



Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

Telephone: (301) 496-7163
Home Page: <https://olaw.nih.gov>

December 3, 2025

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3208-01 [OLAW Case 1X]

Daniel Sui, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President for Research & Innovation
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
800 Drillfield Drive, Burruss Hall, (b) (4)
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Dear Dr. Sui,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your October 30, 2025, letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Virginia Tech. This letter had not been preceded by a preliminary report to OLAW. OLAW acknowledges the report is dated during the government shutdown where OLAW requested that reports be withheld until reopening of the government.

According to the information provided, this Office understands that the Virginia Tech Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) determined that instances of noncompliance occurred with respect to animals lacking access to food. The final report states on September 10, 2025, the IACUC Office was notified that 2 cages of mice were discovered with no food and one animal was dead. The remaining animals were monitored, and it is understood they were treated and fully recovered without incident. Results from a review of husbandry and research specific procedures verified that husbandry and research staff had been trained on appropriate SOPs for the species and procedures.

In response to the incident, the IACUC sent an educational reminder in the form of a letter to the Principal Investigator and the vivarium leadership regarding animal husbandry and the committee approved the corrective measures taken, which involved retraining. It is noted the research project is supported by federal funding.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that the Virginia Tech has implemented appropriate measures to correct and prevent recurrences of these problems and is now compliant with provisions of the PHS Policy.

We appreciate being informed of these matters and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,
JACQUELYN T.
TUBBS -S
Jacquelyn Tubbs, DVM, DACLAM
Acting Director
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

Digitally signed by JACQUELYN T.
TUBBS -S
Date: 2025.12.03 11:27:11 -05'00'

cc: IACUC Contact



Burruss Hall, (b) (4)
800 Drillfield Drive
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061
p: (b) (6) f: (b) (6)
research.vt.edu

October 30, 2025

Jacquelyn Tubbs, DVM
Acting Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW)
National Institutes of Health
6705 Rockledge Dr (RKL1), MSC 7983
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. Tubbs,

Virginia Tech, in accordance with Assurance #A-3208-01 and PHS Policy IV.F.3., provides this report of animal-related activities that were determined to be potentially non-compliant with the associated IACUC-approved protocol. This animal research study involves mice.

On September 10, 2025, the IACUC office received a report of an adverse event that involved two cages of mice, which were found with no food available and one mouse deceased. The remaining mice were monitored and treated per veterinary directive, and fully recovered without issue. A thorough review of vivarium husbandry procedures and research specific procedures was undertaken following receipt of the reported event, including later confirmation that federal funds were used for the animals. The review included confirmation that husbandry and research personnel had received retraining on relevant SOPs for the species and procedures. The results of the review were provided to the IACUC in October 2025. The IACUC reviewed and discussed the facts, circumstances, and potential non-compliances with the approved protocol including consideration of animal welfare.

After discussion, the IACUC sent an educational reminder letter to both the PI and the vivarium leadership with respect to animal husbandry, and approved the corrective actions already taken to provide retraining.

The funding source of these animals is via the NIH (Federal Awards #R01AG080731 and #K02AG088474). Per the PHS requirement, the PI has been informed that they must cooperate with their grant administrator to determine if any funding related actions must be taken.

Virginia Tech is committed to protecting the welfare of animals used in research and appreciates the guidance and assistance provided by the OLAW in this regard. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Stephanie Trout, IACUC Administrator, 540-231-2166.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

A large grey rectangular redaction box covers the signature area, obscuring the name and any handwritten notes.

Dr. Daniel Sui
Senior Vice President for Research and Innovation
Institutional Official
Virginia Tech

Ware, Teagan (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2025 11:55 AM
To: 'iacucpam'
Cc: (b) (6); OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Final Report

Good morning,

Thank you for providing this report, which has been assigned as OLAW case **A3208-1X**. We will send an official response soon.

***Disclaimer:** Please note that this message and any of its attachments are intended for the named recipient(s) only and may contain confidential, protected, or privileged information that should not be distributed to unauthorized individuals. If you have received this message in error, please contact the sender.*

Best,
Teagan

Teagan Ware, MS, PMP
Animal Welfare Program Analyst
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
6705 Rockledge Drive (RKL 1), MSC 7983

Phone: 301-435-2390
Email: teagan.ware@nih.gov

From: iacucpam <iacucpam@vt.edu>
Sent: Monday, November 10, 2025 10:14 AM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: iacucpam <iacucpam@vt.edu>; (b) (6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Final Report

Hello Dr. Tubbs,

Attached please find a final report from our IO. Please confirm receipt.

Thank you,

(b) (6)

