

March 15, 2019

Nina Woodford, D.V.M., M.P.H.  
Director and Attending Veterinarian  
Office of the Campus Veterinarian  
Washington State University  
P.O. Box 641165  
100 Dairy Road  
Pullman, WA 99164-1165

Dear Dr. Woodford:

The AAALAC International Council on Accreditation has reviewed the report of the recent site visit to the Washington State University, Pullman, Washington. The Council commends you and the staff for providing and maintaining a quality program of laboratory animal care and use. Especially noteworthy were the investigators working with diverse wild taxa who were both knowledgeable and conscientious about the animals and who took appropriate steps to protect the native populations of these species; the extremely well trained and knowledgeable animal care staff; the Animal Health database used to track health concerns across campuses; the very engaged and active Institutional Official; the excellent animal health, evidenced by the appearance of healthy animals throughout the site visit; the administrative commitment to a quality animal care program, evidenced in part by the campus-wide accreditation and bringing the animal facilities into a centralized oversight structure; the very clean facilities, both agricultural and biomedical; the thorough and detailed semiannual facility inspection reports; the excellent documentation of adverse events reported to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC); the custom document holders for keeping information available at outdoor facilities; and the knowledgeable investigators participating in the tours of the satellite facilities and laboratories. The Council is pleased to inform you that the program conforms with AAALAC International standards as set forth by the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide)*, NRC 2011 and the *Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching*, FASS 2010. Therefore, **FULL ACCREDITATION** shall continue.

Council acknowledges receipt of the correspondence dated November 15 and October 19, 2018 detailing actions taken relative to concerns expressed by the site visitors during the exit briefing. Specifically, the items addressed satisfactorily included: ensuring IACUC review and approval of studies with brown trout; removing overhead weights, repairing a rusting pole and ceiling holes, and eliminating insulation used as feral bird nesting material at the Knott Dairy Center; centrally funding all components of the occupational health and safety program (OHSP); ensuring that all individuals with animal contact are encouraged to participate in the OHSP; installing ground fault interrupter circuits and replacing electrical shields in light timers; assessing water quality and stocking density parameters in aquatics facilities; training individuals on proper methods for scavenging waste anesthetic gases; installing an emergency eyewash station; ensuring appropriate environmental conditions for feed storage in biomedical areas; planning renovations of the cage wash and clean storage spaces of the Health Education and Research Building vivarium; ensuring appropriate respiratory protection is utilized when mixing MS-222 powder into solution; ensuring IACUC procedures for utilizing designated member review subsequent to full committee review are consistent with guidance from the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare; relocating

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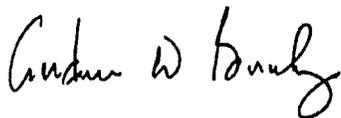
Nina Woodford, D.V.M., M.P.H.  
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and repairing feed storage containers at the deer facility to prevent contamination with water and vermin; relocating animal studies from the Clark Hall satellite facility into vivarium space; reviewing the utilization of rodenticides to minimize the potential for secondary toxicity; evaluating and upgrading reheat coils and environmental monitoring systems to prevent the inadvertent overheating of animal housing areas; ensuring biohazard signage is consistent with the hazards present; reviewing the justification for utilizing non-pharmaceutical-grade anesthetics; replacing sticky traps or glue boards that could capture rodents; repairing non-sanitizable surfaces in the Laboratory Animal Resources surgery facility; re-evaluating the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system performance report and making changes, as needed, to ensure appropriate relative air pressure and to address low airflow in animal housing rooms; re-evaluating the environmental alarm set points to ensure personnel are notified if environmental conditions exceed *Guide* recommendations; and ensuring IACUC approval of a deviation from the *Guide* regarding cage change frequency.

Enclosed are further recommendations for improvement of the animal care and use program. The Council on Accreditation notes that there is no obligation for institutions to make program changes based on suggestions for improvement. Implementation of suggestions is, however, one means of promoting a high quality animal care and use program.

AAALAC International requires an Annual Report detailing changes made during the year in accredited units. If your institution chooses to implement program modifications in response to the suggestions described in the enclosure, the Annual Report provides an opportunity to summarize the actions taken. In the interim, AAALAC International expects to be apprised in a timely manner of significant programmatic changes or concerns should they occur. Please note that, at your request, AAALAC International will provide your institution with a separate letter simply verifying that your animal care and use program is accredited. Should you also wish to distribute an electronic copy of this letter to program staff, a Portable Document Format (pdf) version will be sent upon request.

Sincerely,



Andrew W. Grady, D.V.M., M.S.  
President, Council on Accreditation

AWG:cma  
000480

Enclosure

cc: Alan Ekstrand, Assistant Director, Animal Welfare Program, Office of Research Assurances

Obtained by Rise

Washington State University  
Pullman, Washington  
File # 000480

**Suggestions for Improvement:**

1. Although most aspects of the social housing program were adequate, there were a few instances of single housing of social animals without veterinary or scientific justification. Two sows in the McCoy Building were individually housed due to the lack of availability of a larger pen. Three male and three female guinea pigs in Bustad 1060A were individually housed. Many trout were individually housed in the Eastlick, Heald Hall, and Carver aquaculture facilities. An individual *Xenopus laevis* was housed at the veterinary school and was used for teaching veterinary students about amphibians. Although that was the only *Xenopus* maintained at the veterinary school, other *Xenopus* were maintained in other campus facilities. The *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide)*, NRC 2011 emphasizes the need to consider social housing of social species of animals and states “Social animals should be housed in stable pairs or groups of compatible individuals...” and “An appropriate housing space or enclosure should also account for the animals’ social needs.” The AAALAC International Position Statement affirms that social housing of social species will be considered by AAALAC International as the default method of housing. Lack of consideration of the social needs of animals may create undue animal stress and impair their overall well-being. The institution should review any instances of individual housing of social species to ensure appropriate justification due to specific needs of a particular scientific study, because of social incompatibility or for veterinary reasons. A periodic re-review of these studies is recommended. Council acknowledges the correspondence dated November 5 and October 19, 2018 indicating that renovations are underway to allow group housing of the sows, the guinea pigs are socially housed except when socially incompatible, and additional environmental enrichment has been provided for the *Xenopus*. Council encourages the review of individually housed trout to ensure there is appropriate justification for their lack of social housing.
2. Relative humidity for the majority of the rooms housing animals for biomedical research were outside of the *Guide* recommended range of 30-70%. Health issues related to low humidity such as ringtail in rodents had occasionally been observed. Although the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) standard operating procedure #12 (Effects of Low Humidity and Treatment of Ringtail in Rodents) addressed what to do for emergency measures if humidity fell below 20% in rodent rooms, there had been no discussions or recommendations from the IACUC to the Institutional Official (IO) regarding improvement of humidity control. The IACUC had not addressed whether exceptions to the recommendations of the *Guide* for relative humidity would be appropriate for the types of research being conducted. In addition to clinical health concerns such as ringtail, low relative humidity can alter research data with animals needing to take in more water, thereby altering their metabolism. The IACUC should evaluate biomedical air handling systems to determine the modifications required to conform with the recommendations of the *Guide*. Also, the IACUC should also evaluate whether exceptions to the recommendations of the *Guide* for humidity control would be appropriate for the research studies being conducted, and a plan for addressing humidity control for those studies that could be impacted by low humidity should be developed and implemented. Council acknowledges the correspondence dated

November 5 and October 19, 2018 indicating that historical data on humidity fluctuations and research impacts is being gathered, and that the topic will be addressed by the IACUC as part of the semiannual program review process. Council encourages completion of this process, the development and implementation of a plan for humidity control consistent with the recommendations of the *Guide* and to ensure IACUC review and approval of exceptions when strict humidity control is not needed for individual research projects.

3. There were multiple physical plant, maintenance, and biosecurity concerns at the Experimental Animal Laboratory Building (EALB), a facility intended for high biosecurity in biomedical studies, evidenced by the need to utilize disinfecting footbaths upon entry. Many of the animal rooms had exposed pipes and conduits, often with an excessive build-up of dust. This was especially noted in the rodent surgical room. As stated in the *Guide*, “Exposed plumbing, ductwork, and light fixtures are undesirable unless the surfaces can be readily cleaned.” Many of the floors were pitted, cracked, and non-sanitizable. Although the rooms most in need of repair were identified in the previous IACUC semiannual inspections and the plans to repair the flooring were made for those rooms, the corridors outside of the rooms and many other rooms were also substandard and in need of repair. Pinholes in the paint of the walls made for non-sanitizable surfaces in most rooms. These areas should be repaired or resurfaced to provide washable, readily disinfected surfaces, and an appropriate schedule for cleaning the exposed piping and ductwork should be implemented. In addition, there were many pieces of extraneous equipment unrelated to the biomedical research stored within the EALB necropsy and feed storage rooms. The equipment had rusted, non-sanitizable surfaces and was used for analyzing feedstuffs for agricultural animals. Having non-sanitizable equipment and bringing agricultural feedstuffs into areas meant to work with specific pathogen free biomedical research animals can expose the animals to pathogens that can affect animal health and alter research data. To ensure the safety of the research animals, locations for doing animal work and locations for doing feed analysis should be separated. Council acknowledges the correspondence dated November 5 and October 19, 2018 indicating that the IACUC is in the process of completing the semiannual facility inspection and program review for the EALB vivarium and that the IO, Attending Veterinarian, and Animal Welfare Program Office are developing options for consideration with the Animal Sciences administration. Council encourages completion of this process and implementation of a plan in a timely manner.

4. During the second quarter of 2018, five hand washed items from the Eastlick Fish Facility were tested for ATP levels with a luminometer. All five items failed the ATP testing with very high counts, and no follow-up action was taken. Failure to properly sanitize animal enclosures can negatively impact animal health. Procedures and expectations for the sanitization of husbandry equipment at this location to protect animal health should be re-evaluated. The sanitation plan should include a sanitization effectiveness monitoring program with appropriate action plans in cases where monitoring indicates ineffective sanitation. Council acknowledges the correspondence dated November 5 and October 19, 2018 indicating that the procedures for this location are being reviewed by the Office of the Campus Veterinarian. Council encourages completion of this review and implementation of effective procedures in a timely manner.

April 2, 2019

Nina Woodford, D.V.M., M.P.H.  
Director and Attending Veterinarian  
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P.O. Box 641165  
100 Dairy Road  
Pullman, WA 99164-1165

Dear Dr. Woodford:

AAALAC International is pleased to convey that the Washington State University, Pullman, Washington is accredited. Our records show that the Washington State University initially achieved AAALAC International accreditation on February 9, 1979.

This interest, contribution and participation in the AAALAC International accreditation program is valued and appreciated. As you are aware, AAALAC International conducts site visits to institutions and requires being apprised of significant programmatic changes during the interim between these site visits. Should you desire additional information or wish to comment on any aspect of the accreditation process, please contact our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary L. Borkowski".

Gary L. Borkowski, D.V.M., M.S.  
Global Director

GLB:bfr  
000480

Obtained by Rise

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### Post Site Visit Communication

Date: October 19, 2018

Nina Woodford  
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International  
5205 Chairman's  
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Frederick, MD 21703-2879

Dear Dr. Swearngen:

Please accept this Post Site Visit Communication (PSVC) for Washington State University AAALAC International #000480 providing responses to the findings from the Exit Briefing provided by the AAALAC International site visitors for our recently completed AAALAC International site visit, conducted by Todd Jackson and Robert Sikes on September 30<sup>th</sup> to October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018

I want to express my appreciation for the visit to our WSU campuses and satellite facilities and for providing a thorough review of our animal care and use program. We strive for continuous improvement in our program and consider the AAALAC International site visit to be an opportunity for enhancement. All members of the team were very professional, personable, and helpful throughout the entire process. The team shared their insights and suggestions for our program and I would like to update some of the items that were mentioned during the exit briefing.

Obtained by Rise

**1. Mandatory Finding (if applicable):**

Brown trout housed at the Carver fish facility were identified and found to not be listed on an approved Protocol.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

An amendment adding the brown trout was submitted and approved by the IACUC. The protocol deviation will be reviewed at the October IACUC meeting

2. **Mandatory Finding (if applicable):**

The Bull Barn at Knotts Dairy has rust damage to metal struts and a pully system for exterior stall doors, which may be a hazard. Additionally, a steel post in the milking parlor has rust damage with the potential for failure. The AAALAC international team requested an engineering assessment to determine structural integrity and to evaluate the potential hazards.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

Several years ago, WSU permanently secured the exterior stall doors in the Bull Barn in the open position, thereby eliminating the pulley system from use. The damaged metal strut, all cables, and unsecure pulleys were removed last week. In the milking parlor, the post was assessed, repaired and repainted. Furthermore, the post was determined to be part of the previous parlor's cattle chute and panel system, which was not essential for ceiling support.

3. **Mandatory Finding (if applicable):**

Occupational Health Program

- a. It was observed that only about 20% of individuals enrolled in the medical surveillance.
- b. Assessments and training may be delayed so individuals may have already started work prior to completion Note that we identified 1 individual in Spokane who has been working with animals for 6 weeks and has not yet been trained or risk assessed.
- c. If the occupational health physician has recommendations not covered by the individual's health insurance, then the individual has to go to the department and/or supervisor for compensation. This is a loss of privacy. It's atypical for individuals to have to use their own health insurance, requiring them to pay copays and deductibles. That's another incentive not to get the help they need.
- d. Not all individuals with animal exposure are offered participation in the occ health program or are risk assessed. (External IACUC member, facilities staff who may work in animal areas) The training slides given us for facilities personnel did not address allergens or zoonotic diseases at all.

Obtained by Rise

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

- a. Washington State law prohibits mandating medical services unless necessary to prevent a public health threat. Thus, it is an individual's choice to participate in the medical surveillance program. The online Occupational Health Training for each species staff have exposure to is required prior to working with the animals and prior to being added to an IACUC protocol.

In June 2018, the IO made the decision to centrally fund (rather than at the department level) the review of the medical surveillance questionnaires to further incentivize people to enroll in the program. The IO has since agreed to centrally fund all aspects of the program including medical services recommended as part of the medical assessment.

We are modifying the invitation to participate language in OHT-A training script to be more influential and supporting the IO's commitment to centrally fund all aspects of medical services component in order to remove barriers or dis-incentives currently hindering enrollment.

- b. Further assessments revealed this was an isolated case where the employee was not provided timely access to the MyResearch database. Access has since been provided to the employee who has completed the required training. We will work with the facility supervisor and HR to ensure timely access for employees to training information. IACUC Policy # 20 (Personnel policy) currently described the training requirements for staff prior to working with animals.
- c. WSU is in the process of implementing plans to centrally fund all aspects of medical services component. Plans will contain provisions to tie the recommended medical services to the IACUC OHT-A program without identifying the specific recommendations themselves.
- d. We are implementing processes to ensure all IACUC members, including the community members, complete OHT-A training and have the option to enroll in the medical surveillance program. The power point slide provided for the facilities personnel did not include the narrative and we verified with the industrial hygienist that she does cover both allergies and potential for zoonotic disease. We are modifying Facility Operation's training materials to incorporate additional information about animal hazards, allergens and zoonotic disease.

**4. Mandatory Finding (if applicable):**

Multiple locations with non-GFCI outlets in aquatics facilities and light timer boxes in multiple aquatic areas without the secondary plastic plate covering live wire connections. A few boxes were left open for people to turn the lights on and off manually, placing their fingers very close to the live wires when doing so.

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**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

- a. Tri-cities campus: GFCI outlets were installed in the zebrafish room.
- b. Puyallup campus room 108A: Animals were removed from the room and facilities operations is working with the investigators to create a functional

system. Animals will not be housed in this area until GFCI outlets are installed.

- c. Pullman: Nina Woodford and Alan Ekstrand went through all the aquatic areas with an electrician to identify all potential electrical safety concerns. A work order was submitted to replace non-GFCI outlets in multiple rooms in Eastlick and Heald Hall. When non-GFCI outlets are necessary for essential equipment, they will be placed high on the wall or at ceiling level. Work has been started and is expected to be completed by October 26<sup>th</sup>.
- d. Light timer boxes in multiple aquatic areas without the secondary plastic plate covering live wire connections. Nina Woodford and Alan Ekstrand walked through all the aquatic areas with an electrician to identify all potential safety concerns. All the missing secondary covers have been replaced.

**5. Suggestion for Improvement:**

Instances of single housing of social species were observed with 2 gilts, 6 guinea pigs and one xenopus frog.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

Facility management is researching the best mechanism for labeling cages of singly housed social species with the rationale for single housing (protocol, aggression, birthing female, etc.). In addition, the IACUC will continue to review single housing on semi-annual inspections and post-approval review monitoring and the veterinary staff will review on rounds.

- a. The two individually housed gilts observed during the site visit is a temporary setup while the facility is being renovated to accommodate the expansion of pig reproduction research program. The gilts will be moved within a month to either the newly renovated space which is large enough to allow for social housing or to the large pen that is currently housing two other gilts. The two gilts currently pair housed in this space are pregnant and due to be moved at the end of the month for farrowing freeing up this larger stall. The two gilts currently have visual and nose to nose contact through the grate, daily interaction with animal care staff and are in good health.
- b. Guinea pigs had been housed individually. The 3 sows have been placed together in a large cage and are doing well. The 3 boars were placed together but started aggressively fighting within about 20 hours despite having a large space with multiple shelters and means to escape from view. The 3 boars are now singly housed and the exemption to social

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housing for aggressive behavior was documented in their medical record and on the cage card. The boars have shelters, hay and auditory and olfactory contact with other guinea pigs.

- c. The singly housed *Xenopus* frog in the Veterinary Teaching hospital exotics ward is the only *Xenopus* present at that housing location. *Xenopus* frogs are an exotic invasive species in Washington State, so she cannot be made available for adoption. "Xena" has been continually provided additional structural enrichment with aquarium gravel and plants. She is also housed in an area with ample human activity.

**6. Suggestion for Improvement:**

Standards for water quality monitoring had not been set and followed for aquatics species in some locations either at the institutional level or in individual animal use protocols

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

A draft policy for minimum standards for water quality monitoring of different types of aquatics systems has been created and will be presented to the IACUC committee at the October meeting. Additional details including exceptions to the Guide regarding specific species requirements will be addressed with the protocol approval. In addition, the recently revised IACUC policy on adequate animal care (#1) now requires that satellite facilities submit an animal care plan which includes water quality monitoring and sanitation frequency that must be approved through the attending veterinarian.

**7. Suggestion for Improvement:**

Anesthetic waste gas scavenging was suboptimal in a few locations including F/AIR canister use errors and nose cone use without use of a non-rebreathing circuit and other active scavenging system

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

- a. In Spokane and Pullman, F/AIR canister holders have been placed at all identified locations to accommodate correct placement and use. Breathing circuits have been ordered for the Spokane campus. OCV and the investigator in Pullman are addressing waste gas scavenging in 1060J ADBF.
- b. The WSU IACUC policy #31 regarding use of inhaled anesthetics has been revised to provide more detail concerning safety and waste gas scavenging and to include that occupational isoflurane exposure levels should be measured if the research requires alternative scavenging methods. This service is available through WSU Environmental Health

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and Safety. The drafted policy revisions will be reviewed at the October IACUC meeting.

- c. Once approved, the IACUC and staff will be trained on the policy update and will continue to review the occupational safety associated with use of inhaled anesthetics on semi-annual inspections and post-approval review monitoring and the OCV veterinary staff will review on rounds.

**8. Suggestion for Improvement:**

Evaluate chemical storage location at the Spokane PBS loading dock for an eyewash/shower

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

An eyewash has been installed in the chemical storage area at the loading dock.

**9. Suggestion for Improvement:**

Bulk feed storage were observed to have temperatures above 70°F and/or above 50% relative humidity and monitoring was lacking in a few locations.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

- a. In Spokane, both feed rooms are now being monitored for both temperature and relative humidity.
- b. In Eastlick, the bulk feed has been temporarily relocated while facility operations is correcting the elevated humidity.
- c. In Vancouver, the bulk feed storage has been relocated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor within the vivarium and is being monitored for temperature and relative humidity.
- d. In the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, the temperature setpoint has been lowered to achieve less than 70°F.

Our remaining biomedical food storage rooms meet the standards in the Guide.

**10. Suggestion for Improvement:**

Design of the Cage Wash Facility in the Health Education and Research Building (HERB) is problematic as soiled and clean caging must be transported through a public corridor and clean cage storage does not have a ceiling.

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**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

We had already initiated the renovation process including having an architectural review and drawings made and have scheduled with a HVAC consultant from the WSU Pullman campus. We will continue to include the renovation project in our budget proposal and to work with the colleges and central administration to identify funding.

**11. Suggestion for Improvement:**

Regarding MS-222, two individuals were not using respiratory protection to mix powder, there were multiple questions on storage and longevity of the liquid solution and one non-pharmaceutical grade bottle was identified.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

The IACUC approved MS-222 standard operating procedure(SOP) has been expanded to include additional information concerning use of respiratory protection when handling the powdered form, longevity of the prepared solution and use of pharmaceutical grade products. This revised SOP will be presented to the IACUC at the October 31<sup>st</sup> meeting. Once approved, there will be an education campaign through veterinary visits and facility reviews to train the research and teaching personnel regarding the improvements.

**12. Suggestion for Improvement:**

Regarding IACUC protocol review, WSU policy #2 needs to be consistent with recent OLAW guidance on the full committee to designated member review transition and the WSU OLAW assurance.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

IACUC Policy 2 has been revised to meet the OLAW guidance document on DMR after FCR. This revised policy will be presented to the IACUC for consideration at the October IACUC meeting.

**13. Suggestion for Improvement:**

At the Knotts Dairy facility, there is insulation hanging from ceiling and nesting birds in the box stall areas and a hole in the roof over a feed bunk area in the Hay barn.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

A Facilities Operations work order was submitted to remove damaged insulation in the ceiling of the box stall barn and the hole in the ceiling over the feed bunk in the Hay barn has been repaired.

**14. Suggestion for Improvement:**

A feed container at the Wild Ungulate Facility has an unsecured lid and is outside of the shelter thereby feed could be exposed to the weather.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

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All the occupied feed containers are currently inside the shelter. The feed containers will be kept further under the roof shelter and wooden lids will be braced with 2x2 boards to prevent slippage.

**15. Suggestion for Improvement:**

Relative humidity at <30% was observed in multiple facilities which could impact research data. The IACUC should consider and discuss the issue.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

The Pullman campus has had a continual seasonal issue with low relative humidity particularly in cold winter or dry summer weather. There is a recently revised WSU IACUC SOP addressing recognition of low humidity and specifying action items when relative humidity drops below the Guide recommendations. Historical facility humidity data and research impact information is being gathered to for further IACUC discussion.

**16. Suggestion for Improvement:**

The Experimental Animal Laboratory Building (EALB) vivarium has multiple design and maintenance issues that could impact sanitation and biosecurity for biomedical research.

- i. Pipes and conduits in animal housing, support and surgery areas. Many were dusty.
- ii. Flooring issues were identified in multiple areas including cage wash, animal rooms and corridors.
- iii. Holes were observed in wall surfaces in animal housing, support and surgery areas.
- iv. Biosecurity
  1. Feed room and euthanasia area (270) contained unnecessary stored equipment as well as equipment used by non-vivarium personnel for feed and fecal analysis.
  2. Clark Hall 277, a procedure and temporary housing room outside the vivarium was observed to have non-sanitizable surfaces.

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**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

The Experimental Animal Laboratory Building (EALB) vivarium is an older conventional mixed-animal use facility with some design and maintenance issues that could impact sanitation and biosecurity for biomedical research. The animals in this space are well cared for; however, we agree that a long-term plan is needed for this facility. The IACUC is in the process of completing the semi-annual facility review for the EALB vivarium and will take the AAALAC findings into consideration. In addition, the IO, Attending Veterinarian and Animal Welfare

Program Office are developing options for consideration with the college administration. The Animal Science department has also prepared a list of corrective action to address both the bio-security issues and facility issues which the IACUC will consider.

Additionally, Clark Hall 277 is a repurposed laboratory space currently used as a procedure and short-term housing area in the building adjacent to EALB. Animal Science has agreed to move the metabolic testing equipment from Clark Hall to EALB once they upgrade a room with the appropriate electrical supply. This will minimize animal transport and keep all work within the vivarium space.

**17. Suggestion for Improvement:**

The use of rodenticides in agricultural animal areas has the potential for secondary toxicity to domestic and feral cats, swine and wildlife predators.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

The concern of the use of rodenticides in agricultural animal areas & potential secondary toxicity of domestic and feral cats, swine and wildlife predators will be brought forward to the IACUC for discussion. While no rodenticide is completely safe, the National Pesticide Information Center states that warfarin, bromethalin, cholecalciferol and zinc phosphide require multiple doses and have lower risk of secondary toxicity than single dose rodenticides such as difethialone, brodifacoum and others. Warfarin was in use at the cattle facility and it is listed as one of the safer choices.

**18. Suggestion for Improvement:**

Lack of individual room temperature alarms in the Bustad Hall vivarium and the possibility of rooms that could overheat and not be identified until an individual entered the room. Other locations need to be evaluated.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

Some of the older vivariums do not have individual room level environmental alarms. Alarms are set in the supply fan for the corridor, so it is possible for an individual room to overheat and that it not be identified until an individual entered the room and recorded the temperature. Discussion has been underway between OCV and facilities operations to place Bustad hall on the schedule to replace the pneumatic HVAC system in the next biennium. The Animal Welfare program office and OCV is evaluating the HVAC systems and environmental alarm status for all the animal housing and use areas to identify issues and take corrective action.

**19. Suggestion for Improvement:**

The HVAC data collected in 2017-2018 showed a few areas where air flow direction or rate is not consistent with the Guide.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

The Animal Welfare program office and OCV is evaluating the HVAC data and environmental alarm status for all the animal housing and use areas to identify issues and take corrective action.

**20. Suggestion for Improvement:**

Biohazard signage: signage is up with no identification of what the hazard is and signage up when no hazard is present. Biohazard signage is used on animal carcass freezers.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

Biohazard signage for animal carcasses has been used to identify waste streams intended for incineration. WSU incinerates all carcasses that have been modified by recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules (i.e., genetically modified) per the NIH guidelines, which were traditionally characterized by the biohazard symbol. Considering this is not a true biohazard, we have modified our procedures with an animal use symbol in addition to labeling biohazards appropriately. The IACUC, Animal Welfare Program staff, OCV and the Biosafety Officer will work to educate investigators and staff on the correct signage.

**21. Suggestion for Improvement:**

The Laboratory Animal Resource Center has cracked paint in the corners.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

The Laboratory Animal Resource Center surgery room has a work order in place for repainting and the project starts next week.

**22. Suggestion for Improvement:**

The scientific justification for the use of non-pharmaceutical grade drugs and the use of tribromoethanol (avertin) did not appear to be adequate for three protocols. Justification was primarily based on historical use.

Obtained by Rise

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

The IACUC will review the justification for the use of tribromoethanol anesthesia for the three protocols brought to their attention. The WSU IACUC has a policy regarding the use of tribromoethanol, but the committee will review the criteria for necessary justification.

**23. Suggestion for Improvement:**

The site visitors recommended the consideration of sticky trap use for insect monitoring in rodent vivariums.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

The sticky traps for insects in Bustad, ADBF and Wegner Hall have been replaced with cardboard monitor and insect traps only. Glue traps and other sticky traps designed to catch rodents are not allowed in rodent facilities. This topic will be discussed by the IACUC during the semi-annual program review.

**24. Suggestion for Improvement:**

An exception to the Guide for static microisolator cage changing frequency was reviewed and discussed with facility management and the veterinary staff but was implemented prior to IACUC approval.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

Exceptions to the guide do require review and approval through the IACUC. The housing exemption noted in the PBS facility was submitted via an amendment for the IACUC's review at the October convened meeting.

**25. Suggestion for Improvement:**

Sanitation monitoring of disinfection of trout tanks conducted this summer indicated failure by ATPase testing but no follow-up occurred.

**Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:**

The failure of sanitation monitoring of fish tanks is under review by OCV. The animal care plan for this aquatics facility, including sanitation, housing density and water quality monitoring is in review.

We are hopeful that the above responses have addressed or clarified the issues that were discussed at our Exit Briefing. We look forward to receiving the final outcome on the accreditation status of our unit.

Please contact me at (509) 335-8035 if you have questions or need additional

information. Sincerely,  
Nina  
Woodford  
Director and Attending Veterinarian

cc:  
Todd Jackson  
Robert Sikes

Alan Ekstrand  
Washington State University (#000480)

Obtained by Rise

**From:** AAALAC International <[accredit@AAALAC.org](mailto:accredit@AAALAC.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 27, 2019 12:47 PM  
**To:** Woodford, Nina Lynne <[nwoodford@wsu.edu](mailto:nwoodford@wsu.edu)>  
**Subject:** Accreditation Site Visit History for WSU - 000480

Hello Dr. Woodford,

Due to confidential, I am providing you with the requested information by Mr. Alan Ekstrand regarding the dates and status of Washington State University's (#000480) accreditation letters from 1979 (initial accreditation) through 1999.

Letter Date	Accreditation Status
2/9/1979	Award Full Accreditation
6/30/1982	Continued Full Accreditation
6/24/1985	Continued Full Accreditation
7/29/1988	Deferred Accreditation
3/1/1989	Restore Full Accreditation
7/10/1991	Continued Full Accreditation
4/1/1995	Deferred Accreditation
10/26/1995	Restore Full Accreditation
3/31/1998	Probationary
10/15/1998	Extend Probation
3/2/1999	Extend Probation
6/28/1999	Extend Probation
10/26/1999	Restore Full Accreditation

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!

**Donna Romesburg**

*Program Assistant*

5205 Chairman's Court, Suite 300

Frederick, MD 21703

Office (301) 696-9626

[www.aaalac.org](http://www.aaalac.org)

[dromesburg@aaalac.org](mailto:dromesburg@aaalac.org)



*Fostering animal welfare and  
scientific discovery since 1965.*

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Obtained by Rise

**From:** Ekstrand, Alan [<mailto:alan.ekstrand@wsu.edu>]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 25, 2019 11:25 AM  
**To:** AAALAC International <[accredit@AAALAC.org](mailto:accredit@AAALAC.org)>  
**Cc:** Woodford, Nina Lynne <[nwoodford@wsu.edu](mailto:nwoodford@wsu.edu)>  
**Subject:** Accreditation site visit history for WSU- 000480

Good Morning,

I wanted to see if you could send the accreditation history for Washington State University that includes the dates of all the site visits and results (continued full, deferred, probation, etc...). I am copying our Attending Veterinarian Nina Woodford who is our AAALAC contact.

Thanks,

-Alan

Alan Ekstrand, CPIA, RLATG  
Assistant Director, Animal Welfare Program  
(509) 335-7951  
[alan.ekstrand@wsu.edu](mailto:alan.ekstrand@wsu.edu)

<https://iacuc.wsu.edu/>

**From:** AAALAC International <[accredit@AAALAC.org](mailto:accredit@AAALAC.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 2, 2019 9:05 AM  
**To:** Woodford, Nina Lynne <[nwoodford@wsu.edu](mailto:nwoodford@wsu.edu)>  
**Subject:** AAALAC Verification Letter - #000480

Hello Dr. Woodford,

Per your request, attached is a Verification Letter for your organization. I will mail the hard copy to you.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional assistance.

Thank you!

**Donna Romesburg**

*Program Assistant*

5205 Chairman's Court, Suite 300

Frederick, MD 21703

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**From:** Woodford, Nina Lynne [<mailto:nwoodford@wsu.edu>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 26, 2019 3:50 PM  
**To:** AAALAC International <[accredit@AAALAC.org](mailto:accredit@AAALAC.org)>  
**Subject:** clean letter

Good afternoon

We have recently received our final accreditation letter. Would you please send a revised letter which only lists the accreditation status and without the suggestions for improvement?

Thank you very much

Nina

Nina Woodford DVM, MPH DACLAM  
Director and Attending Veterinarian  
Office of the Campus Veterinarian  
Washington State University  
509-335-6246 [nwoodford@wsu.edu](mailto:nwoodford@wsu.edu)

Obtained by Rise

On Feb 27, 2019, at 12:47 PM, AAALAC International <[accredit@aaalac.org](mailto:accredit@aaalac.org)> wrote:

Hello Mr. Ekstrand,

Due to confidential, I provide Dr. Woodford with your requested information regarding the dates and status of Washington State University's (#000480) accreditation letters from 1979 (initial accreditation) through 1999.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!

**Donna Romesburg**

*Program Assistant*

*5205 Chairman's Court, Suite 300*

*Frederick, MD 21703*

*Office (301) 696-9626*

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<image001.jpg>

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Obtained by Rise

## Ekstrand, Alan

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**From:** Robert Sikes <rssikes@ualr.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 9, 2018 6:20 PM  
**To:** Todd Jackson  
**Cc:** Ekstrand, Alan  
**Subject:** Re: PSVC template

Alan, I would like to second Todd's Thank You! It was really a pleasure to interact with your team, and those interactions made for a very collegial visit.

Penny and I were enjoying some Cougar Gold before dinner just this evening!

Sincerely,  
Bob

**Robert S. Sikes | Professor of Biology**

University of Arkansas at Little Rock | College of Arts, Letters & Sciences

501.569.3516 | [rssikes@ualr.edu](mailto:rssikes@ualr.edu) | <http://www.ualr.edu>

On Tue, Oct 9, 2018 at 8:09 PM, Todd Jackson <[todd.a.jackson.dvm@gmail.com](mailto:todd.a.jackson.dvm@gmail.com)> wrote:  
Alan-

Thank you for all the hospitality and support during the visit! Here's the MS Word version of the PSVC template. I know that the read through at the exit briefing was moving fast. If Bob & I can provide any details to fill in the blanks or if you would like us to review any draft responses, please feel free to call or e-mail.

Todd

Todd A. Jackson, DVM, DACLAM  
Director of Animal Resources  
University Attending Veterinarian  
Clinical Professor of Veterinary Pathobiology  
Oklahoma State University  
Office: 405-744-8967  
Cell: 405-564-4500  
University E-mail: [Todd.A.Jackson@okstate.edu](mailto:Todd.A.Jackson@okstate.edu)  
Personal (Not open to FOIA) e-mail: [Todd.A.Jackson.DVM@gmail.com](mailto:Todd.A.Jackson.DVM@gmail.com)

Obtained by Rise

On Fri, Oct 5, 2018 at 4:31 PM Ekstrand, Alan <[alan.ekstrand@wsu.edu](mailto:alan.ekstrand@wsu.edu)> wrote:

Hi Dr. Jackson,

Thanks again for the kind words today and suggestions to help us improve our program. My contact information is below if you have any questions. When you get a chance please send along the electronic version of the PSVC letter.

Safe travels!

-Alan

Alan Ekstrand, CPIA, RLATG

Assistant Director, Animal Welfare Program

(509) 335-7951- Office

(530) 979-7007 cell

[alan.ekstrand@wsu.edu](mailto:alan.ekstrand@wsu.edu)

<https://iacuc.wsu.edu/>

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## Post Site Visit Communication

Date\_\_\_\_\_

[Your Name]

[Your Company Name]

[Street Address]

[City, ST, Country ZIP Code]

AAALAC International  
5205 Chairman's Court  
Suite 300  
Frederick, MD 21703-2879

Dear Dr. Swearngen:

Please accept this Post Site Visit Communication (PSVC) for {NAME and AAALAC INTERNATIONAL FILE No. XXXXX} providing responses to the findings from the Exit Briefing provide by the AAALAC International site visitors for our recently completed AAALAC International site visit, conducted by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ on \_Date(s)\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Mandatory Finding (if applicable):

\_\_\_\_\_

Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Mandatory Finding (if applicable):

\_\_\_\_\_

Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Mandatory Finding (if applicable):

\_\_\_\_\_

Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Mandatory Finding (if applicable):

\_\_\_\_\_

Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Mandatory Finding (if applicable):

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\_\_\_\_\_

Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Suggestion for Improvement:

\_\_\_\_\_

Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Suggestion for Improvement:

\_\_\_\_\_

Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Suggestion for Improvement:

\_\_\_\_\_

Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Suggestion for Improvement:

\_\_\_\_\_

Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Suggestion for Improvement:

\_\_\_\_\_

Response to Issue from Exit Briefing:

\_\_\_\_\_

We are hopeful that the above responses have addressed the issues that were discussed at our Exit Briefing. We look forward to hearing the final outcome on the accreditation status of our unit. Obtained by Rise

Please contact me at (XXX) XXX-XXXX if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,  
[Your Name]  
[Title]

cc:

XXXXXX (six digit AAALAC file number)

**DISCLAIMER: This template may not be applicable to all units that choose to submit a post site visit communication (PSVC). Please refer to the lead Council Member for guidance on use and applicability of this template.**

**(May 2017)**



**Accredited Unit Annual Report**

**Report Year: 2018**

**Accredited Unit: Washington State University**

**Parent Organization: Washington State University**

**Unit Number: 000480**  
**Date Completed:**  
**March 29, 2019**

**Unit Reporting Period**

From (MM/YY): 01/18

To (MM/YY): 12/18

Please submit following the end of the unit reporting period.

Units are encouraged to submit Annual Reports in accord with the unit's reporting period, (i.e., calendar or fiscal year, or USDA reporting period). If you change your reporting period, please be sure that there are no gaps from previous report.

In sections 1-4, please make corrections to reflect current contact information. In sections 5-16, enter the information for your Unit's reporting period.

**1. AAALAC International Unit Contact**

<b>Label</b>	<b>Current Information</b>	<b>Changed Information</b>
Name	Nina Woodford, D.V.M., M.P.H.	Nina Woodford, D.V.M., M.P.H., DACLAM
Job Title	Director and Attending Veterinarian	
Department	Office of the Campus Veterinarian	
Organization	Washington State University	
Address		
Street Address Line 1	P.O. Box 641165	
Street Address Line 2	100 Dairy Road	
City	Pullman	
State/Province	WA	
Zip Code	99164-1165	
Country		
Telephone	509/335-8035	
Fax	509/335-3162	
Email	nwoodford@wsu.edu	

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**2. Responsible Institutional Official**

<b>Label</b>	<b>Current Information</b>	<b>Changed Information</b>
--------------	----------------------------	----------------------------



Name Christopher J. Keane, Ph.D.  
 Job Title Vice President, Research and Professor of Physics  
 Department Office of Research  
 Organization Washington State University  
 Address  
 Street Address Line 1 P.O.Box 646525  
 Street Address Line 2 100 Dairy Road  
 City Pullman  
 State/Province WA  
 Zip Code 99164-6525  
 Country  
 Telephone 509/335-3574  
 Fax 509/335-5515  
 Email chris.keane@wsu.edu

**3. Attending Veterinarian**

<b>Label</b>	<b>Current Information</b>	<b>Changed Information</b>
Name	Nina Woodford, D.V.M., M.P.H.	Nina Woodford, D.V.M., M.P.H., DACLAM
Job Title	Director and Attending Veterinarian	
Department	Office of the Campus Veterinarian	
Organization	Washington State University	
Address		
Street Address Line 1	P.O. Box 641165	
Street Address Line 2	100 Dairy Road	
City	Pullman	
State/Province	WA	
Zip Code	99164-1165	
Country		
Telephone	509/335-8035	
Fax	509/335-3162	
Email	nwoodford@wsu.edu	

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**4. IACUC/ACC/EC (if applicable) Chairperson**

<b>Label</b>	<b>Current Information</b>	<b>Changed Information</b>
Name	Phyllis Erdman, Ph.D.	
Job Title	Executive Associate Dean of Education	
Department	College of Education	
Organization	Washington State University	
Address		
Street Address Line 1	P.O. Box 642114	
Street Address Line 2	Cleveland 160	
City	Pullman	
State/Province	WA	
Zip Code	99174-2114	
Country		
Telephone	509/335-1738	
Fax	509/335-3162	
Email	perdman@wsu.edu	

**5. Please verify the information provided regarding the physical areas supporting your animal care and use program. If this information differs from what was provided in your most recent Program Description or last annual report (whichever is most current), please note and explain:**

<b>Label</b>	<b>Current Information</b>	<b>Change to Information</b>
Number of buildings	83	79
Outdoor pens/pastures	2005	1983
Total square footage	596459	583032
Number of sites	7	

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**6. Note addition or deletion of animal rooms, laboratories, units, or buildings:**

The following facilities are no longer being used for the WSU Animal Care and Use Program; 1) Vet Med Infectious Disease facility (197L, 199, 200. ~5,775 sq. ft) 2) Twin Vista Ranch 22 acres of pasture 3) Palouse Area Therapeutic Horsemanship housing and riding facility- ~9900 sq ft 4) Tri-Cities Innovation Center- ~2325 sq. ft 5) Steffan Center ~450 sq. ft 6) Puyallup Isolation Bldg. ~600sq. ft The following buildings/rooms were added to the WSU Animal Care Program 1) Airport Garden 1 indoor room ~66 sq. ft. for short term frog holding and outdoor tanks used for seasonal amphibian housing. 2) Isolation 188E building ~4492 sq. ft. New facility to replace the Vet Med Infectious Disease facility. 3) Tri-Cities East Building (1 room ~65 sq. ft zebrafish housing) 4) Tri-Cities Bio products, Science, and Engineering Laboratory (1 room ~1,000 sq. ft for short-term fish and frog housing for teaching).

**7. The Council on Accreditation notes that there is no obligation for institutions to make program changes based on suggestions for improvement identified during a site visit and described in the subsequent letter from Council. However, if your institution implemented program modifications in response to those suggestions, you may take this opportunity to summarize the actions taken:**

We just received the final accreditation letter and it included a total of 4 SFIs. One of the SFIs was to review the use of the Experimental Animal Laboratory Building (EALB). The IO called a meeting of the stakeholders to discuss the continued use of this space and it was determined that this facility would be taken offline January 1, 2021. This will allow time for researcher to finish up existing projects and have rodent colonies re-derived into our other facilities. A letter was circulated to all facility users in March 2019. One of our PSVC's discussed moving equipment from a short term holding room in Clark Hall to the EALB facility. The EALB facility does not have adequate electrical outlets and had similar bio-security issues. With the now scheduled closer of EALB we have decided not to relocate the lab at this time and will move it when the rest of the research shifts to one of our other vivarium. The IACUC/AV will evaluate the other 3 SFI's and will have an update for the 2019 annual report.

**8. State and describe changes in organizational structure of the program:**

On the WSU Pullman campus, six of the laboratory animal vivaria and one large animal isolation facility transitioned from decentralized management under individual colleges or departments to centralized management under the Office of the Campus Veterinarian on July 1st, 2018. Alan Ekstrand was hired in May 2018 as Assistant Director- Animal Welfare Program. The Animal Welfare Program will support the IACUC and has taken over regulatory responsibilities including annual reporting, coordinating IACUC semi-annual facility inspections and program reviews, post approval reviews, and investigation potential non-compliance.

**9. Were any research, testing, or teaching protocols suspended during this reporting period for animal welfare related reasons?**

No

**If yes, provide details regarding suspension(s):**

**10. AAALAC's Rules of Accreditation (Section 2 f) require accredited units to promptly report adverse events relating to their animal care and use programs, including investigations by national oversight bodies (e.g., USDA, OLAW, Home Office, CCAC) and other serious incidents or concerns that negatively impact animal well-being. If you were unaware of this requirement and have not previously reported the incident(s):**

**a) Were any major problems identified or deficiencies noted by animal welfare oversight authorities/bodies/agencies during this reporting period?**

Yes

**If yes, provide explanatory documentation:**

We received a single NCI after a USDA inspection of our bat colony under 3.131(a) Sanitation. This NCI was for a small bat enclosure that is used for temporary holding. It had not been in use for some time however, it was dirty since it had not been cleaned since its last use. This was listed as a repeat since a similar issue with this cage was identified the prior year. The laboratory staff were retrained to ensure this enclosure is changed after use to prevent a re-occurrence.

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**b) Did you self-identify any serious deviations from your institutional animal care and use program requirements or policies?**

Yes

**If yes, provide details of the deviations:**

• The IACUC received a concern report alleging protocol noncompliance for a study conducted in 2017. After review it was determined that a significant change had been made prior to IACUC approval. The change involved given a higher than approved dose of an infectious agent. The animals developed clinical symptoms of the disease described in the



protocol. When initially questioned about the dose the PI altered the inoculation records. The PI no longer had any active protocols and has since left the institution. The IACUC issued the PI a letter of suspension due to this deviation and subsequent alteration of the records. • Daily checks did not occur in a PI maintained mouse room when the PI and lab members were out of town at a conference. It was also determined that the daily logs had been backdated by one of the lab members for this period as well as for several other days that had been missed. The PI received a letter of expectation from the IACUC and provided re-training to the staff. The staff member responsible for the logs went back though several trainings including responsible conduct in research. Centralized management now provides the daily care for the animals. • On one study a live yeast strain was used instead of the heat inactivated yeast described in the protocol. The PI promptly notified veterinary staff when clinical signs were observed and ceased use of the live strain. The PI was issued a letter of expectation from the IACUC. • When the staff placed a cage on the biocontainment rack, it was accidentally reversed (i.e. the air vent to the cage was on the wrong side). This caused the death of 2 mice. The staff were retrained and the vivarium staff were working on a visual aid to better help with cage placement. • Two mice were found dead in a cage that had been moved into a chamber for the modified light cycle. The husbandry staff does not change cages during the dark cycle as it would affect the study. The had not been moved into a clean cage prior to moving and likely went 18 days without a change and the ammonia smell was strong in the chamber. The two deceased mice were not available for necropsy so a cause for the mortality was not established.

**11. Using the drop-down menu to select the animal species, please enter the approximate annual usage for the above stated reporting period (for U.S. units, USDA Annual Report figures may be used for regulated species):**

a)

Animal Type	Annual Animal Usage	Other Description
Other	277	Snowshoe Hare
Other	1	Bighorn Sheep Hybrid
Other	2	Llama
Other	11	Kangaroo Rat
Other	3	Pygmy Rabbits
Other	25	Marmot
Other	29	Deer
Other	130	Camels
Other	1046	Goats
Other	30	Ferrets
Other	11	Bears
Amphibians	1482	
Other	25	Bighorn Sheep
Mice	36282	
Horses	272	
Guinea Pigs	6	
Fish	48745	
Dogs	2969	

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Cattle	8291	
Cats	412	
Birds	4077	
Other	76	Bats
Other	19	Alpacas
Swine	23	
Sheep	1242	
Reptiles	18	
Rats	8215	
Rabbits	40	
Poultry	534	

**12. List key personnel changes since last reporting period:**

Name/Degree	Position	Year of Addition	Year of Deletion
Beky Elfers, DVM	OCV Trainer		2018
Daniel Montonye, DVM	OCV- Clinical Veterinarian		2018
Steven Russell, DVM	OCV- Clinical Veterinarian		2018
Galen Gorence, BS	Assitant Director- Integrated Vivarium Services	2018	
Alan Ekstrand, BS CPIA LATG	Assitant Director- Animal Welfare Program	2018	

**13. Would you like your unit name to appear on AAALAC International's listing of accredited units in the AAALAC International Directory and on the AAALAC International website?**

Yes

**14. Please describe your experiences with the service you received from AAALAC International this year (e.g., site visit, office contacts, etc.). Any suggestions you might have for improving our service are welcome.**

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We had our triennial site visit in October led by Dr. Todd Jackson and Dr. Robert Sykes. The expertise of the team fit well with our species and research diversity and as well as being a land grant university. The team was very professional and provided a number of helpful suggestions to help us continue to improve our program. We felt it was a very collegial visit and really got the impression that the team was there to help us with our program. The recommendations made at the exit were reasonable and Dr. Jackson was very helpful when it came to putting together the PSVC. It was also a very nice to get a call from Dr. Jackson after the council meeting letting us know there were would not be any big surprises in our letter and that our program was on the right track.

**15. Please identify any special expertise you would like to have on your next site visit team.**

Continue to have expertise in agricultural animals, veterinary instructional use of animals, wildlife research, and newly centralized programs.



**16. Any additional information (to include changes in the name of the accredited unit or parent organization):**

None at this time.

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