ANIMAL CARE AND USE UPDATE

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
The University of Texas at Austin

The next IACUC Full Committee Review (FCR) is **Monday, September 9, 2019.**

The submission deadline for review at this meeting is **Monday, August 19, 2019.**

Welcome Dr. Wilding!

The Animal Resource Center gained a second clinical veterinarian in October: Dr. Laura Wilding, PhD, DVM, DACLAM. She is the clinical veterinarian for animals in the ARC and HDB. Here is some information about her:

"Before joining the ARC, I was a clinical veterinarian at the University of Minnesota for four years. I attended veterinary school at NC State University, and then completed a Laboratory Animal residency at the University of Michigan. I became board certified in laboratory animal medicine in 2015. Prior to my veterinary training, I received a PhD from Vanderbilt University while studying mouse models of diabetes and pancreas development. In my free time, I enjoy traveling and exploring new places with my husband and 7-year old daughter. I look forward to working with you here at UT Austin."

Make sure to say hello and welcome her if you see her around campus!

Contact information for ARC vets, manages, and supervisors may be found in the ARC Directory.

ARC Form Updates

The Animal Resource Center has recently automated many of the in-person procedures in order to expedite and make these processes easier for researchers. The following requests are now able to be submitted electronically. Click here for more information.

- Animal Transport Form
- Training Requests
- Facility Access
- Food and Water Restriction Requests
- Protocol Transfers
- Biohazardous Animal Project Initiation form

Check out ORSC's New Look!

The Office of Research Support and Compliance Animal Research website recently underwent some changes to make it more educational and user-friendly. Feel free to check it out and provide your feedback on what you like, do not like, or wish there was more information on.

Federal Funding & Congruence Reviews

NIH Grants Policy states, "It is an institutional responsibility to ensure that the research described in the application is congruent with any corresponding protocols approved by the IACUC."

If you have new federal funding, then the IACUC will need to perform a congruency review **prior to award**.

Additional Content on Page 2

- Continuing education opportunities

- Updated IACUC Guideline

- NEW ARC guidance regarding anesthesia and post-operative monitoring

- DOD funding and reporting requirements

Need Help?

ORSC is here to assist. Please call or email with any questions, comments, or concerns!

512-471-8871
IACUC@austin.utexas.edu

Continuing Education Opportunities

Are you a Principal Investigator or lab manager looking for continuing education opportunities for your staff or lab personnel? Or are you a student seeking ways to develop skills or knowledge in the animal research field? Below are some resources to use for professional development or just to keep up-to-date with current animal research news.

Webinars and Podcasts
- Grow your knowledge in animal use and management, institutional responsibilities, animal welfare policy and regulation, and more by checking out these OLAW webinars and podcasts.
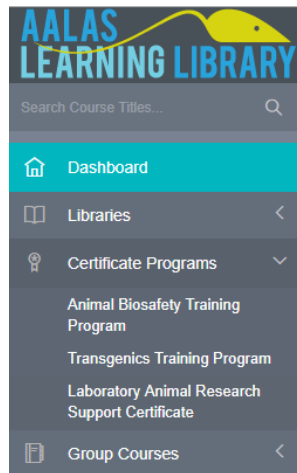
Journal Articles and News
- Stay current with news and exciting updates regarding animal research by checking out the LabAnimal journal.

Student Scholarship Fund for Workshops & Conferences
- SCAW (Scientists Center for Animal Welfare) offers scholarships to full-time students to have their workshop or conference registration fee waived. Follow directions in the link for more information or to apply.
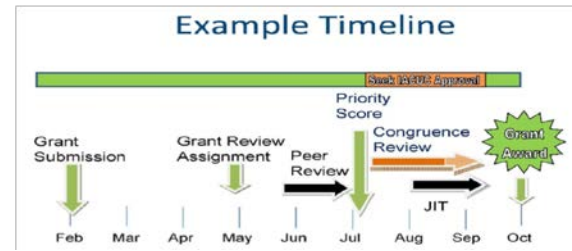
AALAS Certificate Programs
- In addition to the many course options in AALAS Leaning Library (ALL), ALL users also qualify to complete Certificate Programs. These include:
  - Animal Biosafety Training
  - Transgenic Training Program
  - Laboratory Animal Research Support

- Follow the link for instructions on how to access AALAS training through eProtocol.

Federal Funding & Congruence Reviews
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It is strongly recommended that investigators do not seek IACUC approval for a grant proposal until they have at least received a fundable grant score. In conducting the congruence review, the IACUC focuses on the following three areas: 1) species, 2) animal numbers, and 3) procedures.

Once congruence is verified and the animal use protocol has been approved, ORSC will issue a *Congruence Verification Letter* that may be submitted for Just-In-Time (JIT) requests. **NOTE: IACUC approval letters state that they do <u>not</u> verify congruence with any funding source. You will need to provide a *Congruence Verification Letter* to confirm this.**

Updated IACUC Guideline

The IACUC has recently approved a revised guideline. Make sure you are up-to-date with the most current version:

- #7- Guidelines for Surgical Procedures in Rodents, Birds, and Cold-Blooded Vertebrates
  This guideline was updated to clarify and provide additional information about post-operative care and recordkeeping. Approved July 8, 2019.

NEW ARC Guidance Documents

The Animal Resource Center has new guidance documents regarding anesthesia and post-operative monitoring. Also posted is a new, ready to use rodent anesthesia record template and a completed example of the record. Check out these helpful documents here.

Department of Defense (DOD) Funding & Reporting Requirements

Agencies of the DOD use a dual approval process for work involving animals, meaning **all DOD funded work approved by UT Austin IACUC must receive secondary approval from the DOD prior to initiation**. Unlike NIH funding, the first step in receiving funding from the DOD will be to receive IACUC approval. Once approval is received, the researcher will submit the approved IACUC protocol along with their Animal Use Appendix and other required documents to the appropriate DOD animal use office (ACURO, BUMC, etc.). The ORSC can assist you with compiling this documentation. The ORSC has also created an aid to assist researchers with the institutional-related questions in the Appendix.

Once the DOD funding is awarded and they give secondary approval for the animal work, the PI must submit an amendment to the IACUC to add the funding to their protocol. Once this is done, ORSC will assist the PI with maintaining compliance by

1) reminding the PI that they are not allowed to implement any changes until the DOD has issued their secondary approval,
2) submitting IACUC approved amendments to the DOD on the PI's behalf, and
3) maintaining DOD-related records and approval letters.

The PI will be copied on any email sent to the DOD regarding their protocol. We also ask that the PI copy IACUC@austin.utexas.edu on emails sent to the DOD animal use office so that we may keep accurate records. Contact ORSC if you have questions about DOD funding.