Animal Research Guidance, June 8th, 2020

The University has issued guidance for a phased approach to re-opening on-campus research. The research community was tasked to provide detailed plans for returning to campus. As these plans are reviewed and approved, the following applies to animal care and use operations:

New/Continuing Research

- The University transitioned to Phase 1: Limited Presence on June 8, 2020.
- Any animal work and associated animal orders approved to begin/re-start during this and subsequent phases must be coordinated with the appropriate animal care facility managers and staff. This includes verification from the respective Dean(s) that the research is approved to begin. Coordination is imperative to ensure there is appropriate staffing, equipment, space, and supplies to support animal care.

Personal Protective Equipment

- Please adhere to all posted personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements in animal facilities across campus.
- Entrance into the Clark Hall, CBMG and CARF animal facilities now requires wear of a surgical face mask. DLAR will provide surgical masks for wear in these animal facilities. Cloth face coverings are permissible in the office areas and other spaces outside of the animal facilities (restrooms, stairwells, elevators, etc.).

Facility Access

- All visitors to the Clark Hall vivarium who do not have swipe access must complete the visitor log posted at the DLAR office entrance, DLAR back staircase or DLAR back elevator entrance. Examples include faculty candidates, vendors, Facilities Management staff without card access, etc. DLAR or research staff must ensure this visitor log is complete when escorting visitors.
- All visitors to the CARF vivarium who do not have swipe access must complete the visitor log posted next to the PPE closet. Examples include faculty candidates, vendors, Facilities Management staff without card access, etc. DLAR or research staff must ensure this log is complete when escorting visitors.
- The DLAR front door will remain closed. If there is no one to greet you at the door, please use the doorbell or follow posted procedures. Visitors entering the office area must also sign the posted visitor log. This includes everyone who does not have swipe access to the office area.
- Please follow all posted guidance with regard to COVID-19 risk mitigation. Visual cues will also be posted to remind all entrants of social distancing guidelines. If someone is in a room you are entering, please wait for them to exit or politely coordinate room occupancy.

Support Services and Training

- DLAR will not resume campus laundry service at this time. The community will be advised if/when this service becomes available.
- Principal investigators should ensure that all personnel working with animals are IACUC-approved and appropriately trained. Under severe restrictions, initial and refresher training sessions were conducted virtually. This will continue for the foreseeable future.
- UMD Animal husbandry and safety orientations with the DLAR trainer will mostly be conducted virtually. Arrangements must be made by contacting carftrainer@umd.edu.
- Hands-on, in-person animal training will be conducted as needed to ensure animal welfare and maintain compliance. Arrangements must be made by contacting carftrainer@umd.edu. These sessions will be one-on-one training sessions. To mitigate risk, these sessions may include additional PPE requirements. Participants must strictly adhere to these requirements or the training will not be conducted.
- DLAR will accept supply orders for approved research. All orders must be placed by Thursday each week to help ensure availability by next scheduled pick-up day. Unless backordered or otherwise unavailable, supplies will be available for pick on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- Questions regarding DLAR facilities and support can be addressed to dlar@umd.edu.