March 30, 2000

Dear Colleague:

The Division of Animal Welfare of the Office for Protection from Research Risks (OPRR) has been renamed the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) effective March 2, 2000.

OLAW will continue to be responsible for all of the animal-related functions of the OPRR, including implementing and interpreting the Public Health Service (PHS) Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, administering an educational program for PHS-supported institutions and investigators, negotiating Animal Welfare Assurances, and evaluating compliance with the PHS Policy.

Effective April 17, 2000, the OLAW offices will physically relocate. Please address all future correspondence to:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
6705 Rockledge Drive
RKL1, Suite 1050, MSC 7982
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

The phone numbers and email addresses of OLAW staff will not change.

OLAW will no longer issue “OPRR Reports - Dear Colleague” letters. Instead, information that affects institutions holding Animal Welfare Assurances will appear as notices in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts, and be posted on the OLAW web site. If you wish to receive e-mail notification of such notices you may subscribe to a newly created OLAW LISTSERV by sending an e-mail to LISTSERV@LIST.NIH.GOV with the following text in the message body: “subscribe OLAW-L your name” (LISTSERV will get your e-mail address from the “From:” address of your e-mail message.).

We look forward to a continued partnership with you and your institution, and hope that you will feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns about implementation of the PHS Policy. Our main phone line continues to be 301-496-7163, or you may e-mail us at: olaw@od.nih.gov.

Sincerely,

Nelson L. Garnett, D.V.M.
Director