

# Protocol Assessment Liaison BULLETIN

*This Educational Information has been brought to you by Traci Clemons, Protocol Assessment Liaison for the Vice Chancellor for Research, in cooperation with the UNMC/UNO Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, and Comparative Medicine.*

For additional information please contact:

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## ANIMAL WELFARE AND REPORTING CONCERNS

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### Who Regulates Animal Welfare at UNMC/UNO?

The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) and the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) under the direction of the Institutional Official (IO), Dr. Thomas Rosenquist, have provided a joint formal assurance to the Department of Health and Human Services that UNMC and UNO will comply with the Public Health Service (PHS) Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Vertebrate Animals.

This guarantee applies to **all research**, research training, teaching and biological testing involving live vertebrate animals conducted by anyone on the premises of UNMC or UNO. It also applies to research conducted elsewhere by faculty, students, staff of UNMC and UNO that is performed in connection with the investigators' institutional responsibilities.

In order to comply with this assurance, Dr. Rosenquist has appointed the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) to oversee the institution's animal program, facilities, and projects involving the use of animals.

- o A copy of our Assurance and all supporting documentation links can be found on the UNMC/UNO IACUC Website:

[http://www.unmc.edu/dept/iacuc/index.cfm?L1\\_ID=14&CONREF=13](http://www.unmc.edu/dept/iacuc/index.cfm?L1_ID=14&CONREF=13)

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IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNMC/UNO  
ASSURANCE THE INSTITUTION COMPLIES  
WITH ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

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- ✚ PHS Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/references/PHSPolicyLabAnimals.pdf> This applies to the use of live, vertebrate animals in all activity conducted at, or owned by UNMC/UNO.
- ✚ Animal Welfare Act and Regulations  
[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_welfare/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/index.shtml) This institution is registered, #47-R-018, as a research facility under the Animal Welfare Act by the United States Department of Agriculture(USDA), and Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).
- ✚ AAALAC is a private, nonprofit organization that promotes the humane treatment of animals in science through voluntary accreditation and assessment programs.  
<http://www.aaalac.org/about/index.cfm>  
UNMC has been continually accredited by the Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) International since 1966.
- ✚ Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals  
[http://dels.nas.edu/ilar\\_n/ilarhome/guide.shtml](http://dels.nas.edu/ilar_n/ilarhome/guide.shtml) The Guide assists institutions in caring for and using animals in ways judged to be scientifically, technically, and humanely appropriate. (Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources, Commission on Life Sciences, National Research Council)
- ✚ United States Government Principles for the Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/references/PHSPolicyLabAnimals.pdf> U.S.

Government principles that shall be considered for testing, research, or training procedures involving the use of vertebrate animals.

- ✚ Report of the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia  
[http://www.avma.org/issues/animal\\_welfare/euthanasia.pdf](http://www.avma.org/issues/animal_welfare/euthanasia.pdf)  
(American Veterinary Medical Association 2007 – formerly the Report on the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia)
- ✚ UNMC/UNO Policies and Guidelines  
[http://www.unmc.edu/dept/iacuc/index.cfm?L1\\_ID=4&CONREF=5](http://www.unmc.edu/dept/iacuc/index.cfm?L1_ID=4&CONREF=5)

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HOW UNMC/UNO'S ASSURANCE RELATES  
TO GRANT FUNDS?

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- ✚ This Assurance is applicable to all research, research training, experimentation, biological testing, and related activities involving live vertebrate animals conducted at this institution, or at another institution as a consequence of the sub-granting or subcontracting of activity supported by this Institution.
- ✚ Direct comparisons of **all** research grants with corresponding IACUC approved research protocols are conducted to assure our funding agencies that all approved animal procedures match the grant's intended purpose.
- ✚ NIH published the following notice; "NIH Policy on Allowable Costs for Grant Activities Involving Animals when Terms and Conditions are not Upheld". [NOT-OD-07-044: NIH Policy on Allowable Costs for Grant Activities Involving Animals when Terms and Conditions are not Upheld](#)

**\*Note: You may need to copy and paste the above links into your browser to connect. Also visit the IACUC website "Links" tab for more info.**

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## SELF REPORTING NONCOMPLIANCE

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- ✚ "The PHS Policy is based on a concept of *enforced self-regulation*."
- ✚ "Once an institution has prepared an Animal Welfare Assurance and the Assurance has been approved by OLAW, the institution is in a position to regulate itself. This concept is described as ***enforced self-regulation*** because if the institution fails to self-regulate, the approval of the Assurance may be restricted or withdrawn by OLAW."

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## CONCERNS REGARDING THE CARE, TREATMENT, AND USE OF ANIMALS AT UNMC/UNO:

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- ✚ Concern for the welfare of animals used in research and teaching is the responsibility of all members of the University community.
- ✚ Any individual may report concerns to the UNMC/UNO IACUC Administrative Office, the Attending Veterinarians, clinical veterinarians, any IACUC member, Comparative Medicine staff, Protocol Assessment Liaison, or the Institutional Official.
- ✚ Notices are located in the animal facilities advising individuals how and where to report animal welfare concerns.
- ✚ The Animal Welfare Act protects the rights of individuals reporting animal welfare concerns and prohibits discrimination or reprisal for reporting violations of regulations or standards.

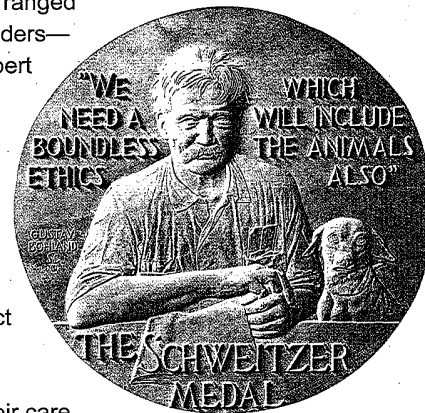
- ✚ **Confidentiality/Good Faith Reports.** UNMC shall attempt to maintain the confidentiality of an individual who reports concerns or misconduct upon request. However, confidentiality cannot be guaranteed, and disclosure of the individual's identity may be necessary in order to fully investigate the concern. There is no retribution or discipline for anyone who reports a concern in good faith. Individuals shall not intentionally use the hotline to make false allegations.

### The Albert Schweitzer Medal

In 1951, AWI struck a medal in honor of Dr. Albert Schweitzer to be presented for outstanding achievement in the advancement of animal welfare.

In granting AWI permission to use his name, Dr. Schweitzer wrote, "I would never have believed that my philosophy, which incorporates in our ethics a compassionate attitude toward all creatures, would be noticed and recognized in my lifetime."

Medalists have ranged from well-known leaders— Rachel Carson, Hubert Humphrey and Robert Dole—to Patrolman John Mobley of the Detroit Police Force, whose prompt reporting on suffering and neglect of experimental animals led to improvements in their care.



**Animal Welfare  
Institute**

P.O. Box 3650, Washington, D.C. 20027  
(703) 836-4300 ☎ fax: (703) 836-0400 🐾 www.awionline.org

Printed with soy ink on recycled paper. ♻️ ♻️ ♻️

**TO REPORT AN ANIMAL WELFARE CONCERN OR NON-COMPLIANCE, PLEASE CONTACT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING IMMEDIATELY:**

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**UNMC/UNO Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee**  
**402-559-6046**  
[IACUCORA@UNMC.edu](mailto:IACUCORA@UNMC.edu)

**Protocol Assessment Liaison**  
**402-559-8560**  
[tclemons@unmc.edu](mailto:tclemons@unmc.edu)

**UNO**  
**402-554-2558**

**Comparative Medicine**  
**402-559-4034**

**Emergency On-call Veterinarian**  
**402-559-4000** - Please ask the UNMC operator to page the "Veterinarian On Call."

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*"Identification, Communication, and Education are the Solutions to Prevention"*

***PLEASE PRINT AND POST THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE.***



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PAL BULLETIN PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON  
THE IACUC WEBSITE

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*\***Summer** is just around the corner! Please remember to plan ahead for **Students** in order to **cut through** some of the **red tape!** Having prospective students visit the IACUC website is a good place to start.  
\*\*Please review the PAL Bulletin, "Requirements for Animal Contact or Animal Facility Access"; [PAL Bulletins](#)*

*NOTE: Please be advised that due to the importance of monitoring allergens, all personnel and students are evaluated for potential allergies prior to any animal contact. Additional testing may be warranted and delay the approval period.*

\*As always please check the IACUC and CM Websites for new forms and updates.

\*Book Mark these sites for quick access:  
[IACUC Home](#)

[UNMC Comparative Medicine](#)

**IMPORTANT IACUC NOTICE:**

**New forms on the IACUC website were mandatory starting November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.**

**Please bookmark the forms address below for quick access:**

[Forms](#)

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IF YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS PERTAINING TO PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF PAL BULLETINS, NEW IDEAS, OR SUGGESTIONS FOR TOPICS PLEASE CONTACT [TCLEMONS@UNMC.EDU](mailto:TCLEMONS@UNMC.EDU)!

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