

March 16, 2020

To: All Animal Users

From: Lyndon J. Goodly, DVM
Institutional Veterinarian

Subject: DAR Animal Research Related Activities During COVID-19 Concerns

Your safety, along with the safety of your staff and your families, must remain everyone's top priority during this difficult time. Faculty and staff should take all [proper precautions](#) as determined by the CDC. All decisions regarding animal research activities will be based on current scientific data and recommendations from public health officials and campus leadership.

Institutions must adhere to provisions of the PHS Policy, the Guide, and the commitments detailed in their Animal Welfare Assurance with OLAW. **DAR, ACES, and CVM all have existing emergency and contingency plans that will be implemented to ensure animal wellbeing and continuance of animal research activities as much as possible.**

DAR animal facility users should consider curtailing the initiation of new projects during this time of uncertainty. DAR animal related research services will continue to provide maintenance care indefinitely. The availability of animal care staff and building utilities will be the two most critical factors for maintaining normal operations. Our emergency plans cover various scenarios based on these factors. For instance, *DAR has ordered additional food and bedding, which would extend our husbandry supplies for a month should normal delivery options be disrupted.*

All principal investigators and research staff should update their emergency contact information, including personal cell phone numbers, in case you need to be reached for animal-related questions or decisions.

Should you have veterinary concerns, please contact DAR's on-call veterinarian at any time. If you have specific animal facility concerns or questions, please contact the supervisors or animal care staff in the usual manner.

We are committed to keeping you informed should changes in our normal animal research activities occur, and **we will be scheduling Zoom meetings for each of the animal facilities to address questions you might have.** Please look for additional communication from our office as the situation continues to evolve.