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# ANIMAL CARE SERVICES NEWSLETTER

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## AAALAC-International Update

AAALAC-International (Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care) is a private, non-profit organization that promotes the humane treatment of animals in science. The AAALAC annual activity reported that during 2003, the Association conducted 223 site visits. It also stated that 97 of the top 100 NIH award recipients for animal activities are AAALAC accredited, with more than 90% of the United States' research animals being maintained in such programs. To date, more than 650 AAALAC-endorsed programs exist in 18 countries, its newest international members being Switzerland and Belgium.

## Staff Announcements

- ❖ Mitch Coulton has recently joined ACS as the head of our fiscal office. He has been with us since August 26 of this year, and comes with an 18-year background in fiscal management, management information systems design and corporate rescue. Mitch is a Certified Public Accountant with a BSBA in Finance and a Masters of Science in Accounting. Heading our efforts to correct and improve ACS' fiscal management, Mitch's immediate focus is on billing issues. He can be reached at [mcoulton@vpha.health.ufl.edu](mailto:mcoulton@vpha.health.ufl.edu) or at 352-846-0977.

## Staff Recognitions

The following is an excerpt from an unsolicited letter from an investigative staff member:

"...We were out with the dogs starting first thing in the morning and returned throughout the day. I want to commend your staff in the metabolic building and Alex and Heather in particular, for their care of our animals all of the time, but most especially last week (11/17-11/21). They worked around our schedule, feeding and cleaning the runs early so that we could get in there and work with the dogs. Heather called in the mornings with reports on the dogs' status and in the afternoons with questions. Everyone was very supportive and helpful. Please keep up the good work!"

## Reminder from the Director

All animal actions, requisitions and relocations must go through the front office of Animal Care Services. All requests on these matters are to be in writing and must allow two business days for processing. As movement of animals between rooms is to be conducted only by Animal Care Services Staff, requests for movement should also be put in to the front office. For questions, please refer to our website at <http://www.health.ufl.edu/acs/policy/movement.htm>

## Health and Safety Reminder

ACS policies are posted on the ACS website at <http://www.health.ufl.edu/acs>.

Reminder to all PI and technicians using ACS animal areas: PPE (personal protective equipment) should be disposed of in trash cans, not in any other place. Trash cans have been placed in every hallway for your use. Do not dispose of PPE in rodent boxes, other animal caging, or on the floor, shelves, or on the PPE cabinets.

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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 and also have copies of the newsletter available in the animal facilities. 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 [cwasner@vpha.health.ufl.edu](mailto:cwasner@vpha.health.ufl.edu) with "add to ACS newsletter" under subject. This and all past issues of the newsletter can be accessed at <http://www.health.ufl.edu/acs/subnewsanns.htm>.