



Fall 2008 IACUC Inspections begin October 1st

The IACUC will begin semiannual inspections of all animal facilities on October 1. Inspections will be conducted Monday-Thursday 9am-12noon & 1:30pm-4:30pm, and Friday 9am-12noon. Inspections will not be done on Friday afternoons or during IACUC meeting days (1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month). The PI must make themselves and/or a senior lab member available.

What will the IACUC be looking for during inspections? Here are some areas of concern...

- Appropriate drug storage, control, and expiration date monitoring
- Expired supplies are separated, marked, and/or disposed of properly
- Routine calibration of anesthesia machines
- Drug/controlled substances log maintained
- Approved protocols available in all laboratories
- IACUC approval letters displayed on doors if animals are housed in facilities other than ACS
- Separate surgery areas for prep, procedure, and recovery
- Aseptic technique used in all survival surgeries
- In-lab SOPs for frequently used equipment
- Staff informed of "whistle-blower" policy
- Staff knowledgeable of protocol
- For housing areas, maintenance of SOPs and logs recording animal care, room cleaning, and environmental conditions

For a detailed list of what the IACUC will be looking for on inspections, please see:

<http://www.iacuc.ufl.edu/inspections.htm>

AAALAC Site Visit this Month

AAALAC International is a private, nonprofit organization that promotes the humane treatment of animals in science through accreditation and assessment programs. AAALAC stands for the "Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care."

When animals are used, AAALAC works with institutions and researchers to serve as a bridge between progress and animal well-being. This is done through AAALAC's voluntary accreditation process in which research programs demonstrate that they meet the minimum standards required by law, and are *also* going the extra step to achieve excellence in animal care and use.

Accreditation through AAALAC is important for UF. Many funding agencies look for this accreditation as one criterion for research funding. It also opens the door to more collaborative work with other institutions who want to ensure that UF's animal care program is meeting all mandated requirements.

AAALAC revisits all accredited institutions on a three year cycle. Several members of AAALAC will be at UF from September 29 through October 2. UF investigators should have their labs prepared and be available that week in case the AAALAC visitors stop by. Also, any investigators that house animals outside of ACS central facilities must have all required documents, such as housing form and animal care sheets, available for inspection.