



On-Line Training Change

Both the University of Florida and Federal Regulations (USDA & PHS) require training and continuing education of all scientists, research technicians, animal care technicians, and all others involved with animal care and use. At UF, one of the required courses is *Working with the UF IACUC*. Beginning May 14, you will be directed to a different site to take this training. We have been using the VA Website, but this site will be shut down in May. *Working with the UF IACUC* will now be available through the AALAS Learning Library. Our office is still in the process of obtaining the necessary access codes for our staff to use this new system. We will keep you posted via our website at <http://www.iacuc.ufl.edu/training.htm> When the change-over occurs, the link you currently use on our website will bring you to the AALAS website for the training and exam.

Please contact Joan Wysocki at 392-9907 or jwysock@ufl.edu if you have problems accessing the *Working with the UF IACUC* training and exam.

Important Reminder!

IACUC Semi-Annual inspections began April 2.
Access our website for more information:
<http://www.iacuc.ufl.edu/inspections.htm>

The most often noted areas of concern during our first month of inspections are:

- Lack of approved protocols available in all laboratories
- Lack of in-lab SOPs for frequently used equipment
- For housing areas, poor maintenance of SOPs and logs recording animal care, room cleaning, and environmental conditions

IACUC Policies

Have questions about policies regarding animal welfare issues? Find the most current UF IACUC Guidelines and Policies at <http://www.iacuc.ufl.edu/links.htm>

News Article from *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

Every so often, the IACUC reads reports of fines and lab closures occurring at other institutions. The following was reported in January of this year:

The University of Connecticut Health Center has halted a neuroscience experiment involving rhesus monkeys and penalized the researcher overseeing the project, after two of the three primates in the work died and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cited the laboratory for a dozen violations of animal-welfare laws, according to *The Hartford Courant*.

The shutdown of the lab, in Farmington, Conn., happened last summer but was disclosed only this week. The closure stemmed from inspections that found such violations as a failure to provide alternatives to potentially painful or distressful procedures, a failure to provide adequate water, a failure to provide adequate veterinary care, and a failure to adequately train handlers, the *Courant* reported. The research was intended to study how the brain controls the eyes.

In 2002 the university's main campus, in Storrs, Conn., admitted to more than 50 violations of the Animal Welfare Act and agreed to pay a \$129,500 fine for, among other things, the improper care and inhumane deaths of numerous laboratory animals.