

## IACUC and Federal Regulations Regarding Noncompliance

Morehead State University's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee is committed to its efforts for the humane treatment of animals used in research, teaching, or testing at Morehead State University. The IACUC regards issues of noncompliance as a serious matter. *Some examples of noncompliance with IACUC and Federal regulations include, but are not limited to:*

- a. failure to obtain IACUC approval for an activity involving animals,*
- b. failure to provide adequate care for the animals,*
- c. use of procedures not approved by the IACUC,*
- d. use of more animals than approved by the IACUC,*
- e. failure to provide additional information requested by the committee for continued review of the protocol, and*
- f. failure to obtain approval for continuation of a protocol approved beyond a 12-month period.*

The MSU Assurance of Compliance with Public Health Service (PHS) Policy on Humane Care of Laboratory Animals, which has been approved by the Office for Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW), states:

"Morehead State University's IACUC is authorized to suspend any activity involving laboratory animals as set forth in the PHS Policy at IV.C.6.

The IACUC procedures for suspending a previously approved activity are:

- a. The PI is notified in writing of the IACUC's determination that significant departures from the approved protocol exist. Specific deviations are cited and the PI is instructed to adhere to the approved protocol until such time as an application for revision of the approved protocol has been submitted and approved. A copy of this letter is sent to the Institutional Official and department chair.
- b. A follow-up inspection is scheduled at which the IACUC determines whether appropriate action has been taken by the PI to correct the cited deficiencies. The results of this inspection are submitted in writing to the PI, Institutional Official and department chair.
- c. If the results of the follow-up inspection are unsatisfactory, the IACUC will require appropriate action ranging from extension of the schedule for correcting the deficiencies to immediate suspension of the activity. This determination will be made by a quorum of the IACUC and will include consideration of the effect the deficiencies have on the welfare of the animals.
- d. The PI, Institutional Official, and department chair are notified in writing of the IACUC's decision and the deadline by which appeals may be made before the action is instituted. OLAW will be notified in accordance with VI.B. The funding agency will be notified if the decision is to suspend.

- e. An appeals hearing may be requested by the PI prior to the deadline by contacting the IACUC Chair in writing. Such a hearing will require a quorum of the IACUC to be in attendance with a majority vote of that quorum required to change the previous action. The PI, Institutional Official, and department chair will be notified in writing of the IACUC's decision.
- f. The attending veterinarian has the authority to impose immediate suspension of any animal use activity that has significant impact on animal welfare.
- g. If any animal use activity which has not been reviewed and approved by the IACUC is discovered, the activity will be suspended immediately. *In addition, the individuals involved may be subject to disciplinary action by this institution.*

In an effort to assist principal investigators to comply with IACUC and Federal regulations regarding the use of animals at Morehead State University, the IACUC department representatives conduct workshops every fall to provide principal investigators with the information necessary to understand the regulations, obtain an approval for the use of animals, and for the humane treatment of animals used in research, teaching, and testing at Morehead State University.

The IACUC has the authority to review, approve, require modifications in (to secure approval) or withhold approval of protocols for all activities involving laboratory animals. If the IACUC requires modifications to the protocol to continue review, a written notification will be forwarded to the principal investigator. If the committee does not receive a response from the principal investigator, the department representative is authorized by the committee to contact the principal investigator to follow up on data missing from the original protocol submission. If the principal investigator does not respond to the department representative, the matter will be brought to the committee for immediate action.