

## What's New? March 2018 Newsletter



### **Become a “Collaborator”**

We are happy to report membership is growing steadily and we are close to hitting the 300 mark in total membership. Thank you for your continued interest in our newly launched organization and we welcome you as a fellow collaborator!

### **Bid for NA3RsC Participation**

We would like to invite you to participate in the growth of our organization by sharing your expertise with the rest of our growing team. Our organization is unique. We serve many extraordinary 3Rs organizations as well as individual 3Rs enthusiasts like YOU who wish to connect, share and impact 3Rs traction. If you are passionate about the science of the 3Rs and would like to join a new organization who is creating an environment to share/connect/network virtually, contact us at [contactus@na3rsc.org](mailto:contactus@na3rsc.org)

We are looking for a wide range of individuals with expertise in multiple disciplines. NA3RsC relies on its collaborators to provide volunteer leadership and support for its virtual educational platform, programs, events and publications. Be part of our evolution, which is directed through collaboration with people just like YOU!

Events



## Upgrade:

We listen! Our collaborators have directed a new look and navigation within our collaboration platform. We will be launching the new environment within the next few months. Visit [na3rsc.org](http://na3rsc.org) and click “Collaborate” to find the entrance to our sharing platform.



## Introducing the "3 Cs" Collaborative Coffee Chat

In an effort to leverage our virtual sharing platform to deliver unique sharing experiences, we are developing a new NA3RsC event, The Collaborative Coffee Chat (3Cs!). This event will be live and feature 3Rs topics which create a forum for differing opinions.

Our moderators will set the nuances and rules of engagement supporting the feature topic. Our participants will watch a 10 minute presentation supporting the pros/cons of the topic followed by a live discussion with a panel and virtual participants.

We will record each of these events and store them within our virtual environment for others to enjoy and comment on post event as well. We will offer a survey before and post event and measure the difference of opinion, if any of the participants. We will be launching our first discussion in MAY 2018, followed by a second topic in JUNE and each month thereafter.

Join us in a safe place to discuss and appreciate differences in opinion. If you would like to preregister or provide interesting topics for consideration, please contact us at [contactus@na3rsc.org](mailto:contactus@na3rsc.org)

---

## Awards!

If you have information in regard to 3Rs awards and would like to share with the rest of our 3Rs enthusiasts, please let us know and we will post award announcements as

well as recognize award winners.

[Learn More](#)



## Resource Spotlight: New Community Pavilion Exhibitor: Norecopa



The website of the Norwegian 3R platform Norecopa consists of over 7,500 pages offering international resources within Laboratory Animal Science and the 3Rs. Several databases are incorporated in the site, including NORINA (alternatives within education and training), TextBase (literature on lab animal science and alternatives) and 3R Guide (guidelines, information centres, databases and other 3R resources). The website has also an archive of all the newsletters issued by Norecopa. These are published 7-8 times a year in English.

Norecopa, in collaboration with British and Norwegian scientists, has recently produced guidelines for planning animal experiments, called [PREPARE](#). The aim of PREPARE is to offer guidance for scientists from day one. Dialogue with the animal facility is crucial, so PREPARE contains guidance on quality assurance and a suggestion for a contract between the facility and scientists.

PREPARE includes a 2-page checklist, currently available for downloading in 13 languages, which serves as a reminder of the most important topics. However, in addition to this, [PREPARE](#) consists of a website with links to international guidelines produced by expert working groups on others, for each of the topics mentioned in the checklist. In this way, scientists and animal facilities can gain access to quality information on all relevant topics. Visit the Norecopa exhibit within our Community Pavilion! Their booth is a portal to all of their resources.

### In response to your inquiries:

**Refine. Reduce. Replace.**



We receive many comments in regard to the order in which our organization lists the 3Rs (Refine. Reduce. Replace.) It is actually purposeful.

After a long discussion, our Executive Council elected to place Refinement first in the list of the 3Rs to place greater emphasis on this often “neglected R”. Many organizations put Replacement on the list first, as ultimately it would be great to reach our scientific objectives by totally in vitro processes. Although replacement is a noble goal, and we should strive to develop these technologies further, it is more of a long term goal for many applications.

In the last 50 years, perhaps a handful of developments have totally replaced animals in research and teaching, more so in the latter. So, as we strive to Reduce and Replace, we also need to be focusing on Refinement, because this area has the greatest potential for more immediate impactful gains with relatively less financial and resource risks. Additionally, innovation, testing and implementation in the area of Refinement is dependent upon sharing ideas and collaborating, and that’s what we’re all about at the North American 3Rs Collaborative.

## Thank you!

**We would like to thank the following institutions for grants which support the development of our virtual sharing environment.**

[Medimmune](#)

[Pfizer](#)

**We would like to thank the following institutions who are sharing resources with our collaborators in the Community Pavilion:**

- [NC3Rs](#)
- [AAALAC International](#)
- [NC3Rs UK](#)
- [PSBR](#)
- [Norecopa](#)
- [SCAW](#)
- [AMP](#)
- [ICLAS](#)
- [USDA](#)
- [KNIC3Rs](#)
- [Danish 3R Center](#)
- [Lhasa Limited](#)
- [RSPCA](#)
- [Charles River](#)
- [Mass Bio](#)

DONATE

Visit Our Website

Contact Us

The North American 3R's  
Collaborative

978-430-2395

[contactus@na3rsc.org](mailto:contactus@na3rsc.org)