

Field work and Lab Animal Science

Where to get started.

By Jason Allen

Goals for today...

- ▶ Share Animal Care Theory
- ▶ Learn about “Romeo”
- ▶ Learn about training resources
- ▶ Promote Communication
- ▶ Promote Integrity



Animal Care Theory

- ▶ Animal Care Course (online).
 - ▶ 1. Navigate to the 'learningsystem' by logging in to the myTrent portal and choosing it from the top menu bar. If given a choice of "which learningSystem", choose the "new one - **Blackboard Learn 9**".
 - ▶ 2. From the 'Courses' tab in the top right, locate the '**course search**' box in the top left. Enter 'Animal Care' into the search box and then 'go'.
 - ▶ 3. Position your mouse on the resulting bar "ANIMAL-CARE-INTRANET Animal Care at Trent Intranet" and an Options menu will show up under the 'Course ID' column. **Choose 'Enroll'**.

The registration site will now appear on your learningSystem 'course list'. Only the ACC1 module is mandatory for work with live vertebrates and cephalopods in teaching or research.

If you have any issues, please feel free to email jallen@trentu.ca



Protocol Submission

No research or teaching involving animals may begin without ethics approval. Failure to obtain such risks ALL funding to Trent.

Why?

- ▶ Public funds mean we're accountable to the public
- ▶ Protocols require approval prior to publication in some journals
- ▶ Even privately funded research requires a protocol.
- ▶ C.Y.A. More heads are better than one.

Access Romeo

- ▶ Please email Jamie jmuckle@trentu.ca to obtain a Romeo account.
- ▶ Submit or access protocols you are a part of. READ, amend, renew, clone.
- ▶ Understand principal investigator approval is required for submission.



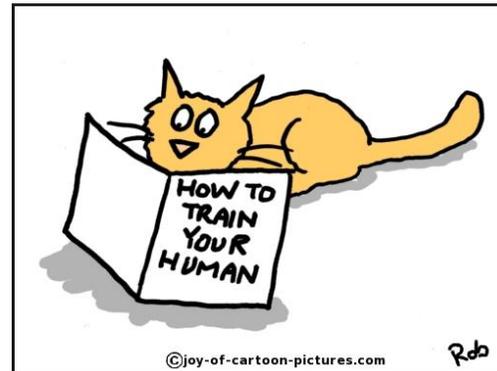
Hands on training...

Lab Animal Science

- ▶ Training generally a shared duty between Trent personnel and lab personnel.
- ▶ Book an orientation with Jason (jallen@trentu.ca) .
- ▶ Not a tour, you're accountable for what you learn.
- ▶ Be aware of SOPs.
- ▶ **Not a problem to repeat hands on training as much as you need!**

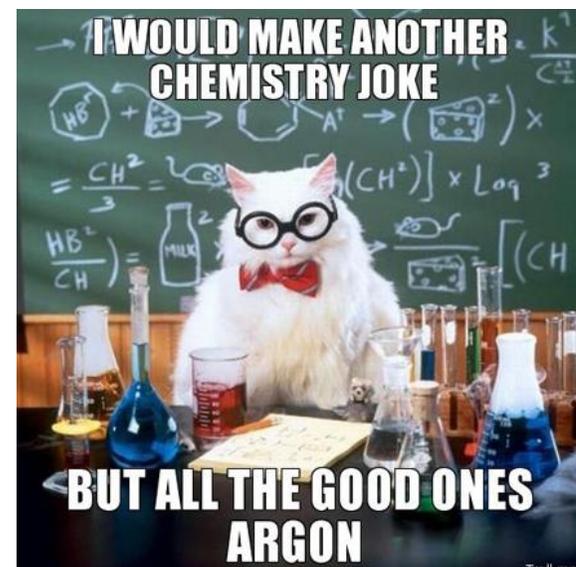
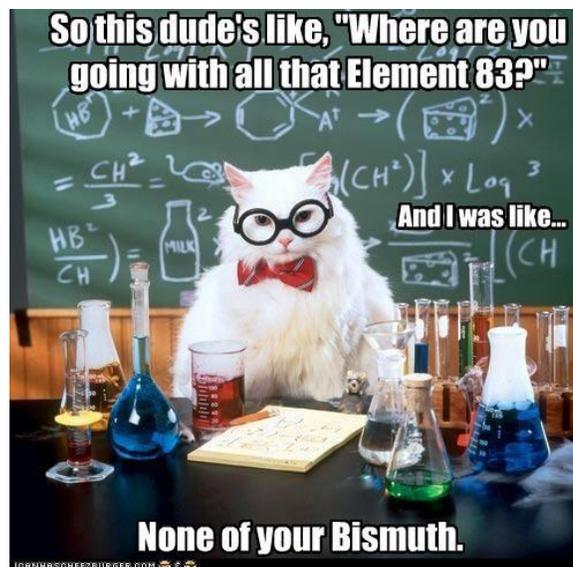
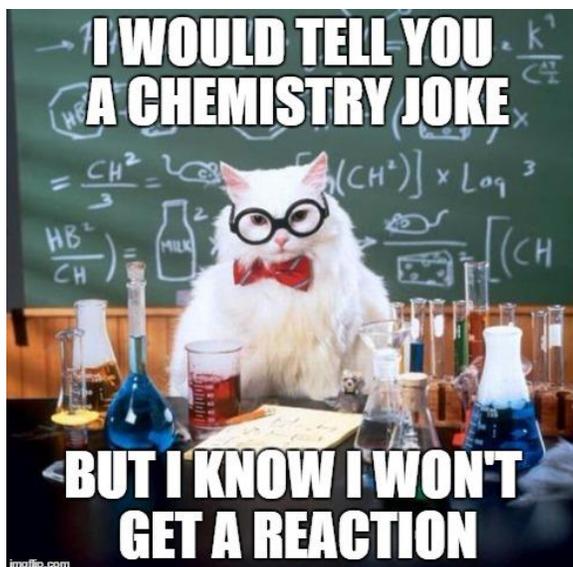
Field Work

- ▶ Training generally provided by lab personnel.
- ▶ Is this a telephone game or direct from the source?
- ▶ Check for licenses required way ahead of when needed (e.g. electrofishing)
- ▶ Be aware of SOPs.



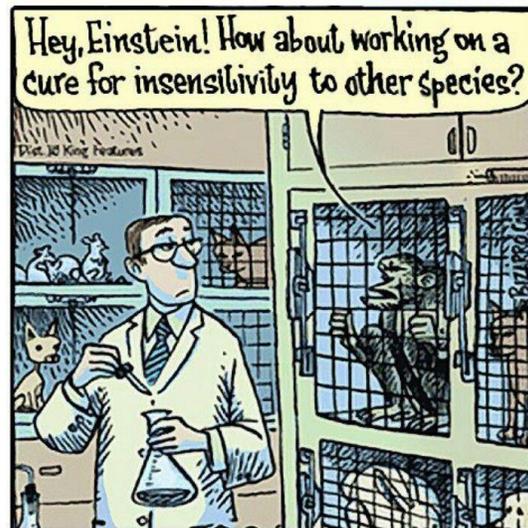
Communication at Trent

- ▶ Should people making mistakes with live animals be allowed to work with them?
 - ▶ Yes! It's a learning environment, we do novel work, and "live" work is unpredictable at times.
 - ▶ If a mistake or accident occurs, document and share with your PI and Animal Care.
 - ▶ Post approval of a protocol, communication with the ACC still occurs (PAR and end of year reporting).
 - ▶ The only bad question is the one you don't ask.



Communication in public

- ▶ How do you talk about what you do? Have an answer ready.
 - ▶ Provide cards with a statement or two on what you do and links for more information.
 - ▶ Practice with friends or family
 - ▶ Ensure you keep it simple (no propriety information of your PI or Trent)
 - ▶ Be sure about it, and acknowledge when you're not.
 - ▶ Avoid the words “animal research” or “animal testing”. “Animal science” is popular, “animal conservation”, or “animal medicine” are positive and accurate.



Animals in Research

The Canadian Context

Canada is the only country in the world with an oversight system which incorporates assessment and certification, standards development, Three Rs promotion, and education and training under one umbrella program (CCAC).

Since 1961, CALAS/ACSAL is a national association dedicated to providing high quality training and educational resources to animal care professionals across Canada. Members believe animal research, when necessary, must be conducted professionally, ethically and compassionately. <http://calas-acsal.org/>

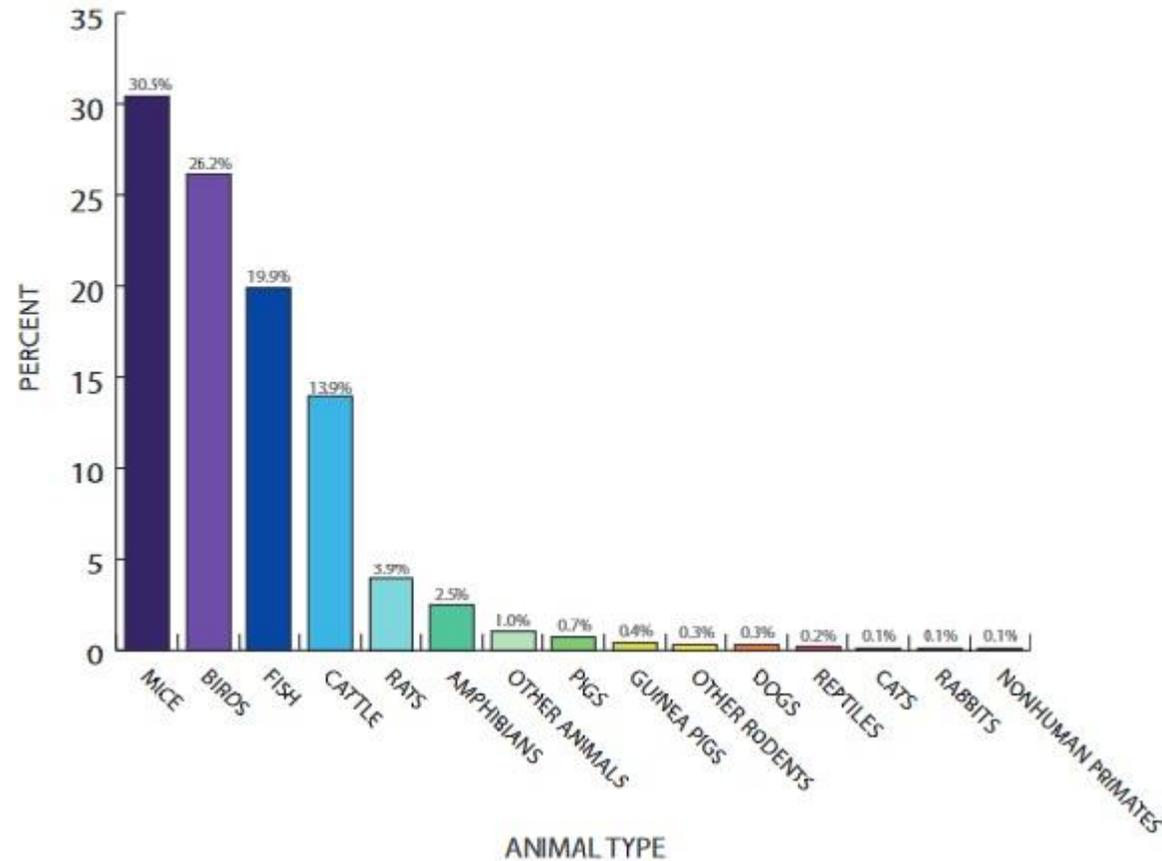
Training and certification programs are internationally respected and support national standards of excellence in animal research, teaching, and testing across Canada.



Animals in Canadian Research

NUMBER AND TYPE OF ANIMALS IN SCIENCE

Figure 1: Percentage of Animals Used in Science at CCAC-Certified Institutions by Animal Type in 2019



Integrity

- ▶ Did an animal get hurt or die during the course of your work? Be forward about it.
 - ▶ We can learn how to avoid it in the future.
 - ▶ We can work with realistic expectations (e.g. fish or amphibian larvae mortality rates).
 - ▶ Publishing false numbers will get more than one person in trouble (e.g. chemo mortality rates).
 - ▶ Be respectful. If the animal sacrificed in some way, don't make it for nothing.
 - ▶ What does the headline say?
- ▶ This is a place of learning. We will make mistakes. We must own that and we must use that as part of learning.



Thanks and enjoy the work!



Any questions or comments are welcome. Please contact jallen@trentu.ca or the facility extension at 7267. Or follow us on Instagram “trentanimalcare”.

