

## Advisory Board Report April 2017

On Feb. 18, 2016, I (Dr. Judith Owen) submitted a request for funds to purchase microincinerators for the Microbiology Laboratory. This is a device used in laboratories to sterilize the inoculating loops used to transfer bacteria from one place to another.



The sterilization of these loops is required to avoid contamination. Traditionally, this sterilization has been done using Bunsen Burners. This is an open flame in the laboratory which is supplied by a gas line. Increasingly, teaching laboratories are using the microincinerators as a much safer alternative. The inoculating loop is inserted into a cylinder which houses a ceramic heating unit surrounded by a stainless steel cover. The incinerator will heat to a temperature of 815 degrees Celsius, sterilizing the inoculating loop in 5-7 seconds. This device is electric, and no gas line is required.

The support of the Advisory Board in the amount of \$1500.00 allowed us to purchase five microincinerators from Cynmar, LLC, and included shipping. This purchase has improved the safety of our laboratory, and the devices have been well used in the laboratory since their purchase.



We are very grateful to the Advisory board for funding our request.

Respectfully,

Judith Owen