



February 22, 2006

Raymond C. Sommers, B.S., LATG
Associate Director
Animal Resource Center
University of Wisconsin - Madison
2015 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706-1102

Dear Mr. Sommers:

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 School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin. The Council commends you and the staff for providing and maintaining a quality program of laboratory animal care and use. Especially noteworthy were the role and performance of the Animal Resource Center in providing support to the Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) members and the School of Veterinary Medicine staff; the very well informed and thoroughly engaged ACUC, especially the knowledge and enthusiasm of the ACUC Chair and the nonaffiliated member; the excellent operations and records at the Dairy at Charmany and Bookhout Farms, under the oversight of Dr. Bill Goodyear; the efforts of Ms. Claudia Hirsch, whose enthusiasm transferred to the staff at the Charmany Instructional Facility; and the exemplary systems for notification of the Attending Veterinarian of animal health and welfare issues developed by Dr. Christine Parks. 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 1996. Therefore, **FULL ACCREDITATION** shall continue.

Council acknowledges receipt of the electronic correspondence from Dr. Janet Welter dated November 16, 2005 and the correspondence from Dr. James W. Tracy dated October 14, 2005 detailing actions taken relative to concerns expressed by the site visitors during the exit briefing. Specifically, the items included: reviewing the allowance for the percentage increase in the number of animals used on protocol without requiring full Committee review; considering methods to decrease exposure of albino mice to high intensity light levels; providing a commercial hand sanitation station at the exit of the animal housing area; clarifying the potential interface of research animals and client owned animals in the teaching hospital; adapting procedures in the student surgery laboratory to reduce potential for cross-contamination; adapting the technique to prevent animals from coming in contact with anesthetic soaked gauze; planning to certify a fume hood; repairing facilities to minimize potential entry of vermin; increasing temperature and humidity monitoring in several facilities; encouraging staff to use proper recapping techniques for needles; offering guidance to investigators on how to perform a search for alternatives that will address the requirements of Policy 12; and adjusting the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to minimize temperature fluctuations in the Charmany Instructional Facility.

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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.

Sincerely,



Dale G. Martin, D.V.M., Ph.D.
President, Council on Accreditation

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