

June 27, 2011

David J. Lyons, Ph.D.
Associate Director
Office of Research
Wake Forest University Health Sciences
Medical Center Boulevard
Winston-Salem, NC 27157

Dear Dr. Lyons:

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 Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The Council commends you and the staff for providing and maintaining an exemplary program of laboratory animal care and use. Especially noteworthy were the strong institutional commitment, evidenced by the continuing education programs and incentives which resulted in a marked increase in the number of staff that achieved AALAS certification; the exceptional level of organization among the veterinary clinical team, environmental enrichment coordinators and veterinary pathology team at weekly grand rounds to promote best practices in the overall animal care and use program; the impressive environmental enrichment program, which incorporated a team approach between research and animal resource staff across all campuses to implement innovative social housing risk assessments for all species, and operant conditioning and training, as well as highly enriched microenvironments; the clean and well maintained animal resource facilities; and the comprehensive safety and security program that included home assessments of research and animal resource staff, workshops and manuals on safe home and work practices, plus a sophisticated facility access control system. 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 (Guide), NRC 1996. Therefore, **FULL ACCREDITATION** shall continue.

Council acknowledges receipt of the correspondence dated March 28, 2011 detailing actions taken relative to concerns expressed by the site visitors during the exit briefing. Specifically, the items addressed satisfactorily included: reassessing a permanent exemption to the recommendations of the Guide at timely intervals; expanding and harmonizing the assessment of body condition scores for nonhuman primates on food and water regulation; evaluating the efficacy of ethanol used to sanitize enclosures for holding rodents in the Cobalt 60 irradiator; and addressing clutter in one investigator-managed animal housing anteroom.

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. Please note that, at your request, AAALAC International will provide your institution with a separate letter simply verifying that your animal care and use program is accredited. Should you also wish to distribute an electronic copy of this letter to program staff, a Portable Document Format (pdf) version will be sent upon request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dorcas P. O'Rourke".

Dorcas P. O'Rourke, D.V.M., M.S.
President, Council on Accreditation

DPO:cmw
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tel 301 696 9626
fax 301 696 9627

accredit@aaalac.org
www.aaalac.org