course: Microbiological Monitoring of Rodents in October 2018. I found the talks were interesting and relevant to my work and were delivered at a level that I could interpret as an animal technician. There was a variety of speakers from different organisations, countries and backgrounds who gave informative and interesting talks. The speakers helped to explain new technologies and innovations in health monitoring and how they can potentially replace or be incorporated into an existing health monitoring program. The social elements of the course, helped to bring the group together and encourage participation. The course was so well organised and very enjoyable and the workshop on the final day was a good opportunity to put our knowledge to the test and challenge our preconceived ideas of health monitoring for rodents. I would definitely consider attending future courses at FGB.

Lauren Wilson
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