

Dr. August Battles  
Attending Veterinarian  
Director of Animal Care Services

Lindsay Hochman  
Editor



Health Science Center  
Communicore CB-159  
P.O. Box 100006  
Gainesville, FL 32610-0006  
Telephone: 352-392-2977  
Fax: 352-392-3766

## ANIMAL CARE SERVICES NEWSLETTER

Volume 9, Issue 2

April 2009



### Census Q & A

#### What do I do if I have used all of the animals in a new cage before I get my cage card?

Turn in the hard copy of the cage card request with SAC and Date written on it to the facility "black box". Once we create the cage card we will search the room to place it on the cage. If we cannot find the cage in the room after a week's time, we will send a courtesy email asking whether the cage is still in your census.

#### What do I do if the checkout station is down?

Leave cage cards with SAC and Date written on them. ACS staff will check these out for you.

#### If I turn in a cage card for the ACS staff to stop census on, can I get it back after processing?

Yes. You can contact the front office in CB160 or at 392-2977 to retrieve. ACS office staff keeps all cage cards turned in alphabetically by month for 3 years.

#### Is my current census available to me?

Yes. You can login at <http://acs.ufl.edu> to check your current census. You can sort this by the different column headings.

#### What do I do if I'm not sure a cage card was checked out and/or it is not listed on my receipt?

You can login to myACS and click on the link for Cage Cards Checked Out this Month and see if it is listed here, use the Search Cage Card Function and check the card history or contact the ACS front office so they can check.

#### What happens if I do not check out cards when the animals are gone?

The cages remain on census until the cards are either turned in to the facility black box for checkout and/or checked out by the lab staff at the checkout stations provided within the facility.

#### When do I turn in the top/soft copy of the cage card request?

Immediately after the bottom/hard copy is placed on the cage in the room. This will assure prompt creation of a cage card.

#### What do I do if the RFID tag comes loose from the cage card holder, and or I think I may have mismatched my cage cards with cage card holders?

Notify an ACS employee as soon as you can. You can either find someone in the facility at the time, or email the information with specific cage location within the room to Patti Davis at [ptdavis@ufl.edu](mailto:ptdavis@ufl.edu) or Stacey Robinson at [srobin@ufl.edu](mailto:srobin@ufl.edu).

#### Is further training on myACS available?

Yes. Please contact the ACS Front Office and we will be happy to show you the information available.

Welcome to myACS V2. Please login to continue.

Gatorlink Username:

Password:

Login

## Is there a way to see all of the cages checked out within a month?

Yes. There is a link once you login to myACS to view the list of cage cards checked out within the month.

## What do I do if I find a cage card on my invoice that should have been removed from census?

You need to dispute the invoice and provide the checkout receipt and/or cage card with sac date written on it. If you cannot provide this, we can work with you to get the cage checked out as soon as the problem is reported.

For further instruction and/or explanation please contact the ACS Front Office in CB160 or 392-2977.

## Superior Accomplishment

The superior accomplishment awards program recognizes staff members who contribute outstanding and meritorious service, efficiency and/or economy, or to the quality of life provided to students and employees. Recognition by one's peers is the highest point of achievement. ACS is pleased to announce this year that not one but **TWO** of our staff members were their division winners for the 2009 Superior Accomplishment Awards. **Michael Cormier** won the Division 1 Administrative/Professional. **Cynthia Sanders** won the Division 1 Scientific/Technical.



President Machen, Michael Cormier

"Mike has been a major contributor to the facility management of ACS' animal facilities and his professional services have been a key strength of its program's growth and success."

- Dr. August Battles

"He is one of the most knowledgeable personnel in the department and in his field and with that he has made our jobs much easier to manage."

- Frank Javaheri

"Mike is the ultimate team player, with no project too small, he is always ready to help and consistently anticipates problems, keeping all of us informed with options and solutions."

- Greg Marwede



President Machen, Cynthia Sanders

"She is compassionate for the animals, respectful of her supervisors, and loyal to the department of Animal Care Services. She takes great pride in her work and I am fortunate to have such a dedicated person working by my side."

- Sherry Scruggs

"She displays meticulous attention to detail and has a logical approach to solving and troubleshooting problems which has helped her provide both veterinary and research staff with reliable coverage and support."

- Sarah Johnson

## New USDA Pain Categories

We have updated our cage card requests to include the USDA pain categories that are now being assigned in all new protocols. We understand there are many old versions of protocols still active and you can reference below the alpha class that corresponds to the number class.

**CAGE CARD REQUEST**  
Cage Source #  
**105821**

Date: / / Req. By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Species: \_\_\_\_\_ Room #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Strain: \_\_\_\_\_  
DOB: / / Sex:  M  F  B  
 Weaning  Replacing  Separating  Mating  
Original CC # \_\_\_\_\_  
Vendor:  JAX  CRL  TAC  HSD  
 In House  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Animal #:  5  4  3  2  1  
PI Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph #: \_\_\_\_\_  
IACUC #: \_\_\_\_\_ Emerg Ph #: \_\_\_\_\_  
USDA Stress Category:  E  D  C  B  
Primary Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
FRONT COPY - ACS Office BACK COPY - Place on Cage

### USDA Stress Category updated on Cage Card Requests :

*B = Breeding*

*C = corresponds to Class 1 on older version protocols*

*D = corresponds to Class 2 on older version protocols*

*E = corresponds to Class 3 on older version protocols*

### Categories

**Category A** - NO live animals are contacted - includes purely observational field studies or use of cadavers not euthanized specifically for this study. (a "wildlife" or "tissues only" form may be most appropriate for your project)

**Category 1** (reported in column C of the USDA annual report) - No/minimal pain/distress/discomfort is associated with the protocol and no pain relieving drugs or treatments are necessary.

**Category 2** (reported in column D of the USDA annual report) - Pain/distress/discomfort is associated with the protocol and appropriate pain relieving drugs or treatments are provided.

**Category 3** (reported in column E of the USDA annual report) - Pain/distress/discomfort is associated with the protocol but pain relieving drugs or treatment are withheld because their use would interfere with the study objectives. (This must be explicitly scientifically justified and approved)

## Best Practices

Observe post-procedure animals according to the schedule outlined in the approved protocol.

- Follow the protocol exactly as written, even if it means assessing animals in the middle of the night.
- If monitoring frequency seems too stringent, request a modification of the protocol from the IACUC to allow more flexibility.

Ensure all substances in animal use areas are useable.

- Institute a program to monitor all substances on a monthly basis.
- Label any item that is not for animal use "for in vitro use only".
- Label any item that is expired and will be used in acute procedures "for acute use only". IACUC permission must be obtained prior to use.

Store controlled substances in secured locations.

- Always lock up all controlled substances.

### References:

UCSF IACUC Best Practices for Ensuring Quality Care of Research Animals



## March for Babies

ACS participated in the 2009 March for Babies on March 28. The team members walked over eight mile walk to raise money for the March of Dimes research and generated over \$1,000. The ACS team included: Blanca Carbia (Team Captain) CLAS, Yolanda Carbia , Sandra Williams-Lab, Lindsay Hochman, Michael Riley- Operations, Kathryn Jones, Ryan Robinson and Stacey Robinson- Front Office, Stephanie Frank-Progress Park, and Jessica Essex- IACUC.



Blanca Carbia

The ACS team was under canine supervision during the entire walk provided by: Rhett, Latte, Lobo, and Ryder Carbia, plus Mustache, who despite his tiny size, managed a good portion of the walk with his own four legs.



(From L-R) Top: Jessica Essex, Stephanie Frank, Lindsay Hochman, Michael Riley, Stacey Robinson, Ryan Robinson. Bottom: Blanca Carbia, Yolanda Carbia



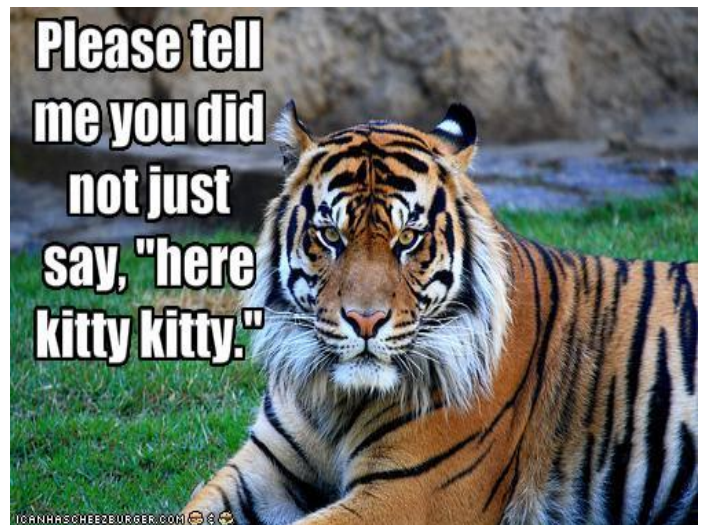
## Farewell



Tabitha Randi (left) and Suhrim Fisher (right)

In March we said goodbye to Suhrim Fisher (right), Animal Care Tech in the Communicore SPF2 facility, who leaves us for greener pastures.... that is the vet school pastures in Columbus, OH, as she has been accepted into The Ohio State School of Veterinary Medicine for Fall 2009 to pursue a DVM degree. Tabitha Randi whipped up a mouse themed cake for a going away celebration. We're sad to see Suhrim leave, but glad for her opportunity. We wish her great success! Good luck Suhrim.

## The Lighter Side





## 2009 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

The 2009 FAALAS meeting will be held right here in Gainesville, FL. The meeting is scheduled for July 25, 2009 with an option tour of the UF facilities on the afternoon of July 24 or the morning of July 26.

Given our challenging times in Florida, and elsewhere, your FAALAS board has decided to keep our Annual Meeting simple and affordable. We still promise an excellent learning and training experience (4.5 hrs CEUs), and a good time with opportunity to network.

Hotel rooms expected to be from the \$60 – 80 range.

Registration \$25 for members; \$45 for non-members (includes membership)

### Topics should include:

- ABSL-3 Facility and new Vivarium design, construction and/or start-up
- Operating internal transgenic and/or breeding colony core facilities
- Set-up and maintenance of internal training programs

Please contact **Bob Gump**, 352-273-8265, if you want to present or see something presented.

## Agenda (Tentative)

### Friday, July 24

UF ACS- New Facilities Tour  
3:00pm-5:00pm

### Saturday, July 25

Registration  
8:30am-12:00pm

General Session  
9:00am-11:45am

Lunch-BBQ  
11:45am-1:15pm

General Session resumes  
1:30pm-3:30pm

Awards & Farewell  
3:30pm-4:00pm

FAALAS Board Meeting  
5:30pm-6:30pm

Optional Social/Group Activity  
7:00pm-10:00pm

### Sunday, July 26

UF ACS- New Facilities Tour  
9:00am-12:00pm

---

Animal Care Services (ACS) publishes this newsletter to communicate with those who use or provide support to the animal care program at the University of Florida. This newsletter contains various items of importance to animal users. We use e-mail as our primary method of distributing the newsletter. Please print this newsletter and distribute it to members of your department. If you did not receive this newsletter by email and would like to be added to the email list, please send an email message to [lindsayrodgers@ufl.edu](mailto:lindsayrodgers@ufl.edu) with "Add to ACS Newsletter" as the subject. This and all past issues of the newsletter can be accessed at <http://acs.ufl.edu/newsletter.shtml>.