

ANIMAL CARE & USE PROGRAM (ACUP) QUARTERLY INFORMATIONAL MEETING

**FEBRUARY 19, 2026
1:30PM CST VIA TEAMS**

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES





- After two decades of service to Vanderbilt Health, Dr. Jeanne Wallace, Vice President for Animal Care and Attending Veterinarian, will retire at the end of June, 2026.
- A national search will be held to identify her successor.

MyColony



- Unlimited automated genotyping
- Mouse colony management software – Colony/AMI

To learn more visit the ACUP Website under ACUP IT Applications
or visit [Vanderbilt MyColony](#)



Reminder – MyColony includes Colony and AMI!

Vanderbilt researchers have full access to both
(Cost included in *per Diem*)

Contact Megan Grots for all your
Transnetyx needs

Phone: 414-331-9476

Email: mgrots@transnetyx.com



Updates

- Next MyColony User Group meeting:
Friday, March 6th
 - Interested in joining? Contact Jordan Whitt at jordan.whitt@vumc.org
- Quarterly Newsletter coming in mid-Spring

VU Access to ACUP Website and Applications

Animal Care and Use Program

About Us ▾ ACUP IT Applications ▾ Administrative Office ▾ Policies & Procedures Resources ▾ Training & Education ▾ Facility Access
Forms & Tools ▾ Contact Us

New: Request VU Access to ACUP Website and Applications
for New VU Research Faculty and Staff

**The ACUP Administrative Staff is available
Monday – Friday, 7:30am to 4:30pm**

**MCN AA-6206
615-322-2231**

ACUPAdminOffice@vumc.org

Animal Procurement: DACprocurement@vumc.org
Animal Shipping: DAC.Shipping@vumc.org
Animal Internal Transfers: DACtransfers@vumc.org
Billing Questions: DACBilling@vumc.org
Protocol Questions: IACUCsubmissions@vumc.org
TOPAZ Issues: ACUPAppSupport@vumc.org
Training Questions: ACUPtraining@vumc.org

EMERGEN INFOR

After Hours, W

Emergen

Animal Care On-Call
Information

VUMC Facility Manag

VU Plant Services

VEHS Emergency Pag

VUPD

[Request VU Access to ACUP Website](#)

Grants access to information found in the links at the top of the webpage, including Policies, Training, and Forms.

[Request VU Access to ARIES](#)

Grants access to the main Protocol Management tool used by ACUP for protocol submissions, amendments, etc.

[Request VU Access to AALAS Learning Library](#)

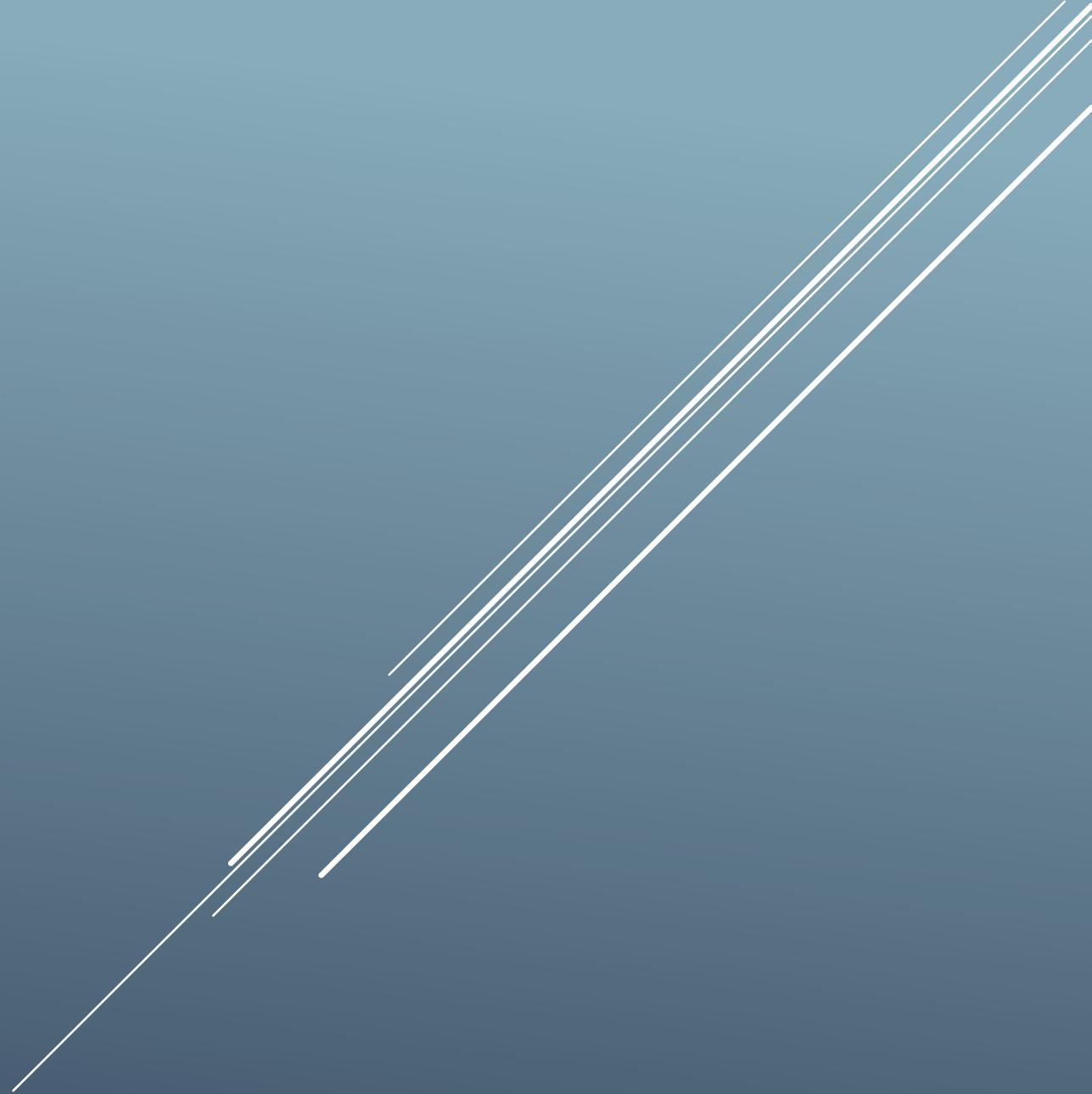
Grants access to the AALAS curriculum for required training.

[Request VU Access to TOPAZ-Elements](#)

Grants access to the application used for animal ordering, census management, cage card printing, veterinary case management, and billing.

If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact ACUPAppSupport@vumc.org.

IACUC/OAWA UPDATES



AAALAC International Site Visit

February 23 – 25

VUMC/VU

February 26

TVHS-VA



AAALAC - Tentative Tour Schedule

Monday, Feb. 23

10:30am – 12:30pm

<u>Group A</u>	<u>Group B</u>
Barrier	MCN II
IAF	

1:30pm – 4:00pm

<u>Group A</u>	<u>Group B</u>
WHAF	MCN II
WH Labs	Neuro Core
	SR Light

Tuesday, Feb. 24

8:00am – 11:45am

<u>Group A</u>	<u>Group B</u>
PRB	Satellites
ESB	MRB III Labs
ESB Labs	MCN Labs

1:30pm – 4:00pm

<u>Group A</u>	<u>Group B</u>
Imaging Cores	MCN I
PRB Labs	MCN I Labs
RRB Labs	TPSR
Labs (TBD)	

Wednesday, Feb. 25

8:00am – 10:00am

<u>Group A</u>	<u>Group B</u>
LH Labs	Labs (TBD)
MRB IV Labs	
Labs (TBD)	

Thursday, Feb. 26

<u>Group A</u>
VA Animal Facility
VA Labs

How to Prepare

- Review the Top Ten Things You Can Do To Prepare flyer
- Schedule a mock site visit
 - Call the OAWA office: 615-936-8160
 - Email iacucsubmissions@vumc.org

AAALAC Site Visit –
VUMC/VU - February 23-25, 2026
(VA-TVHS – February 26, 2026)

Are you ready?

THE TOP TEN THINGS YOU SHOULD DO TO PREPARE

10. Clean and organize your lab. First impressions are important!
9. Pick a single “point of contact.”
8. Make sure your records are up to date and readily available.
7. Review/comply with personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements for your species & facilities.
6. Make sure personnel are familiar with the appropriate manner and routes for transporting animals.
5. Make sure each person can describe the training they’ve received; provide documentation as appropriate.
4. Be familiar with institutional policies and standard operating procedures (SOPs) pertaining to the experiments performed in your laboratory.
3. If your experiments involve hazardous agents (chemical, biological, and/or radioactive substances), be familiar with the risks involved and requirements for minimizing them.
2. Make sure everyone with exposure to animals and/or their tissues is enrolled in the Vanderbilt Animal Care and Use Occupational Health Program.

And the number one thing to do to prepare for the 2026 AAALAC site visit...

1. Be familiar with your IACUC approved protocols!

Contact OAWA for a pre-site visit consultation
(615-936-8163 – iacucsubmissions@vumc.org)

Semi Annual Inspection Results

Preliminary Results from January: Top Issues of Non-Compliance

Expired Items



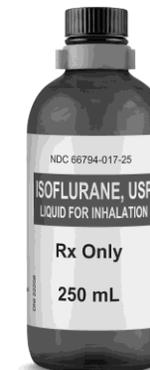
Cleaning and Sanitization of Lab Space



Aseptic Technique



Isoflurane Use





ARIES Tip

- Triennial Isoflurane Training
 - Reminder: Isoflurane training is only valid for 3 years, and must be retaken to maintain protocol compliance
 - Was instituted 3 years ago, so a lot of you are or will be expiring soon
 - You can re-enroll on the Learning Exchange
 - Make sure you use your VU or VUMC ID that matches with what is in ARIES
 - Contact ACUPTraining@vumc.org with question

DIVISION OF ANIMAL CARE UPDATES



Last
Chance—
Check Lab
Supplies in
DAC Facilities

- In preparation for the AAALAC site visit, please do a final check of all supplies and equipment stored in DAC facilities
 - Ensure all substances are properly labeled
 - Dispose of expired items
 - Remove or repair broken equipment



Important Update on Equipment Transport Procedure

Transport buckets will no longer be maintained



Please ensure cages are covered with drapes during transport



To maintain a safe and hygienic lab environment and prevent odors, allergens, and pests, ensure all dirty cages are promptly returned to the designated drop-off location.

Husbandry Supplies Request Form



[https://redcap.link/DAC Husbandry
Supplies](https://redcap.link/DAC_Husbandry_Supplies)

ACUP Website – Forms & Tools



The DAC has a REDCap form to support quick and convenient order of caging and water bottles.

Please use the Husbandry Supplies Request when you need:

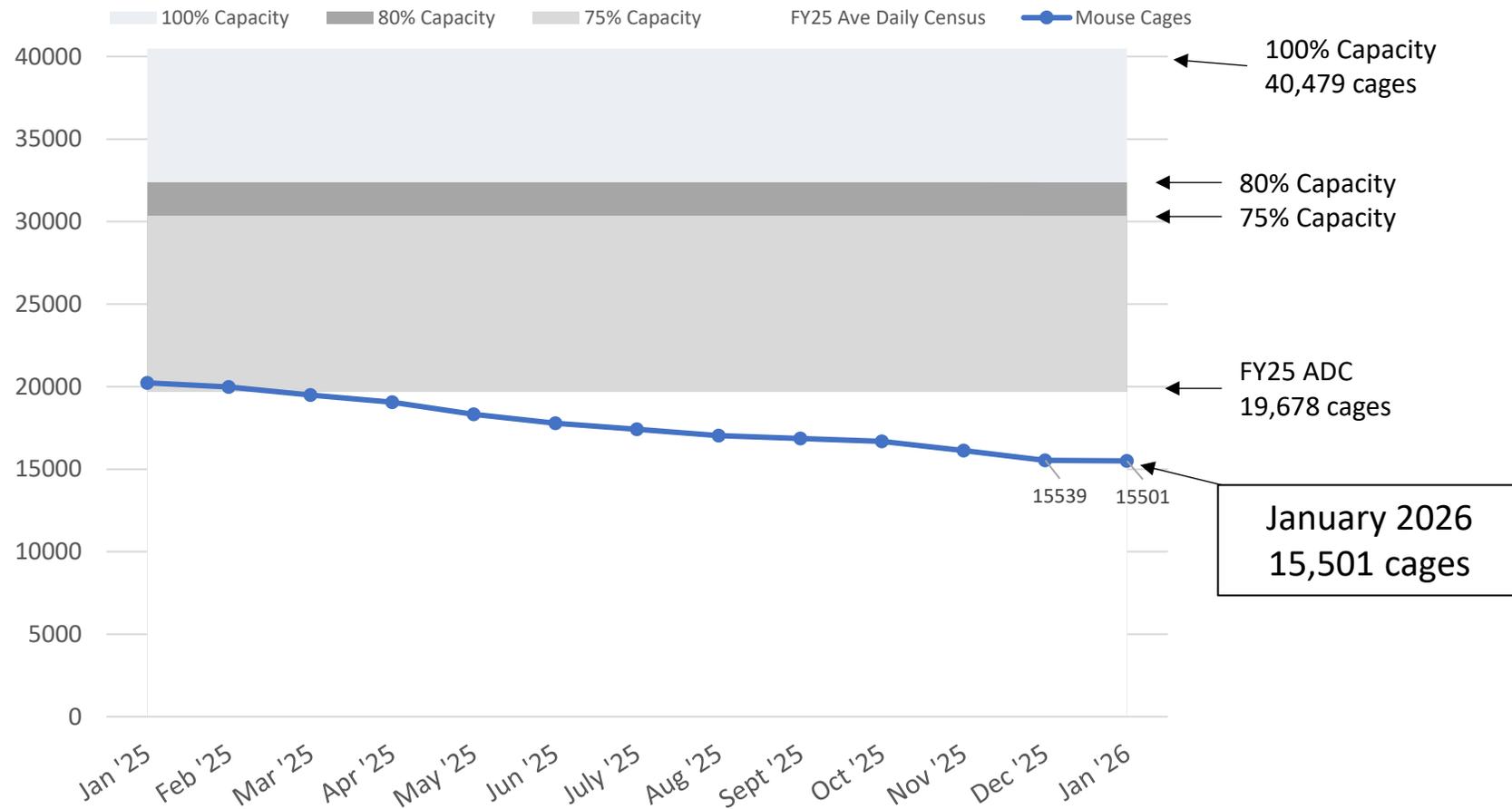
10 or more cages or water bottles

Specialized equipment: red water bottles, empty water bottles, cages without bedding, etc.

Once the form is submitted, the supplies will be delivered to the requested location on or before the requested date.

Census Update

Average Daily Census by Month - Mouse Cages



DAC Master Plan Update

- Master plan project conducted by Cannon Design
- Intended to guide the alignment of future-state capabilities, recommendations, executable priorities, capital investments and operational staffing needs within the next 5-10 years
- Phase I—Current State Analysis—**COMPLETE**
- Phase II - Future State Opportunities and Priorities
 - Alignment of the VUMC/VU strategic mission and goals
 - Development of a roadmap for the long-range transformation required to support the future research at Vanderbilt

Buprenorphine Availability

Intermittent shortages of Buprenorphine HCl

Occasionally affects other Buprenorphine formulations

- **BupSR**
- **Simbadol**

What you can do

- **Prepare ahead**
- **Consider alternatives**
- **Amend IACUC protocol**



Effective Alternatives

- Rodents
 - **Ethiqa**
 - BupSR (may also experience shortages)
- Large Animals
 - Contact facility veterinarian
 - Locals
 - Multimodal analgesia
 - Opioid patches



Info for ordering alternatives

<https://www.vumc.org/vumc-acup/drugs-supplies>



Select facility to find your vet

<https://www.vumc.org/vumc-acup/animal-facilities>

REMINDER

Contact DAC Veterinarians if you experience any unanticipated adverse consequences resulting in animal welfare concerns or death.

****This is especially important when working with USDA species.**



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Save the Date



The next ACUP Quarterly
Informational Meeting
May 28, 2026

