



## Inspection Report

Texas A & M University-Commerce  
P.O. Box 3011  
Commerce, TX 75429

Customer ID: **326903**

Certificate: **74-R-0218**

Site: 001

Texas A & M University-Commerce

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 12-SEP-2016

### 2.31(c)(7)

#### INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC).

In the IACUC meeting minutes dated Sept 16, 2015 it is stated that the IACUC approved "post approval monitoring". When the research compliance administrator was asked about the status of post approval monitoring she indicated that it was currently suspended. According to the research compliance administrator and the veterinary care manager one of the reasons for suspending post approval monitoring was that the veterinary care manager was no longer allowed on the farm as of Sept 6, 2016. One of her responsibilities included monitoring protocol compliance. During a discussion with the director of the School of Agriculture he stated he did not feel post approval monitoring needed to be done daily and he was willing to allow the veterinary care manager on the farm with his supervision.

No records were found indicating why the veterinary care manager was no longer allowed on the farm and no IACUC minutes were found stating the post approval monitoring should be suspended.

The IACUC is the only entity that can suspend or change an SOP that it created and passed. The Director of Agriculture has no authority to change an SOP or dictate conditions for an approved protocol or SOP.

This IACUC has recently changed its IO, Chair, and attending veterinarian. Continuing with the current post approval monitoring program until all new members are familiar with current protocols and SOP's would have been very beneficial for consistency of the program. Once all new members are familiar with current protocols and SOP's changes to the current post approval monitoring program could be addressed with the IACUC.

This facility has stated that all animals will be under IACUC oversight. If this is the case then the IACUC needs to have the authority to function as an IACUC and not be over-ruled by unhappy PI's and directors.

To be corrected immediately.

### 2.31(d)(8)

#### INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC).

Prepared By: CYNTHIA DIGESUALDO, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:  
15-SEP-2016

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 5055

Received by Title: SENT BY EMAIL

Date:  
15-SEP-2016



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The following statement is recorded in the IACUC meeting minutes dated Aug 10, 2016. "The University Administration has stated that care for all of the animals that were on campus would be under the IACUC". Therefore USDA regulations for the IACUC and attending veterinarian will apply to all animals. In the same paragraph that states all animals will be under IACUC oversight it is stated that "it was noted that the coach (rodeo) had been removed from his probation by the prior Interim Director but the IACUC had not received any notification of the fulfillment of the probation requirements".

USDA regulations state "officials may not approve an activity involving the care and use of animals if it has not been approved by the IACUC." In other words if the IACUC suspends a PI or a protocol that suspension cannot be reversed by a university official. The decision can only be reversed through a convened meeting of a quorum of the IACUC and with a vote of a majority of the quorum present.

All activities involving animals except for routine veterinary procedures to protect the health or well-being of the animals as determined by the attending veterinarian must be reviewed and approved or denied by the IACUC.

To be corrected immediately.

### 2.33(b)(3)

#### ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE.

This facility has had on going problems communicating with and following guidance from the attending veterinarian.

In May of 2016 during an IACUC semi-annual facility inspection the AV noticed a new mare "Lily" looking thin, body condition score 4/9. He instructed the equine supervisor to feed this mare and 2 others separate from the rest of the herd to ensure they were receiving an appropriate amount of feed.

On June 15, 2016 "Lily" was due for a prescribed monthly injection of arthritis medicine. The veterinary care manager responsible for administering that injection noted at that time the mare was a 2/9 body condition and was suffering from hives. According to IACUC documents, when the veterinary care manager consulted the farm manager about calling the clinical veterinarian about the hives the farm manager would not allow the clinical veterinarian to be contacted. When daily care sheets were reviewed it was noted the equine manager did not begin to feed "Lily" separately until June 9, 2016. This was a month after the attending veterinarian gave direct instructions to begin separate feeding immediately.

On June 24, 2016 the veterinary care manager and the farm manager were alerted to a problem with a stallion named "Wimpy". According to IACUC documents when the veterinary care manager requested contact information for Wimpy's owner/caretaker the equine manager informed her that she had already contacted the owner/caretaker and they had refused treatment for Wimpy. The veterinary care manager contacted the owner/caretaker anyway and discovered they had not been contacted about Wimpy's condition and in fact wanted the horse treated.

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A consistent method for daily observations and treatments of all animals' needs to be implemented and a method for direct and timely communication with the attending veterinarian needs to be enforced.

To be corrected immediately.

This inspection was conducted with a facility representatives.  
The exit interview was conducted with the IO over the phone.

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## Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
326903	74-R-0218	001	Texas A & M University-Commerce	12-SEP-16

No Animals were Inspected.

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000000	NONE	NONE
000000	Total	