



# IACUC Newsletter

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## Resources

### **IACUC Newsletter Online:**

<http://orrrp.osu.edu/animalsubjects/index.cfm>

### **IACUC Forms:**

<http://orrrp.osu.edu/animalsubjects/forms.cfm>

### **Office of Responsible Research Practices:**

<http://orrrp.osu.edu/>

### **University Laboratory Animal Resources:**

<http://ular.osu.edu/>

## Thank You

### **A Message from the IACUC Chair**

On behalf of the IACUC and the IACUC support staff, I thank you for your compliance with a number of new requirements that have been recently imposed. Some aspects of our program for oversight of animals used in research and teaching have changed substantially over the last year. A year ago, we did not meet all of the standards mandated by federal regulations and expected of a quality program. I think we are now in complete compliance. Several of the activities we have undertaken to reach this point have involved additional time and effort on your part. I appreciate your cooperation in accomplishing these activities. I also think the quality of proposals submitted to IACUC has improved over the last year. I am impressed by the quality and variety of interesting projects being done on our campus. Thank you again for cooperating with us in our efforts to facilitate research activities by maintaining a program that meets all of the standards demanded by federal regulations.

**Lane Wallace**  
Chair, IACUC

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## **AAALAC**

### **Update on Animal Care Program Accreditation**

The Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care, International (AAALAC) is an organization that accredits institutional animal care programs. Accreditation is a certification that we have a quality program that meets all federal laws and guidelines. Accreditation is important to us because a number of funding agencies look at AAALAC accreditation as a marker of quality programs and will not fund projects at institutions that are not accredited. The process of accreditation involves submission of a program description to AAALAC and a subsequent site visit by a team of evaluators. Accreditation is granted for a period of three years, so evaluations are done on a tri-annual basis.

Our most recent evaluation occurred last fall. At that time, the evaluators identified some serious deficiencies that put our accreditation status at risk. We immediately began work on remedies, and in May of this year we presented a detailed description of our progress to the AAALAC council. Based on our progress, we received a "probationary accreditation" status.



This means we retain accreditation but not for a full three year period. Thus, we must be evaluated again soon. AAALAC has asked that our updated program description be submitted by December of this year, and the on site evaluation will be done sometime during winter or early spring.

The University has involved two consultants to help us in the process of bettering our program for oversight of animals used in research and teaching. They both have extensive experience as members of the IACUC at their home institution and have both served on the AAALAC council. They visited us in early October. They reviewed the latest draft of our program description, examined our compliance documentation, and visited several of our research laboratories. Their evaluation is that we have made outstanding progress and that we are now in a position that should receive accreditation for a full term. We plan to bring our consultants back to campus in early February, before the AAALAC site visitors come, to run a mock site visit. We hope through this inspection process to catch any remaining program deficiencies that may exist and fix them before the official AAALAC site visit.

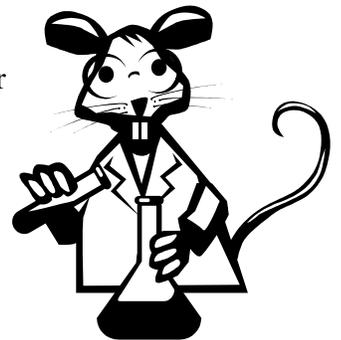
## Upcoming Site Visits IACUC Semi-Annual Inspections

The IACUC is preparing to conduct the Semi-annual inspection of all the institution's animal facilities. This includes all ULAR vivarium space and individual investigator lab space. These inspections are required by federal regulations governing the use of animals in research [Public Health Service Policy IV.B.2 and USDA Animal Welfare Act 9 CFR2.3 © 2] as well as institutional guidelines. At the Ohio State University, subcommittees of two IACUC members and a veterinarian will inspect all areas where animals are housed for longer than 12 hours and areas where any procedure on USDA species and surgical manipulation on any species is conducted. These inspections will be taking place in November and December. In preparation for these inspections, please be sure that your lab is complying with the following criteria.

### Inspection Criteria

#### *Animal Facilities:*

- Housing** – should be housed in a manner that facilitates the expression of species-typical behavior and minimizes stress-induced behaviors, prior approval is required to house animals outside of a ULAR vivarium for longer than 12 hours
- Temperature, ventilation, illumination and noise** – reliable methods for monitoring these systems should be in place
- Feed, Water** – should be free from contamination, milling date available, water source working properly and not contaminated
- Bedding** – use sufficient to prevent odors and keep animals dry
- Facility maintenance** – includes cleanliness and sanitation, waste disposal and pest control
- Observation of all animals** – must occur on a daily basis including weekends and holidays
- Social enrichment** – should be available to all animals if it does not adversely affect the study design



#### *Laboratories:*

- Laboratory maintenance** – cleanliness and adequate sanitation
- Safety issues** – no food or drink permitted within the lab, scavenging of anesthetic gas, gas cylinders secured properly
- Surgical/ euthanasia technique** – only procedures approved in protocol are conducted
- Storage of anesthetic agents and drugs** – controlled drugs are locked and there are no expired drugs

**Record keeping** – adequate records of anesthesia and perioperative care

***Additional concerns for survival surgery:***

**Aseptic procedures** – use/knowledge of institutional guidelines

**Autoclave/sterilization procedures** – storage of autoclave materials maintains sterility and cold sterilization procedures are appropriate

Please assist the IACUC with this important task by being cooperative and available for the inspection teams. Be aware that any deficiencies noted during these inspections will need to be corrected as soon as possible. The IACUC staff in the Office of Responsible Research Practices will be working with you to ensure that corrections are made. The Ohio State University along with the IACUC is committed to maintaining the integrity of and working to improve our overall Animal Care and Use Program. Please do your part to help make our program a continued success.

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## **Therapeutic Agents New IACUC Policy**

The IACUC recently approved a new Therapeutic Agents Policy. Therapeutic agents are substances used to control/minimize pain and/or distress or used to produce euthanasia. The new policy covers such topics regarding therapeutic agents as expiration dates, conditions for the use of non-pharmaceutical grade agents, and the safe use of volatile therapeutic agents. Controlled substances are drugs which are regulated by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) because of potential for abuse. Controlled substances are to be stored and used in accordance with state and federal laws. Storage, labeling, record keeping, and disposal of controlled substances are detailed in the policy. The Therapeutic Agents Policy can be found at:



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## **Housing of Animals in Laboratory Areas New IACUC Policy**

The Animal Welfare Act and Public Health Policy promulgate standards for animals housed in a location longer than 12 hours. In order to meet these standards, the general policy at OSU is that animals will be housed in University Laboratory Animals Resources (ULAR) vivariums whenever possible. The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) has instituted a new policy for housing of animals outside ULAR vivarium in order to ensure that all areas housing animals meet the requirements of The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (the Guide). To read the policy, go to:

<http://orrrp.osu.edu/animalsubjects/guidelines/laboratoryhousing.cfm>

All laboratories housing animals longer than 12 hours must be approved by the IACUC and must be requested in an Animal Use Protocol (AUP) or amendment request. Submission of the Laboratory Housing Request and a set of standard operating procedures for animal husbandry are required.

The housing request form and animal husbandry procedures should be reviewed by the attending veterinarian, ULAR Husbandry staff and Environmental Health and Safety prior to submission. The facility will need to be inspected and approved by the IACUC compliance staff prior to housing any animals in the laboratory area.

For the Housing Request form and an example of a Standard Operating Procedure, go to:

<http://orrrp.osu.edu/animalsubjects/forms.cfm>

**All laboratories housing animals longer than 12 hours must be approved by the IACUC.**

## IACUC Submission Deadlines

### Attending Veterinarian Review and Submission Calendar

The IACUC has recently added another important date to the protocol submission calendar that investigators should be aware of when preparing and submitting a protocol. The “Attending Veterinarian Review Deadline” is the last possible date in which an investigator should give a protocol to an attending veterinarian for review and signature prior to the protocol’s submission to the IACUC Desk. Not only is the attending veterinarian review and signature an IACUC requirement, but it is an opportunity for an investigator to benefit from the veterinarian staff’s expertise in protocol development, proper model selection, drug dosing, routes of administration, anesthesia, tranquilizer selection, and surgical procedures, among others. Allowing the attending veterinarian enough time to properly review a protocol not only aids in the quality of the activities being conducted, but may very well reduce the amount of Committee clarifications and modifications required from a protocol submission at the time of its review.



The deadlines for submission to the attending veterinarian and to the IACUC Desk can be found on the IACUC Calendar at <http://orpp.osu.edu/animalsubjects/schedule.cfm>. *Submission deadlines for the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine College Pre-Review Committees are now available at the link above as well.*

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## IACUC Records Online

### PI Portal Now Houses IACUC Protocol Information



The Office of Research has developed an electronic resource for OSU researchers designed to provide online access to IACUC records and to help research teams address compliance requirements. Through this tool the principal investigator (PI) of an Animal Use Protocol (AUP) will have access to their research team’s compliance records and may grant records’ access to their staff as well.

Over time, the types and amount of data displayed within the PROFILE will expand. In the future, the PROFILE will display numbers of animals authorized and used on IACUC protocols, records of IACUC required training, Occupational Health Program compliance, and additional pledged committed effort as reported in the electronic PA-005 application.

The information is located under the new PROFILE tab on the PI Portal. The PI Portal can be reached through the Research Foundation website, <http://rf.osu.edu/> (under Tools). To use the PI Profile, individuals need an active OSU Internet Username and password.

**A PI will have continual access to an updated lists of his/her protocols and be able to monitor receipt of new protocols, review deadlines, and approval expiration dates.**

A user guide is available by clicking on the HELP tab of the PROFILE. Comprehensive PI Portal training is offered monthly at the Research Foundation and provides information about all features and navigation. A complete schedule of training is available at: <http://rf.osu.edu/inf/e-cal.cfm>.

## Newsletter Contributors

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## New IACUC Support Staff

### **Deanna Coffman** **Quality Improvement Specialist**

Deanna came to the Ohio State University to begin her role as an IACUC Quality Improvement Specialist in mid-June 2006. Deanna received a B.A. in Biology from Taylor University in Upland IN. She has worked as a Research Biologist at WIL Research Laboratories and has carried out various stages of toxicology studies under Good Laboratory Practices. Deanna is also a registered Laboratory Animal Technician through the American Association of Laboratory Animal Science.

### **Rob Gaebel** **IACUC Administrator**

Rob started as an IACUC Administrator at the end of June 2006. Rob received a B.S. in Zoology from the University of Akron in 2002 and an M.S. in Zoology from The Ohio State University in 2005. Rob's research experience includes toxicological and behavioral work with amphibians, ecological studies on insect pollination of plants, and morphological and taxonomic investigations of North American freshwater fish.

### **Helen O'Meara** **Quality Improvement Specialist**

Helen began her role as an IACUC Quality Improvement Specialist in February 2006. Helen received a M.S. in Environmental Health Science from Case Western Reserve University. She has worked in the toxicology departments of North American Science Associates (NaMSA) and Ricerca Biosciences, LLC and has managed all aspects of a variety of toxicology studies. She has interacted with clients in pharmaceutical, industrial chemical and agricultural industries to support registration of compounds worldwide. Her experience also includes the development of standard operating procedures and test methods compliant with Good Laboratory Practices and appropriate guidelines. She has been certified as a Laboratory Animal Technologist by the American Association of Laboratory Animal Science.

### **Anthony Yonkura** **IACUC Administrator**

Anthony Yonkura began his role as IACUC Coordinator on January 23, 2006. Since his arrival, he has been promoted to IACUC Administrator. He received his B.A. in Economics at Baldwin-Wallace College. Before coming to Ohio State, Anthony was a Legislative Aide to a member of the Ohio House of Representatives.

