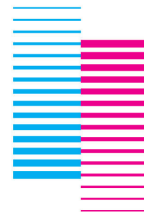


set



**Stiftung zur Förderung
der Erforschung von
Ersatz- und
Ergänzungsmethoden
zur Einschränkung von
Tierversuchen**

Foundation for the promotion of alternatives to animal testing

Stiftung zur Förderung der Erforschung von Ersatz- und Ergänzungsmethoden
zur Einschränkung von Tierversuchen

Mainzer Landstraße 55, 60329 Frankfurt am Main
www.stiftung-set.de

Activity Report 2007



Stiftung zur Förderung
der Erforschung von
Ersatz- und
Ergänzungsmethoden
zur Einschränkung von
Tierversuchen

SET Activity Report 2007

Supported projects

In 2007 twelve new applications were submitted to the foundation. Out of these and further applications already received in the previous year, three applications were newly approved. One more application is up for closer scrutiny. The other applications were rejected, due to lacking relevance to animal welfare or because of lacking prospects of broad implementation.

In 2007 the following ongoing projects were supported:

- Financial support for lectures and seminar (inclusion in the elective module animal physiology and animal welfare) of the study programme biology, summer semester 2005 to winter semester 2006/07
PD Dr. Joachim Kremerskothen, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität, Münster
- Screening and evaluation of antiepileptic compounds in vitro: organotypic cultures of hippocampus as a model of ictal activity and epileptogenesis
Prof. Dr. U. Heinemann, Johannes-Müller-Institut für Physiologie, Humboldt Universität, Berlin
- Pharmacological screening with human embryonic stem cell-derived cardiomyocytes
Dr Michael Reppel, Institut für Neurophysiologie, Uni Köln
- Tumor-induced angiogenesis studied in confrontation cultures: A new model for screening of anti-angiogenic substances
Prof. Dr. Heinrich Sauer, Uni Giessen and Prof. Dr. Maria Wartenberg, GKSS Forschungszentrum Teltow
- Establishment of in vitro models for neuroprotection with molecular connotations to human neurodegenerative diseases
Prof. Dr. André Schrattenholz, ProteoSys AG, Mainz

Three new projects were started:

- In vitro model of rheumatoid joint destruction
Prof. Dr. Thomas Pap and Dr. Uwe Hansen, Universität Münster
- Improved genotoxicity tests with the Phenion full thickness skin model
Dr. Kerstin Reisinger, Phenion GmbH & Co. KG
- Development of Reverse Transcriptase Real Time-PCR-assay for the detection of Clostridium botulinum Type A, B, E und F neurotoxin-production in foods as an alternative method to the mouse bioassay
Prof. Dr. Michael Bülte, Universität Giessen

Further activities supported:

- Like in the past, also the 14th Congress on Alternatives to Animal Testing in Linz/Austria was supported with a donation.



**Stiftung zur Förderung
der Erforschung von
Ersatz- und
Ergänzungsmethoden
zur Einschränkung von
Tierversuchen**

- SET supports the periodical ALTEX (alternatives to animal testing, a quarterly magazine for new ways in biomedical sciences).

Meetings

In the period under review, two meetings each took place of the foundation board (Stiftungsrat) and of the scientific advisory board (Wissenschaftlicher Beirat). One meeting of the trustees (Kuratorium) was held.

Changes in SET bodies

A new member of the Foundation council is Dr. Christiane Gothe from the animal welfare association "Bundesverband Tierschutz e. V." She succeeds Dr. Ingrid Kuhlmann.

Participation in EU Research Project

ForInViTox

Together with the Spanish organisations REMA (Red Española para el Desarrollo de Métodos Alternativos) and IVTIP (In Vitro Testing Industrial Platform) and with the Swedish consultancy company Experträdet AB, the Foundation SET started the EU's 5th Framework Programme project ForInViTox (Forum for Researchers and Regulators to meet manufacturers of toxicology test methods). ForInViTox wants to examine completed and ongoing EU projects on alternatives to animal testing, trying to find out if those projects resulted in a wider use of newly developed methods or why this was not the case, respectively. At the same time potential users and producers are asked for their opinions about specific problems. In a further step, a forum is planned to provide a meeting place for potential users and commercial suppliers of such test systems, in order to eliminate remaining obstacles.

However, the performance of the first part (analysis of the finished and ongoing projects, SET and REMA) was rendered very difficult by the EU administration's practice of providing no information about EU projects.

START UP

Within the 7th Framework Programme ecopa applied for the project START UP. This project tries to identify bottlenecks in the pharmaceutical industry that prevent the implementation of the reduction, refinement and replacement of animal experiments. Three expert meetings to identify the main topics followed by workshops are planned, one for each of the three Rs. Organising activities of these workshops will be shared between the ecopa member platforms, here the Foundation SET applied for "replacement".

Income from donations

Like in the previous years, the income of the foundation consisted almost entirely of donations from the four participating industry associations.