

Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives
Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health
Draft Meeting Minutes, Council of Councils Working Group Teleconference
3:00–4:30 p.m. EST, Tuesday, December 11, 2012

Working Group Participants: Alan Barrett, Daniel Geschwind, Beatrice Hahn, K.C. Kent Lloyd, Stephen Ross, and Patricia Turner
NIH Staff: James M. Anderson, Lora Kutkat, Betina Orezza, and James Smith

Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure

Ms. Kutkat reminded participants of the rules governing confidentiality and non-disclosure that are in effect for all participants in the meeting.

Approval of Minutes from the November 13, 2012, and November 27, 2012, Teleconferences

The working group suggested edits to the section of the November 13, 2012 teleconference minutes on the Implementation Subgroup. Working group members unanimously approved these minutes with the proposed changes.

The working group discussed edits to the section of the November 27, 2012 teleconference minutes on the Colony Management Subgroup. Ms. Kutkat will make the edits suggested by the working group, and the group will discuss approval of these minutes during its December 20 teleconference.

Discussion of Awarded Project

The working group reviewed an additional awarded project.

Subgroup Reports

Colony Management Subgroup

Dr. Ross reported that the Colony Management Subgroup is responding to comments from other working group members on its latest draft document.

The working group discussed the value of providing specific recommendations in the working group's report pertaining to colony management. Specific recommendations would inform facilities that house NIH-owned and/or NIH-supported chimpanzees about the conditions that would meet their recommendations for ethologically appropriate housing. Specific recommendations would also help NIH determine whether a proposed study adheres to this ethology.

The housing environments of chimpanzees that the federal government has retired are governed by the Chimpanzee Health Improvement, Maintenance, and Protection (CHIMP) Act and are not within the working group's purview. Retired chimpanzees can no longer be used for invasive or biomedical research, but they can be used for noninvasive behavioral research.

Emerging Diseases Subgroup

Dr. Barrett reported that the Emerging Diseases Subgroup held a daylong meeting on December 7, 2012. The subgroup will use information from the presentations and discussions at this meeting to prepare its draft report.