Hi everyone! Welcome to our second volume of newsletter. Thanks to those of you who contributed to it as these contributions are essential to the newsletter’s success.

On this occasion, I would like to summarise LASAM’s accomplishments for 2013-2014. During the last year, we had the honour to host 6th Asean Federation of Laboratory Animal Science (AFLAS) congress. And in 2013, we had conducted toxicology and pathology course on drug development and chemical safety assessment. These two main events served as additional communication channels between LASAM, our members and scientists community. Congratulations to the organizing committee!

Although there is no feature article in this issue, we would like to make it available in the coming issues to touch on the recent advances in laboratory animal sciences and its applications. If you have any ideas about doing a feature article, please contact me at johnshia_my@yahoo.co.uk.

I appreciate you taking the time to read our newsletter and looking forward to meeting you at the coming AGM and Scientific Seminar at Le Méridien Hotel.

Sincerely yours,

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**ANNOUNCEMENT:**

LASAM Scientific Seminar and 20th AGM

**Date:** 13 August 2015 (Thursday)
**Venue:** Le Méridien Hotel, KL Sentral.
**Time:** 8.30am-2pm

This scientific seminar covers topics such as the animal health monitoring, Animal Welfare Act and its implication on animal research.

Chairperson: Mr. Desmond Lee (012-6667273).
Register now and stay tuned!

**AAALAS TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

One of the activities by LASAM is the coordination of the AAALAS (American Association for Laboratory Animal Science) Technician Certification Program. This program was developed to recognize professional achievement and provide an authoritative endorsement of a technician’s level of knowledge in laboratory animal technology.

AAALAS certifies technicians at three levels:
- Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician (ALAT)
- Laboratory Animal Technician (LAT)
- Laboratory Animal Technologist (LATG)

Further information, please contact:
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11-12 NOV 2014: It was indeed our privilege to host the 6th Asian Federation of Laboratory Animal Science (AFLAS) Congress, at Royal Chulan Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

The congress addressed current issues on the use of laboratory animals in anticancer research, drug development, translational medicine, imaging modalities; as well as emergency response and mitigation strategies for animal facilities.
MONDAY 18 August 2014 - LASAM had successfully organised 2014 Scientific Seminar at Le Méridien Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. There were 33 members and 4 non-members attended the seminar. There were four distinguished speakers invited to share their thoughts.

Laboratory Animal Use in Toxinological Characterization of Snake Venoms
Dr. Tan Choo Hock, MBBS, PhD
Universiti Malaya
Recipient of JALAS Young Scientist Award 2014

Combination Therapy using Plasmid DNA-Mediated Vp3 and shCD147 Genes for Colon Cancer in Murine Model
Ms Ruzila Ismail, BSc (Hons), PhD Candidate.
Universiti Putra Malaysia
Recipient of CALAS Young Scientist Award 2014

Proposed Animal Welfare Act–Implications and regulations in the Use of Animals for Research: A Brief Summary
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abdul Rahim Mutalib, DVM, PhD (Cambridge)
Universiti Putra Malaysia.
President of LASAM

Contemporary Topics in Laboratory Animal Diets
Ms Imai Fumiko, Japan
Speaker from Lab Diet

Acknowledgement to Event Sponsor:
18-22 November 2013: A big congratulation to the organising chairperson, Mdm Anee Suryani Sued, for making this event a great success!

The distinguished speakers had shared their knowledge and experience in drug assessment pre-clinical (nonclinical) studies and trials. Several animal models were discussed, including rodents, dogs, porcine and nonhuman primates. Proper necropsy techniques, as well the post-mortem evaluation of organs grossly and histologically were also discussed. We are looking forward to having TOPA 2016 due to good feedback and overwhelming response.