

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Office of the Vice President for Research,  
Graduate Studies & Economic Development

April 17, 2006

Memorandum

TO: The Animal Research Community

FROM: Leslie P. Tolbert, Vice President for Research, Graduate Studies and Economic Development

RE: Animal Hazards Program/Occupational Health Provisions

The University of Arizona is committed to providing employees and students with a work and learning environment that minimizes exposure to unsafe conditions. One important component of meeting this commitment is the Occupational Health portion of the Animal Hazards Program, in which each individual in contact with an animal, animal tissues, fluids or wastes, either under laboratory or field conditions, is assessed for hazardous risks. This program is funded by the University and provided free of charge to qualifying individuals.

Federal and other regulations require an occupational health program for personnel working with laboratory and other animals. A description of the University's Occupational Health Program is included in the Assurance of Compliance required by the National Institutes of Health. And to further assure compliance with all applicable occupational health and safety standards, the international Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) conducts triennial inspections of our institution.

The Animal Hazards Health and Safety Instruction document developed by our Occupational Health and Safety Committee and revised by our Animal Hazards Program Committee, serves as the UA's written policy for occupational risk reduction for those using or exposed to animals in research or teaching. The document is available for review at: <http://www.iacuc.arizona.edu/animalhazardsprogram.shtml>.

If you have questions concerning the Occupational Health portion of the Animal Hazards Program, please contact Carol Dugger, Animal Hazards Program Coordinator, at 621-2568, or [dugger@health.arizona.edu](mailto:dugger@health.arizona.edu). You can find additional information on the program

at: [http://www.health.arizona.edu/webfiles/health\\_services\\_animal\\_hazards.htm](http://www.health.arizona.edu/webfiles/health_services_animal_hazards.htm).

By cooperating and complying with the requirements of this program, you are assisting the University in maintaining its accreditation status, funding for animal research, and reputation as a center for excellence in research and teaching. Thank you.