

Playtime for Rats workshop at IAT Congress:

Exploring practical approaches to providing laboratory rats with a complex environment and increased opportunity to exercise.

21 March 2017 (14:30-16:30)

Celtic Manor Resort, Newport, Wales.

Agenda

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| 14:30 – 14:45 | Welcome and introduction. Kathryn Owen, NC3Rs. |
| Setting the scene | |
| 14:45 – 15:00 | Taking the rat out of the wild: Have we taken the wild out of the rat? Dr Manuel Berdoy, Oxford University Biomedical Services. |
| 15:00 – 15:15 | What do rats need? Dr Joanna Makowska, University of British Columbia. |
| 15:15 – 15:30 | Practical strategies to providing a complex environment: A first-hand perspective. Kate Shenton, AstraZeneca. |
| 15:30 – 15:35 | Refreshment break. |
| Breakout groups | |
| 15:35 – 16:10 | Exploring the barriers to adoption of complex rat environments and practical solutions. Group discussions. |
| 16:10 – 16:30 | Group feedback and closing remarks. Kathryn Owen, NC3Rs. |

Speaker Biographies



Manuel Berdoy is the Director of the course on Animal Management and Welfare and the lead NTCO at Oxford University. Originating from France, he did his first degree at Sussex University before doing a CNAA MPhil (Cambridge and Montpellier, France) and a Ph.D at Oxford. Having worked with primates in Africa, reptiles in America and penguins in Antarctica he then moved up the alphabet by moving to Britain, settling in Oxford in particular where he worked with wild and laboratory small mammals. His interests have ranged from animal social behaviour to parasite manipulation and, in the last 15 years, animal welfare, experimental design and statistics, and education in LAS. Manuel is currently serving on LASA Council, FELASA Accrediting board and is a Scientific UK Member on ICLAS governing board.



Dr. Joanna Makowska obtained her B.Sc. in biology and psychology from McGill University in Montreal, Canada. A year later she joined the Animal Welfare Program at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada, where she completed her M.Sc. and her PhD. The focus of Joanna's M.Sc. was on humane methods of euthanasia for laboratory rats; she is still involved with research in this area. For her PhD, Joanna investigated the sustained welfare consequences of housing rats in standard versus semi-naturalistic laboratory environments. Joanna's current research goals are to deepen our understanding of what rats need and how best to provide them with a life worth living



Kate Shenton obtained her undergraduate degree in biology from The University of Manchester in 2004. Kate has worked as an in vivo scientist for AstraZeneca for the past 11 years. Over this time she has worked with a variety of species within oncology and toxicology research, specialising in reproductive toxicology for a period of time and more recently working with colonies of telemetry rats used for cardio vascular studies. She is part of a global team working across AstraZeneca looking at ways of providing rats with more complex environments to allow them to display natural behaviours to benefit them both physically and mentally.

For information on the activities and resources related to the NC3Rs year of laboratory rodent welfare, including follow up to the 'Playtime for Rats' workshop, please contact Kathryn Owen, Animal Welfare Programme Manager – kathryn.owen@nc3rs.org.uk



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