

Office of Research – *The STAR*

STANDARDS & TRENDS IN ANIMAL RESEARCH

WFU Animal Care and Use Committee

July 12, 2006

INAUGURAL ISSUE OF THE STAR The Wake Forest University Animal Care and Use Committee is proud to announce the distribution of the first edition of the **STAR**, or **Standards and Trends in Animal Research**. A new online newsletter provided to all animal users at Wake Forest. Look to the **STAR** for the latest news on animal welfare and institutional processes supporting our animal research enterprise.

ANIMAL TRANSFERS MUST BE MADE UNDER AN MTA Wake Forest has a long standing policy that all research materials transferred to or from the school must be done under a Material Transfer Agreement, or MTA, unless purchased from a standard commercial vendor. The definition of materials is broadly defined and includes animals, however, the use of MTAs has not always been applied in the case of live animals or tissues.

The value of an MTA for investigators and the school is that it is a legally binding agreement between the two institutions exchanging ownership of animals, and it protects intellectual property, defines limitations of use (e.g., Cre-lox mice), addresses transport, manages hazards, limits liability, assures that monetary compensation is appropriate, and more.

Arranging for the transport of live animals, other than via standard purchase, involves several processes working in parallel.

1. The ARP will continue to provide required health status reports and in most cases arrange for transport. The ARP's *Request to Ship Live Animals* form is available online: <http://www1.wfubmc.edu/ARP/forms/>. Contact the ARP office on your campus for more information, <http://www1.wfubmc.edu/ARP/contact/>.
2. Industry Relations will negotiate and sign MTAs. *Material Transfer Agreement Questionnaires* for incoming and outgoing transfers are available online: <http://www1.wfubmc.edu/OR/Industry+Relations/Forms/>. Contact Janice Grace, Director, Industry Relations (jgrace@wfubmc.edu, 716-9359) with questions on MTAs.
3. Environmental Health & Safety will advise on methods for the proper transport of biohazards. Contact Bernadette Menuey (bmenuey@wfubmc.edu, 716-6440) for more information.

WFU ACUC SPRING SEMI-ANNUAL SITE VISIT COMPLETED The WFU ACUC staff would like to thank the research and animal care staff for their hard work in support of the animals we use in research. The spring site visit was completed in June, and the ACUC is proud to report that no significant deficiencies were reported! The school can be proud of its outstanding animal program.

No site visit would be complete without finding areas of improvement. The ACUC would like to bring to your attention two important items.

- Expired drugs and supplies. Expired items that are not immediately discarded must be labeled as expired on the primary container. In addition, many labs have a small bin marked expired where such items are kept. The use of expired items, such as suture, is limited to terminal procedures; although some drugs may be used in terminal procedures, the use of expired anesthetics or analgesics is not permissible under any circumstances. See WFU ACUC policy #26 Handbook for more details: <http://www1.wfubmc.edu/OR/Animal+Care+and+Use/ACUC+Resources.htm>.
- Certification of anesthesia machines and vaporizers. Proper anesthetic dosing is essential to successful surgery and instruments providing gaseous anesthetics must be certified at least yearly to be in working properly by a trained technician. The school has negotiated a discounted rate for certification for those laboratories participating in the program. Individual service calls are made at the regular full price. Contact David Cannon, Animal Monitoring and Oversight Specialist (dcannon@wfubmc.edu, 715-4127), to become part of the program.

STAR Staff, Animal Care and Use Committee

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