Animal Research at OU.

~5% of OU’s research grants involve use of animals.
- Bone regeneration
- Cancer detection/treatment
- Military protective equipment
- Evolution of gliding flight
- Exposure to environmental toxins
- Museum specimen collection

Use of animals in research is regulated by:
- Office of Lab Animal Welfare (Public Health Department)
- Department of Defense
- US Department of Agriculture
Animal Program - OU Norman

Institutional Official (IO)
Dr. Randall Hewes

Office of Research Services

Institutional Compliance

IACUC Chair
Dr. Eli Bridge

IACUC Members

Attending Veterinarian
Director, Laboratory Animal Resources
Dr. Alisha Preno

LAR manager, LAR animal technicians
To get approval for animal research

https://compliance.ouhsc.edu/iacuc/Norman

**PROTOCOL APPLICATION**
- Justify use of animals and number of animals requested
- Literature search to avoid duplication
- Specify degree of pain/distress animals will experience

**TRAINING**
- Online training modules
- Taxon/species specific training
- Lab specific risk assessment
- Applies to all involved in research

**HEALTH SCREENING**
- Questionnaire on IACUC website
Laboratory Animal Resources (LAR)

Animal Facilities:
On Campus: 8 -10
Off Campus: 1-3
Field Studies: Numerous

Animals:
• Chinchillas, rats, mice, scorpions, african clawed frogs, red-eared slider turtles, native stream fish, native song birds, zebrafish, etc.
Laboratory Animal Resources (LAR)

Historically a function of Biology, but the LAR (and the veterinarian) has a more global responsibility –

• **To house and support any animals being used or housed at the institution.**
  - Assure that correct housing measurements (housing space, temperature, humidity, light, noise, ventilation, etc.) meet the USDA and Public Health Department standards.
  - Ensuring correct behavioral management for animals (structural, social, activity)
  - Ensuring exact husbandry requirements (food, water, bedding, sanitation, emergency plan)

• **Provide veterinary assistance to the institution’s research and teaching community.**
  - Serve as a resource for IACUC members, PI’s, students, etc. as needed.
  - Provide, coordinate, and facilitate training and education of IACUC members, PI’s, students, etc.
  - Provide expertise on matters of animal health:
    - Proper anesthesia and analgesia
    - Discussing possible complications related to procedures
Laboratory Animal Resources (LAR)

• **Assure the welfare and well-being of animals under the OU ‘banner.’**
  - Performs health checks and clinical care for research animals.
  - Provides diagnostic and clinical care for all colony and research animals.
  - Assure that all animal health records are complete and accurate.
  - Perform all tasks on-call twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week

• **Assist the IACUC with carrying out its duties of oversight, review, and approval.**
  - Assure that all animal care practices in proposed protocols are consistent with the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals: Eighth Edition.*
  - Post approval monitoring
  - Provide oversight to surgery programs and peri-operative care