Dear Colleagues,

We’ve set up a communication point on the IACUC site in order to help direct you to the most recent campus-level information we can, and to keep you up to date on the functions of the IACUC office, the IACUC, and the Animal Program as a whole (see below). It is a worrying time, but please know that our offices and staff are working hard to provide the best possible support, guidance, and resources for you and your research endeavors, while simultaneously working to keep everyone as safe as possible. Please feel free to be in contact with me, Dr. Shelton, and the IACUC office for any questions you may have.

Sincerely,  
Catherine Carr, PhD  
IACUC Chair and  
Professor, Department of Biology

**Recent directives from the UAV:** Please see the recent communication from our University Attending Veterinarian, Dr. Larry Shelton, for direction and guidelines regarding animal research, [here](#).  

**Submission processing:** The IACUC office staff are teleworking through at least April 10th. Please note that the vast majority of IACUC office functions can be (and are) handled online, and we will do everything we can to move submissions along in a timely manner. Review and approval of protocols, amendments and other submissions will be handled as quickly as possible. If you have questions regarding your submission, please email: iacuc@umd.edu and someone will respond as quickly as possible. You may also reach us via Google Hangouts if that works better for you.

**IACUC Committee Meetings:** We will continue to review new submissions via both our regularly scheduled Full Committee meetings as well as through the Designated Member Review process. If your protocol is now marked Designated Member Review, it will be handled fully outside the monthly meeting schedule. Due to the demands placed on our veterinary team right now, please look for feedback on your submission after April 6th if your protocol is marked designated member review in IRBnet.

**Facility Inspections:** At this time, we are not scheduling inspections for the month of April per our usual, federally mandated interval. Recent guidance from the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare and the USDA have provided flexibility for completing our semi-annual facility inspections, including a 30 grace period and other mechanisms by which the timing might be altered. As we work through the month of April, we may begin to set up dates and times for inspections. Please work with the IACUC office to put these on the calendar, so that we can ensure compliance with federal regulations. The situation is fluid, and there may be other changes in the future, for which we will provide updates.

**AAALAC Site visit:** AAALAC provide all programs whose triennial site visit was scheduled for the summer or fall, 2020 to postpone their review. After some discussion, and in consideration of the
uncertainty in the current working situation, we applied for and received a postponement of the AAALAC site visit until Fall, 2020.

**Information regarding the status of the campus as a whole**, and the various ways in which the State of Maryland, the University System of Maryland and UMD College park leadership are addressing this health crisis, please see the UMD Coronavirus Information webpage, here: [https://umd.edu/virusinfo](https://umd.edu/virusinfo)

**Information and resources for the UMD research community** are being made available via a webpage set up by the Vice President for Research, Dr. Laurie Locascio. This page will provide up-to-date information regarding the conduct of research on campus, submission of proposals, funding agency directives and guidance, and other critical information associated with the research enterprise. That website is here: [https://research.umd.edu/news/news_story.php?id=12905](https://research.umd.edu/news/news_story.php?id=12905)