



Research Support and Sponsored Programs  
Office of the Director  
120 Ozark Hall  
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

(479) 575-3845  
(479) 575-3846 (FAX)  
E-mail: [rsspinfo@uark.edu](mailto:rsspinfo@uark.edu)  
<http://www.uark.edu/admin/rsspinfo/>

November 19, 2007

## MEMORANDUM

TO: All Faculty, Staff, and Students using live vertebrate animals in research and for teaching

FROM: Wayne Kuenzel, Ph.D.  
IACUC Chair  
Rosemary Ruff  
Director, RSSP

RE: Mandatory Training Implemented by IACUC  
Effective January 1, 2008

As you may be well aware, research projects and teaching exercises that use live, vertebrate animals are subject to Federal regulation (**Animal Welfare Act** and the **Health Research Extension Act Of 1985**). Guidance is provided by the *Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (PHS Policy), and the *Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Agricultural Research and Teaching* (Ag Guide). In addition, the University's *Policy on Animal Care and Use* stipulates that compliance with these regulations and guidelines is mandatory regardless of the source of funding or type of research (agricultural, biomedical or field studies).

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is responsible for assuring that personnel conducting research or teaching activities that use live, vertebrate animals are appropriately trained and qualified to participate. The IACUC must review and approve all Animal Use Protocols. Within the protocol, the Principal Investigator must sign a "Statement of Compliance" confirming that "... *all individuals who will be involved with the animals used in this project have been instructed in the humane care, handling, and use of animals and that I have reviewed their qualifications*". To date, the IACUC has had no way to document that training was provided and that it included the required. At the recommendation of IACUC and with the approval of Collis R. Geren, Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Provost for Research, and Mark J. Cochran, Associate Vice-President for Agriculture Research, Division of Agriculture, the University has

engaged Laboratory Animal Training Association (LATA) to provide the requisite training and documentation of individual completion.

**Effective January 1, 2008**, the Principal Investigator and all personnel associated with the animal use portions of the protocol must complete the two base LATA modules: 1) *The Humane Use of Laboratory Animals Module*, which contains the basic information that the Animal Welfare Act specifies all persons conducting research with animals should know, and 2) *The Policies and Procedures Module*, which reviews important aspects of the University's Policy on Animal Care and Use. **There is no charge to the faculty, staff, and students who complete these modules.** Both you and the IACUC Program Manager will be notified that you have completed the module(s). (You are encouraged to retain this proof of completion.)

There are also optional modules available at this time. You are encouraged to use them to train personnel in the correct care and handling of animals, surgical procedures, and other techniques specific to animal species used in your research. In the future, the IACUC may require the completion of additional modules as well, depending on the nature of proposed studies. **After January 1, 2008, Animal Use Protocols will NOT be reviewed by the IACUC unless there is documentation that the required LATA training modules have been completed by the Principal Investigator and other personnel listed on the Animal Use Protocol form.**

The LATA program is now available and you are encouraged to begin taking the required training modules. They are very easily accessed via the RSSP/IACUC web page. It will take about 30 minutes to module. Contact Carol Rodlun, IACUC Program Manager, for a username and password to access to the LATA Training Site.

<http://www.uark.edu/admin/rsspinfo/compliance/animal-subjects/index.html>