

PROGRAM & FACILITY INFORMATION

Comparative Medicine provides an accredited, centralized service of specific pathogen-free animal procurement, husbandry, health surveillance, quarantine, and quality control, and is the Tampa Bay regional resource for laboratory animal-related technical and veterinary professional research assistance, equipment, and supplies.

Comparative Medicine's program and facilities for animal care and use are fully accredited by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International **(AAALAC, #434; effective March 30, 2017)**, managed in accordance with the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide), the Animal Welfare Regulations Title 9 Code of Federal Regulations Subchapter A, "Animal Welfare", Parts 1-3 (AWR), the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (PHS Policy), and the University of South Florida Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee's Principles and Procedures of Animal Care and Use (IACUC Principles).

Comparative Medicine has a written assurance of compliance on file with the Public Health Service, Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare **(OLAW #D16-00589 (A4100-01); effective October 23, 2017)**, and is a registered research facility with the United States Department of Agriculture **(USDA #R0058-15: effective November 9, 2017)**.

The USF President identified Paul R. Sandberg, Ph.D., D.Sc., Sr. Vice President for Research & Innovation as the Institutional Official responsible for the animal program and facilities.

Robert W. Engelman, D.V.M., Ph.D., Professor & Assistant Vice President has delegated authority regarding all aspects of the program and its facilities, and is assisted by Emily L. Miedel, VMD, dACLAM, Natalie H. Ragland, DVM, Margi Baldwin, M.S., CVT, CMAR, RLATG, SRS, and Lloyd Graham, MPH., RQAP-GLP, CMAR, RLAT. All veterinarians are full time.

Comparative Medicine manages 81,955 nsf of space in twelve (12) locations on University campuses or at affiliated hospitals or institutes, eight (8) of which are located on the USF main campus in Tampa within walking distance of one another. The program and facilities are overseen by a single IACUC led by Jay Dean, Ph.D., Chairperson, and assisted by IACUC Coordinator Farah Moulvi, M.P.H.

Facilities include a 21,558 nsf multi-species vivarium at the College of Medicine, a 11,659 nsf surgical training facility at the Center for Advanced Medical Learning and Simulation, a 29,931 nsf mouse facility located within the Stabile Research Building of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute, site of the Small Animal Imaging Laboratory and Mouse Models Core, a 6,153 nsf mouse facility at the USF Health Byrd Alzheimer's Institute, site of the Mouse Behavioral Core, a 2,222 nsf vivarium at the Psychology- Communication Sciences and Disorders Building, a 529 nsf vivarium at the College of Public Health, a 3,444 nsf highly-specialized ABSL-3/CDC-SA Core with insectaria within the Interdisciplinary Research Building, and a total of 6,168 nsf of animal facility and aquaria space located in buildings of the College of Marine Sciences, College of Arts & Sciences, and the New College Florida.

This cooperative approach has allowed facilities to specialize, eliminated wasteful redundancies, reduced costs, and permits scientists and faculty of neighboring institutions to benefit from the cumulative capacity and service capabilities of all sites.

Daily routine, weekend, holiday, and emergency animal care is provided by animal care program staff, all of whom are certified by the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS), and more staff are certified at the highest, technologist level (LATG) than any other level. Comparative Medicine is comprised of fifty-one (51) animal care staff. Comparative Medicine animal care staff hold additional professional certifications, including eight (8) that are State of Florida Certified Veterinary Technicians (CVT), eight (8) that are AALAS Certified Managers of Animal Resources (CMAR), one (1) that is a Registered Quality Assurance Professional-Good Laboratory Practices RQAP-GLP), and six (6) that are certified by the Academy of Surgical Research (ASR), of which one (1) is a Surgical Research Surgeon (SRS), one (1) is a Surgical Research Technician (SRT), and four (4) are Surgical Research Anesthetists (SRA).

All vertebrate animal use conducted by scientists, faculty, students, or staff must first be described in an IACUC application, reviewed by veterinarians, submitted to the IACUC for consideration, and must secure IACUC approval prior to implementation. All personnel must have adequate knowledge and experience to perform their duties of animal care, use, and treatment, and must be certified by the IACUC as qualified to perform such duties, and named on the IACUC protocol(s) to which they contribute.