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CULTURE OF CARE: BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN RESEARCH GOALS AND ETHICAL PRACTICE

- Animal research programs thrive when their practices balance scientific rigor with ethical stewardship. The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) plays a vital role in building a bridge between scientific objectives and ethical responsibilities, helping organizations align research practices with humane care standards while fostering innovation.
- A thoughtful assessment of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) can provide organizations with a roadmap for continuous improvement. Strengths, such as the pivotal contribution of animal models to scientific advancements, must be leveraged alongside opportunities to address the 3Rs (Replacement, Reduction, Refinement). Weaknesses, including challenges like reproducibility and maintainability, and future risks or resource limitations or misallocation, must be addressed through strategic, evidence-based interventions. IACUCs help organizations bridge gaps in these areas by providing guidance and accountability, ensuring operational goals align with ethical imperatives while supporting scientific excellence.
- Equally important is the ability to meet people where they are, bridging differences in roles and perspectives to create cohesive teams. By fostering trust and collaboration among animal care staff, researchers, and administrators, IACUCs can help organizations build stronger connections and shared ownership of ethical practices. Tools for building compassion resilience—such as professional development resources, emotional support initiatives, and strategies to prevent compassion fatigue—serve as critical supports in maintaining this bridge. These tools help sustain the well-being of teams, improve morale, and ensure the quality and consistency of scientific outcomes.
- This vision underscores that the IACUC is not merely a compliance body but a vital bridge connecting science and humanity. Attendees will leave with practical strategies to reinforce this connection, ensuring research programs not only meet ethical standards but also thrive in innovation, trust, and care.

CULTURE OF CARE: BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN RESEARCH GOALS AND ETHICAL PRACTICE

DELLY THOMPSON | BIOMEDICAL DIVISION | AVP, ANIMAL CARE, OUTREACH, & CARE
IACUC 101 2025 | APAC 2025 | VIRTUAL


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REAL OR PERCEIVED CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

- Employer: University of Washington
- Non-monetary: serve on the Board of JRC, SCAW, WSVMA, & FCSNP on the Steering Committee for USARO BAHSCR roundtable Chair; alternate delegate to AVMA HOD (ASLAP), and member of the AVMA SCHAI Working Group on the Psychological Impact of Humane Endings.

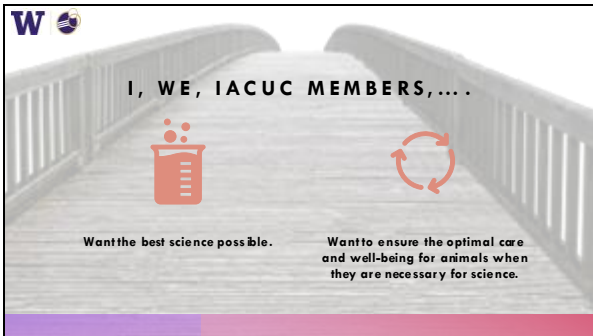
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DISCLAIMER: The views expressed are my own with review and consultation with colleagues





LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that we are on the ancestral lands of the Coast Salish peoples, including the Duwamish, Squamish, Muckleshoot, Snoqualmie, and other tribes who have stewarded this land since time immemorial. We honor their ongoing relationship with this land and recognize their resilience and contributions to the region.



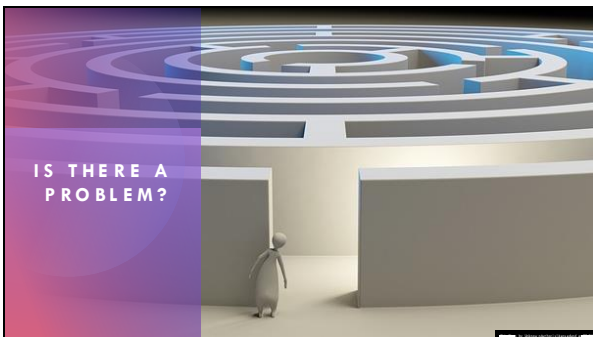
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I, WE, IACUC MEMBERS, ...

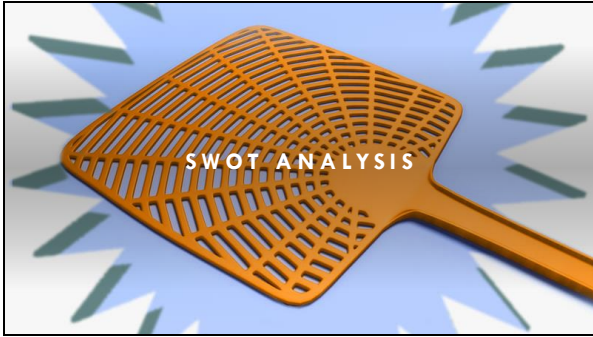



Want the best science possible.

Want to ensure the optimal care and well-being for animals when they are necessary for science.



IS THERE A PROBLEM?



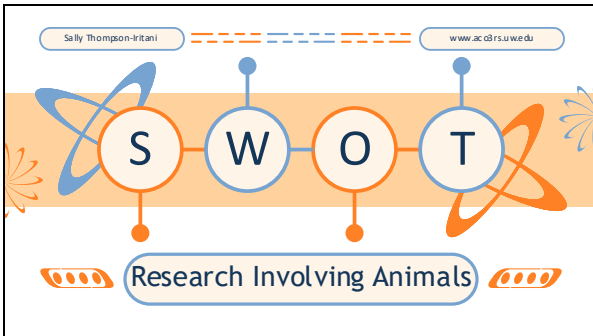



Table Of Contents

01	Introduction	05	Threats
02	Strengths	06	Strategic Implications
03	Weaknesses	07	Action Plan
04	Opportunities		

Decorative icons of eyes are at the bottom right of the table.

01 Introduction

This analysis aims to review the current state of Research Involving Animals and how we can move towards an improved understanding and appreciation of the importance and the limitations of this practice.



Currently animal models are used to support multiple facets of scientific advances:

- Fundamental Basic Research
- Translational Research
- Safety Evaluation

02 Strengths

- Nobel Prizes**
227 award recipients in the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine category, 190 used animal models in their research.
- Biomedical Advancements**
Research involving animals has helped people and animals live longer and healthier lives.
- Safe & Efficacious Therapies**
Most of the medicines that we rely on today were tested for safety in animals.

03 Weaknesses

- Redundancy**
Research involving animals is often redundant and wasteful.
- High & Unnecessary Costs**
Research involving animals is often expensive and unnecessary.
- Animal Welfare**
Research involving animals is often inhumane and causes unnecessary suffering.
- Research Quality**
Research involving animals is often of low quality and unreliable.
- Research Relevance**
Research involving animals is often irrelevant and does not address the most pressing health issues.


04 Opportunities

- Translational Research**
Research involving animals can help bridge the gap between basic research and clinical practice.
- Regenerative Medicine**
Research involving animals can help advance the field of regenerative medicine.
- Personalized Medicine**
Research involving animals can help advance the field of personalized medicine.
- Artificial Intelligence**
Research involving animals can help advance the field of artificial intelligence.



05 Threats

- Regulatory Changes**
Changes in regulations could restrict the use of animals in research.
- Public Opinion**
Changes in public opinion could lead to increased restrictions on animal research.
- Research Funding**
Changes in research funding could impact the ability to conduct animal research.
- Research Quality**
Changes in research quality could impact the reliability of animal research.
- Research Relevance**
Changes in research relevance could impact the value of animal research.

02 Strengths



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03

Weaknesses

Translatability

There is not always direct translation from the animal model to the human or animal condition that it is modeling.

Rigor & Reproducibility

There has been concern expressed about the reproducibility of experiments. (of note: this is not necessarily specific to research involving animals.)

Ethical Dilemmas

Our relationship with animals is changing and our understanding of their needs in relation to our own is evolving.

One of the other considerations that needs to be addressed is that there are adverse events that happen. How we process, recognize, and handle this is critical to understanding and deciding how research involving animals fits into our scientific paradigm going forward.

29 MARCH 2012 | VOL 483 | NATURE | 531

“The scientific process demands the highest standards of quality, ethics and rigour.”

Raise standards for preclinical cancer research

C. Carol Day and Lee M. Ellis propose how methods, publications and institutions that charge 3 systems can benefit.

Nevertheless, scientific findings were confirmed in only 6 (11%) cases. Even knowing the limitations of preclinical research, this was a shocking result.

STUDY CONSISTENCY/REPRODUCIBILITY

Animal Welfare and Study Quality

Box 3. Aspects of Study Quality to Be Reported in the Manuscript

- **Sample size calculation:** How the sample size was determined, and which distributions were used.
- **Eligibility criteria:** Inclusion and exclusion criteria for enrolment.
- **Treatment allocation:** The method by which animals were allocated to experimental groups. If this allocation was by randomisation, the method of randomisation.
- **Allocation concealment:** The method to implement the allocation sequence, and if this sequence was concealed until assignment.
- **Blinding:** Whether the investigators and other persons involved were blinded to the treatment allocation, and at which points in time during the study.
- **Flow of animals:** Flow of animals through each stage of the study, with a specific attention to animals excluded from the analysis. Reasons for exclusion from the analysis.
- **Control of physiological variables:** Whether and which physiological parameters were monitored and controlled.
- **Control of study conduct:** Whether a third party controlled which parts of the conduct of the study.
- **Statistical methods:** Which statistical methods were used for which analysis.

- A well-designed study will incorporate animal welfare by
 - Using best practices for animal care and use
 - Utilizing the correct number of animals and proper controls to ensure that the data is meaningful

PLoS ONE | www.plosone.org
March 2012 | Volume 7 | Issue 3 | e330295

5


04 Opportunities

Reduction
When possible, reduce our reliance on animal models. Optimize the study design and 'right-size' experiments.

Refinement
Refine studies and improve housing and care for animals.

Replacement
Replace animal models, when possible, with non-animal models.

Openness
Improve communication and provide honest and accurate information about research involving animals.




05 Threats

Misinformation
There is a lot of misinformation about research involving animals. Both the challenges and the benefits.

Non-compliance
Non-compliance and retraction do happen and impact credibility.

Trust in Science
Overall, there is a broad mistrust in science globally.

Resources
Resources need to be invested in all 3 of the Rs - to move forward we need to dedicate resources to improvements.



06 Strategic Implications

How can STRENGTHS be leveraged to capitalize OPPORTUNITIES?

Science works!
History has proven that research involving animals leads to improvements in the health of both people and animals.

Strategies to address WEAKNESSES and mitigate THREATS

Clarify the role when animals are necessary and ensure that we are optimizing utilization of the 3Rs. **Culture of Care!**

Hold ourselves accountable for evaluating when and what is working. **Culture of Challenge!**



07 :: Action Plan

Actions to leverage strengths and opportunities

Maximize communications to all stakeholders - scientists, politicians, public, media, and specific opposition groups.

Understand the role of individuals in the process.

Continue to recognize strengths and ensure that they are well understood.

Steps to address weaknesses and counteract threats

Invest resources in all 3Rs! And Culture of Care.

Ensure access to information on improvements and path forward.

Invest in collaboration between research involving animals and research involving NAMS.

07 :: Action Plan

Actions to leverage strengths and opportunities

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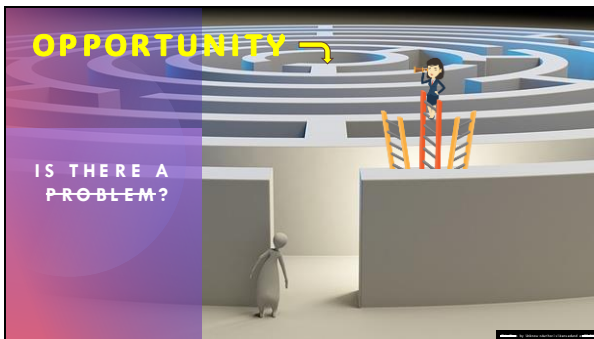
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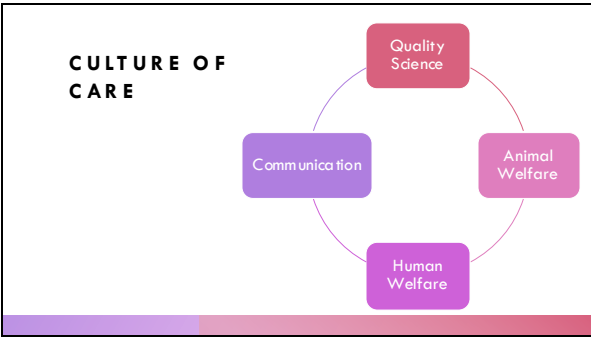
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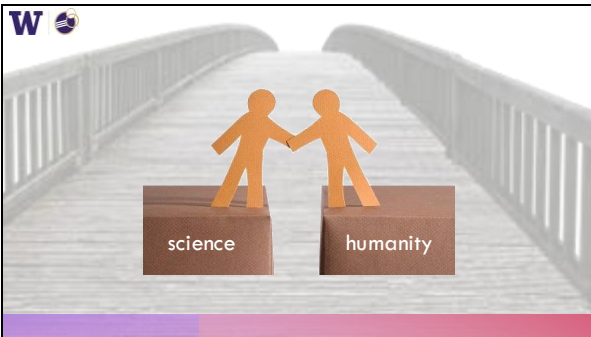
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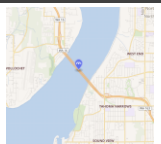

Invest in collaboration between research involving animals and research involving NAMS.
















~ 6000 feet long
Span ~ 3000 feet

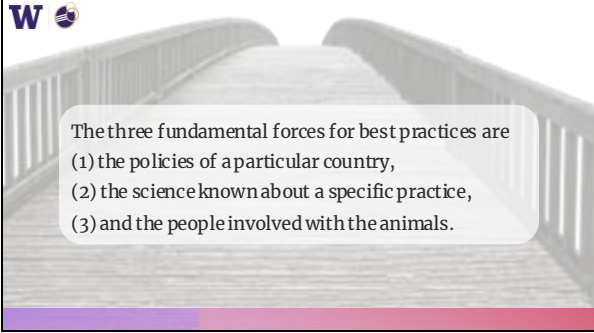
Tacoma Narrows



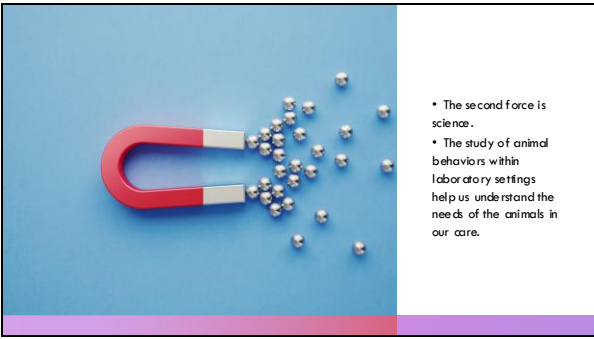

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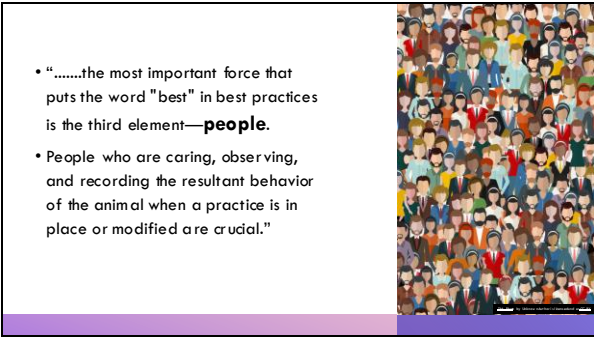
JOURNAL ARTICLE
Animal Care Best Practices for Regulatory Testing
Denise Fillman-Holliday, Margaret S. Landi
ILAR Journal, Volume 43, Issue Suppl_1, 2002, Pages S49-S58,
https://doi.org/10.1093/ilar.43.Suppl_1.S49
Published: 01 January 2002



The three fundamental forces for best practices are
(1) the policies of a particular country,
(2) the science known about a specific practice,
(3) and the people involved with the animals.



- The second force is science.
- The study of animal behaviors within laboratory settings help us understand the needs of the animals in our care.



- “.....the most important force that puts the word "best" in best practices is the third element—**people**.
- People who are caring, observing, and recording the resultant behavior of the animal when a practice is in place or modified are crucial.”

In an ideal setting, people working with animals observe and study animal behavior as influenced by different housing and handling paradigms.

Components include

- study design
- housing
- social contact
- diet/feed
- enrichment devices
- human interaction

5/6 are animal care!

Rigor & Reproducibility

study design

PREPARE (norecopa.no)

The Experimental Design Assistant - EDA | NC3Rs

The ARRIVE guidelines 2.0 | ARRIVE Guidelines

You should know about these tools to support your study preparation and publishing.

housing social contact diet/feed enrichment devices

Key Extrinsic Environmental Levels to Maintain

Turner Scientific, TradeLine Presentation 2024

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Lights, Vibration, and More: How Extrinsic Factor Affect the Animals in the Research Facility
Debra L. Hickman, DVM, DACLAM, DACAW



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INTERSECTION OF FACILITIES, ANIMAL CARE, AND PEOPLE CARE.



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Building Bridge: Human attitudes, behavior, & interactions



Picking up mice
Learn why & how to use refined methods to pick up mice.

Overview | How To | Operations and Training | Institutional Change | Presentations | Publications
Workshops | Time and Other Resources | Learning Center | Research Program | FAQs

Why should I use refined handling?

- Animal Welfare**:
- Scientific Quality**:
- Ease of Handling**:
- Job Satisfaction**:

Strong evidence indicates that it is beneficial for animal welfare & scientific to picking up mice with refined handling methods (i.e., tunnel handling or cupping) rather than by the tail. Picking mice up by the tail - even for 90% of cage change - causes negative effects.

Tunnel handling simply involves guiding mice into a tunnel to pick them up. They can then be tipped out backward and secured for procedures, as needed. The benefits of tunnel handling remain even if mice are then given injections, have blood drawn, or undergo gas anesthesia. Cupping involves picking mice up with cupped hands, & does not require any new equipment, but does require a bit more training of mice.



COOPERATIVE SAMPLING = BETTER SCIENCE

Immunologic effects of model design on outcomes:
Single event, Challenged, repeated, Quiescent, expression

- Katherine et al (2017) vs. cooperatively sampled (2018): cytokine response mediated a behavioral strategy (reflected by reduction in overall cytokine expression)
- The timing of sample collection from several physiological pathways (e.g., IL-10/23, IFN-γ, IL-6) suggests a general response that is cytokine expression

Sedation blunted serum cytokine expression when compared with cooperative work with non-human primates

<https://www.comseeourworld.org/gallery/#group=primates>

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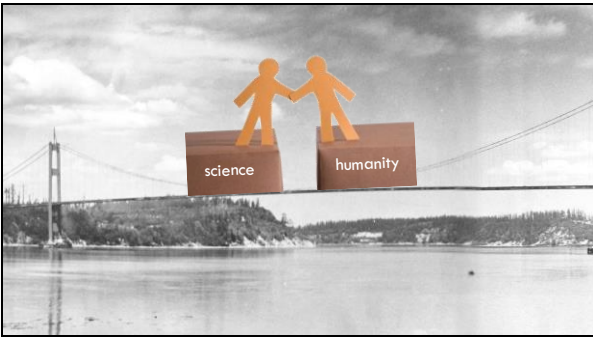
Change fatigue



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•Galloping Gertie






TACOMA BRIDGE COLLAPSE


Galloping Gertie http://youtu.be/7g_gueFDz0U 1:11:58 11:20 45 FPS

1940 – right before bridge opening:

May Completion of steel floor system (girders, beams and stringers); completion rate was 200 feet per day. About this time, riveters and other workmen notice the "bounce," or "galloping" of the bridge. some chew on lemons to combat nausea.

Four hydraulic jacks are installed to act as shock absorbers, as engineers hope to take the "bounce" out of the bridge. They have no effect.





AEROELASTIC FLUTTER

Key Takeaways:

- The Tacoma Narrows Bridge collapse taught engineers the importance of considering **environmental factors** and **interdisciplinary collaboration** in bridge design to prevent catastrophic failures.
- The event highlighted the need for **ongoing maintenance**, wind tunnel **testing**, and **computer simulations** to ensure the safety and stability of bridges.

W 1938

May Tacoma Field is deeded to the U.S. government by Pierce County and becomes McChord Field. Construction project of \$5 million to improve the air base begins in late summer and employs some 2,000 men.

WSTBA submits an amended application to the federal PWA and applies to the RFC for a loan. The revised application includes a preliminary layout design by Clark Eldridge for the suspension bridge.

June Public Works Administration grants funds for the first Tacoma Narrows Bridge, marking the culmination of over 14 years of community efforts. PWA award is conditional on the WSTBA hiring outside consultants for the bridge design. Consultant for the superstructure is Leon Moisseiff of New York; consultants for the substructure are Moran & Proctor of New York.

Aug. Leon Moisseiff completes revision of drawings for 1940 Narrows Bridge.

Sept. Construction bids are opened. **Low bid** for building the Tacoma Narrows Bridge is by the Pacific Bridge Co. in the amount of \$5,594,730.40. Associate contractor supplying steel was the Bethlehem Steel Co. Wire is supplied by John A. Roebling Sons Co. of New York.

Nov. Start of construction on first Narrows Bridge. Official "start date" according to the construction contract is two days later. Official contract start date to build the Narrows Bridge.


Dec. Start of construction for west pier (pier 4).

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FRIDAY FAMOUS FAILURES



Don't be this!!

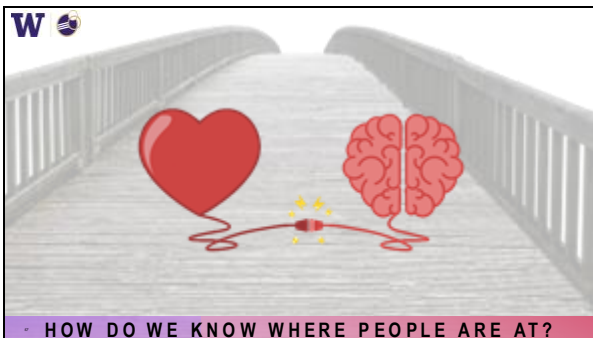



PAY ATTENTION!
CONTINUALLY CHECK-IN.
IS ANYONE EATING LEMONS?
IF YOU HAVE A GALLOPING
GERTIE – STOP!



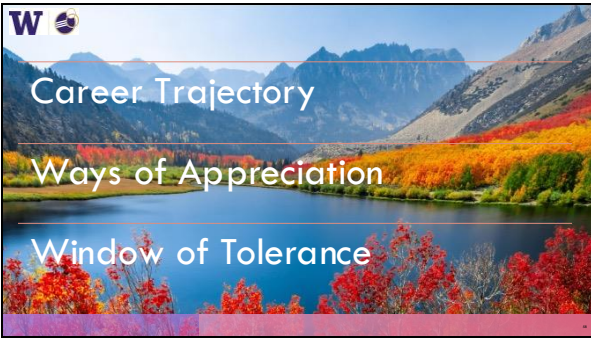
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Meet People Where They are At



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HOW DO WE KNOW WHERE PEOPLE ARE AT?






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Red hot and raring to go, we are out to change the world. We are high on life. We know we can make a difference.

Our enthusiasm overflows, our capacity for challenges is limitless.

We think we understand the problem and we know we can fix it if only people would get out of our way.


PHASE 1: HONEYMOON

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Our enthusiasm has turned sour.
 We've lost the boundless energy.
 We no longer wish to talk about work —
 don't even want to admit where we work.
 We seem powerless to affect change.
 Somehow, we're to blame for our failure.
 Our wall of isolation gets thicker.
 Every now and then we get a spark of
 Phase 1 energy.

PHASE 2: DEPRESSION

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Our Phase 2 depression has turned
 outward, and we're mad as hell.
 Hopelessness turns to rage.
 Everyone is a target for our anger and
 derision.
 We have lost our perspective and our
 effectiveness.
 We're unable to connect with life.
 Even the animals we come in contact with
 seem somehow distant and unreal.



PHASE 3: ANGER

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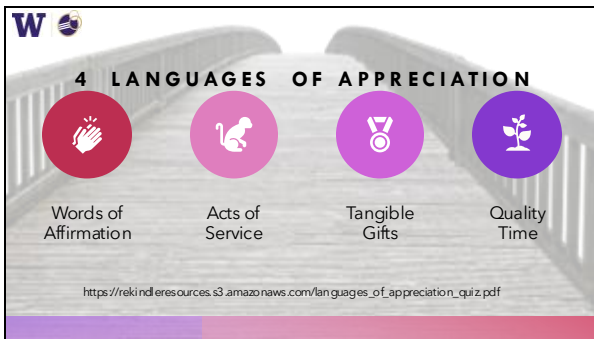
New determination and
 understanding of what our mission
 really is.
 It is big picture time.
 We realize that we have been
 effective — we have made a
 difference.
 We realize that work is not our
 whole world.
 We reconnect with the animals.
 We understand that sadness and
 pain are a part of our job.




PHASE 4: RESILIENCE









THE LANGUAGES OF APPRECIATION QUIZ

Circle the letter from each pair that you feel is most important to you. Sometimes both will be important to you, but sometimes neither will be especially significant to you. Please choose the one that is the most important to you of the pair presented. Do not spend a lot of time on each question; go with your first response.

- B. I appreciate it when someone gives me their undivided attention.

D. I appreciate when others assist me with jobs or projects.
- Z. I feel encouraged when someone helps me get tasks done.

C. Receiving a gift card from my favorite store really encourages me.
3. When someone buys lunch for me, it communicates to me that I am important to them.

A. Being told "thanks" for the work I do is really important to me.
4. I appreciate it when my colleagues (Managers/Colleagues) choose to spend time with me.

F. I appreciate it when I am given tickets to an activity (eg. movie tickets) I enjoy.
- D. I am energized when those around me help me out with tasks that need to be done.

A. It motivates me when others praise me verbally.
- A. I feel important when I am told how much the work I do is appreciated.

C. I feel important when I receive tangible rewards (gift cards, gift certificate for eating out for a job well done).

YOUR SCORE


Go through your responses and add up each letter selected and enter total. The response closest to your chosen language. You may be happy and energized!

____ A - Words of Affirmation
 ____ B - Quality Time
 ____ C - Tangible Gifts
 ____ D - Acts of Service

SELF-EVALUATION

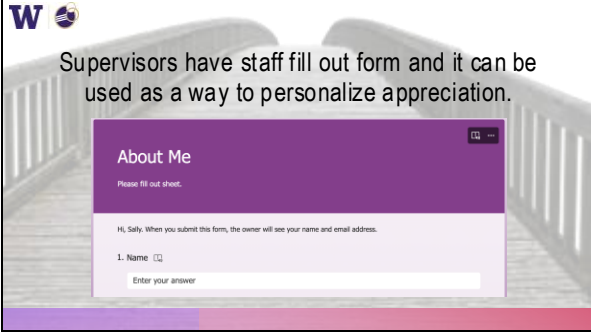


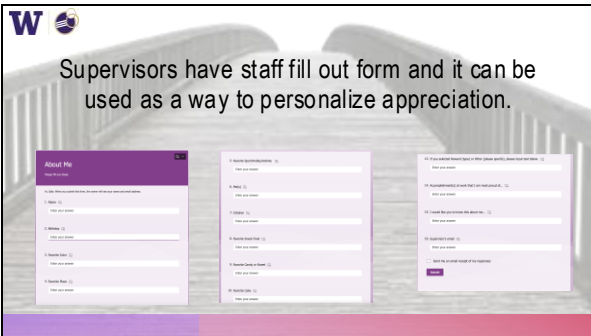

EXAMPLE:

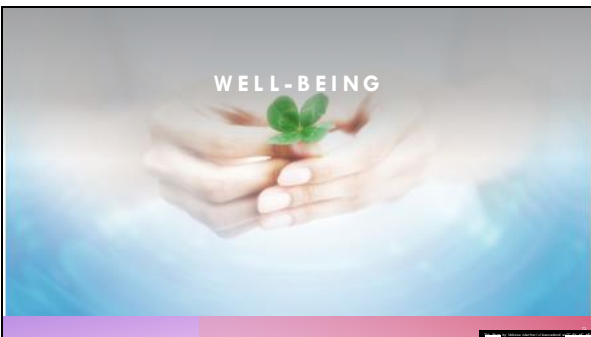


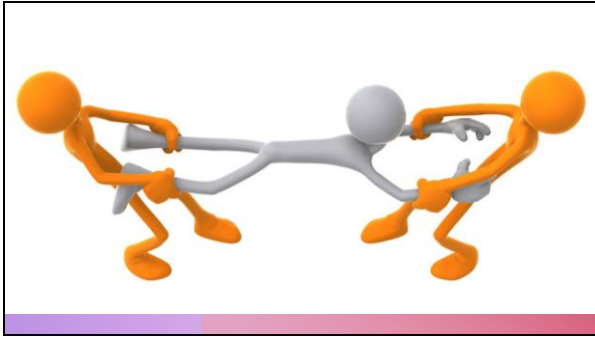
How to relate to a person with this language	Communication	Activities	What to Avoid
Words of Affirmation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> compliments offer recognition kind words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> send notes/cards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> criticism
Quality Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one-to-one time not interrupting face-to-face conversation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> relaxation doing things together team-building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> being aloof, being One on Ones spending time with too many people with me
Tangible Gifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> positive fact-oriented information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> give gifts or milestones and accomplishments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> not recognizing milestones and accomplishments
Acts of Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> action words like "I can," "I will," "What else can I do?" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> helping with projects act of kindness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> generally requests while helping others

HOW TO INTERPRET PROFILE SCORE

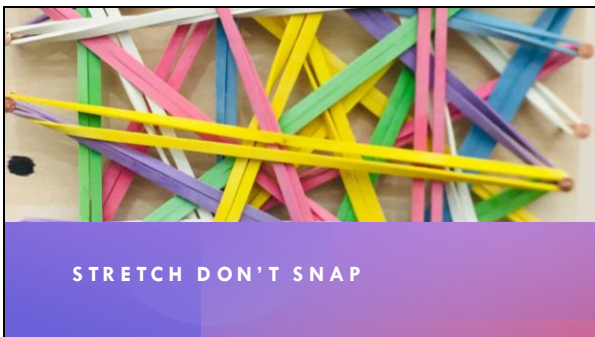














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Window of Tolerance

Balance of mind, state of mind
Relaxed and in control.

In this zone you are able to
function most effectively.

Able to take on any challenge
that life throws at you.

(Decorative elements: blue shutters, yellow arch, pink flowers, green plants)

W 





Expand your window of tolerance

Self-care
meditation
music
hobbies

Workplace Support
quiet room
kudos board
social support system

(Decorative elements: blue shutters, yellow arch, pink flowers, green plants)

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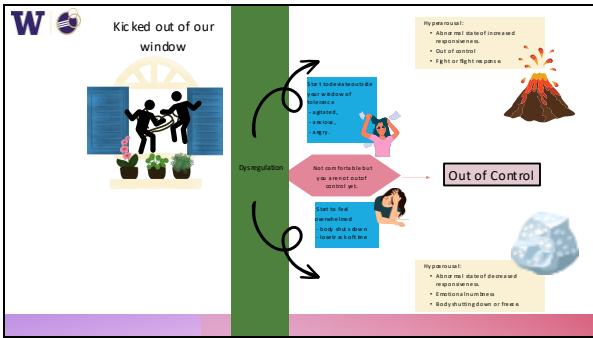


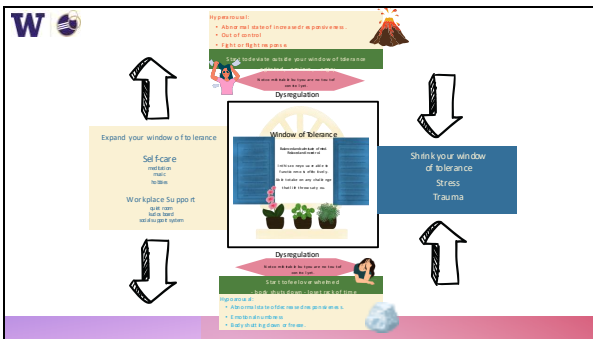
Shrink your window of tolerance

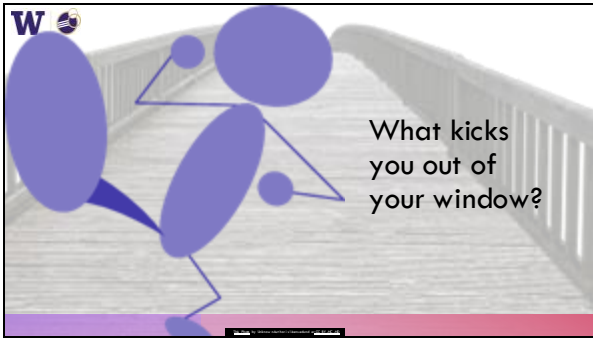
Stress
Trauma

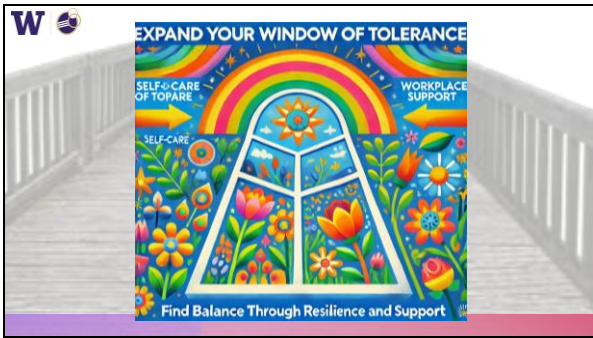
(Decorative elements: blue shutters, yellow arch, pink flowers, green plants)













Must...	Strategy	Adaptive Response	Maladaptive Response	Trauma Response
save others	Rescuing	Empathy, nurturing, ↑oxytocin	Resentment, burden, symp/par/symp arousal	Survivor guilt
be saved by others	Attaching	Reaching out, ↑oploids	Clinging, ↓oploids	Cast out
achieve goal	Asserting	Strength, control, ↓cortisol	Frustration, failure, ↑blood pressure	Burn out
surrender goal	Adapting	Hope, acceptance, ↑cortisol	Helplessness, despair, ↑cortisol	Vulnerability
remove danger	Fighting	Fighten, deterrence, ↑sympathetic arousal	Hatred, persecution, ↑↑sympathetic arousal	Horror, murder
remove oneself from danger	Fleeing	Hiding, escape, symp/par/symp arousal	Paranoia, panic, norepinephrine depletion	Inescapable shock
obtain scarce essentials	Competing	Winning, dominance, ↑testosterone	Defeat, envy, greed, ↓testosterone	Marginalization
create more essentials	Cooperating	Generosity, creativity, ↑oploids	Exploited, robbed, ↓oploids	Alienation

Walt, Survival Strategies: A Framework for Understanding Secondary Trauma. Stress and Coping (2014) 1:89

SURVIVAL STRATEGIES

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Where are they at in their trajectory?

How do they like to be appreciated?

How open is their window of tolerance?



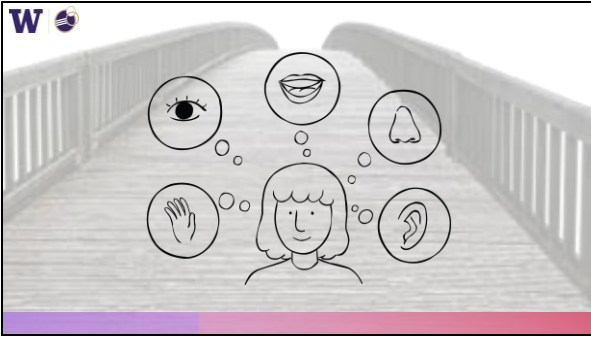
ARE PERSONNEL PROPERLY TRAINED TO ENTER THE ANIMAL CARE WORKFORCE?



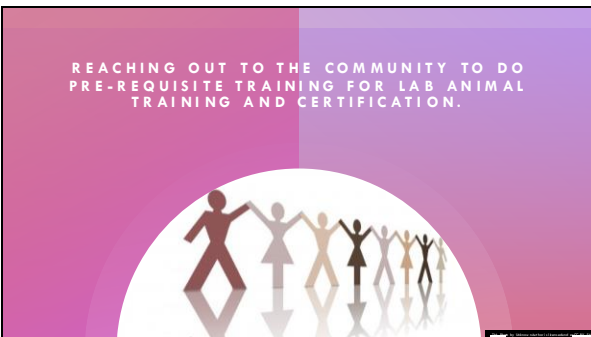
TRAINING

- Bites, scratches, kicks, physical trauma
- Ergonomics, noise
- Zoonoses, allergens, blood-borne pathogens
- Cautic, infectious, radioactive, toxic agents
- Sharps, hot surfaces, physical hazards
- Public safety, facility and computer security
- Disaster plans, fire, flood, bomb threat
- Harassment, discrimination, whistle blower

What does this job look like?
















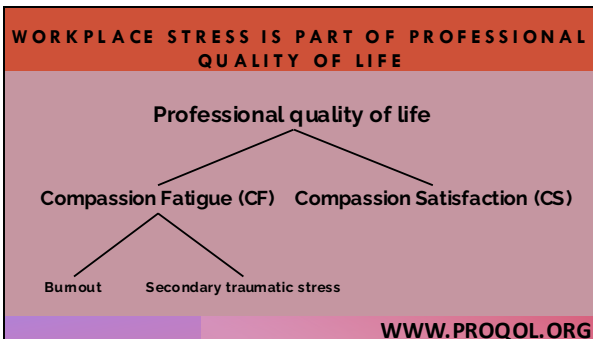
TRAINING

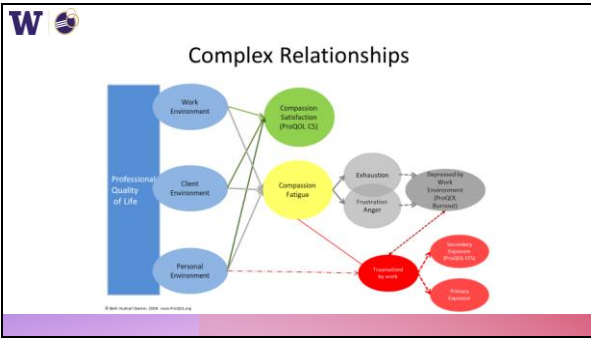
Bites, scratches, licks, physical trauma	Ergonomics, noise	Zoonosis, allergens, blood-borne pathogens
Cautic, infectious, radioactive, toxic agents	Sharps, hot surfaces, physical hazards	Public safety, facility and computer security
Disaster plans, fire, flood, bomb threat	Harassment, discrimination, whistle blower	

Emotional Involvement?




HUMAN-ANIMAL INTERFACE





SYMPTOMS OF COMPASSION SATISFACTION

- Feeling positive about your colleagues and those you care for
- A feeling of contributing to the work setting or the greater good
- Look forward to going to work
- Spending time with people that are important to you.
- Self-care
- Work-life balance
- And workplace care watch out for others.
- And taking care of the animals and people.



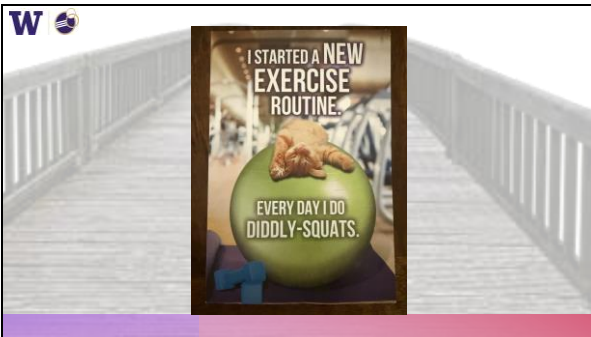


Energy depletion/fatigue	Workplace violence or safety concerns	Mean or disrespectful behavior and verbal abuse	Overwork, long shifts, overtime and lack of control	Client physical abuse and neglect	Isolation	Difficulty doing your job	Workplace bullying or harassment	Compassion fatigue
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SYMPTOMS OF COMPASSION FATIGUE









INSTITUTIONAL SYMPTOMS




Self-care will only solve part of the equation:
Institutional Problem



- Absenteeism
- Changes in relationships
- Poor teamwork
- Rule breaking
- Aggressive outbreaks
- Inability to complete tasks
- Lack of flexibility
- Negativity towards management
- Reluctance to change
- Pessimism
- Lack of a vision




Quality of the Science?

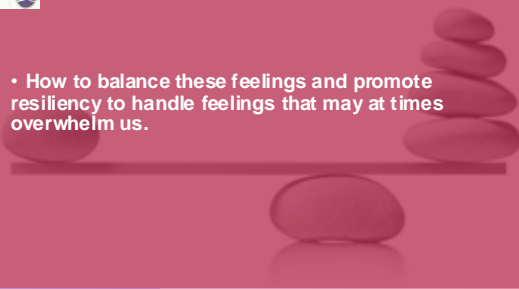


- Absenteeism
- Changes in relationships
- Poor teamwork
- Rule breaking
- Aggressive outbreaks
- Inability to complete tasks
- Lack of flexibility
- Negativity towards management
- Reluctance to change
- Pessimism
- Lack of a vision

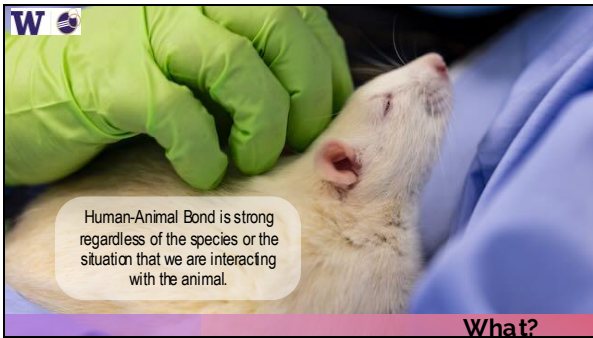
INSTITUTIONAL SYMPTOMS

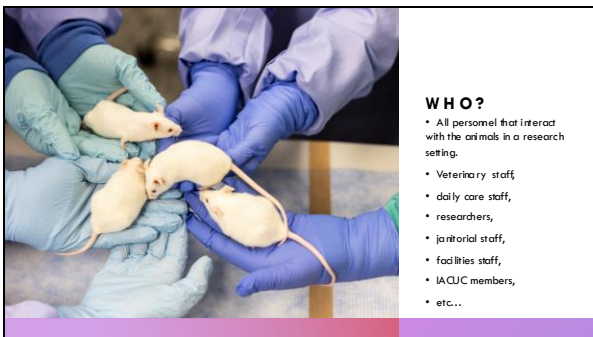


• How to balance these feelings and promote resiliency to handle feelings that may at times overwhelm us.






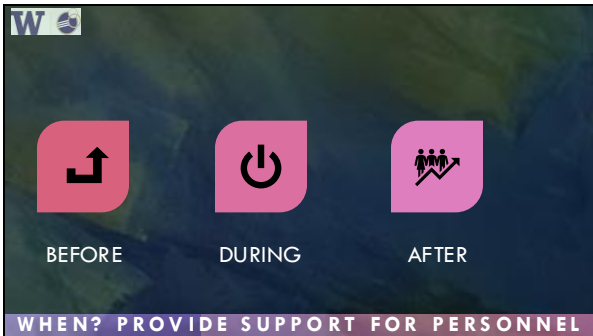




WHY?

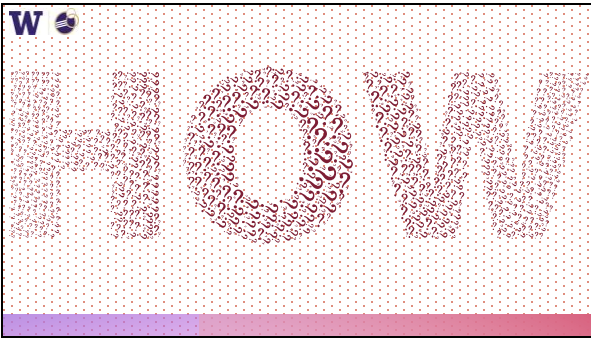
- Personnel are working with animals to conduct important scientific studies.
- There are still many diseases that are not fully understood and without effective treatments available.
- Many of these animal studies are conducted with the goal of developing the therapies to help combat diseases in both humans and animals.





WHEN? PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR PERSONNEL





Compassion Fatigue and Satisfaction in US Army Laboratory Animal Medicine Personnel

The study found that most survey respondents reported high levels of CS and low levels of BO and STS.

Factors associated with higher levels of CF and lower CS included working with NHPs, difficulty working with primary investigators, loneliness, and euthanasia distress.

Laboratory Animal Welfare Meets Human Welfare: A Cross-Sectional Study of Professional Quality of Life, Including Compassion Fatigue in Laboratory Animal Personnel


Personnel reporting poorer professional quality of life also reported less social support, higher animal stress/pain, less enrichment diversity/frequency and wished they could provide more enrichment, using physical euthanasia, and less control over performing euthanasia.

Surveys identify an area for intervention



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Longitudinal Study to Evaluate Intervention Success of Compassion Fatigue Resiliency



Longitudinal Study

Personnel Study 1, 2, 3, 4
Personnel Study 5
Personnel Study 6
Personnel Study 7
Personnel Study 8
Personnel Study 9
Personnel Study 10

Core Materials

Compassion fatigue
Compassion satisfaction
Compassion fatigue scale
Compassion satisfaction scale
Compassion fatigue scale
Compassion satisfaction scale
Compassion fatigue scale
Compassion satisfaction scale

Live Presentations & Facilitated Discussions

Compassion fatigue scale
Compassion satisfaction scale
Compassion fatigue scale
Compassion satisfaction scale
Compassion fatigue scale
Compassion satisfaction scale
Compassion fatigue scale
Compassion satisfaction scale

Additional Materials

Compassion fatigue scale
Compassion satisfaction scale
Compassion fatigue scale
Compassion satisfaction scale
Compassion fatigue scale
Compassion satisfaction scale
Compassion fatigue scale
Compassion satisfaction scale

Figure 1. NARSRC Compassion Fatigue Resiliency Program includes a longitudinal study, core materials for setting up a compassion fatigue resiliency program, an intervention, and facilitator resources, and additional support materials.

LAS Pro May/June 2022

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Retention

↑

Compassion Satisfaction

↑

p < 0.0001

Retention

↑

Burnout

↓

No Association

Secondary Traumatic Stress

↑

This seems to indicate that promoting compassion satisfaction could be key to employee retention.

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Job Satisfaction

↑

Compassion Satisfaction

↑

p < 0.0001

Job Satisfaction

↓

Burnout

↑

p < 0.0001

W

Employee Retention

A person in a blue shirt and tie holds a white board with a smiley face on it.

3Rc The 3Rs Collaborative

3Rs Resources • Learn More • Our Initiatives • Events • Subscribe • Donate

Compassion Fatigue Initiative

We're collaborating to promote compassion fatigue resiliency in research animal personnel.

[View Our Resource Hub](#)

Animal research personnel are exposed to animal suffering, euthanasia, and social stigma while deeply caring for research animals. As a result, they can experience difficult emotions leading to workplace stress and compassion fatigue.

The North American 3Rs Collaborative is creating bespoke materials to promote compassion fatigue resiliency for our field. This includes a resource hub and institutional support by creating an institutional starter pack for promoting compassion fatigue resiliency. This starter pack will be formally evaluated via a 3-year longitudinal survey.

timeline - D2C Dare 2 Care Compassion in Science

2016
 It all begins...
 Champion Needs Assessment
 Committee Formed
 Mission, Vision, & Values

2017
 Momentum
 Box Project
 Welfare Project
 Study Enhancements
 Notice of Box


2018
 Commitment
 D2C Website
 Background Enhancements
 Dedicated Employee Line
 AA LAS Webinar

2019
 Rebrand
 Software & Apps
 Crafted Line
 D2C website: 2,310 visitors, 135 content, 25 cities

2020
 PIVOT!!
 D2C Approach from Handled

Reflections	3	3	1	2
Confferences	6	8	11	1

<https://sites.uw.edu/d2c/>



Animal Use Training (Online)

Animal Use Training Program

University of Washington, Animal Use and Regulatory Training/Compassion Fatigue

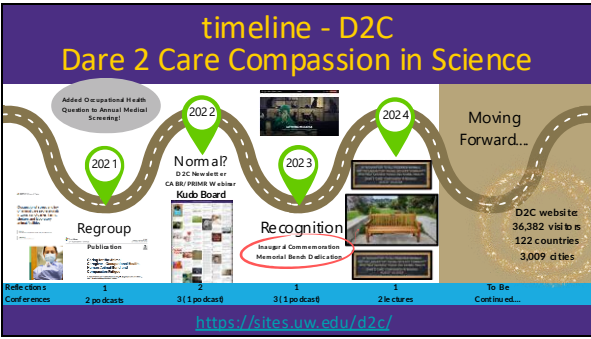
Employee/ Occupational Health Screening

- Annual Health Assessment administered by UW EmployeeHealth
- One of the first institutions to implement CP assessment as part of its annual health screening of Laboratory Animal Professionals

VI. ADDITIONAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Yes I have health or workplace concerns not covered by the questionnaire (e.g. **Compassion Fatigue**) that I feel may affect my occupational health and would like to discuss with the Employee Health provider.

INVOLVING EMPLOYEE/OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH



timeline - D2C Dare 2 Care Compassion in Science

2021: Regroup, Publication, Added Occupational Health Questions to Annual Medical Screening

2022: Normal? D2C Newsletter or CASU, KUds Board

2023: Recognition, Inaugural Commemoration, Memorial Bench Dedication

2024: Moving Forward...

D2C website: 36,382 visits, 122 countries, 3,009 cities

Reflections: 1 Conference, 2 podcasts, 3 (1 podcast), 1 (1 podcast), 2 lectures, To Be Continued...

<https://sites.uw.edu/d2c/>



Annual Commemoration - Aug 2023

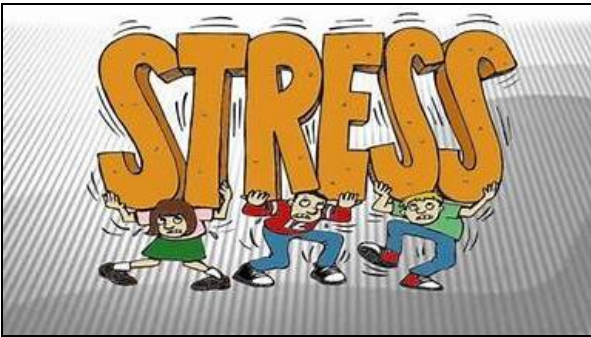
- Acknowledge contributions to biomedical research and animal welfare
- Compassionate Keynote Speakers

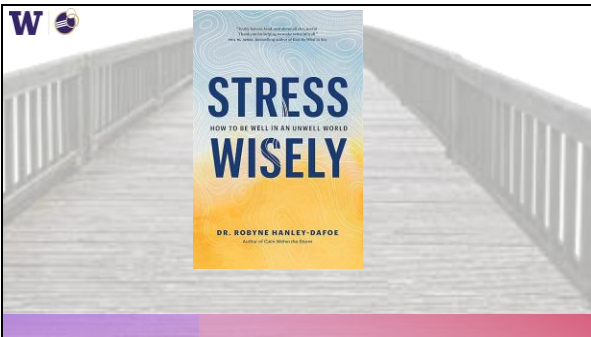
Dedication Area

- Physical tribute
- Peaceful retreat
- Place for reflection
- In Honor of Animals, Animal Care, Research

ANNUAL COMMEMORATION







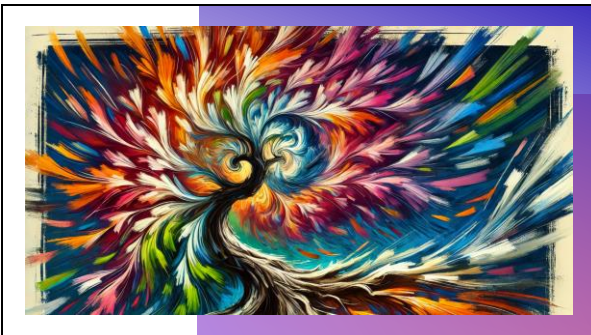
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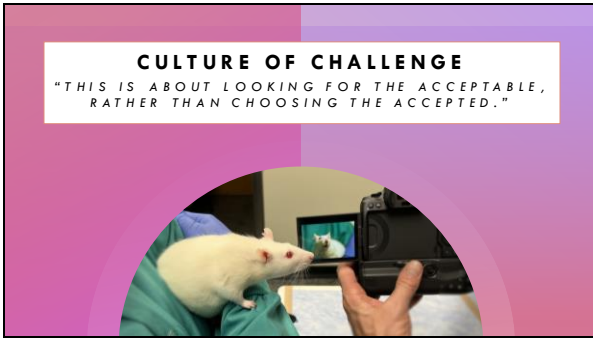
OPTIMAL STRESS LEVELS

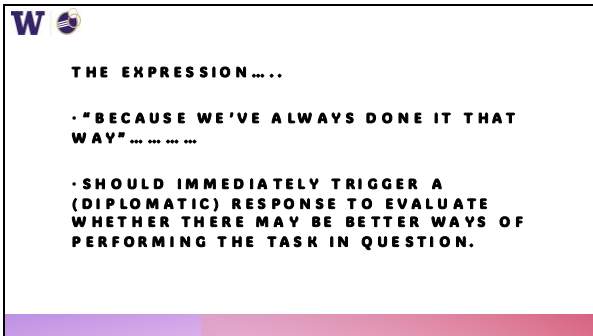
The Yerkes-Dodson Law: Inverted U-Model

strong
Performance
Weak
Low
Arousal
High
Unproductive - not enough stress
Unproductive - too much stress





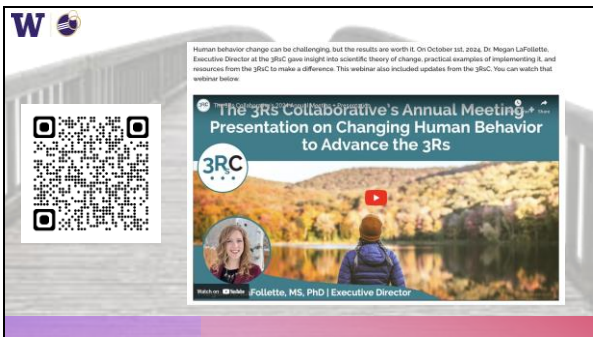














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Humans are allergic to change. They love to say, "We've always done it this way." I try to fight that. That's why I have a clock on my wall that runs counter-clockwise.

- Grace Hopper




More science quotes at Today in Science History todayinsci.com

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Good News!



15,000 TUNNELS
ARRIVED IN
JANUARY



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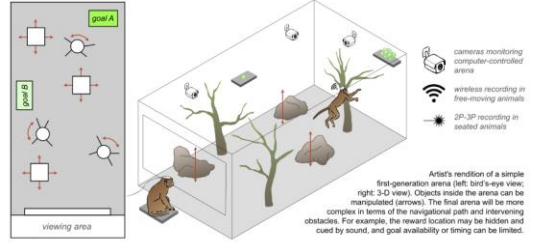
POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT TRAINING

Then


- Single trainer for 2 facilities in 2 states with over 800 animals.
- Teaching PRT in group classes
- Consults with lab staff
- Request based training priorities
- Education of IACUC, Researchers, Veterinary, and Husbandry Staff

Now

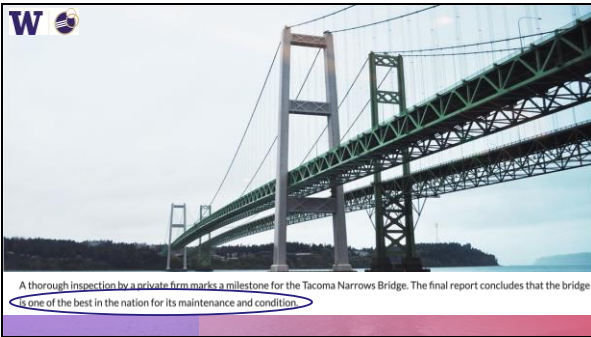
- 4 Professional trainers – 3 Seattle; 1 AZ
- 15 distinct behaviors trained for: Research, Veterinary, and Husbandry
- 72 staff who can train at least one of those behaviors
- Training done proactively, longer study lead times
- Group classes followed by individual instruction on target training for every person in the animal care areas
- Training program “Graduates” who can teach others
- Shared international collaborations for training and welfare



Don't limit your challenges;
challenge your limits



REACH OUT: STI2@UW.EDU



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- IACUC 101
 - The 3Rs team, Outreach team, and D2C
 - University of Washington Leadership, VPR and Provost
 - OAW, DCM, WaNPRC, AV, CLATR
- 3RsC
 - Megan LaFollette
 - Lauren Young

Our collaboration across industries makes us a powerful force to forward the 3Rs.





RESOURCES AND LINKS

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- This foundational text introduces the 3Rs and sets the ethical framework for humane animal research.
- Tamirbaumb, J., & Bennett, B. T. (2015). Russell and Burch's 3Rs Then and Now: The Need for Clarity in Definition and Purpose. *Journal of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science*, 54 (2), 120-132.
- This paper discusses the historical context of the 3Rs and their application in modern research.
- Franco, N. H., & Olson, J. A. S. (2014). Scientists and the 3Rs: Attitudes to Animal Use in Biomedical Research and the Effect of Mandatory Training in Laboratory Animal Science". *Laboratory Animals*, 48 (1), 50-60.
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- Fenwick, N., Griffin, C., & Gauthier, C. (2009). The Welfare of Animals Used in Science: How the "Three Rs" Ethic Guides Improvements. *Canadian Veterinary Journal*, 50 (5), 523-530.
- This paper reviews how the 3Rs have contributed to the improvement of animal welfare in scientific research.
- Prescott, M. J., & Lidzey, K. (2017). Improving Quality of Science Through Better Animal Welfare: The NC3Rs Strategy. *Lab Animal*, 46 (6), 152-156.
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- Graham, M. L., & Prescott, M. J. (2015). The Role of Animal Models in Drug Development. *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery*, 14 (9), 684-701.
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Culture of Care – Norecopa site



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WEBSITES

- Animal Care, Outreach, and 3Rs Program at the UW (ACO 3Rs) - <https://www.washington.edu/aco3rs/>
- The 3Rs Collaborative - <https://3rs.org/>
- National Centre for the 3Rs (NC3Rs) - <https://nc3rs.org.uk/>
 - Experimental Design Assistant (EDA) - <https://eda.nc3rs.org.uk/>
 - ARRIVE (Animal Research: Reporting of In Vivo Experiments) Guidelines - <https://arriveguidelines.org/>
- Norecopa PREPARE (Planning Research and Experimental Procedures on Animals: Recommendations for Excellence) Guidelines - <https://norecopa.org/prepare>
- Future Topic Updates to the "Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals" – A Workshop (National Academies) - https://www.nationalacademies.org/event/42714/42714_4_future-topical-updates-to-the-guide-for-the-care-and-use-of-laboratory-animals-workshop#41-three-volume-ef90a7c7-27d0-6e41c8-90a7-6a58e17b4245

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