

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
A4578-01

Animal Welfare Assurance for Domestic Institutions

I, James T. LaPlant, Ph.D., Interim Assistant Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, as named Institutional Official (IO) for animal care and use at Valdosta State University (VSU), provide assurance that this Institution will comply with the Public Health Service (PHS) Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Policy).

I. Applicability of Assurance

This Assurance applies whenever this Institution conducts the following activities: all research, research training, experimentation, biological testing, and related activities involving live vertebrate animals supported by the PHS. This Assurance covers only those facilities and components listed below.

- A. The following are branches and components over which this Institution has legal authority; included are those that operate under a different name:

Valdosta State University main campus (City of Valdosta, Lowndes County, GA)
Lake Louise Field Station (Lowndes County, GA)
Plowden Field Station (Lowndes County, GA)
Brown's Pond Field Station (Lowndes County, GA)

- B. The following are other institution(s), or branches and components of another institution:

None

II. Institutional Commitment

- A. This Institution will comply with all applicable provisions of the Animal Welfare Act and other Federal statutes and regulations relating to animals.
- B. This Institution is guided by the "U.S. Government Principles for the Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research, and Training."
- C. This Institution acknowledges and accepts responsibility for the care and use of animals involved in activities covered by this Assurance. As partial fulfillment of this responsibility, this Institution will ensure that all individuals involved in the care and use of laboratory animals understand their individual and collective responsibilities for compliance with this Assurance and other applicable laws and regulations pertaining to animal care and use.
- D. This Institution has established and will maintain a program for activities involving animals according to the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (Guide).
- E. This Institution agrees to ensure that all performance sites engaged in activities involving live vertebrate animals under consortium (subaward) or subcontract agreements have an Animal Welfare Assurance and that the activities have Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) approval.

III. Institutional Program for Animal Care and Use

- A. The lines of authority and responsibility for administering the program and ensuring compliance with the PHS Policy are as follows:

See Attachment 1

- B. The qualifications, authority, and percent of time contributed by the veterinarian(s) who will participate in the program are as follows:

- 1) Name: Teresa H. Doscher (Attending Veterinarian)

Qualifications

Degrees: B.S., D.V.M.

Training or experience in laboratory animal medicine or in the use of the species at the Institution:

As part of her formal veterinary education program, Dr. Doscher utilized laboratory animals, and her curriculum included laboratory animal care and use case studies. She also practiced veterinary medicine with Dr. C. Dave Richards in Valdosta, a small animal practice where she had some experience in treating pet rodents. In October 2010, Dr. Doscher attended the *Recognizing 25 Years of Improving Animal Welfare, Advancing Science Symposium* in Bethesda, Maryland, where she completed the AWIC Workshop and attended concurrent sessions focused on veterinary care of species of interest to VSU.

Mentoring/Training/Resources Available:

Christopher King, D.V.M., D.A.C.L.A.M., Assistant Vice President for Research and Director of the Office of Animal Care and Use at the University of Georgia, has agreed to mentor and provide individualized training as required to Dr. Doscher, particularly in the care of laboratory animal species utilized at VSU. Additionally, VSU financially supports professional development of, and makes appropriate electronic and printed resources available to, Dr. Doscher to assist her in her duties.

Authority:

Dr. Teresa H. Doscher has delegated program authority and responsibility for the Institution's animal care and use program and has unrestricted access to all animals and related records.

Time contributed to program:

Full time employee; estimated 2.5% time contributed to the animal care and use program.

- 2) Name: Back-Up Veterinarians

Back-up and emergency veterinary services are provided by a consortium of local independent veterinarians who have established an after-hours emergency service for the community. Tad Mosley, D.V.M., and C. Dave Richards, D.V.M., who participate in this service, have agreed to provide back-up veterinary care for the Institution individually during normal work hours and through the emergency consortium during off-hours. Dr. Mosley's telephone number, which links after-hours callers to the veterinarian on call, is posted conspicuously in the Institution's animal housing areas.

Qualifications

Degrees: All veterinarians participating in the consortium are currently practicing, appropriately degreed, and licensed.

Training or experience in laboratory animal medicine or in the use of the species at the Institution:

Training and experience varies. However, all participating veterinarians have a small animal practice and are experienced in treating pet rodents and in American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) euthanasia techniques.

Responsibilities:

Emergency veterinarian services may be provided in diagnosis, treatment, and, if necessary, euthanasia. In the event of an illness outbreak, local veterinary services may also be required for necropsy.

Time contributed to program:

Negligible

- C. The IACUC at this Institution is properly appointed according to PHS Policy IV.A.3.a. and is qualified through the experience and expertise of its members to oversee the Institution's animal care and use program and facilities. The IACUC consists of at least 5 members, and its membership meets the composition requirements of PHS Policy IV.A.3.b. Attached is a list of the chairperson and members of the IACUC and their names, degrees, profession, titles or specialties, and institutional affiliations.

See Attachment 2

D. The IACUC will:

- 1) Review at least once every 6 months the Institution's program for humane care and use of animals, using the *Guide* as a basis for evaluation. The IACUC procedures for conducting semiannual program reviews are as follows:

Program reviews are conducted at least once every six months by IACUC members at a convened (i.e., face-to-face) IACUC meeting at which a quorum is present. The IACUC utilizes the program review template published by the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW). The IACUC's procedures for semi-annual program review are detailed in a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). No member of the IACUC who wishes to participate in the semiannual program review is precluded from doing so. All SOPs applicable to program review elements are updated as necessary by majority vote of the IACUC.

The program review includes a review of the following general functions of the animal care and use program in consideration of the types of species utilized in research, testing, and instruction at VSU and the nature of the research, testing, and instructional activities:

- a. Institutional Policies and Responsibilities
 - Animal Care and Use Program: Assigned responsibilities as required by regulation; adequacy of resources; communication of resource needs
 - Disaster Planning and Emergency Preparedness: Appropriate disaster plans in place and communicated
 - IACUC: Meetings as required to fulfill responsibilities; avoidance of committee member conflicts of interest; continued protocol oversight; evaluation of training programs
 - IACUC Protocol Review – Special Considerations: Pharmaceutical use; special field study issues; disposition of animals removed from the wild; alternatives to non-humane procedures or mitigation of pain/distress
 - IACUC Training: Orientation and on-going training in regulations, guidelines, conduct of program reviews and facility inspections, and protocol review
 - IACUC Records and Reporting Requirements: Semi-annual reporting to IO, including minority opinions; description of and justification for IACUC-approved departures from the *Guide* or PHS policy; identification of significant and minor deficiencies; correction plans for identified deficiencies; reports to OLAW, U.S.

Department of Agriculture (USDA), and/or federal sponsoring agencies as required; maintenance of IACUC records

- Veterinary Care: Availability of routine and back-up veterinary care; appropriate veterinary training; delegated authority to, and unrestricted access to animals by, Attending Veterinarian; consultation services to animal users
- Personnel Qualifications and Training: Training and continuing education of veterinarian, IACUC members, animal users, animal care staff, and administrative staff that cover topics specified in the *Guide*
- Occupational Health and Safety of Personnel: Active program that complies with governmental regulations; appropriate facilities, equipment, procedures, and training to ensure a healthy and safe working environment; medical evaluation and preventive services for animal care personnel; response plans to occupational safety and health issues (e.g., bites, injury in the field, etc.)
- Personnel Security: Pre-employment security screening measures

b. Veterinary Care

- Clinical Care and Management: Availability of veterinary guidance to all animal users; veterinary care program appropriate for species and nature of animal use; unrestricted veterinarian access to animals and records; procedures to address incidents and provide treatment
- Animal Procurement and Transportation/Preventive Medicine: Lawful animal procurement procedures and documentation; review and approval of protocols, including housing plans, prior to animal acquisition; appropriate management of breeding colonies; appropriate facilities for receipt, separation, and quarantine of animals; stabilization, acclimation, isolation, and veterinary care for new arrivals
- Surgery: Appropriate preparation and techniques for non-survival surgery (Currently, no survival surgery is performed in VSU animal facilities or the field; should such activity take place, the IACUC will ensure appropriate animal user training, pre-surgical planning, aseptic conditions and techniques, anesthesia monitoring, post-operative monitoring, and recordkeeping.)
- Pain, Distress, Anesthesia and Analgesia: Categorization of pain categories included in training; appropriate selection of analgesics and anesthetics with veterinary input; monitoring of procedures for analgesic management
- Euthanasia: Species appropriate AVMA methods employed; standardized methods to minimize stress to animals; animal user training to minimize error and stress to personnel; procedures for confirmation of death
- Drug Storage and Control: Compliance with federal regulations; records and storage procedures regularly reviewed; expiration date monitoring; legal and safe acquisition, storage, use and disposal of anesthetics and analgesics

- 2) Inspect at least once every 6 months all of the Institution's animal facilities, including satellite facilities and animal surgical sites, using the *Guide* as a basis for evaluation. The IACUC procedures for conducting semiannual facility inspections are as follows:

Facility inspections are performed at least every six months by a minimum of two IACUC voting members, accompanied by the IACUC Administrator, the Research Compliance Specialist, and/or the IACUC Chair, following a convened IACUC meeting. The inspectors utilize the facility inspection template published by OLAW. The IACUC's procedures for semi-annual inspections are detailed in a SOP. No member of the IACUC who wishes to participate in the semiannual facilities inspection is precluded from doing so. All SOPs applicable to facilities inspection elements are updated as necessary by majority vote of the IACUC.

The inspection of animal facilities and animal use areas includes a review of the following general requirements and is based on the types of species utilized in research, testing, and instruction at VSU and the nature of the research, testing, and instructional activities:

- a. Animal Housing and Support Areas
 - Location: Separate animal and personnel areas; species separation; separation by disease status; security and access control
 - Construction: Condition of physical facilities (corridors, walls, floors, ceilings, doors, windows); adequate drainage, heating, air conditioning, power and lighting; noise and vibration control; environmental monitoring
 - Room/Cage: Temperature and humidity monitoring and control; ventilation, air quality, and illumination; noise and vibration control
 - Primary Enclosure: Physiologic, behavioral, social and security needs; safe and appropriate materials; appropriate bedding; routine objective assessments of animals and environments; documented husbandry procedures
 - Environmental Enrichment, Behavioral, and Social Management: Species appropriate housing/caging/enrichment; user/staff training in identifying abnormal behavior; routine monitoring
 - Naturalistic Environments: Adequate food, water, and shelter; impacts of addition or removal of animals
 - Food: Quality control; stock rotation; contamination prevention; sealed storage; vermin control; feeding procedures and schedules
 - Water: Justification for departure from ad libitum; QC procedures
 - Bedding and Nesting Materials: Species and scientifically appropriate; dry areas for animals; QC procedures
 - Sanitation: Bedding changes; cleaning and disinfection of micro- and macro-environment
 - Waste Disposal: Waste collection, storage, and disposal procedures (including animal carcasses); hazardous waste disposal
 - Pest Control: Regularly scheduled and documented pest control treatment
 - Emergency, Weekend, and Holiday Animal Care: As required, daily care provision; back up veterinary care plan; disaster response plan; systems monitoring; accessible contact information
 - Identification: Cage/rack and aquarium cards with all required information
 - Recordkeeping: Accessible and complete clinical records
 - Storage: Adequate storage space; vermin-free storage of food and bedding; food storage area temperature and humidity control; separate refuse storage; separate cleanable and refrigerated carcass and animal tissue storage
 - Personnel: Space for administration and training

- b. Cagewash
 - Construction and Operation: Dedicated and convenient space and equipment; condition of facilities; safety precautions; utilities, ventilation, and humidity control; cross-contamination prevention; cagewash temperature monitoring

- c. Special Facilities: Aseptic Surgery

Not applicable; no aseptic surgery is being performed or proposed in the foreseeable future

- d. Special Facilities: Procedure Areas, Non-survival Surgeries, Laboratories, Rodent Surgeries, Imaging, Whole Body Irradiation, Hazardous Agent Containment, Behavioral Studies
 - General Considerations: Lab areas not used inappropriately for housing; drugs stored, controlled, and rotated; safety procedures (sharps, eyewash, safety signs, etc.); anesthetic monitoring; carcass disposal
 - Hazardous Agent Containment: Compliance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations
 - Behavioral Studies: Noise and vibration controls; disinfectable testing equipment; contiguity with housing area or appropriate transport of animals between areas

- 3) Prepare reports of the IACUC evaluations according to PHS Policy IV.B.3. and submit the reports to the Institutional Official. The IACUC procedures for developing reports and submitting them to the Institutional Official are as follows:

During program review and facilities inspection, the IACUC Administrator, Research Compliance Specialist, and/or the IACUC Chair serve as recorders as IACUC members utilize the OLAW check lists to perform the program review and inspections. The Research Compliance Specialist prepares official final checklists and the summary Semiannual Program Review and Facility Inspection Report form for review by the IACUC members at the next convened meeting at which a quorum is present.

The Semiannual Program Review and Facility Inspection Report notes that the review and inspection have been conducted "using the National Research Council *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, Eighth Edition, in accordance with the U.S. Public Health Service Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and the Animal Welfare Act, 9CFR 1, Section 2.31." It includes minor and significant deficiencies in the program or facilities; an action plan to remedy each deficiency; notation of the person responsible for ensuring action on the remediation plan; and a target date for remediation. Any corrections noted at the meeting are made by the Research Compliance Specialist and are initialed by the IACUC Chair. The report notes any IACUC approved departures from the Guide, PHS Policy, or the Animal Welfare Act and reasons for each departure; if there are no departures, the report states such. Similarly, any minority views are incorporated as an attachment; if there are no minority opinions, the report will state such. The Semiannual Program Review and Facility Inspection Report is signed by a majority of voting IACUC members and is forwarded to the IO by the Research Compliance Specialist. The original report and checklists are maintained in the Office of Sponsored Programs & Research Administration as part of the official IACUC files.

- 4) Review concerns involving the care and use of animals at the Institution. The IACUC procedures for reviewing concerns are as follows:

The IACUC has a SOP for reviewing concerns about noncompliance with regulations, policies and procedures, and approved protocols. The SOP is maintained on the IACUC website and information about its existence is posted in each animal facility.

The SOP defines various types of noncompliance that may be reported. Noncompliance is generally defined as "failure of the investigator/instructor involved in animal activity to follow applicable laws, regulations, policies, procedures, approved protocols, and/or directives of the IACUC or the Attending Veterinarian." Acts of noncompliance are classified as injurious, non-injurious, and administrative. The three classes of noncompliance are not mutually exclusive. In terms of actions that the IACUC may take to ensure the well-being of animals used in research, testing, and instruction, one type of noncompliance is not necessarily more serious than another and all may result in corrective and/or punitive actions.

Injurious noncompliance occurs "when an investigator/instructor conducts a painful, distressful, or invasive procedure on an animal without IACUC approval or when the investigator/instructor does not follow procedures approved by the IACUC, resulting in increased risk of animal pain, distress, morbidity, or mortality." Examples of injurious noncompliance include, but are not limited to:

- Performing unauthorized surgery;
- Performing surgery or other painful procedures without proper anesthesia;
- Performing unapproved repeated survival surgery;
- Excessive use of restraints;
- Use of drugs not previously approved for the protocol;
- Use of unapproved methods of euthanasia;
- Permitting untrained and/or unauthorized personnel to perform invasive or potentially painful or distressful procedures;
- Failing to inform the Attending Veterinarian in a timely manner of unexpected adverse

- events that result in increased animal pain, distress, morbidity, or mortality; and
- Where husbandry is the responsibility of the investigator/instructor, failing to provide habitable living conditions and/or adequate food and water to the animals.

Non-Injurious Noncompliance occurs “when an investigator/instructor, without IACUC approval, utilizes animals in research or teaching but in such a way that the animals do not suffer pain or distress or experience morbidity or mortality; or when the investigator/instructor fails to follow IACUC-approved procedures and an impact on the animals or the total animal population results but without concomitant increase in risk of animal pain, distress, morbidity, or mortality.” Examples of non-injurious noncompliance include, but are not limited to, the following types of activities, provided they do not increase the risk of animal pain, distress, morbidity, or mortality:

- Change in purpose or specific aim of study;
- Change in principal investigator;
- Change of species;
- Addition of species;
- Significant increase in the number of animals to be used;
- Change in sex of animal to be used;
- Modification to surgical procedures;
- Change in type or dosage of drugs used; and
- Additional behavioral or noninvasive sampling

Administrative noncompliance includes “acts that do not directly impact the physical or psychological welfare of animals, including, but not limited to, such acts as failing to complete and submit reports and other paperwork in accordance with IACUC procedures and timelines, failing to follow administrative instructions given by the IACUC, the Attending Veterinarian, and/or the IACUC Administrator; and failing to adhere to other related guidelines and practices. Examples of administrative noncompliance include, but are not limited to:

- Conducting any animal activity without IACUC approval;
- Failing to submit a protocol modification request prior to implementing the modification;
- Failing to submit an annual review form in adequate time for review prior to protocol expiration;
- Failing to report previously made minor modifications to the protocol as part the annual review (for example, substitution or addition of a qualified student or technician, addition of a qualified faculty collaborator, substitution or addition of students on an instructional protocol, or addition of another strain of the same animal species)
- Failing to file final reports when protocols have been completed;
- Failing to follow administrative directives from the IACUC, the Attending Veterinarian, and/or the IACUC Administrator;
- Failing to follow standard laboratory practices; and
- Failing to adhere to applicable environmental, health, and safety regulations and guidelines.

Administrative infractions are most commonly identified by the IACUC Administrator and are dealt with directly by the IACUC as part of its regular business as opposed to being addressed through a preliminary review and investigation process. However, repeated administrative infractions or willful disregard of requirements are reported to the Institutional Official for resolution through usual university human resources procedures.

Allegations of injurious and/or non-injurious non-compliance may be received by any Institution official (faculty member, department head, dean, or staff member), including IACUC members, the IACUC Administrator, and the Research Compliance Specialist. The Board of Regents (BOR) of the University System of Georgia (USG) operates an ethics and compliance hotline; allegations related to the animal care and use program and/or mistreatment of animals may also be received in this manner. The IACUC Administrator is a

member of the hotline response team and assures that such complaints are routed to the IACUC for action.

Allegations are immediately referred to the IACUC Chair, the Attending Veterinarian, and/or the IACUC Administrator for a preliminary review by the IACUC Chair and the Attending Veterinarian. These individuals may consult with the informant, the respondent, potential witnesses, other IACUC members, animal care staff, and/or the IACUC Administrator to determine if the allegation has merit.

In accordance with the SOP, if it is determined that there is sufficient evidence and justification for additional study of the matter, a formal investigation is initiated and the IO is informed. The investigation is conducted by a specially appointed IACUC subcommittee that seeks all relevant materials, documents, communications, etc. and conducts interviews with involved individuals. When animal mistreatment or noncompliance is found to have occurred, the subcommittee recommends corrective actions and/or sanctions to the IACUC for consideration and approval. The IACUC may make recommendations for sanctions to the IO that are outside the authority of the IACUC (e.g., letter of reprimand in personnel file, restriction on applying for federal grant funds for projects involving animals, etc.). The Vice President for Academic Affairs may be called upon to impose sanctions that are recommended by, but outside the authority of, the IACUC.

Rights and responsibilities of the various parties are detailed in the SOP. The informant is given the opportunity to testify during preliminary review and/or investigation. He/she is informed of the findings of the preliminary review and/or investigation and is given the opportunity to comment on portions of reports of findings pertinent to his/her allegation or testimony. The institution takes all steps necessary to protect the privacy of the informant who reports animal mistreatment and/or noncompliance in good faith to the maximum extent possible. For example, if the informant requests anonymity, the institution makes an effort to honor the request during the preliminary review within applicable policies and regulations and state and local laws. The informant is advised that, if the matter is referred for investigation and his/her testimony is required, anonymity may no longer be guaranteed. The informant is also advised to immediately report any alleged or apparent retaliation to the Vice President for Academic Affairs directly or through the IACUC Administrator.

The BOR ethics policy, which is applicable to all VSU employees and students, states that "retaliation against a member of the USG community for reporting wrongdoing is strictly prohibited by federal law, state law and BOR policy" and that individuals must "refrain from retaliating against those who report violations." In accordance with this policy, the Institution, through the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, in accordance with institutional human resource policies and procedures, undertakes diligent efforts to protect the position and reputation of the informant making a good faith allegation and to protect the informant from retaliation in terms and conditions of employment or other status at the institution. Such protections are also extended to witnesses who testify or otherwise offer evidence during the preliminary review and/or investigation.

Rights of the accused include full disclosure, due process, and maintenance of confidentiality and are detailed in the SOP. These rights are ensured through the implementation of very specific, sequential, and timed steps of receiving and responding to allegations.

The SOP also covers required reporting to regulatory and funding agencies and types of disciplinary action that may be taken for non-compliance. All reported concerns regarding the care and use of animals, steps taken to investigate the allegations, and corrective actions, including all correspondence, are documented.

- 5) Make written recommendations to the Institutional Official regarding any aspect of the Institution's animal program, facilities, or personnel training. The procedures for making recommendations to the Institutional Official are as follows:

Any member of the IACUC may raise a concern about, or make a recommendation for, the Institution's animal care and use program, either with the IACUC or with the IO. The item is placed on the agenda for discussion at the next convened meeting of the IACUC. If necessary, the IACUC Chair, the Attending Veterinarian, and/or the IACUC Administrator research the topic so that IACUC members can make an informed decision about recommendations for changes to any aspect of the Institution's animal care and use program, facilities, or personnel training. The IACUC Administrator prepares appropriate correspondence to the Institutional Official for execution by the Chair of the IACUC. The IACUC Administrator and/or the IACUC Chair follow up as necessary with the Institutional Official and the IACUC to resolve concerns.

- 6) Review and approve, require modifications in (to secure approval), or withhold approval of PHS-supported activities related to the care and use of animals according to PHS Policy IV.C.1-3. The IACUC procedures for protocol review are as follows:

The IACUC requires animal users to complete an Animal Use Protocol (AUP). The AUP must be reviewed by the Attending Veterinarian prior to submission to the IACUC for review and action. The AUP is submitted to the Research Compliance Specialist (who reports to the IACUC Administrator), who conducts a preliminary review to ensure that the AUP has been completed correctly. If the AUP is not complete, it is returned to the animal user for correction. When the AUP is complete, the Research Compliance Specialist electronically distributes the AUP to all IACUC members and polls voting members regarding the type of review requested (i.e., Designated Member Review [DMR] or Full Committee Review [FCR]).

- a. Designated Member Review (DMR):

If no IACUC member requests Full Committee Review (FCR), the IACUC Chair appoints a three-member review team from the voting membership (excluding the Attending Veterinarian). The DMR teams are assigned by rotation through the membership roster. One DMR team member is designated as lead; he/she coordinates the review and communicates team concerns and actions to the Research Compliance Specialist. If the DMR team needs additional information from the animal user or if they request changes to the AUP, the Research Compliance Specialist communicates this information to the animal user. The animal user's response is submitted to the Research Compliance Specialist, who forwards it to the DMR team. This back-and-forth communication continues until the animal user has addressed all questions and concerns, at which time the DMR team may unanimously approve the AUP or refer it for FCR. At any time during this process, however, any member of the DMR team may individually refer the AUP for FCR for consideration and disposition.

- b. Chair Review (in lieu of DMR):

In situations in which quick turnaround is required and no IACUC member registers a request for FCR, the IACUC Chair may singularly review, require changes to, and/or approve the AUP. If the IACUC Chair needs additional information from the animal user or requests changes to the AUP, the Research Compliance Specialist communicates this to the animal user. The animal user's response is submitted to the Research Compliance Specialist, who forwards it to the IACUC Chair. This back-and-forth communication continues until the animal user has addressed all questions and concerns, at which time the IACUC Chair may approve the AUP. If the IACUC Chair elects not to approve the AUP, it is referred for FCR for further consideration and disposition.

- c. Full Committee Review (FCR):

If any IACUC voting member requests a Full Committee Review of a new AUP, it is placed on the agenda for the next convened IACUC meeting, or, if conditions warrant,

a special meeting is called to review the AUP. Likewise, if any DMR reviewer refers an AUP for FCR, it is placed on the agenda for the next convened IACUC meeting, or, if conditions warrant, a special meeting is called to review the AUP.

d. Designated Member Review (DMR) Subsequent to Full Committee Review (FCR):

If all voting members are present at the meeting at which a FCR takes place and changes to the AUP are determined to be required, the IACUC may, by majority vote, approve subsequent review and approval by DMR, with the Chair appointing the designated reviewer(s) from the voting membership (excluding the Attending Veterinarian). Alternately, the IACUC may vote to return the AUP for FCR at the next convened meeting.

If any IACUC voting members are absent from the meeting in which the FCR takes place and modifications are requested, the IACUC may vote either to have the revised AUP returned for FCR during the next convened IACUC meeting or to employ DMR procedures. If DMR procedures are elected, the revised AUP is distributed electronically to all IACUC members, including those not present at the convened meeting at which the AUP was initially reviewed. Any IACUC voting member may call for the revised AUP to be referred for FCR at the next convened meeting of the IACUC. If no voting member requests FCR of the revised AUP, the IACUC Chair appoints the designated reviewer(s) from the voting membership (excluding the Attending Veterinarian). The DMR team may continue to request additional information from the animal user, through the Research Compliance Specialist, until they either unanimously approve the AUP or refer it for a second FCR.

e. Review Guidelines:

IACUC members who are affiliated with a protocol in a way that presents a potential or actual conflict of interest are recused from reviewing and voting on actions related to that protocol. If a conflict of interest is questionable, the IACUC Chair determines whether the member should be recused. During FCR, a quorum must be maintained after any member is recused in order for the IACUC to take action.

Regardless of the type of review, IACUC members utilize the *Guide*, the AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia, and generally accepted specialty guides for specific species used at the Institution in their deliberations.

DMR approvals of new protocols are reported at the next IACUC meeting.

A protocol may be disapproved only by vote of a majority of members of a convened meeting of the IACUC at which a quorum is present.

7) Review and approve, require modifications in (to secure approval), or withhold approval of proposed significant changes regarding the use of animals in ongoing activities according to PHS Policy IV.C. The IACUC procedures for reviewing proposed significant changes in ongoing research projects are as follows:

Animal users are required to submit to the IACUC, through the Research Compliance Specialist, any significant proposed modifications of previously approved AUPs following review by the Attending Veterinarian. The Research Compliance Specialist electronically distributes the current approved AUP and the modification request to all IACUC members and polls voting members regarding the type of review requested (i.e., Designated Member Review [DMR] or Full Committee Review [FCR]).

a. Designated Member Review (DMR) of AUP Modifications:

If no IACUC member calls for FCR, the IACUC Chair will appoint one or more designated reviewer(s) from among the voting membership (except the Attending Veterinarian). If the reviewer(s) need additional information from the animal user or if a change to the proposed AUP modification is required, the Research Compliance Specialist communicates this information to the animal user. The animal user's response is submitted to the Research Compliance Specialist, who forwards it to the designated reviewer(s). This back-and-forth communication continues until the animal user has addressed all questions and concerns, at which time the designated reviewer(s) may unanimously approve the modification or refer it for FCR. At any time during this process, however, any designated reviewer may individually refer the AUP for FCR for consideration and disposition.

b. Full Committee Review (FCR) of AUP Modifications:

If any IACUC voting member requests a full committee review of a proposed AUP modification, it is placed on the agenda for the next convened IACUC meeting, or, if conditions warrant, a special meeting is called to review the AUP. Likewise, if any designated reviewer refers an AUP for FCR, it is placed on the agenda for the next convened IACUC meeting, or, if conditions warrant, a special meeting is called to review the AUP.

c. Designated Member Review (DMR) of an AUP Modification Subsequent to Full Committee Review (FCR):

If all voting members of the IACUC are present at the meeting in which an FCR of an AUP modification takes place and changes to the modification are determined to be required, the IACUC may, by majority vote, approve subsequent review and approval by DMR, with the IACUC Chair appointing the designated reviewer(s) from the voting membership (excluding the Attending Veterinarian). Alternately, the IACUC may vote to return the modification for FCR at the next convened meeting of the IACUC.

If any voting members of the IACUC are absent from the meeting in which the FCR of the AUP modification takes place, the committee may vote either to have the modification returned for FCR during the next convened IACUC meeting or to employ DMR procedures. If DMR procedures are elected, the revised modification is distributed electronically to all IACUC members, including those not present at the convened meeting at which the modification was initially reviewed. Any IACUC voting member may call for the modification to be referred for FCR at the next convened meeting of the IACUC. If no voting member requests FCR of the revised modification, the IACUC Chair appoints the designated reviewer(s) from the voting membership (excluding the Attending Veterinarian). The DMR team may continue to request additional information from the animal user, through the Research Compliance Specialist, until they either unanimously approve the modification or refer it for a second FCR.

d. Review Guidelines:

IACUC members who are affiliated with a protocol in a way that presents a potential or actual conflict of interest are recused from reviewing and voting on actions related to that protocol. If a conflict of interest is questionable, the IACUC Chair determines whether the member is should be recused. During FCR, a quorum must be maintained after any member is recused in order for the IACUC to take action.

Regardless of the type of review, IACUC members utilize the *Guide*, the AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia, and generally accepted specialty guides for specific species used at the Institution in their deliberations.

DMR approvals of protocol modifications are reported at the next IACUC meeting.

A protocol modification may be disapproved only by vote of a majority of members of a convened meeting of the IACUC at which a quorum is present.

- 8) Notify investigators and the Institution in writing of its decision to approve or withhold approval of those activities related to the care and use of animals, or of modifications required to secure IACUC approval according to PHS Policy IV.C.4. The IACUC procedures to notify investigators and the Institution of its decisions regarding protocol review are as follows:

When a new protocol or a protocol modification is approved, the Research Compliance Specialist prepares a letter for the IACUC Administrator's signature and sends this letter of approval to the animal user. The animal user's department head, the IACUC Chair, and the Institutional Official receive copies of the approval letter.

If the IACUC withholds approval, specific reasons for the decision, along with suggestions for acceptable changes identified by the IACUC during review, are provided to the animal user in writing. The Research Compliance Specialist prepared the letter and the IACUC Chair signs it. The IACUC Chair, the Attending Veterinarian, and the IACUC Administrator are available to assist the animal user in researching alternatives that likely would be approved.

- 9) Conduct continuing review of each previously approved, ongoing activity covered by PHS Policy at appropriate intervals as determined by the IACUC, including a complete review at least once every 3 years according to PHS Policy IV.C.1.-5. The IACUC procedures for conducting continuing reviews are as follows:

Continuing review is conducted at least annually during the three-year protocol approval period. VSU has established uniform procedures for all vertebrate animal activity. Thus, continuing review, at least annually, applies to all animal protocols, including those not funded by PHS but involving USDA covered species.

The Research Compliance Specialist monitors protocol approval and expiration dates and schedules annual reporting and continuation reviews. The annual report, which serves as the continuing review form, provides data for reporting purposes and information regarding any minor protocol modifications made by the animal user in the previous year. The animal user may also request protocol modifications at the time of continuation review by appending an AUP modification request form.

Annual reports/continuation requests are submitted by the animal user to the Research Compliance Specialist. If the protocol involves non-USDA covered species, the Research Compliance Specialist forwards it to the IACUC Chair for review. The IACUC Chair may approve the continuation or refer the continuation request to the IACUC Vice-Chair or any other voting IACUC member for review and approval.

If the protocol involves USDA covered species, a Designated Member Review process is utilized. This process for annual protocol review mimics the AUP review process used for new protocols (described in Paragraph III.D.6.a. above); the DMR team is comprised of three voting IACUC members who may approve the protocol continuation or may refer the protocol to for Full Committee Review (as described in Paragraphs III.D.6.b and c) above.

If the annual report/continuation is accompanied by a protocol modification request, the modification request is reviewed as described in Section 7 above. Annual reviews are reported at the next convened IACUC meeting.

Prior to the three-year protocol expiration date, animal users are contacted by the Research Compliance Specialist and are instructed, if the animal activity is expected to continue, to submit a new Animal Use Protocol (AUP) that is subject to the review procedures

employed for any other new AUP. This ensures that a continuing animal activity undergoes a complete review at least once every three years.

VSU's animal use program covers all live vertebrate animals, regardless of species or source of funds that supports the animal activity. Thus, the protocol approval, modification, and continuation review procedures described herein are automatically applied to USDA covered species and in non-PHS funded animal activity.

10) Be authorized to suspend an activity involving animals according to PHS Policy IV.C.6. The IACUC procedures for suspending an ongoing activity are as follows:

a. Emergency Halting of an Animal Activity:

The IACUC Chair and/or the Attending Veterinarian may, on an emergency basis, immediately and unilaterally halt an animal activity, either in full or in part, if the welfare of animals is in current or imminent jeopardy. The IACUC Chair or the Attending Veterinarian is solely responsible for determining whether current or imminent jeopardy exists. The IACUC Chair must convene the IACUC within five business days of halting an animal activity, at which time the IACUC members will discuss the situation and determine if the protocol should be officially suspended.

b. Emergency Euthanasia:

In the event that an animal is in extreme distress or pain that cannot be alleviated, the Attending Veterinarian, or his/her designee, has unilateral authority to euthanize the animal if euthanasia is determined to be in the best interest of the animal. The Attending Veterinarian, or his/her designee, will make a reasonable attempt to receive advice from the animal user before the decision to euthanize is made. A written record of such action will be submitted to the IACUC on the next working day. This report will indicate whether there were facility, husbandry, or programmatic deficiencies that led to the problem so that the IACUC can determine if there is a need to make changes in the institutional animal care and use program, modify the protocol, or suspend the protocol. If the euthanasia is an isolated incident, the matter will be reported to the IACUC at the next convened meeting. If other animals are at risk, animal activity may be halted and/or the protocol may be suspended by the IACUC.

c. Suspension of a Protocol:

The IACUC Chair must convene the IACUC within five business days of halting an animal activity, at which time the IACUC members discuss the situation, determine if the protocol should be officially suspended and, as appropriate, develop a recommended corrective action plan. Suspension of a protocol requires a majority vote of IACUC members at a convened meeting at which a quorum is present.

d. Reporting Procedures:

The IACUC Chair and/or the Attending Veterinarian is required to immediately report a suspension to the IO, including reasons for the action, and to present the IACUC's recommended corrective action plan, if applicable. Copies of all correspondence will be placed in the protocol file. The IO cannot overturn an IACUC suspension, and the IO is required to take necessary action to ensure correction.

If the suspended or terminated animal activity involves USDA-covered species or non-PHS federal funding, the IO, assisted by the IACUC Administrator, will promptly report the suspension, the circumstances surrounding the suspension, and the corrective action taken to the Southern Regional Director of Animal Care, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) as required.

If the suspended animal activity involves PHS funding, the IO, with the assistance of the IACUC Administrator, shall promptly report the suspension or termination to the Director of Compliance at the PHS Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW). A formal report that contains a full explanation of circumstances of the suspension or termination, a description of corrective actions taken, any minority views filed by IACUC members, and the status of the animal user's research program, will be filed with OLAW within three months of the suspension of the animal activity.

e. Resumption of Animal Activity

If the animal user wishes to continue animal activity, he/she must submit a new AUP for formal review and approval by the IACUC.

E. The risk-based occupational health and safety program for personnel working in laboratory animal facilities and personnel who have frequent contact with animals is as follows:

1. All employees and students working with animals are required to comply with the Institution's Occupational Safety and Health Program managed by the VSU's Office of Environmental and Occupational Safety (OEOS). An OEOS staff member is a voting member of the IACUC. The IACUC provides information to animal users both about safety and health protection in the workplace (SOP 010) and prevention of zoonotic disease (SOP 011) and maintains general and species specific health and safety information on the IACUC website. Additionally, information about health and safety risks, precautions and hygiene, treatment for minor and serious injuries, and reporting requirements for injury and illness are posted in all animal facilities.
2. The IACUC has developed and implemented additional occupational safety and health protections for personnel working in animal facilities and for other personnel with animal contact in the field and in the classroom. This risk-based program applies to researchers, research assistants, animal caretakers, the Attending Veterinarian (hereinafter referred to as "animal workers") and to students participating in instructional protocols involving live vertebrate animals (hereinafter referred to as "classroom students").
 - a. All animal workers and classroom students who will have contact with live vertebrate animals receive species specific education and training in health and safety issues, use of appropriate institution-provided personal protective equipment (PPE), personal hygiene, and illness and injury reporting requirements. The PI/PD is responsible for providing this training and may be assisted by OEOS personnel. The course instructor is responsible for providing training to classroom students for instructional protocols as part of the course curriculum.
 - b. All animal workers receive an Animal Worker Occupational Safety and Health Information form in which known or potential health or safety risks related to the species or the activities to be performed are disclosed. Health and safety protections and hygiene practices that will be required while working with the animals are also detailed. By signing the form, the animal worker acknowledges receipt of this information, agrees to employ the health and safety protections and practices described, and agrees to report illness or injury and seek medical attention as necessary. The IACUC, supervising PI/PD (or the PI/PD's supervisor if the PI/PD is the animal worker), and the animal worker retain copies of this form.
 - c. Animal workers and classroom students are provided with, and are required to use, appropriate protective gear and safety equipment. Protective gear required depends on species, activities, and risk level, and may include dust masks, gloves, protective eye wear, laboratory coats, etc. Dust masks, gloves, and laboratory coats are required when changing animal bedding. Animal workers and classroom students are expected to practice good hygiene. Protective apparel worn by animal workers in animal facilities

remains in the facility except when being cleaned. Eating, drinking, and smoking are prohibited in all animal facilities and classrooms during animal activity. Failure of animal workers to comply with health and safety requirements is grounds for termination of employment; similarly, failure of classroom students to abide requirements is grounds for academic sanctions.

- d. Animal workers who will have contact with live warm blooded vertebrates (i.e., procured laboratory rodents/small mammals, breeder-supplied birds, and wild mammals and birds) participate in a health screening program. They complete an Animal Worker Health Screening Questionnaire that includes a medical history. The animal worker presents both the Animal Worker Occupational Safety and Health Information and the Animal Worker Health Screening Questionnaire to the occupational health professional during the screening appointment. Valdosta State University does not have an occupational health specialist on staff. Animal workers are referred to the Occupational & Industrial Medicine Center at South Georgia Medical Center in Valdosta; they are responsible for payment for services not covered by their health insurance. Student animal workers are instructed to arrange their health screening through VSU's Student Health Services. Student Health Services already has a health history and documentation of tetanus immunization from the admissions process and thus is well positioned to identify potential problems and provide appropriate counsel, all without cost to the student. The health care provider ensures currency of tetanus immunization; determines the need for any additional immunizations; counsels the animal worker if he/she is at increased risk of health consequences of animal contact because of existing allergy, immunosuppression, pregnancy, or other medical factor; and determines the need for future clinician visits and follow-up.
- e. Cold-blooded vertebrates (reptiles, amphibians, and fish) are considered to pose no more than minimal risk to animal workers; thus, health screening is not required. However, non-student animal workers must present a certificate of current tetanus immunization signed by their health care professional. Currency of immunization is monitored by the IACUC. The Animal Worker Tetanus Immunization Certification form identifies the species and the nature of the animal contact and instructs the worker to discuss any health concerns related to animal contact with the health care provider and similarly instructs the health care provider to counsel the worker if he/she has a medical history or condition that could place him/her at greater health risk. Student animal workers are not required to secure a tetanus immunization certification, as immunization is required for admission to the University. Student Health Services monitors currency of immunization as a part of regular health care services provided during the students' enrollment at the University. Therefore, students are not required to provide certification or further evidence of tetanus immunization to the IACUC.
- f. Currently, mammals and birds are not used in classroom instruction; current instructional protocols involve only minimal risk species (dissection of amphibians and collection of fish specimens). Exposure is limited to short periods of time (class period) and may be very infrequent (just one or a few animal activities during the course of a semester). Exposure in the field is usually limited to a few hours and a few collection trips. Because of the admissions requirement for tetanus immunization, classroom students are not required to participate in health screening or secure a tetanus certification. The instructor provides health and safety information as a part of the course curriculum. Students may opt out of animal contact without penalty if they have health concerns.
- g. Animals in VSU facilities are routinely monitored by the PI and the Attending Veterinarian for zoonotic diseases. If disease is identified, the animal is quarantined, treated as necessary, and/or euthanized. Potential for transmission of zoonotic disease is reported to OEOS. Any individuals who may have had recent contact with the diseased animal are advised of their potential exposure and are followed up under the institution's occupational safety and health program.

- h. Animal workers are required to report allergic reactions to the animals or their environment to their supervisor. Such reports may generate an occupational health assessment and changes to the environment, protective gear, and/or the individual's job duties.
 - i. When an animal worker incurs a bite wound or other injury or is exposed to potentially hazardous animal fluids while working with animals in VSU's animal facilities, he/she is required to immediately report to Student Health Services for first aid (and for treatment if he/she is a student) and, as necessary, a nearby family medicine walk in clinic for care, or the local hospital for emergency or after-hours care. In the event of injury in the field, the individual is instructed to report to the nearest hospital emergency room for treatment. Immediately thereafter, if not done already, the injured individual is required to report the incident to his/her supervisor/faculty advisor, the IACUC Administrator, the Office of Environmental and Occupational Safety, and (if an employee) the Office of Human Resources for assistance with a Workers Compensation claim. These procedures are posted on VSU's website and in the animal facilities.
- F. The total gross number of square feet in each animal facility (including each satellite facility), the species of animals housed there and the average daily inventory of animals, by species, in each facility is provided in the attached Facility and Species Inventory table.

See Attachment 3

- G. The training or instruction available to scientists, animal technicians, and other personnel involved in animal care, treatment, or use is as follows:

All animal users (faculty, students, and employees) have access to the CITIProgram Animal Care and Use (ACU) courses (including the *Working with the IACUC* basic and refresher courses), and this resource is heavily used. The modules address such topics as working with the IACUC, federal mandates, veterinary consultation, alternatives to animal use, avoiding unnecessary duplication, endpoint criteria, surgery, blood sampling, personnel training, health and safety issues, use of hazardous and toxic agents in animals, animal housing, euthanasia, protocol modification, and reporting animal care and use concerns. Additionally, animal users have the opportunity to review species and procedure specific modules.

The Animal Use Proposal (AUP) application requires all applicants to explain in detail how the number of animals to be used was determined, what alternatives to animal use were considered, and what database searches were conducted to ensure non-duplication. Included in the AUP are questions which address the level of distress and pain the researcher anticipates the animals will experience and techniques to be used to minimize pain and distress. Specific questions about prolonged loss of sensation or paralysis, prolonged physical restraint, non-standard husbandry techniques, removal of the animals from the immediate care facility, and expected adverse effects or overt signs of illness are also posed. Researchers studying stress, pain, or abnormal behavior in live animals which cannot be alleviated with drugs because their use would interfere with the research goal must provide clear rationale. In its review, the IACUC focuses on minimizing animal numbers to obtain valid results and on minimizing pain and distress.

Investigators are responsible for training student assistants and other animal care staff in protocol-specific techniques, with consultation and assistance from the Attending Veterinarian and oversight of the IACUC as needed. The IACUC may also require the Principal Investigator to obtain specialized training before an AUP is approved. Details regarding past training/experience and additional training needs are documented in the AUP.

All IACUC voting members complete the CITIProgram module, *Essentials for IACUC Members*, and are strongly encouraged to complete investigator modules, including appropriate species specific modules. Additionally, IACUC members are provided with electronic access to VSU's Assurance, the *Guide*, the OLAW/ARENA IACUC Guidebook, PHS Policy, the Animal Welfare Act, USDA regulations, VSU's Standard Operating Procedures, and special guides for specific

species (e.g., *Guidelines of the American Society of Mammologists for the Use of Wild Animals in Research*, Journal of Mammology, Vol. 92, No. 1, 2011; *Guidelines for the Use of Fishes in Research*, American Fisheries Society, the American Institute of Fisheries Research Biologists, and the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, 2004; Guidelines for Use of Live Amphibians and Reptiles in Field and Laboratory Research, American Association of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists; and others) through the IACUC's website.

New IACUC members are provided with an overview of IACUC activities and responsibilities by the IACUC Chair and/or the IACUC Administrator. This includes a general history and purpose of the IACUC; an overview of USPHS and USDA regulations; a review of the IACUC web page that includes the Assurance, Standard Operating Procedures, and links to *Guide*, PHS Policy, the Animal Welfare Act and USDA regulations, the OLAW/ARENA IACUC Guidebook, and other resources. When newer members serve as designated reviewers, they do so with more seasoned members who guide them through the review process.

IV. Institutional Program Evaluation and Accreditation

All of this Institution's programs and facilities (including satellite facilities) for activities involving animals have been evaluated by the IACUC within the past 6 months and will be reevaluated by the IACUC at least once every 6 months according to PHS Policy IV.B.1.-2. Reports have been and will continue to be prepared according to PHS Policy IV.B.3. All IACUC semiannual reports will include a description of the nature and extent of this Institution's adherence to the PHS Policy and the *Guide*. Any departures from the *Guide* will be identified specifically, and reasons for each departure will be stated. Reports will distinguish significant deficiencies from minor deficiencies. Where program or facility deficiencies are noted, reports will contain a reasonable and specific plan and schedule for correcting each deficiency. Semiannual reports of the IACUC's evaluations will be submitted to the Institutional Official. Semiannual reports of IACUC evaluations will be maintained by this Institution and made available to the OLAW upon request.

This Institution is Category 2 — not accredited by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC). As noted above, reports of the IACUC's semiannual evaluations (program reviews and facility inspections) will be made available upon request. The report of the most recent evaluations (program review and facility inspection) is attached.

See Attachment 4

V. Recordkeeping Requirements

- A. This Institution will maintain for at least 3 years:
 1. A copy of this Assurance and any modifications made to it, as approved by the PHS
 2. Minutes of IACUC meetings, including records of attendance, activities of the committee, and committee deliberations
 3. Records of applications, proposals, and proposed significant changes in the care and use of animals and whether IACUC approval was granted or withheld
 4. Records of semiannual IACUC reports and recommendations (including minority views) as forwarded to the Institutional Official, Karla Hull, Ed.D., Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs
 5. Records of accrediting body determinations
- B. This Institution will maintain records that relate directly to applications, proposals, and proposed changes in ongoing activities reviewed and approved by the IACUC for the duration of the activity and for an additional 3 years after completion of the activity.

- C. All records shall be accessible for inspection and copying by authorized OLAW or other PHS representatives at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner.

VI. Reporting Requirements

- A. The Institutional reporting period is the calendar year (January 1 – December 31). The IACUC, through the Institutional Official, will submit an annual report to OLAW by January 31 of each year. The annual report will include:
 - 1. Any change in the accreditation status of the Institution (e.g., if the Institution obtains accreditation by AAALAC or AAALAC accreditation is revoked)
 - 2. Any change in the description of the Institution's program for animal care and use as described in this Assurance
 - 3. Any change in the IACUC membership
 - 4. Notification of the dates that the IACUC conducted its semiannual evaluations of the Institution's program and facilities (including satellite facilities) and submitted the evaluations to the Institutional Official, Karla Hull, Ed.D., Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs
 - 5. Any minority views filed by members of the IACUC
- B. The IACUC, through the Institutional Official, will promptly provide OLAW with a full explanation of the circumstances and actions taken with respect to:
 - 1. Any serious or continuing noncompliance with the PHS Policy
 - 2. Any serious deviations from the provisions of the *Guide*
 - 3. Any suspension of an activity by the IACUC
- C. Reports filed under VI.A. and VI.B. above shall include any minority views filed by members of the IACUC.

F. Institutional Endorsement and PHS Approval

A. Authorized Institutional Official	
Name: James T. LaPlant, Ph.D.	
Title: Interim Assistant Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School	
Name of Institution: Valdosta State University	
Address: <i>(street, city, state, country, postal code)</i> 1500 North Patterson Street Valdosta, GA 31698	
Phone: 229-333-5694	Fax: 229-245-3853
E-mail: jlaplant@valdosta.edu	
Acting officially in an authorized capacity on behalf of this Institution and with an understanding of the Institution's responsibilities under this Assurance, I assure the humane care and use of animals as specified above.	
Signature:	Date:

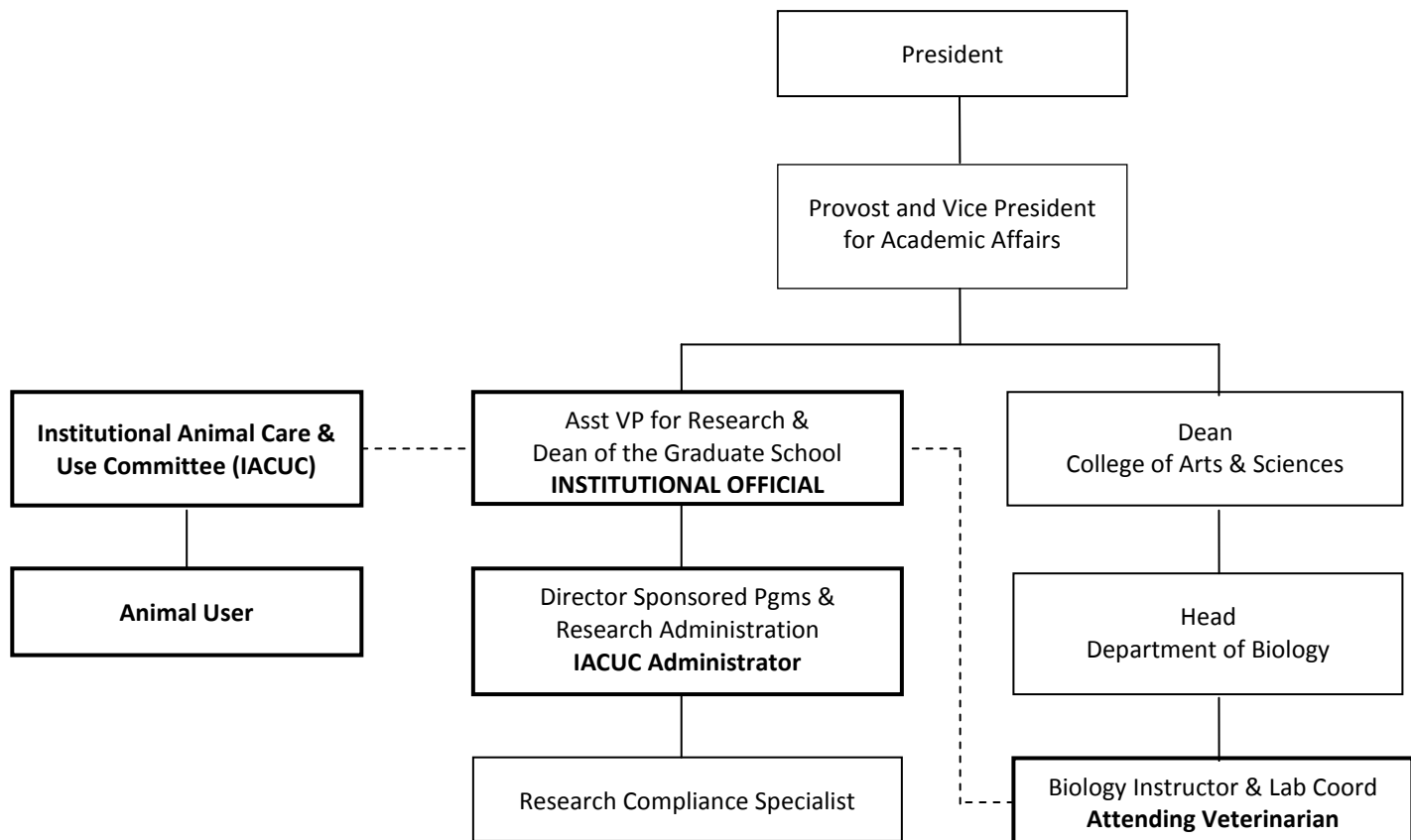
B. PHS Approving Official <i>(to be completed by OLAW)</i>	
<p>Name/Title: Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) National Institutes of Health 6705 Rockledge Drive RKL1, Suite 360, MSC 7982 Bethesda, MD USA 20892-7982 (FedEx Zip Code 20817) Phone: +1 (301) 496-7163 Fax: +1 (301) 915-9465</p>	
Signature:	Date:
Assurance Number:	
Effective Date:	Expiration Date:

Attachment 1

Valdosta State University (A4578-01)

INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAM FOR ANIMAL CARE AND USE Lines of Authority and Responsibility

July 17, 2013



Attachment 2

Membership of the IACUC

Date: July 17, 2013			
Name of Institution: Valdosta State University			
Assurance Number: A4578-01			
IACUC Chairperson			
Name: Theresa J. Grove			
Title: Associate Professor of Biology	Degree/Credentials: Ph.D. (Biology)		
Address: <i>(street, city, state, zip code)</i> 1500 North Patterson Street Valdosta, GA 31698			
E-mail: tigrove@valdosta.edu			
Phone: 229-333-5336	Fax: 229-245-6585		
IACUC Roster			
Name of Member	Degree/ Credentials	Position Title	PHS Policy Membership Requirements
Blaine Browne	Ph.D. (Psychology)	Assoc Prof of Psychology IACUC Vice-Chair	Scientist
Teresa H. Doscher	D.V.M.	Instr of Biology/Lab Coord	Attending Veterinarian
Clyde Edwards	M.F.A	Assoc Prof of Art	Non-Scientist
Donna Gosnell	Ph.D. (Chemistry)	Assoc Prof of Chemistry	Scientist
Christine James	Ph.D. (Philosophy)	Assoc Prof of Philosophy	Non-Scientist
Steven Kohn	Ph.D. (Psychology)	Asst Prof of Psychology	Scientist
Meredith Lancaster	B.S. (Biology)	Environmental Health & Safety Coordinator	Non-Scientist
Colleen McDonough	Ph.D. (Biology)	Professor of Biology	Scientist
January Smith	M.P.H.	Communicable Disease Specialist	Non-Affiliated Member
Robert DeLong	FEMA Training Institute	Director of Environmental & Occupational Safety	Non-Scientist (Alternate for Lancaster)
Barbara H. Gray	M.P.H.	Director of Sponsored Pgms & Research Admin	Ex-Officio/Non-Voting IACUC Administrator
Elizabeth (Ann) Olphie	M.S.M.	Research Compliance Specialist	Staff (Non-Member)

G. Other Key Contacts

If there are other individuals within the Institution who may be contacted regarding this Assurance, please provide information below.

Contact #1	
Name: Barbara H. Gray	
Title: Director of Sponsored Programs & Research Administration; IACUC Administrator	
Phone: 229-333-7837	E-mail: bhgray@valdosta.edu
Contact #2	
Name: Elizabeth W. (Ann) Olphie	
Title: Research Compliance Specialist	
Phone: 229-249-2614	E-mail: ewolphie@valdosta.edu

Attachment 3

Facility and Species Inventory

Date:	February 18, 2013		
Name of Institution:	Valdosta State University		
Assurance Number:	A4578-01		
Laboratory, Unit, or Building	Gross Square Feet [<i>include service areas</i>]	Species Housed [<i>use common names, e.g., mouse, rat, rhesus, baboon, zebrafish, African clawed frog</i>]	Approximate Average Daily Inventory
Animal Suite BSC 1063-1069	1,785	Syrian hamster	130
Aquatic Laboratory BSC 1053	250	Mangrove Killifish (K-mar)	1,850
		Mummichog (Fundulus)	200
Head House BSC 4004	625	Mummichog (Fundulus)	100
		Minnow	5
		Molly	5

Attachment 4

Valdosta State University (A4578-01)

Reports of Most Recent:

- 1. Animal Care and Use Program Review**
- 2. Facilities Inspections**
 - (a) Terrestrial Animal Suite (BSC 1063-1069)
 - (b) Aquatic Laboratory (BSC 1053)
 - (c) Head House aquatic facility (BSC 4004)