ANIMAL WELFARE PROGRAM NEWS

Summer 2023

UPCOMING INSPECTIONS

7/24 – 7/28/2023 UAC Facility and Farm/Ag locations

Please make sure the spaces you use in UAC facilities are inspection ready and your records are up to date! If you need assistance in disposing of expired items, reach out to your facility manager, or be sure to properly label not for live animal use.

REPORTABLE NEW INFORMATION (RNI)

The AWP and IACUC are working on refining our adverse event, animal welfare, and non-compliance processes to allow for a smoother, simpler experience for PIs.

As per IACUC guidance 115, individuals must notify the IACUC regarding any of the following.

- unanticipated deaths or clinical signs
- adverse events (surgical complications, failure to recover from anesthesia, etc.)
- unexpected study results, or
- phenotype that negatively impacts the welfare of an animal
- Unexpected euthanasia that is not part of the approved animal activities
- Increased or unexpected moribundity or mortality

Notification must occur even if the issue is reported to a University Animal Care veterinarian, and/or the issue has been corrected. Notify the IACUC using the **Reportable New Information Form** (link downloads form).

From there, the incident will be evaluated by the IACUC to determine what additional actions, if any, are necessary.

Additional information is available on our website at https://research.arizona.edu/compliance/IACUC/animal-welfare-concerns-reportable-new-information.

POST APPROVAL MONITORING UPDATES

Post approval monitoring (PAM) is a vital, and regulatorily required, part of animal research. PAM happens nearly every day during husbandry care, veterinary visits, requested trainings and consultations, amendment submissions, and other interactions. Even semi-annual inspections contribute to PAM.

A robust PAM program, however, also includes more specialized, one-on-one visits, evaluations, and training opportunities. To allow for better outcomes through PAM, the AWP has created a new position: Manager, Post Approval Monitoring and Education. Congratulations to **Mandie Dunham** who was promoted to fill the role!

Mandie and the AWP team will be increasing efforts to provide PAM opportunities. The goal is to schedule PAM visits with all labs, to help ensure IACUC protocols accurately reflect activities being performed and correct potential issues

before there is potential animal harm. They are also an educational opportunity for the AWP staff, to better assist researchers in the future.

Please watch for email from the AWP as we schedule individual visits and thank you for your time and willingness to participate in the PAM review. We look forward to meeting with you!

NEW PI ORIENTATION

The AWP offers PI orientation to new PIs and their staff and is happy to work with existing PIs on refreshers in working with the IACUC, AWP, and protocols.

PI orientation includes in-depth information on working with our protocol platform, Cayuse Animal Oversight, tips for writing protocols to match the requirements of the University of Arizona IACUC, information on how to get a non-centralized lab approved, and the opportunity to ask questions about the program and processes.

In the past, new PI orientation was voluntary, however we have found that labs that start with orientation have an easier time of writing their protocols, getting them approved, and getting their labs started. Going forward, AWP staff will reach out to new PIs to set up orientation for them and/or their staff. Please plan on having at least one from your lab attend the orientation prior to starting an IACUC protocol.

If you are a new PI or staff, or part of an already-established lab and would like a refresher, please do not hesitate to reach out to us to set up orientation.

REMINDER: HOUSING, BREEDING, AND PROCEDURE PLANNING WITH UAC

University Animal Care (UAC) is your first stop for planning your animal housing, breeding, and procedures. They should be consulted while you are planning and writing your protocol.

The UAC veterinarians and technicians are happy to work with you on planning and training for your procedures. Facilities managers can assist in planning for housing, breeding, and any other husbandry needs you may have. USDA-covered species, and any that may require special housing – IE birds, aquatic species, reptiles, etc – may require additional preparation for housing, so do be sure to consult with UAC in the early planning stages of your protocol.

Additionally, any satellite housing (non-USDA species housed in a non-UAC facility >24 hours and USDA species housed in a non-UAC facility >12 hours) must be inspected and approved and have several documents on file as part of the protocol process.

The AWP is happy to help guide you through the process of setting up a satellite facility. Please reach out to our office for assistance.

REMINDER: TRAINING & DOCUMENTATION

As a reminder, any lab staff that has contact with animals must be provided training for lab-specific procedures, outside of the basic CITI and GRST training, and all training needs to be docuemented. Training documentation will be reviewed during inspections or PAM visits.

Part of training should involve information on how to **access and read the animal protocol** in Cayuse Animal Oversight, and this training **should also be documented**.

The AWP website has templates you can use for training documentation and we are always happy to provide guidance!

INFORMATION AVAILABILITY & TECHNICAL CONCERNS

As a general reminder, if you run into any issues like broken links or missing courses or items, on our website or while accessing required training or documents like the GRST or CITI trainings, please let us know!

As always, if you have suggestions for information you'd like to see available or how to make it easier to access and use, please do not hesitate to reach out.

HAVE A SAFE SUMMER!

CONTACT US

Animal Welfare Program
ORCR-IACUC@email.arizona.edu
https://research.arizona.edu/compliance/IACUC
AWP Open Office Hours: Tuesdays 10am – 12pm and by appointment. Email us for a Zoom link or to schedule an appointment.