

# The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Update

The purpose of this Newsletter is to give you a heads up on some changes and to clarify some persistent issues with the current Animal Subjects Approval Form (ASAF).

## One-To-One, One ASAF/One Grant

At one time, IACUC tried to simplify ASAFs allowing one ASAF to cover multiple funded research projects. This did not work, and the accreditation agency AAALAC flagged us for it last time they visited. The problem is documenting compliance, matching a particular ASAF with a particular federally funded research proposal. Other solutions have also proved unsatisfactory. So as forewarned last year, we are going to try a one-to-one approach, one ASAF to just one research proposal. This will require that the submitted ASAF be accompanied by a copy of the particular funded proposal to which it applies. If you have an electronic copy of the proposal then this electronic file can be attached to the ASAF. Or, if you know the OGRD number of the proposal, then this number can be noted and the IACUC, Program Coordinator can attach the proposal for you.

## Web-based ASAF

I still hope, and plans are still in the works, for a web-based ASAF form. This should allow for simple cut and paste, check on forms needed, and even fill in some of the information automatically.

## Justification of Animal Numbers

Thanks for working with us to better (statistical, power analysis) justify animal numbers being used. We all recognize that this can be tricky, "new" research often has no previous research to guide the determination of animal numbers. The justified numbers must match the numbers listed on the front table of the ASAF (a range of numbers, such as 20-50, is not acceptable). Claiming that the numbers are those "used in the past", usually is too thin a justification to pass scrutiny by federal inspectors. There is a policy guideline on line that may help.

