

# The Beacon

## Research Integrity News



### Institutional Animal Care and use Committee (IACUC)

#### *Spring Semi-annual Facility Inspections*

Spring semi-annual facility inspection dates will occur mid-April and will be announced two to four weeks ahead of inspections.

Tips to be inspection ready:

- Copy of approved Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) protocol(s),
- signed approval letter and copies of approved protocol amendments
- Training records for lab personnel
- Controlled substance logs
- Logs related to the health or well-being of the animals (e.g. surgical records, post-surgical monitoring and analgesia records etc.)
- Water quality logs (if applicable)
- Standard of Practices

#### *IACUC Meeting Dates and Application Deadlines*

IACUC protocol applications and amendments to IACUC protocols using the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) pain category D and E procedures require full committee review and must be submitted to the IACUC office by the application deadline for consideration at the monthly IACUC meeting. Please note, the application deadline is two weeks prior to the scheduled IACUC meeting date. All other applications using USDA pain category B and C procedures are eligible for the Designated Member Review process and may be submitted to the IACUC office at any time. To view the 2020 monthly IACUC meeting dates and application deadlines, [click here](#).

#### *All-hands Meeting Updates*

Research Integrity hosted an all-hands animal researchers end-of-year update meeting and pizza lunch on Dec. 11, 2019. Updates were presented by Tim Theisen, Ph.D., IACUC chair, Wendy Ash-Graves, Environment, Health and Safety director, Kristen Ware, Ph.D., and Sylvia Gografe, Ph.D. About a dozen researchers attended the Boca location and participants from Jupiter and the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute participated via video conference. To download a PDF of the meeting summary including renovation projects [click here](#).



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### *Update to IACUC policy 10.4.22 Researcher Training*

The IACUC's personnel training policy has been revised to include new procedures related to training and/or demonstration of proficiency related to performance of surgeries in rodents. Specifically, section VII. H. in regard to surgical procedures has been revised to the following: Training of personnel performing survival surgical procedures on animals is based on the requirements stated in the guide: "Researchers conducting surgical procedures must have appropriate training to ensure that good surgical technique is practiced – that is, asepsis, gentle tissue handling, minimal dissection of tissue, appropriate use of instruments, effective hemostasis, and correct use of suture materials and patterns."

To fulfill the IACUC's requirements for new protocols, one of the following has to be completed:

- a. Demonstrate proficiency in the above-mentioned topics to the attending veterinarian (AV) or designee while performing survival surgery, or attend AV approved workshop(s) relevant to above stated topics before starting surgical procedures and have CM personnel on site for two (2) of the first four (4) surgeries.

To fulfill the IACUC's requirements for amendments to an already existing protocol, the following has to be achieved:

- b. If new personnel are added to the protocol, describe their role in the study, and indicate whether the person will perform surgical procedures.
- c. If new personnel will perform surgical procedures, they are to complete one of the steps described in part a. above.
- d. If a new surgical procedure is added, arrange a meeting with a veterinarian before implementing the procedure to discuss details (surgical procedure, training methods) and obtain veterinary assistance, if necessary.

