



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

July 9, 2018

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3352-01 [OLAW Case C]

Ms. Ann Mathias
Research Integrity Officer
Carnegie Mellon University
5000 Forbes Avenue - Warner Hall, [REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890

Dear Ms. Mathias,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your July 5, 2018 letter reporting a serious deviation from the provisions of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* at Carnegie Mellon University, following up on an initial telephone report on June 19, 2018. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that because of a staff transition, several cages of mice were overcrowded for several days. There were no adverse effects reported on the animals.

The corrective actions consisted of counseling the investigators and animal care staff and separating the mice. Standard operating procedures addressing rodent care and appropriate cage densities were established and staff was trained on these. The SOPs also describe how to report any concerns regarding cage overcrowding.

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.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Deputy Director
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair

Carnegie Mellon University

Office of Research Integrity and Compliance
5000 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890

July 5, 2018

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

E-mail: olawdco@mail.nih.gov

Dear Dr. Wolff,

Pursuant to PHS Policy, IV.F.3, I'm writing on behalf of Carnegie Mellon University (A3352-01) to follow-up on a preliminary report of a non-compliance. As you and I discussed by phone on June 19, 2018, I was recently advised about overcrowding of rodent cages in our vivarium. I believe this occurred due to a transition in staff and was a limited, short term problem that did not cause any harm to the animals. On June 18, 2018, all principal investigators and animal care staff using the vivarium were contacted about the need to assess their cages and make any necessary adjustments. This has been completed.

New standard operating procedures (SOPs) have been established and communicated to all users of the facility regarding housing and care of mice and rats as well as cage overcrowding due to breeding. These SOPs clarify our standards, how to maintain the standards and how to communicate if concerns arise.

I hope you will accept this as CMU's assurance that we're dedicated to excellent care of animals in our facility and continually improve our programs. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)

Ann G. Mathias
AVP Research Compliance
Institutional Official

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

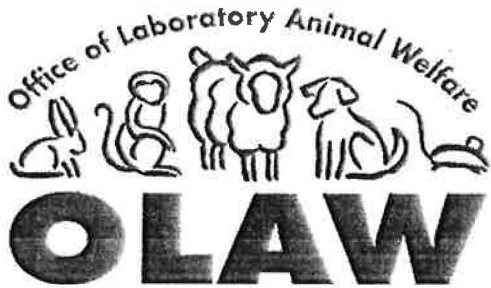
From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Monday, July 09, 2018 1:53 PM
To: Ann Mathias
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Letter for Dr. Wolff

Thank you for this report, Ms. Mathias. I will send a response soon.
Axel Wolff

From: Ann Mathias [mailto:amathias@andrew.cmu.edu]
Sent: Monday, July 09, 2018 11:38 AM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: IACUC Review Mailing Address <iacuc-review@andrew.cmu.edu>
Subject: Letter for Dr. Wolff

Please see the attached letter.

Ann G. Mathias, AVP Research Compliance
Office of Research Integrity and Compliance
Carnegie Mellon University
5000 Forbes Avenue, [REDACTED] Building, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
✉ amathias@andrew.cmu.edu | ☎ [REDACTED] (b) (6)



Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: *aw*

Date: *6/19/18*

Time: *11:00*

Name of Person reporting: *Alina Mathias*

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: *Carnegie Mellon U*

Assurance number: *A3352*

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? _____

Funding component: _____

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): _____

What happened?

Mice overcrowded at least 1 week, Staff Turnover

Species involved: *Mice*

Personnel involved:

Dates and times:

Animal deaths:

Projected plan and schedule for correction/prevention (if known): _____

Separate. Put on new policies

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # _____