

March 9, 2021

Leanne C. Alworth, D.V.M., M.S.
Director of Animal Care and Use
and Attending Veterinarian
Office of Research Integrity and Safety
The University of Georgia
212 Tucker Hall
Athens, GA 30602

Dear Dr. Alworth:

The AAALAC International Council on Accreditation has reviewed the report of the recent site visit to the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Family and Consumer Sciences, Pharmacy, Public Health, and Veterinary Medicine and the Office of Research, The University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia. The Council commends you and the staff for providing and maintaining a high quality program of laboratory animal care and use. Especially noteworthy were the dedicated and engaged personnel at all levels of the program; the excellent animal care, evidenced in part by the appearance of healthy animals throughout all housing facilities; the well documented veterinary medical records in animal facilities and investigator managed areas; the active and engaged Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), evidenced in part by the thorough and comprehensive meeting minutes that documented in depth protocol discussions; the thorough and well documented training of animal care personnel; the well maintained and clean facilities; the state-of-the-art facilities, animal housing, and procedure spaces that support animal research and teaching activities at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital; the robust cat husbandry and housing practices in multiple facilities, evidenced in part by enhanced opportunities for environmental enrichment and socialization; and the restructuring of the nonhuman primate (NHP) management 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 and the Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching, FASS 2010, NRC 2003. Therefore, FULL ACCREDITATION shall continue.

Council acknowledges receipt of the correspondence dated December 18 and December 9, 2020 detailing actions taken relative to concerns expressed by the site visitors during the exit briefing. Specifically, the items addressed satisfactorily included: ensuring oversight of animal husbandry, animal well-being and the provision of veterinary medical care in the Aquatic Biotech Environmental Laboratory satellite housing area; planning to ensure that all individuals in contact with animals, animal by-products, and associated hazards are risk assessed by individuals with appropriate professional medical qualifications; clarifying the techniques for use of non-sterile gloves for survival surgical procedures; planning to appropriately document the reasons for individually housed rodents and planning to review the program for NHP environmental enrichment; updating the frequency and documentation of eyewash station testing; planning to develop a health surveillance program for the zebrafish colonies; ensuring certification of bedding disposal units; planning to develop a mechanism to track animal use for non-University Research Animal Resources facilities units; developing a plan to monitor the

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in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations; re-evaluating the safety of reheat coil valves that fail open in the Life Sciences vivarium; and planning to monitor the environmental conditions of feed storage rooms.