


NIH National Institutes of Health  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

# OLAW Update



<https://oia.nih.gov/Research/olaw/olawupdate/OLAWUpdate191.pptx>

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Senior Assurance Officer, OLAW  
IACUC 101 Plus  
February 2023

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## Learning Objectives



1. Connect OLAW's mission to the NIH mission
2. Relate OLAW's efforts to reduce administrative burden on researchers through the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act to your institution
3. Locate past and upcoming education opportunities

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## National Institutes of Health



To seek fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and the application of that knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability.

**FY 2021:**

- 67,403 extramural grants (approximately 40% involve research with animals)
- Awards totaling \$30.890 billion
- Supported research at 2,650 organizations (US and abroad)

<https://www.nih.gov/about-nih/what-is-nih/mission-statement>

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### OLAW Mission

To provide guidance and interpretation of the Public Health Service (PHS) Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals ([Policy](#)), supports educational programs and monitors compliance with the Policy by Assured institutions and PHS funding components to ensure the humane care and use of animals in PHS-supported research, testing, and training, thereby contributing to the quality of PHS-supported activities.

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### Who is OLAW?

Office of Director	Division of Assurances	Division of Compliance Oversight	Division of Policy and Education
 <b>Pat Brown</b> , Director Axel Wolff Eileen Morgan Neera Gopee Joan Ward Carolyn Reneski Angelina Williams	 <b>Jane Na</b> , Director Paula Knapp Nicole Lukovsky-Akhsanov Robyn Engel Temeri Wilder-Kofie Thelma (Maritza) Carrasco Klara Peoples Sandy Tang Ge'Vonna Keyes Katherine Smith	 <b>Brent Morse</b> , Director Jacquelyn Tubbs Devora McCoy	 <b>Nicolette Petervary</b> , Director Cate Pritchard Megan Clark

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## OLAW's Responsibilities



**Oversee implementation of the PHS Policy**

- Provide interpretation and guidance
- Negotiate Animal Welfare Assurances
- Evaluate compliance
  - Institutional self reporting
  - Third party allegations
  - Whistleblowers
- Educational activities
  - Workshops/Training
  - Resources
  - Webinars

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## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act



2034 (d) - To reduce administrative burden on investigators while maintaining integrity and credibility of research findings and protection of research animals

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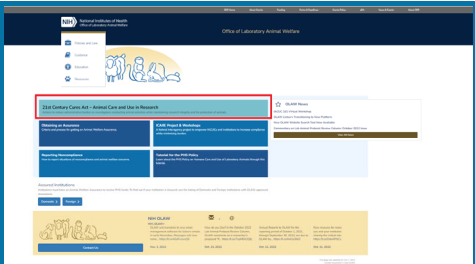
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## OLAW Home Page

[olaw.nih.gov](http://olaw.nih.gov)



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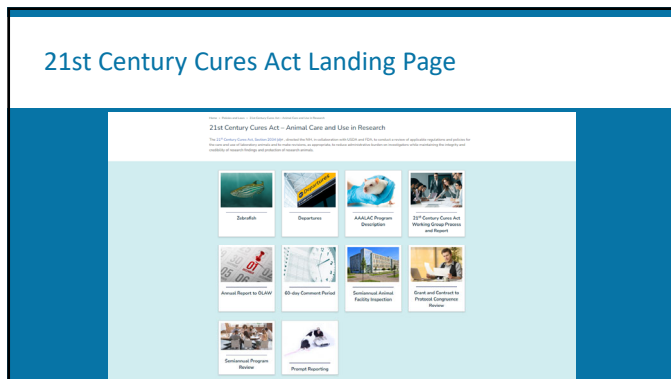
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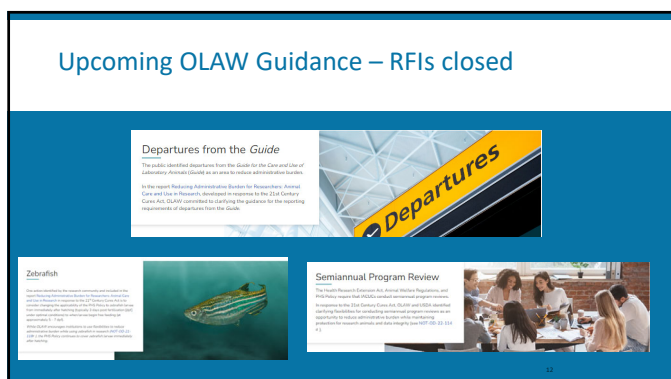
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### Upcoming OLAW Guidance – RFI OPEN!

**Reporting Noncompliance**

One of the actions identified in the report (training administration) Bulletin for Researcher Animal Care and Use in Research, as part of the 22nd Quarterly Agency Action Plan (QAP) to review and revise the current guidance on reporting requirements to the Guide Notice NOT-OD-05-004.

OLAW is currently accepting comments to updated guidance on prompt reporting of noncompliance through a Request for Information.



PHS Policy **IV.E.3**: "The IACUC, through the Institutional Official, shall promptly provide OLAW with a full explanation of the circumstances and actions taken with respect to:

- a. any serious or continuing noncompliance with this Policy;
- b. any serious deviation from the provisions of the *Guide*; or
- c. any suspension of an activity by the IACUC.

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### Future OLAW Guidance on Radar

- Designated Member Review (DMR) for protocol review
- Veterinary Verification and Consultation (VVC) for certain significant changes to approved protocols
- What is exempt from IACUC review
- Review of non-pharmaceutical grade substances




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### New MOU Template from FDP

- The Guide states that a "formal written understanding" (e.g., an MOU document) "should" be used when institutions collaborate on activities involving animals. "Should" indicates a strong recommendation for achieving a goal, understanding that individual circumstances might justify an alternative strategy.
- Use of this template is **NOT** required
- [https://olaw.nih.gov/resources/documents/IACUC\\_MOU](https://olaw.nih.gov/resources/documents/IACUC_MOU)




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## Education Opportunities

**Webinars and Podcasts (upcoming and past)**

**Interagency Collaborative Animal Research Education (ICARE)**

- Dialogs – available on website
- OLAW Conversations – discussion based, must register, and not recorded

**Workshops and Conferences**

- March 3, 2023, Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC) (Virtual)
- May 17-19, 2023, 10<sup>th</sup> Annual 3Rs Symposium (Virtual and Johns Hopkins)
- February 1-2, 2023, Virtual NIH Grants Conference - You missed it BUT recordings will be available beginning February 13

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## Commentary on Lab Animal Protocol Review Columns

**Suspended in Terminated Access:**  
[Lab Animal 2023; 52\(01\)](#) January 2023

**The Risk of Hazards, Hypothetically:**  
[Lab Animal 2022; 51\(11\)](#) November 2022

**How do you Zoo:**  
[Lab Animal 2022; 51\(10\)](#) September 2022

**You've Been Approved to Wait:**  
[Lab Animal 2022; 51\(09\)](#) August 2022



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OLAW Home: [olaw.nih.gov](http://olaw.nih.gov)  
 FDP MOU Template: [https://olaw.nih.gov/resources/documents/IACUC\\_MOU](https://olaw.nih.gov/resources/documents/IACUC_MOU)  
 OLAW 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act: [olaw.nih.gov/policies-laws/21st-century-cures-act](http://olaw.nih.gov/policies-laws/21st-century-cures-act)  
 OLAW Education Links: <https://olaw.nih.gov/education>  
 OLAW Contacts: <https://olaw.nih.gov/contact-us.htm>



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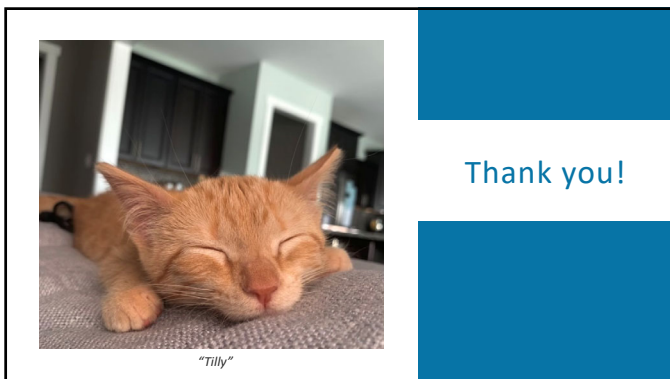
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