

## PROGRAM & FACILITY INFORMATION

Comparative Medicine provides an accredited, centralized service of specific pathogen-free animal procurement, husbandry, health surveillance, quarantine, and quality control, and is the Tampa Bay regional resource for laboratory animal-related technical and veterinary professional research assistance, equipment, and supplies. Institutions served include the **University of South Florida, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute, James A. Haley Veteran's Hospital, Byrd Alzheimer's Center & Research Institute, and New College.**

Comparative Medicine's program and facilities for animal care and use are fully accredited by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (**AAALAC, #434; effective March 23, 2023**), managed in accordance with the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide), the Animal Welfare Regulations Title 9 Code of Federal Regulations Subchapter A, "Animal Welfare", Parts 1-3 (AWR), the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (PHS Policy), and the University of South Florida Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee's Principles and Procedures of Animal Care and Use (IACUC Principles).

Comparative Medicine has a written assurance of compliance on file with the Public Health Service, Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (**OLAW #D16-00589 (A4100-01); effective October 5, 2021**), and is a registered research facility with the United States Department of Agriculture (**USDA #R0058-15; effective November 9, 2020**).

The USF President identified Sylvia Thomas, Ph.D., Interim Vice President for Research & Innovation, as the Institutional Official responsible for the animal program and facilities.

Robert W. Engelman, D.V.M., Ph.D., Associate Vice President & Professor has delegated authority regarding all aspects of the program and its facilities, and is assisted by one (1) Associate Director Veterinarians, Willie A. Bidot, DVM, MPH, MS, DACLAM, and four (4) Assistant Directors, Christine M. Perry, BS, MS, CVT, RLATG Assistant Director of Operations, Margi Baldwin, BS, MS, CVT, RLATG, SRS, CMAR Assistant Director of Technical Services & Training, Dominique Abrahams, BS, MBA, RLAT, Assistant Director of Technical Services & Training, and Marta Perez, BSN, RN, RLATG Assistant Director of Regulatory Affairs. All veterinarians and staff are full time.

Comparative Medicine manages 108,646 nsf of space in nine (9) buildings on University campuses or at affiliated hospitals or institutes, seven (7) of which are located on the USF main campus in Tampa within walking distance of one another. The program and facilities are overseen by a single IACUC led by Jay Dean, Ph.D., Chairperson, and Sherri Pilon Thomas, Ph.D., Vice Chairperson, and assisted by IACUC Coordinator Farah Moulvi, M.P.H.

Facilities include a 21,558 nsf multi-species vivarium at the **College of Medicine**, a 11,659 nsf surgical training facility at the **Center for Advanced Medical Learning and Simulation**, a 29,931 nsf mouse facility located within the **Stable Research Building** of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute, site of the Small Animal Imaging Laboratory and Gene Targeting Core, a 9,701 nsf mouse facility at the **Byrd Alzheimer's & Neuroscience Institute**, site of the Mouse Behavioral Core, a 18,695 nsf multi-species vivarium at the USF Health Heart Institute, site of a second Small Animal Imaging Core, the Germfree & Gnotobiotic Mouse Models core, and a Zebrafish Aquatics Gene Targeting facility, , a 2,222 nsf vivarium at the Psychology-Communication Sciences and Disorders Building, a 828 nsf vivarium at the College of Public Health, a 1,186 nsf highly-specialized ABSL-2 facility with insectaria within the

Interdisciplinary Research Building, and a 270 nsf auditory research facility within the Business Partners Building.

Instrumentation available, include four (4) C-arm fluoroscopes at the CAMLS facility, a Varian 7T MRI, an Oxford Hypersense 13C 15N 29Si, a Siemens Inveon CT/PET/SPECT system, a Bruker Xtreme, a Visual Sonics Vevo 2100 ultrasound, and an IVIS Spectrum and Lumina III at the SRB facility, a Visual Sonics Vevo ultrasound, an IVIS Lumina III, and an iThera MOST at the COM facility, an IVIS Lumina III at the IDRB facility, and a MR Solutions MRI/CT/PET, and a C-arm fluoroscope at the MDD facility.

This cooperative approach has allowed facilities to specialize, eliminated wasteful redundancies, reduced costs, and permits scientists and faculty of neighboring institutions to benefit from the cumulative capacity and service capabilities of all sites.

Daily routine, weekend, holiday, and emergency animal care is provided by animal care program staff, Comparative Medicine is comprised of sixty-one (61) animal care staff all of whom are certified by the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS). Comparative Medicine animal care staff hold additional professional certifications, including four (4) that are State of Florida Certified Veterinary Technicians (CVT), two (2) that are AALAS Certified Managers of Animal Resources (CMAR), and four (4) that are certified by the Academy of Surgical Research (ASR), of which one (1) is a Surgical Research Surgeon (SRS), two (2) that are Surgical Research Technicians (SRT), and two (2) that are Surgical Research Anesthetists (SRA).

All vertebrate animal use conducted by scientists, faculty, students, or staff must first be described in an IACUC application, reviewed by veterinarians, submitted to the IACUC for consideration, and must secure IACUC approval prior to implementation. All personnel must have adequate knowledge and experience to perform their duties of animal care, use, and treatment, and must be certified by the IACUC as qualified to perform such duties, and named on the IACUC protocol(s) to which they contribute.