

August 31, 2026

Veterinary Site Visit Report

Date of Visit: 8/3/26

Consulting Veterinarian: LaTisha V. Moody, DVM, DACLAM

Institution: William Paterson University – Animal Care and Use Program

Facility/Building: Science Hall East

Rooms Inspected: 2008 B-D, & J-N, and 2012 B&C

Species: Laboratory mice (*Mus musculus*) only

Program size: Single Principal investigator / Small animal care and use program

Funding: Non-NIH funded

Purpose of Inspection

A semiannual inspection of the animal housing and use areas was conducted on August 3rd, 2026 at William Paterson University as part of the institution's ongoing oversight of its animal care and use program. Semiannual inspections are conducted to evaluate the condition of animal facilities and assess practices related to animal husbandry, veterinary care, animal welfare, personnel training, and the overall operation of the animal care and use program.

The observations and recommendations below are intended to support the continued maintenance and improvement of the animal care and use program.

Minor Deficiency

1. Euthanasia procedures
 - a. Mice are euthanized via CO₂ inhalation at 30-70% flow rate. A secondary method was not documented or routinely performed to confirm death following primary euthanasia procedure.
 - b. Recommended Corrective Action: Develop or revise the institutional euthanasia procedure or policy to describe the process used to ensure and confirm death following the primary method of euthanasia. Personnel performing euthanasia should receive documented training in routine euthanasia particularly where cervical dislocation without anesthesia in an approved protocol is performed.

Areas of Program Improvements

Classification	Finding	Recommended Action
Veterinary Care - euthanasia (<i>Minor deficiency</i>)	A secondary method or other documented process to ensure and confirm death was not routinely performed following the primary euthanasia method.	Review and revise the euthanasia procedure as appropriate to ensure death is consistently confirmed following the primary euthanasia method. Provide and document personnel training on the approved euthanasia procedure and confirmation of death.
Personnel Training - Recommended action (Area of improvement)	Cervical dislocation without anesthesia is included in the PI's approved animal use protocol; however, documented proficiency for this procedure has not yet been completed.	The PI should be directly observed performing cervical dislocation by the consulting veterinarian to assess and document proficiency in the technique. Documentation of successful demonstration of proficiency should be maintained with the PI's training records.
Personnel Training (Area of improvement)	Animal care personnel perform multiple responsibilities, including routine husbandry, animal health observations, experimental technical services and aspects of veterinary care.	Document personnel training and competency for assigned responsibilities. A training matrix or competency checklist may be beneficial.
Animal Husbandry - Environmental Monitoring of Feed Storage Area (Area of improvement)	Routine temperature and humidity monitoring of the animal feed storage area was not observed.	Implement and document routine temperature and humidity monitoring of the feed storage area to ensure feed is maintained under appropriate environmental conditions.

Summary and Conclusion

The animal care and use program was found to be **adequate for its current size and scope of activities**. The facility was very clean and well maintained, and equipment observed during the inspection appeared clean, functional, and in good working order.

One **minor deficiency** was identified related to the euthanasia procedure. The euthanasia process should be reviewed and revised to ensure that death is appropriately ensured and confirmed in

accordance with the approved institutional procedure and applicable AVMA recommendations.

Additional opportunities for program improvement include the formalization and documentation of personnel training and implementation of routine temperature and humidity monitoring in the animal feed storage area. No significant animal welfare concerns were identified during this inspection. Overall, the animal facility and equipment was very clean and well maintained. The program appears to provide an appropriate environment for the care and use of laboratory mice. The recommendations identified above are intended to support continued program improvement and ensure appropriate documentation of animal care and procedural competencies.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'LaTisha V. Moody', with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

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