



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

FOR US POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERY:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500, MSC 6910  
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-6910  
Home Page: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>

FOR EXPRESS MAIL:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500  
Bethesda, Maryland 20817  
Telephone: (301) 496-7163  
Facsimile: (301) 480-3387

April 22, 2020

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3377-01 [OLAW Case 7A]

Dr. David P. Norton  
Vice President for Research  
University of Florida  
(b) (4) Grinter Hall  
Gainesville, FL 32611-5500

Dear Dr. Norton,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your March 23, 2020 letter reporting several incidents of non-compliance occurring over the past few months within the animal care and use program at the University of Florida related to lab-provided husbandry care concerning one lab member. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that these incidents involved improper record-keeping, improper cage-changing intervals, animals not provided food, and animals being sent to cage wash. The animals involved in these incidents are on a study funded by both the NIH and the NSF (grant #1854391).

Corrective and preventive actions included Animal Care Services meeting with the individual and with the lab and the IACUC meeting with the lab and performing post-approval monitoring. The IACUC also required that the individual responsible not be allowed to perform the husbandry duties and that another lab member be assigned those duties. It is understood that the funding agencies have been apprised of the incident.

OLAW believes that the actions taken by the University of Florida are consistent with the provisions of the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals for institutional self-monitoring and self-reporting. OLAW views instances of lack of basic living requirements such as food, a proper cage environment, and animals being sent to cage wash with great concern. Please always include the animal species in your report. OLAW assumes that the animals involved in this incident were mice. Please inform us if this is not the case. OLAW appreciates being informed of this issue and finds no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

Brent C. Morse -S

Digitally signed by Brent C.  
Morse -S  
Date: 2020.04.22 08:33:20 -04'00'

Brent C. Morse, DVM  
Director  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Contact  
NSF Animal Welfare Officer

Obtained by Rise for Animals. Uploaded 08/24/2020

Retrieved from Animal Research Laboratory Overview (ARLO)



Office of the Vice President for Research

223 Grinter Hall  
PO Box 115500  
Gainesville, FL 32611-5500  
352-392-1582

March 23, 2020

Axel Wolff, DVM  
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health  
Rockledge 1, Suite 360  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. Wolff:

The University of Florida, in accordance with Assurance D16-00244 (A3377-01) and PHS Policy IV.F.3., provides this report of a non-compliance regarding lab-provided husbandry related issues.

The IACUC was notified of multiple issues related to laboratory to care cages which have occurred over the past few months. The laboratory has been approved for and is responsible for all husbandry (health checks, cage change, food, water, etc.). Issues have included record keeping issues, cages not changed at proper intervals, animals sent to cage wash, and cages found without food. All issues found have been related to one laboratory member.

Animal Care Services (ACS) has met with the laboratory and individual involved in these issues multiple times over the past few months to try and correct these issues. The IACUC has also done post approval monitoring of the laboratory and has discussed these issues with the lab. Initial corrective actions by the laboratory included another member of the laboratory going behind the responsible individual to double check work has been done correctly.

The IACUC full committee voted on March 10, 2020 that this series of incidents was a non-compliance and was reportable through the IO to regulatory agencies. The IACUC has required that the individual involved in these issues no longer perform husbandry duties and that the Principal Investigator appoint another laboratory member.

This study is funded by the following grants:

National Institutes of Health: R01NS05474 *Molecular, cellular and physiological mechanisms of the mammalian circadian clock.*

National Science Foundation: 1854391 *Collaborative Research: Biochemical basis of cellular circadian behavior.*

OLAW Letter  
March 23, 2020  
Page 2

The funding components have been notified of the adverse event.

The University of Florida is committed to protecting the welfare of animals used in research and appreciates the guidance and assistance provided by OLAW in this regard. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Daniel R. Brown, Ph.D., IACUC Chair.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

David Norton, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Research  
Institutional Official

(b) (6)

**Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]**

---

**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 15, 2020 8:41 AM  
**To:** Mahoney, Michael P  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: Report of noncompliance (00765752)

Thank you. We will respond soon.  
Axel Wolff

**From:** Mahoney, Michael P <mmahoney@ufl.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2020 4:38 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** ethiels@nsf.gov; vlrichar@nsf.gov; He, Yejun (Janet) NIH/NINDS) [E] <hey@ninds.nih.gov>; Adeniyi, Olamide (NIH/NINDS) [E] <olokool@ninds.nih.gov>  
**Subject:** Report of noncompliance (00765752)

Dr. Morse,

I am sending the attached report of noncompliance from the University of Florida. UF did not send a preliminary report for this event. The protocol involved in this noncompliance is funded by NIH and NSF. I have cc'd the applicable Program Officials on this email.

Please acknowledge receipt and let me know if you have any issues.

-Michael

---

Michael Mahoney  
Director of Research Operations and Services  
University of Florida | UF Research | PO Box 115500  
Grinter (b) (4) PH: (b) (6) | <http://research.ufl.edu>