

Northern Arizona University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)
Semiannual Report to the Institutional Official (IO)

April 16, 2020

Dr. David M. Faguy
Institutional Official
Assistant Vice President, Office of Research Compliance
Northern Arizona University
PO Box 4137
Flagstaff, Arizona 86011-4137

Dear Dr. Faguy,

Enclosed is the latest semiannual report of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. This report is required by Public Health Service (PHS) Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and as a condition of Northern Arizona University's (NAU) Animal Welfare Assurance on file with the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal Welfare Regulations, 9 CFR Chapter I, subchapter A, as applicable.

This report covers the period from October 5, 2019 through April 13, 2020.

Inspection of Animal Facilities:

The IACUC performed inspections of animal use and holding areas between March 13, 2020 to April 13, 2020. These inspections were performed using the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals 8th edition and, where applicable, 9 CFR Chapter I, 2.31 as the basis for evaluation. As per USDA/NIH guidelines, deficiencies are categorized as major or minor. Major deficiencies are those that pose an immediate, significant threat to animal health or safety. Minor deficiencies are less immediate and less serious but require attention to comply with federal regulations. As per regulations, dates by which deficiencies must be resolved are included.

Notices were sent to appropriate Principal Investigators, faculty and staff members.

The following MAJOR deficiency was identified during the facility inspections:

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No major deficiencies were identified during our inspections.

The following MINOR deficiencies were identified during the facility inspections:

- A. [REDACTED] Animal Use Area ([REDACTED])
1. Dead bullfrogs in freezer which are wrapped in paper towels
 2. Spoiled food in refrigerator with reagents and dead animals
 3. Many dead rodents unlabeled and need to be discarded
- Deadline for Corrections: May 30, 2020**
- No response from investigator**
- B. [REDACTED] Animal Use Area ([REDACTED])
1. Need updated Emergency Contact List
- Deadline for Corrections: May 30, 2020**
- No response from investigator**
- C. [REDACTED] Animal Holding Facility ([REDACTED])
1. In Room [REDACTED] missing copies of SOPs for: animal receipt and disposal
 2. Update emergency contact information
- Deadline for Corrections: May 30, 2020**
- No response from investigator**
- D. [REDACTED] Animal Use Area ([REDACTED])
1. Post sign stating no food and drinks in lab area where food and drinks ok
- Deadline for Corrections: May 30, 2020**
- No response from investigator**
- E. Biological Sciences Annex ([REDACTED])
1. Move surgical SOPs to surgery room
 2. [REDACTED] ([REDACTED])
 - Unlabeled buckets on floor with unknown liquid
 - Need access to computer for daily care records
 - Add cage cards to systems, one per system; BSA will provide
 3. [REDACTED] (no animals currently)
 - Add covers to light fixtures
 4. [REDACTED] (no animals currently)
 - Floor cracks near drain and stained floor; need to repair and repaint
 5. [REDACTED]
 - Items in incubator missing labels

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- Missing cage cards
- Cage cards have incorrect animal numbers on them
- Blackfish need cage cards filled out
- No rocks/hides/substrate in fish tanks
- Fish food not labelled in freezer, broken, messy bags (Exam Room BSA)

6. Exam Room ()
 - Clean biohazard freezer, sawdust in bottom
 - Unlabeled dissections bag in freezer-
 - AJT paraformaldehyde in fridge (discarded during inspection)
7. Update Training Log
8. Add SOP for animal bites to binder

Deadline for Corrections: May 30, 2020

- F. Animal Use Area ()
 1. Soda bottle/water bottle observed in animal area
 2. Emergency numbers and care provider numbers need updating
 3. Update training log
 4. Many dead mice in freezer? They can be disposed of at the BSA.

Deadline for Corrections: May 30, 2020

- G. Animal Use Area ()
No deficiencies.

- H. Animal Use Area ()
 1. Frozen fish food not labeled, and freezer door does not close tight, tape currently holding it shut?

Deadline for Corrections: May 30, 2020

- I. Animal Holding Facilities ()
 1. Update emergency contact sheet with veterinary contact information
 2. Animal census and daily check sheets for larval fish needed
 2. Could not find training forms in "Training Records" binder

Deadline for Corrections: May 30, 2020

All corrections made.

- J. Animal Holding Facilities ()
()

No deficiencies.

Suggest cage cards replaced as they are fading.

- K. [REDACTED] Outdoor chipmunk enclosures ([REDACTED])
No deficiencies
- L. [REDACTED] (no animal use or holding, just “storage”
by many investigators)
- Minor deficiency = possible rodent nest in blanket and close to other animal holding and use areas
 - Clean room and discard/surplus all trash and unused equipment (bird cages, fish tanks, fish tank filters, rodent cages in hallway. No place to walk in room and cannot close door.
 - **Deadline for Corrections: May 30, 2020**
ACM requests an extension to correct through August 30, 2020.
- M. Animal Holding Facility ([REDACTED])
No deficiencies. Suggest obtaining cage card holder rather than placing on cages. Racks need dusting.
- N. Animal Holding Facility ([REDACTED])
- Wooden shelf should be replaced with a metal shelf
 - Unlabeled water containers need labels
 - Replace light bulbs
- All corrections made by investigator and facility services and ACM.
- O. Storage room [REDACTED] ([REDACTED])
- Door sweeps needed in exterior and interior doors to prevent wild rodent access
 - Pest control since one bag of food stored in here
- Deficiencies corrected by facilities services and ACM.
- P. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Hallway Fridge Freezer ([REDACTED])
- Minor deficiency-Dispose of dead animals in freezer or store in laboratory if samples. This should be limited to small amount food for animals housed at facility. Also, unlabeled water bottle.
 - Minor deficiency - Need new fire extinguisher
Fire extinguisher replaced by ACM and facilities services. First item corrected by investigators.

- Q. Overall ACL Facility Needs ([REDACTED] ACM)
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- Repair central heating; hallways and animal rooms maintaining appropriate temperatures with space heaters since early March 2020 (corrected)
- Need new fire extinguisher - (corrected)
- Clean southernmost outdoor storage cage (pending, see above)
- Replace lightbulbs throughout facility but especially [REDACTED], etc. and main hallway (corrected)
- Sweeps installed on all external ACL doors (corrected)
- Continue cleaning janitor closet (corrected)
- Continue requesting janitorial service (corrected, Facilities services now cleaning on a regular basis)
- Repair ceiling tiles (corrected)
- Discard junk (fish tanks) in hallway-pending

Deadline for Corrections: May 30, 2020

ACM requests and extension through August 30th to complete remaining tasks.

The following locations did not have any MAJOR or Minor deficiencies:

- Nishikawa Laboratory (Wettaw Room 111)
- Buck Animal Holding Facility (Bldg. 76, outdoor chipmunk enclosures)
- Pasch Animal Holding Facility (Bldg. 76 Rooms 101 and 103)

Inspection letters sent to PIs in regard to inspection findings and correcting deficiencies are attached to the final signed version of this document.

Animal Care and Use Program Review:

The IACUC conducted its semiannual review of the institution's Animal Care and Use Program on March 6, 2020 using the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory animals and, where applicable, 9 CFR Chapter I, 2.31 as basis for evaluation.

The NAU IACUC used the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) checklist for semiannual program review. The use of the OLAW checklist was recommended by The Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC) site visitors and the USDA Veterinary Medical Officer (VMO). This checklist will be used for all future semiannual program reviews. The NAU Policy and Procedure Manual (PPM) and AAALAC Program Description are maintained as comprehensive bodies of programmatic information.

No MAJOR deficiencies were identified during this program review.

The following MINOR deficiency was identified during the program review:

1.

Minority Views

No minority views were expressed regarding this semiannual report.

Signatures

IACUC Members

Signatures

Kimberley Cohen, Institutional Veterinarian

Joseph Mihaljevic, Scientist

Ana Braga, Scientist, GSR*

Tad Theimer, Scientist, IACUC Chair

Kathleen Freel, IACUC Coordinator

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*GSR is the graduate student representative