Conflict of Interest Policy Change

The federal regulations regarding research-related conflicts of interest have been revised by the Public Health Service (PHS) and must be implemented at The University of Texas at Austin by August 24, 2012, necessitating revisions to the UT Austin policy.

In order to comply with the new policy, all individuals who are involved in the design, conduct, or reporting of research, which includes principal investigators, co-investigators, research staff and students with those duties, will be required to complete training and submit a financial interest disclosure in order for the institution to comply with the new regulations and associated institutional policies.

For investigators conducting research with animals, completion of the training and submission of the financial interest disclosure must be completed by all applicable personnel prior to submission for IACUC review and approval. Additional information will be provided as the UT Austin policy revision is approved and the implementation date draws near.

For more information on the NIH policy, go to http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/coi/.

Resource for Grant Writing: Animal Facility Resource Summary

To assist investigators at The University of Texas at Austin that need to list institutional resources available to support vertebrate animal research, template language and guidance has been created for you to use as you write grant proposals or other funding support applications.

This document is available on the “Documents, Materials, and Forms” page of the IACUC website.

Submitting Documents to the HealthPoint OHP

The HealthPoint Occupational Health Program (OHP) has received several concerns from researchers recently about how documents should be submitted to the HealthPoint OHP office.

The HealthPoint staff highly recommended that completed documents be emailed to their dedicated email address:

HealthPoint.OHP@austin.utexas.edu

Alternatively, documents can be faxed to:

(512) 471-2666

Mailing documents via campus mail is not recommended as the mail system is slow and can cause increased processing delays.

All HealthPoint OHP forms are available at: http://www.utexas.edu/hr/current/services/ohp.html

IACUC Training Reminders

The IACUC requires personnel working with animals to complete several training items at least once every three years.

An automatic email reminder system will provide training expiration reminders at 30 days and 15 days prior to expiration, as well as the day the training has expired. Each protocol PI and Co-PI will be copied on the messages for their laboratory personnel.

To turn the reminders “off” personnel will need to either complete the required training or the person will need to be removed from the protocol.

The next Full Committee Review (FCR) is July 9, 2012.

The submission deadline for new protocols or third-year resubmissions is June 15.