



2018–19 ANNUAL REPORT

Life Science Community Support



MEMBER CONVERSATIONS

In November, the NCABR membership gathered at the North Carolina Biotechnology Center for the latest in a series of *Member Conversations* to share and discuss best practices for reducing regulatory burden for IACUCs. NCABR's *Member Conversations* are small, periodic member meetings held on an as-needed basis to address timely topics of interest.

IACUC 2019

On April 29 & 30, NCABR will continue its biennial series of professional development training for members of animal care and use programs with *IACUC 2019*, a two-day conference. *IACUC 2019* is developed for both new and seasoned IACUC members and includes expert presenters from member organizations such as Duke University, East Carolina University, N.C. Central University, N.C. State University, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, UNC Chapel Hill, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Wake Forest School of Medicine.

New for *IACUC 2019*, NCABR will provide multiple, small group lab animal research communications sessions, led by a science communications expert, where participants will work through scenarios that prepare and empower them to provide effective lab animal research advocacy.

Sponsors for *IACUC 2019* are a-tune software, Mispro Services, the N.C. Biotechnology Center and N.C. Central University.

Educational Outreach



K-16 STEM EDUCATION CONFERENCE

In October, NCABR presented the seventh annual *Bridging the Gap: Uniting North Carolina K-16 STEM Education* conference, whose goal is to strengthen K-16 science, technology, engineering and math education throughout North Carolina. *Bridging the Gap* was attended by all levels of K-12 and higher education, and by state and federal government employees, industry representatives and individuals from nonprofit STEM groups, such as science museums and grassroots education organizations.

Bridging the Gap was sponsored by the Appalachian State University Office of Research, the Biogen Foundation, the Burroughs Wellcome Fund, Davidson College, Meredith College, National Geographic Learning, the North Carolina Biotechnology Center, Novozymes, UNC Chapel Hill, UNC Charlotte, and the North Carolina Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education Center. Partnering organizations included the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, the N.C. Department of Public Instruction and the the Science House at N.C. State University.

Since *Bridging the Gap* launched in 2012, more than 2,760 individuals from 95 North Carolina counties and 24 states have participated. The eighth edition is scheduled for October 22-23, 2019.



K-12 TEACHER & STUDENT PROGRAMS

In 2018-19, NCABR continued to reach educators and students throughout the state with its *Rx for Science Literacy* K-12 curriculum manual and teacher training series. The series, currently in its 25th consecutive school year, has been attended by nearly 4,900 K-12 teachers from 95 of North Carolina's 100 counties since 1994.

The series expands each year with new offerings and in 2018-19 addressed topics such as the health effects of chemicals in the environment, evolution and medicine, the importance of vaccines, understanding neurobiology through the study of addiction, and the NIEHS Gulf Long-term Follow-up Study (the largest study ever conducted on the potential health effects associated with an oil spill).

The *Rx for Science Literacy* curriculum manual, which serves as the foundation for many of the workshops in the annual series, has been mandated for statewide use in North Carolina high schools since 1997.

Sponsors for the 2018-19 workshops were Duke University, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the Wake Forest School of Medicine.

Throughout 2018-19, NCABR also provided bioscience speakers at K-12 programs, including the annual N.C. Career and Technical Education Conference and the N.C. Health Occupations Students of America annual convention.