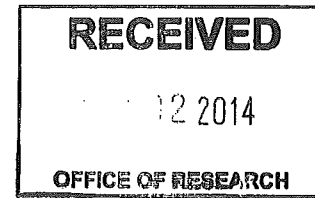
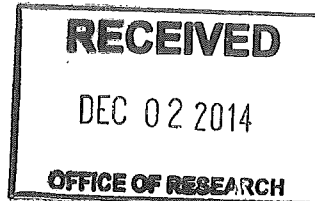


November 19, 2014



Richard S. Larson, M.D., Ph.D.  
Executive Vice Chancellor and Vice Chancellor for Research  
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research  
University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center  
BRF G37 H, MSC 08 4560  
1 University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001

Dear Dr. Larson:

The Council on Accreditation of the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC International) has reviewed the report of the recent site visit to the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Council commends you and the staff for providing and maintaining an excellent program of laboratory animal care and use. Especially noteworthy were the strong administrative commitment to the program, evidenced by the support for maintenance of the facilities and capital investment in renovations of the facilities, including the Animal Biosafety Level-3 core; the leadership and professionalism of the Animal Research Facility (ARF) and Office of Animal Care Compliance personnel, including the Director, ARF and his staff, evidenced in part by the well written Program Description and excellent animal care operations; the well planned and implemented occupational health and safety program, demonstrated by the close cooperation among the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), the ARF, and safety personnel in oversight of the hazard identification and risk assessment program; the commendable oversight provided by the IACUC and Regulatory Affairs personnel, evidenced by the documentation of careful review of protocols, the post-approval monitoring program, and the IACUC member training program; the overall husbandry and sanitation programs, evidenced by the very clean facilities and equipment, documentation of husbandry practices by ARF personnel, the environmental enrichment program for all species, and the breeding colony management; the veterinary medical care program, evidenced by the healthy animals and consistent veterinary presence in the health surveillance, quarantine, and rodent import/export programs; and the excellent personnel training documentation. 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*, NRC 2011. Therefore, **FULL ACCREDITATION** shall continue.

Council acknowledges receipt of the correspondence dated June 23, 2014 detailing actions taken relative to concerns expressed by the site visitors during the exit briefing. Specifically, the items addressed satisfactorily included: investigating and addressing single housing of several cages of rats and mice in the Dominici Hall Facility and ensuring that environmental enrichment was consistent in this facility; ensuring that information regarding environmental parameters that were out of the set point range in the Pharmacy facility was relayed to responsible personnel after normal work hours; retraining personnel to ensure that rodents do not have direct contact with isoflurane during anesthesia; ensuring the safe use of formaldehyde solution for perfusion studies; ensuring that the local policy on recapping needles is consistently followed by laboratory personnel; ensuring appropriate documentation of husbandry

Richard S. Larson, M.D., Ph.D.

November 19, 2014

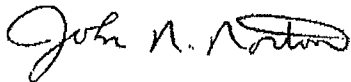
Page 2

procedures performed by principal investigators and their staff members; confirming that gas cylinders were appropriately secured; ensuring that preventive maintenance and recertification of the gas anesthetic machines conforms to institutional policy; addressing the use of expired anesthetic and euthanasia drugs; as well as removing porous wall hangings and a cloth covered chair to enhance sanitation practices in the ARF barrier change room.

Council has no further recommendations to offer for improvement of the animal care and use program at this time. We look forward to following your program activities and wish you continued success.

AAALAC International requires an Annual Report detailing changes made during the year in accredited units. 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,



John N. Norton, D.V.M., Ph.D.  
President, Council on Accreditation

JNN:smr  
000222

cc: Katy Mirowsky-Garcia, M.S., CPIA, Operations Manager  
Kevin C. O'Hair, D.V.M., M.S., Director, Animal Resources Facility