



March 18, 2020

Dear Faculty:

In an effort to minimize spread of COVID-19, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and Department of Laboratory Animal Resources (DLAR) will begin implementing the following steps:

- DLAR staff will continue to provide veterinary medical care; assessment of animal health and wellbeing; provision of food, water, and clean cages; and maintenance of proper environmental conditions.
- Until further notice, no additional animals may be ordered. DLAR will working closely with the labs on canceling or postponing any pending orders.
- All imports and exports of animals are temporarily suspended.
- All in-person DLAR training courses have been canceled until normal schedules resume. Classes will be rescheduled at a later date.
- Serious consideration should be taken when evaluating current rodent breeding. If possible, rodent breeding should stop unless there are critical strains that need to be maintained. In cases in which breeding is critical and must be maintained, DLAR staff is available to aid in the weaning and separation as a fee for service.
- Current studies may continue to completion, as long as they may be monitored according to the animal protocol and humane endpoints.
- The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) and support staff will continue to review submissions (i.e., protocols and amendments) during this time. If you have any questions, please contact the office at [IACUC@utoledo.edu](mailto:IACUC@utoledo.edu). However, no new animal studies will be approved to start until further notice.

In addition, we recommend that faculty take the following steps related to animal research:

- Identify essential personnel and limit animal access to only those personnel managing current experiments.
- Encourage research activities that can be performed remotely (i.e., data analysis, literature searches, grant proposal preparation)

For the latest updates on coronavirus, please visit the UToledo [website](#). Thank you for your attention to these matters

Sincerely,

Frank J. Calzonetti, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Research

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