The Purdue Electronic Research Administration (eRA) Program and Purdue Animal Care and Use Committee (PACUC) are pleased to announce the successful implementation of the new CoeusLite IACUC Home page. This screen will now initially display when Users enter CoeusLite “My IACUC Protocols” and provides a central location for creation, accessing, and managing all IACUC protocol submissions. Investigators may also return to the IACUC Home page at any time by selecting the corresponding link in the top navigation. The CoeusLite IACUC Home page contains the following:

**Useful Quick Links:** Links may be found at the top of the page that allows Investigators direct access to all online User Documentation, Quick Reference Guides, and the OVPR website with all attachment form templates.

**List Explanations:** Descriptive explanations are present for each of the lists and functions available in the top navigation of My IACUC Protocols screens

**Distinctive Create Buttons:** It is no longer necessary to drill into specific protocol records to create new submissions or complete PACUC requested revisions.

**Create New Protocol:** clicking this button will automatically create a new protocol record ready for completion by the Investigator (or designee)

**Complete IACUC Requested Revisions:** Clicking will display a list of the Investigator’s protocols that have PACUC requested revisions. Selecting from the list opens the protocol for editing and re-submission.

**Notify IACUC:** Provides the ability to submit Animal Transfer Requests, Self Reports of Non-Compliance, or Reports of Concern

**Request Protocol Status Change:** Allows Investigators ability to request the Deactivation of any Active protocol

For any questions related to CoeusLite functionality, please do not hesitate to email coeushelp@purdue.edu.
Update Of the AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia – CO₂ Rodent Euthanasia


Based on the final guidelines, the method commonly employed for rodent euthanasia at Purdue will require modification. The OVPR centrally managed animal facilities have already acquired the appropriate equipment to institute changes to comply with the guidelines and this equipment should be in place in animal facilities during the month of March 2013 and available for your viewing and use. The major changes based on the new AVMA guidelines include: (1) Recommendation that using the rodent’s home cage for euthanasia / not mixing rodents from different cages is best practice. Specifically, when possible, the gas should be administered under conditions where animals are most comfortable and for rodents this being the home cage. If for some reason euthanasia cannot be conducted in the home cage, chambers require cleaning between use to minimize exposure to odors; (2) Use of a flow meter in addition to a regulator with the CO₂ compressed tank source. Specifically, the chamber gas displacement rate is critical to the humane application of CO₂ euthanasia such that an appropriate pressure reducing regulator and flow meter combination for generating a rate for the size container being used is absolutely necessary; (3) Use of a chamber design that allows for gradual air displacement rate of 10-30%. While the equipment for the centrally managed facilities is being purchased with OVPR funds, if CO₂ euthanasia will be performed in investigators’ laboratories, similar equipment will be required in order to meet the new requirements for CO₂ euthanasia of rodents. Cost estimate to outfit a laboratory for rodent CO₂ euthanasia with similar equipment is anticipated to cost ~$500 (flow meter and lid designed to allow for euthanasia in home cage and gradual air displacement). As PACUC is certain there will be questions on this new requirement, it is planned to provide investigators that have a need to use CO₂ euthanasia in their laboratory greater detail in terms of equipment and gradual air displacement in the near future.

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Planning for an Animal Facility Emergency or Disaster

In the event of an emergency or an event that is truly a disaster, have you thought about how your research could be affected? Any animal housed in a Purdue University animal facility could at some time be affected by an emergency or disaster such as happened during hurricane Sandy at New York University (NYU). Thousands of laboratory mice and rats perished due to flooding of an NYU animal facility.

If a tornado, fire, or other event occurred affecting one or more of Purdue University’s animal facilities, quick decisions may need to be made as to which animals could be safely moved to another campus animal housing area. Appropriate housing space could potentially be very limited, in which case research and teaching animals would be triaged as to their importance and decisions made as to which animals would be moved to a safe location.

Principle investigators using genetically modified mice and rats should considered working through the Purdue University Transgenic Mouse Core Facility to have irreplaceable mouse and rat strains cryopreserved. Arrangements for cryopreservation of rat and mouse strain can be arranged through Judy Hallett halletje@purdue.edu

All principle investigators using animals for research should develop a triage plan for animals that are currently housed, and that would be critical and irreplaceable for your research. This plan should be reviewed frequently.

Contact information for all PIs and PI staff must be kept current with the animal facilities so that facility personnel are able to reach you in an emergency. Decisions would be deferred to department heads if PIs are not available.

A bald eagle was found on the ground in Queen Anne’s County in January 2013 and was taken to Tri-State Bird Rescue and Research (TSBRR), in Newark, DE for evaluation. The adult male eagle was unresponsive and exhibiting seizures. Crop contents revealed muscle and bone tissue of a small animal. Toxicological testing (organic chemical screen conducted at the University of Pennsylvania) of blood and crop contents indicated that the eagle suffered from pentobarbital and phenytoin poisoning (euthanasia solution). After a week of supportive care at TSBRR the bird was released.

This case had a happy ending, but serves as a reminder to all veterinary clinics that animal carcasses must be disposed of properly and consideration should be given to the implications of the disposal method and drugs. Veterinarians can help prevent wildlife and pet poisonings by advising animal owners of acceptable methods, which include burial, composting, rendering or eagle incineration. Resources for more information can be found at the following website

PACUC Website Information

This article is a reminder that you should check the PACUC website frequently for information/updates that may be helpful to you. The website may be found at: www.purdue.edu/animals.

The Policies/Guidelines page is regularly updated with information that is quite helpful when completing a protocol application for using vertebrate animals at Purdue.

The Forms page contains the current PACUC Protocol Application Attachment that must be attached to your Coeus Lite submission to PACUC. Always use the application on the website when submitting a protocol to PACUC, do not use a version that you may have saved to your computer. PACUC strives to not revise this attachment unnecessarily; however, there are times when it must be revised to reflect new policies or guidance from those who regulate vertebrate animal use. It was most recently revised in February 2013 to reflect new guidance that was issued by the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, 8th Edition.

The Forms page also contains the link to the Animal Use Qualifications Form database where new (or established) personnel can either submit or update their qualifications to work with animals. It is important that your Qualification Form be as up-to-date as possible so that it reflects what you have received training in to work with vertebrate animals.

The Occupational Health page will be completely updated in March 2013 to better reflect the animal exposure occupational health program, now being administered through the PACUC office instead of REM. Please be sure and check this page for important information.

Animal Health Evaluation Form (AHEF)

Investigative staff who house animals in OVPR centrally managed animal facilities are no doubt becoming used to email receipt of the Animal Health Evaluation Form (AHEF). The AHEF was instituted to better comply with the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. The Guide notes “There should be a timely and accurate method for communication of any abnormalities in or concerns about animal health, behavior, and well-being to the veterinarian or the veterinarian’s designee”. Hence the reason both the investigator and the LAP veterinary staff is notified of abnormal animals or concerns by the animal care staff. In many cases, especially involving rodents, the investigator’s staff sees to resolution of the noted concern without LAP involvement. The animal care staff can request LAP assistance on the AHEF if the individual feels it is an issue requiring more immediate veterinary care. Hope this clarifies for some why the AHEF system was instituted.
**Purdue Animal Care and Use Committee**

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**Administrative Staff:**

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lbugher@purdue.edu

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**www.purdue.edu/animals**

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**PACUC MEETINGS FOR 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>Deadline for Protocol</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>Past</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
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<td>July 31, 2013</td>
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<td>September 18</td>
<td>August 28, 2013</td>
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<td>October 16</td>
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**AAALAC Site Visit at Purdue - Fall 2013**

AAALAC (Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care) will be at Purdue for their triennial inspection Fall (September-October-November) 2013.

AAALAC International is a private, nonprofit organization that promotes the humane treatment of animals in science through voluntary accreditation and assessment programs. More than 870 companies, universities, hospitals, government agencies and other research institutions in 36 countries have earned AAALAC accreditation, including Purdue, demonstrating commitment to responsible animal care and use. Purdue, like all the other institutions, volunteers to participate in AAALAC's program, in addition to complying with the local, state and federal laws that regulate animal research. Efforts are underway to prepare for the inspection process which typically lasts 4-5 days and covers all aspects of the animal care and use program. Over the next 7 months, LAP and PACUC will be visiting investigators and their lab staff, explaining expectations and what to expect during the inspection process. For additional information regarding AAALAC, and specifically information for investigators, see [http://www.aaalac.org/resources/investigatorinfo.cfm](http://www.aaalac.org/resources/investigatorinfo.cfm)

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Here’s hoping the cold weather will soon be over.