

March 16, 2016

C. Andrew Matchett, D.V.M.  
Attending Veterinarian  
Comparative Medicine Veterinary Services  
Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute  
2425 Ridgecrest Drive, S.E.  
Albuquerque, NM 87108-5127

Dear Dr. Matchett:

The AAALAC International Council on Accreditation has reviewed the report of the recent site visit to the Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute, Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Council commends you and the staff for providing and maintaining an excellent program of laboratory animal care and use. Especially noteworthy were the outstanding administrative support, exemplified by the recent surgical facility upgrades, budgetary support for maintaining buildings, and appropriate staffing levels for the program; the highly engaged Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), evidenced by the knowledgeable and dedicated members and Chair, the comprehensive IACUC records, the thorough and well documented semiannual inspections, as well as the effective post-approval monitoring/compliance system; the excellent occupational health and safety program, evidenced by the thorough medical evaluations with follow-up, the numerous bite/scratch kits within the facilities, and an appropriate liaison with local hospitals; the strong and comprehensive training program, as documented in the Skills Set Database for research and animal care personnel; the robust husbandry program, evidenced by the clean and well maintained animal facilities throughout campus, the engaged animal care technicians, the comprehensive microbiological monitoring system, and the complete electronic documentation of husbandry, sanitation and technical duties; the well conceived and implemented environmental enrichment program, evidenced by the novel enrichment ideas and detailed attention to the enrichment and the well-being of all species; as well as the dedication to and care for animal health and well-being manifest by the healthy animals, the documentation of clinical care via the computerized Animal Management System, informative signage throughout the facilities, and the excellent pharmacy management systems. 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*, NRC 2011. Therefore, **FULL ACCREDITATION** shall continue.

Council acknowledges receipt of the correspondence dated December 18, December 16 and December 1, 2015 detailing actions taken relative to concerns expressed by the site visitors during the exit briefing, inclusive of a revised Program Description. Specifically, the items addressed satisfactorily included: ensuring the appropriate flow rate for carbon dioxide rodent euthanasia in the North Facility necropsy, Room 178B; ensuring that floor and ceiling surfaces are repaired in order to facilitate sanitation; and ensuring monitoring and documentation of temperatures in an animal feed storage refrigerator in Room 180i, North Facility.

C. Andrew Matchett, D.V.M.

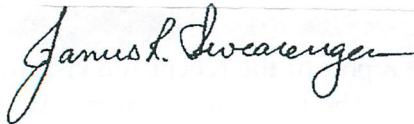
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Council has no further recommendations to offer for improvement of the animal care and use program at this time. We look forward to following your program activities and wish you continued success.

AAALAC International requires an Annual Report detailing changes made during the year in accredited units. In the interim, AAALAC International expects to be apprised in a timely manner of significant programmatic changes or concerns should they occur. Please note that, at your request, AAALAC International will provide your institution with a separate letter simply verifying that your animal care and use program is accredited. Should you also wish to distribute an electronic copy of this letter to program staff, a Portable Document Format (pdf) version will be sent upon request.

Sincerely,



James R. Swearingen, D.V.M.  
President, Council on Accreditation

JRS:kmt  
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cc: Andrew G. Cawthon, Ph.D., Senior Research Scientist, Clinical Support and Chair, IACUC