



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

FOR US POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERY:
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive – MSC 7982
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7982
Home Page: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>

FOR EXPRESS MAIL:
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
Telephone: (301) 496-7163
Facsimile: (301) 402-7065

March 22, 2017

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3310-01 [OLAW Case 11]

Dr. Philip R. Cunningham
Assistant Vice President for Research
Wayne State University
Office of the Vice President for Research
5057 Woodward Avenue, Room #
Detroit, MI 48201

Dear Dr. Cunningham,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your March 20, 2017 letter reporting a serious deviation from the provisions of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* at Wayne State University. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that a light timer failed in a breeding room and the animals were exposed to continuous light for up to one week. Light timers are checked weekly but staff was not on duty during the dark light cycle for this room.

The corrective action consisted of installing a remote monitoring system that has light sensors in the rooms and can provide real time reporting of deviations of light schedules.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that measures have been implemented to correct and prevent recurrence of this problem. OLAW concurs with the actions taken by the institution to comply with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. In future, please remember to indicate the species involved and whether the study was PHS-supported.

Sincerely,

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Director
Division of Compliance Oversight

cc: IACUC Chair



Philip R. Cunningham, Ph.D.
Assoc. Vice President for Research
Wayne State University
5057 Woodward Avenue, Suite 2317
Detroit, MI 48202

(313) 577-9064
philc@wayne.edu

March 20, 2017

Animal Welfare Assurance Number: A3310-01

Axel V. Wolff, MS, DVM
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
Rockledge 1, Suite 360, MSC 7982
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982
olawdco@mail.nih.gov

RE: Adverse event

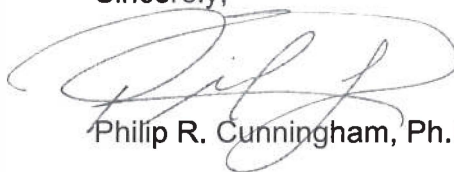
Dear Dr. Wolff,

I am writing to report an adverse event involving a failed light timer that was first identified on December 2, 2016 in one of the vivaria at Wayne State University (WSU). The incident was first reported by laboratory personnel that were in the animal room after the end of the normal light cycle (6am – 6pm). It was determined that the mechanical light timer for the room had failed and that the breeding colony in the room had been exposed to continuous light for an indeterminate period. The Division of Laboratory Animal Resources (DLAR) veterinary staff checks timer function weekly as part of the normal maintenance schedule but are not generally present in the vivaria during the dark cycle due to their normal work schedule (7am – 3pm). While the total duration of continuous light exposure could not be definitively determined, it is possible that the animals may have been in this condition for up to a week.

This event was discussed at the IACUC meeting on December 14, 2016 and DLAR began investigating options to increase monitoring capabilities related to light cycle in all of the institutions animal rooms. A remote monitoring system that utilizes light sensors in the room and provides real time reporting of deviations from the prescribed schedule has been identified and tested successfully. DLAR is in the process of determining equipment needs to enable monitoring campus-wide. This plan was presented as part of an update during the IACUC meeting on February 22, 2017.

While there was no clear animal harm or death that could be definitively associated with the failure of the light timer it was determined by the IACUC at the February meeting that the potential stress induced by continuous light exposure, especially on a breeding colony, could be viewed as a reportable event. Irrespective of whether actual harm occurred, the IACUC and DLAR believe that the monitoring system being implemented will serve as a strong safeguard against future issues that could increase colony stress and confound experimental results.

Sincerely,



Philip R. Cunningham, Ph.D.

c.c. Secondary Individual Global Director, AAALAC International,
accredit@AAALAC.org

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 7:40 AM
To: 'Philip Cunningham'
Subject: RE: Adverse event

Thank you for this report, Dr. Cunningham. We will respond soon.
Axel Wolff

From: Philip Cunningham [mailto:philc@wayne.edu]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 4:56 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: International Aaalac <accredit@aaalac.org> [REDACTED] Secondary Individual [REDACTED]@wayne.edu; [REDACTED] ndary Indiv
[REDACTED] dary Indiv@wayne.edu>
Subject: Adverse event

Dear Dr. Wolff,

Please see the enclosed report of an Adverse Event involving light timers in a rodent facility.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,
Phil

Philip R. Cunningham, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President
Research Integrity
Wayne State University
5057 Woodward Avenue, [REDACTED] Room #
Detroit, MI 48202

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