
CPI Newsletter – May 2022

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2021-22 CPI roster: *Chair* — David Stelly, *COALS* • *Vice Chair* — Debjyoti Banerjee, *Engineering* • *Past Chair* — Steve Maren, *Liberal Arts* • *AgriLife Extension* — Craig Carpenter, Jamie Rae Walker • *AgriLife Research* — Anil Somenahally, Lee Tarpley, Qingwu Xue • *Architecture* — Wei Yan • *Bush School* — Laura Dague • *COALS* — Russell Cross, Kerri Gehring, Jean-Phillipe 'JP' Pellois, Elizabeth 'Betsy' Pierson, Paul Straight, Aaron Tarone • *Dentistry* — Hongjiao Ouyang • *Education* — Timothy Elliott, Rafael Lara-Alecio • *Engineering* — Raymundo Arroyave, Theodora Chaspari, Tracy Hammond, Daniel Jiménez, James Kaihatu, Samuel Ma, Ramesh Talreja • *Geosciences* — Jessica Fitzsimmons, Ethan Grossman, Daniel Thornton • *Law* — Felix Mormann • *Liberal Arts* — Jessica Bernard, Harland Prechel • *Mays* — Korok Ray • *Medicine* — Helene Andrews-Polymenis, Shannon Glaser, Carl Gregory • *Nursing* — Robin Page • *Pharmacy* — Jayshree Mishra • *Science* — Heath Blackmon, Jennifer 'Jen' Dulin, Rainer Fries, Jean-Luc Guermont, Wenshe Liu • *Public Health* — Gang Han • *TAMU at Galveston* — R.J. David Wells • *TAMU at Qatar* — Konstantinos Kakosimos • *TEES* — Dean Schneider, Nathan Tichenor • *TTI* — David Bierling, James Kovar, Dennis Perkinson • *University Libraries* — Sarah Potvin • *Veterinary Medicine* — Joe Arosh, Candice Brinkmeyer-Langford, Dana Gaddy

The CPI is sponsored annually through funding from Texas A&M University, Texas A&M AgriLife, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute

Update from Dr. David Stelly, CPI Chair

May CPI News – The Council of Principal Investigators Executive Committee (CPI-EC) met with the administrators on Wednesday, May 3, 2022. CPI-EC heard informative updates on Responsible Conduct of Research, Export Control and Foreign Influence, an update on the Working Group #35 - Consolidation of Information Technology, and a short presentation update from Faculty Affairs on TAMU College/Schools by the Numbers from Dr. N.K. Anand. These updates provided at the CPI-EC meeting will be expanded and provided at the May 11, 2022 CPI General Meeting.

I invite you to contact me, Dr. Deb Banerjee, 2021-2022 CPI Vice Chair at cpi@tamu.edu or Rebecca Luckey, rluckey@tamu.edu, for more information or to suggest agenda items for CPI's monthly meetings. The CPI Executive Committee continues to meet with the president, interim provost, interim vice president for research and chancellor on a regular basis.

CPI Contacts—The complete 2021-2022 roster of CPI Representatives and the CPI Executive Committee can be found on the CPI website at [2021-2022 Council Membership — Council of Principal Investigators \(tamu.edu\)](https://www.cpi.tamu.edu/2021-2022-Council-Membership---Council-of-Principal-Investigators). Previous membership lists can be found in the council [archive](#).

AnSRS4u Presentation- Data Management Plans

Texas A&M University Sponsored Research Services (SRS) of the Division of Research will host an AnSRS4u presentation on Data Management Plans, Thursday May, 12 2022 10:00am – 11:00am. Presenters will be Zhihong XU of the TAMU libraries and David Hollingsworth of TAMU Sponsored Research Services.

Many sponsored now require the submission of a data management plan as part of the proposal or before the award is made. The National Science Foundation has required this for many years. Beginning on January 25, 2023 NIH will require researchers to submit a data management plan as part of their application. This presentation will allow researchers to:

1. Understand the basic principles of research data management;
2. Be aware of data management planning tools, support and guidance which are available to academic researchers;
3. Understand the different requirements of funding agencies;
4. Be able to use DMPTool to develop a data management plan, and maintain it through the course of your research

Questions in advance are encouraged. If you have questions that you would like to have addressed, please email them in advance to ansrs4u@tamu.edu.

SRS will record the presentation and it will be available at a later time for anyone to access. Recordings and slides of the previous AnSRS4u presentations are available via the SRS website at <https://srs.tamu.edu> under the Resources link and then select AnSRS4u.

Participation will be via Zoom. The Zoom meeting information is below. You will need to register in advance for this presentation.

SRS looks forward to your participation. Feel free to forward this on to your colleagues. If they are not receiving this notices via the SRS listserv they can email ansrs4u@tamu.edu and request to be added to the listserv.

You are invited to a Zoom meeting. AnSRS4U Data Management Plans
When: May 12, 2022 10:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://tamu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlodeCtrz0rGNbid5gsQUMoYuGJBapgZ9sy>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Spring 2022 NSF Virtual Grants Conference

Save the Date! Join the National Science Foundation (NSF) for the **Spring 2022 NSF Virtual Grants Conference**, to be held during the week of **June 6 - 10, 2022**.

Registration will be free of charge and opens on **Wednesday, May 11 at 12 p.m. EST**. We anticipate the sessions will reach capacity very quickly, so we encourage you to register as soon as possible. Be on the lookout for our *Registration is Open* email, which will provide the registration links and details for this event.

In the meantime, please feel free to check nsfpolicyoutreach.com for the most up-to-date information and view [recordings](#) of sessions from previous conferences. You may also view the Fall 2021 Virtual Grants Conference recordings on our [YouTube](#) page. For those who cannot attend the live conference, **all recorded conference sessions will be available on-demand** shortly after the event and posted on our [website](#) and our [YouTube](#) page

Translational Investment Fund

Next submission cycle set to open June 1, 2022. Visit <http://tx.ag/zGbAaiW> for program information and upcoming submission cycle details.

Innovation Partners will soon open the third annual round of funding from its Translational Investment Fund, which provides investments into the development of disclosed technologies toward commercially relevant ends. Faculty and staff inventors serviced by Innovation Partners may apply for investments of up to \$75,000 to facilitate year-long projects.

The goal of this program is to provide an opportunity for Texas A&M University researchers to bridge the common gaps that arise in development of early-stage technologies that have the potential to address a commercial or industrial need and ultimately impact the community, nation, and the world. For complete eligibility and selection criteria, please visit the website link above or contact Megan Brown at tif@tamu.edu with any questions.

Sponsored Research Services Webpage for Updates

Trying to recall the latest format for NIH biographical sketch or trying to find that SRS email about a sponsor update? SRS has made it easier to locate these items. On the SRS website under the resources tab [SRS Updates – Sponsored Research Services \(tamu.edu\)](#) is the SRS Updates page. Timely and pertinent information from various sponsors will be posted. Any changes to SRS internal processes and related TAMU requirements that affect researcher will be found here. Bookmark this page and view it often to avail yourself of the latest information.

Sponsored Research Services Outreach to Departments and Colleges

TAMU Sponsored Research Services (SRS) can come to your department or college or hold office hours via zoom. SRS has coordinated with several departments and colleges to have regular office hours to meet with faculty and staff. These may be in person or via Zoom. If you would like this service for your department please request this through your SRS contact.

Research Compliance and Biosafety Updates

Texas A&M Research Compliance and Biosafety has provided CPI with various updates regarding the following topics:

- Updated NSF Pre-Award and Post-Award Disclosures Table
- Updated NIH Requirements for Other Support
- Texas A&M Guidance Updates and Postings
- Reflections on NIH's April Virtual Meeting
- Animal Welfare Program Presentation
- Modification of Animal Use Protocols
- AAALAC Site Visit Tip for Success
- Resource for Principal Investigators in Performance of Alternative Literature Searches
- Animal Welfare Program Outreach to Departments and Colleges

Please see the attachment on the back of the newsletter to view the updates in detail.

New NIH Website on Scientific Data Sharing

NIH has announced the availability of a [new website on Scientific Data Sharing](#). Whether you are involved in an NIH-funded project and want to understand [which sharing policies apply to your research](#) and how to comply, or you are a researcher looking to [access scientific data](#) from NIH-affiliated repositories, this site provides helpful information on the process:

To learn more about this new website you can go to the NEXUS announcement.

<https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2022/04/05/introducing-nih-new-scientific-data-sharing-website/>

Reminder of New NIH Data Management Sharing Plan Policy

Be prepared for the new NIH policy on Data Management and sharing that is effective for applications submitted on January 25, 2023 and after. Beginning on this date NIH will require researchers to submit a data management plan as part of their application. The plan will be part of the budget justification section of the proposal and will be limited to two pages or less.

Under NIH's current 2003 Data Sharing policy, investigators are expected to:

- **Include a data sharing plan** in research proposals seeking \$500,000 or more per year in direct costs describing how final research data will be shared. Alternatively, the investigator is expected to explain why data sharing is not possible.
- **Release and share the data**, as described in the approved application, no later than the acceptance for publication of the main findings from the final dataset.

Report any progress made on data sharing progress in the annual submission of their Research Progress Performance Report (RPPR)

Help is Available from the TAMU Libraries

Do you have questions about creating your data management plan? Reach out to the TAMU Library Data Management section. They have resources available. Go to [Data Management Plans \(tamu.edu\)](https://library.tamu.edu/data-management-plans/)

- Use the DMPTool to create a data management plan
- Get feedback on your data management plan
- Share your data in the [Texas Data Repository](https://data.tamu.edu/)
- Attend a data management plan [workshop](#)

Cayuse Proposal (S2S) Software Learning Session is Available on Demand

On February 3, 2022 SRS held an informational session for researchers on Cayuse Proposals. This session was recorded and is now available via the SRS website at [Cayuse Proposals \(S2S\) – Sponsored Research Services \(tamu.edu\)](https://srs.tamu.edu/cayuse-proposals-s2s-sponsored-research-services/). The “review the prerecorded session [here](#) link” will take you to the recording.

Cayuse Proposals is a tool that is designed for administrators and/or researchers to use for the preparation of proposals.

SRS will be providing quarterly information sessions for researchers via Zoom to offer guidance on the use of Cayuse Proposals. Sessions will be held the following days/times in 2022.

If you are interested in signing up for one of the sessions below, please select the desired date/time below and complete the registration.

- [Thursday, August 4, 2022 10:00-11:30am](#)
- [Thursday, November 3, 2022 10:00-11:30am](#)

If the established dates or times do not work for an individual, we can accommodate personalized sessions.

Below is the link for participants/attendees to submit questions before the session.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=44HzaNpGuUe6V28yK48NodgsgBcEC_hAqkij23uJXahUMVJHUVhJWjMxQUhFV0pJU1FVVDVRQVFLVC4

Updated NSF Table for Disclosures

NSF has issued an updated version of the table entitled [NSF Pre-award and Post-award Disclosures Relating to the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support](#). The table dated April 20, 2022 updates information on postdoctoral scholars, students, or visiting scholars and differentiates between research activities that are intended for use on the project/proposal being proposed and those that are not. A definition of honorarium also has been added to the table. In addition, the [Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Current and Pending Support](#) have been updated and new questions have been added.

NSF PAPPG Updates

NSF published a notice on April 13, 2022, in the [Federal Register](#) announcing the availability of a “For comment” draft of the *Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide* (PAPPG). The new PAPPG 23-1 will go into effect in January 2023.

If you have any concerns or suggestions regarding the proposed changes, now is the time to make them known. The Foundation is accepting comments from the external community until **cob June 13, 2022**. The draft PAPPG is available on the [Policy Office website](#).

Comments may be sent to the following: Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite E7400, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; telephone (703) 292-7556; or send email to splimpto@nsf.gov

Highlighted proposal/preaward changes:

- **Content has been revised to require use of SciENCv to prepare the Biographical Sketch. Use of the NSF Fillable Format will no longer be permitted.**

A separate biographical sketch (limited to three pages) must be provided for each individual designated as senior personnel through use of SciENCv - Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae. SciENCv will produce an NSF-compliant PDF version of the biographical sketch. Senior personnel must prepare, save, certify, and submit these documents as part of their proposal via Research.gov or Grants.gov.

- **Content has been revised to require use of SciENCv to prepare the Current and Pending Support. Use of the NSF Fillable Format will no longer be permitted.**

Current and pending support information must be provided separately for each individual designated as senior personnel through use of SciENCv. SciENCv will produce an NSF-compliant PDF version of the Current and Pending Support Section of the proposal. There is no page limitation for this section of the proposal. Senior personnel must prepare, save, certify, and submit these documents as part of their proposal via Research.gov or Grants.gov

- **NSF program officers will request updated Current and Pending Support prior to making a funding recommendation.**

Prior to making a funding recommendation, the cognizant NSF program officer will request that an updated version of Current and Pending Support be submitted via a Proposal File Update.

Content has been added to encourage individuals to obtain an ORCID ID to facilitate pre- population as well as reduce the administrative burden associated with preparation of the biographical sketch.

- **A new certification will be provided by each individual identified as senior personnel for both the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support in SciENCv**

Senior personnel are required to certify in SciENCv that the information provided in their Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support documents are accurate, current, and complete. Senior personnel are required to update their Current and Pending Support disclosures prior to award, and at any subsequent time the agency determines appropriate during the term of the award.

Highlighted post award changes:

- **PIs and co-PIs on active NSF awards must indicate if there has been a change in active other support since submission of the proposal**

Update of Current Support in Annual and Final Project Reports PIs and co-PIs on active NSF awards must indicate if there has been a change in active other support since submission of the proposal, or the last reporting period in their annual and final project report. If there has been a change, the individual must submit a revised current and pending support document prepared in SciENCv as part of their project report.

Help and Assistance with SciENCv is Available

Are you looking for help to create your NIH or NSF Biosketch? The Texas A&M University Libraries has put together a website with instructions and resources to walk you step by step through the process of creating an ORCID account and creating your biosketch with SciENCv (the NSF - and NIH-approved system for creating biosketches).

They welcome your feedback on their website. The site is available at the following address: [Home - Create Your Biosketch with SciENCv - Research Guides at Texas A&M University \(libguides.com\)](https://libguides.com/tamu/sciencv)

Responsible Conduct of Research

This is a reminder that postdoctoral and student researchers are required to take Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training per TAMU SAP 15.99.99.M0.04. For those who need face-to-face credits, we have 8 sessions of RCR training scheduled over the summer. Visit the RCR Workshop website for more information and registration links: <https://vpr.tamu.edu/conflict-of-interest-responsible-conduct-of-research/responsible-conduct-of-research/workshop-information/> Email: RCR@tamu.edu

Export Controls Update (*resubmission from April*)

Due to the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine, many entities in Russia, Belarus, and regions of Ukraine have recently been blocked by the United States Government. Additionally, new export controls have been implemented for certain items and technologies to these countries. The Export Controls Office (ECO) has issued guidance: <https://vpr.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Russia-Ukraine-Guidance-Final.pdf>. If you have any interactions with or activities in Russia, Ukraine, or Belarus, contact the ECO prior to proceeding. Email: exportcontrols@tamu.edu

Maestro Steering Committee

The Maestro Steering Committee governs Maestro (Modular Application for the Electronic Submission and Tracking of Research Operations), which is an enterprise-wide system that supports researchers and research administration across The Texas A&M University System. The Steering Committee is co-chaired by the TAMUS CIO (Mark Stone) and the TAMU interim VP for Research (Jack Baldauf). The Maestro Steering Committee met on Wednesday, March 9, 2022. Items of discussion included:

- I. **Budget Forecasting Update – A. Budget Entry (presented by Tamara Lopez).** The Budget Entry module has been released to production. Budget Administrators can enter awarded budgets on established accounts. Highlights: (i) allows entry to individual accounts by budget categories based on awarded proposal budget; (ii) allows entry on the individual funding periods or combined; (iii) option to perform a prorated function; (iv) includes personnel detail for salary and fringe; and (v) allows administrators to route budget entry document for approval and automatically post budget to financial system (e.g. FAMIS) from Maestro. Other functionality for Sponsored Budget vs. Financial budget (piece going to FAMIS) was discussed. A Budget Entry Demo was provided. **B. Budget Forecasting (presented by Mohammad Al-Banna).** Briefly discussed were: main dashboard, portfolio management, detailed personnel forecast, summary forecast for other budget categories and IDC projection, forecast versioning, and security and forecast sharing with designated users based on roles. A timeline for tasks within the large Budget Forecasting project was presented.
- II. **Cost Sharing Module (presented by Crystal Foy).** **Phase 1** of the Cost Share module includes: (i) Cost Share Requirements Entry screen on Billing Project level; (ii) Cost Share Transaction Entry

screen; (iii) automated import of cost share financial transactions; (iv) automated calculation of unrecovered IDC on research and cost share projects; (v) automated Sponsor Cost Share reports generation; and (vi) Cost Share search screen. **Phase 2** includes (i) automated notification as reminder to create a required cost share report and enabled report certification process; (ii) Administrative Dashboard statistics; and (iii) specialized departmental reports that would include cost share encumbrances. **Phase 1** is in the process of being implemented, with production release on April 8; the implementation steps were detailed. A Cost Sharing Demo was provided

III. Maestro Migration to Oracle Cloud Infrastructure - OCI (presented by Donovan Sherriffs).

Highlights: (i) current contract for Oracle Cloud at Customer hardware expiring, both College Station and Austin; (ii) OCI has lower cost and faster hardware, allows work from anywhere and cost is based on usage; (iii) all available Oracle cloud services are included in contract; (iv) large project due to upgrade of Operating System, and connectivity; (v) each hardware migration must be completed in 4 months or we will pay for two sets of hardware. This is a TAMUS contract, but Maestro will be a major user.

IV. Status Monitoring Report (presented by Leonarda Horvat). Maestro is being used by all System members. Major projects that are ongoing or recently completed include Budget Module, Cost Sharing Module, Maestro Evolution Module (discussed in report on November 2021 Steering Committee meeting), and Infrastructure Move to Oracle Cloud.

Reviewed by Leonarda Horvat. Director, Research Information Systems, TAMU. Reported by CPI representatives to the Steering Committee: Lee Tarpley (ltarpley@tamu.edu) and Kerri Gehring (kbgehring@tamu.edu)

NIH Data Management Updates

I. New NIH Website on Scientific Data Sharing

NIH has announced the availability of a [new website on Scientific Data Sharing](#). Whether you are involved in an NIH-funded project and want to understand [which sharing policies apply to your research](#) and how to comply, or you are a researcher looking to [access scientific data](#) from NIH-affiliated repositories, this site provides helpful information on the process:

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II. Reminder of New NIH Data Management and Sharing Plan Policy

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- **Report any progress** made on data sharing progress in the annual submission of their Research Progress Performance Report (RPPR)

III. Help is available from the TAMU Libraries:

Do you have questions about creating your data management plan? Reach out to the TAMU Library Data Management section. They have resources available. Go to [Data Management Plans \(tamu.edu\)](https://tamu.edu/data-management-plans)

- Use the DMPTool to create a data management plan
- Get feedback on your data management plan
- Share your data in the [Texas Data Repository](https://tamu.edu/texas-data-repository)

Attend a data management plan [workshop](#)

Unfunded Research Agreements

Texas A&M Research Administration (TAMRA) is responsible for managing all unfunded research agreements for Texas A&M University, the Texas A&M Health Science Center, Texas A&M at Galveston and Texas A&M at Qatar. These types of agreements include nondisclosure, material transfer and data use and data transfer agreements. Information about TAMRA and the agreements managed by this office may be found at <https://vpr.tamu.edu/research-administration/unfunded-research-agreements/>. Questions may be addressed to negotiations@tamu.edu.

Sponsored Research Services Webpage for Updates

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Responsible Conduct of Research

As a reminder, postdoctoral and student researchers are required to take Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training per TAMU [SAP 15.99.99.M0.04](#). For those who need face-to-face credits, we have recently added summer training dates and have scheduled the first fall workshop. Visit the RCR Workshop website for more information and registration links: <https://vpr.tamu.edu/conflict-of-interest-responsible-conduct-of-research/responsible-conduct-of-research/workshop-information/>. Email: RCR@tamu.edu

Limited Submission Proposal Opportunities

The Division of Research has a limited proposal submission and review portal. The system will be used for limited submissions and most internal grant programs. You will find available opportunities at: <https://tamu.infoready4.com/#limitedsubmissions>. If you have any questions, please contact shelly.martin@tamu.edu or 979-862-2233.

Proposal Assistance for Large Multidisciplinary Funding Opportunities

The Division of Research, Research Development Services, offers free assistance to teams pursuing large multidisciplinary funding opportunities. To learn more about the types of assistance offered or to request assistance, click [here](#), or contact Dr. Candice Jongsma (cjongsma@tamu.edu).

Bulletin for Principal Investigators

The Division of Research at Texas A&M University publishes a weekly bulletin about research. The Research Bulletin accepts news items about researchers and their teams from the colleges, schools, campuses and agencies within the Texas A&M research enterprise, including honors, funding, presentations, and appearances in news media. [Click here](#) to subscribe or unsubscribe to the bulletin.

RESEARCH COMPLIANCE UPDATES, MAY 2022

Updated NSF Pre-Award and Post-Award Disclosures Table and Current and Pending Support FAQs

NSF has issued an updated version of the table entitled [NSF Pre-award and Post-award Disclosures Relating to the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support](#). The table dated April 20, 2022 updates information on postdoctoral scholars, students, or visiting scholars and differentiates between research activities that are intended for use on the project/proposal being proposed and those that are not. A definition of honorarium also has been added to the table. In addition, the [Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Current and Pending Support](#) have been updated and new questions have been added. Any questions regarding these updates should be directed to the Policy Office at policy@nsf.gov.

Updated NIH Requirements for Other Support

Effective Tuesday, January 25, 2022, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have [updated requirements for Other Support](#). In a recent email to Texas A&M researchers, Sponsored Research Services (SRS) highlighted the following changes:

- Use of the new Other Support format page (FORMS-G) is required for due dates and submissions on or after January 25, 2022.
- Note the requirement for principal investigators and senior/key personnel to sign and date the form.
- Supporting documentation, which includes copies of contracts/agreements specific to senior/key-personnel foreign appointments and/or employment with a foreign institution for all foreign activities and resources that are reported in Other Support. If the contracts/agreements are not in English, recipients must provide translated copies.

Immediate notification of undisclosed Other Support: When a recipient organization discovers that a principal investigator or other senior/key personnel on an active NIH grant failed to disclose Other Support information outside of Just-in-Time or the Research Performance Progress Reports, as applicable, the recipient must submit updated Other Support to the grants management specialist named in the Notice of Award as soon as it becomes known.

Any questions regarding these updates should be directed to the NIH Office of Policy for Extramural Research Administration (OPERA) Division of Grants Policy at grantspolicy@nih.gov.

Texas A&M Guidance Updates and Postings

- The Interim Vice President for Research provided [updated guidance on outside activity reporting requirements](#) on Foreign Influence in Research.
- Texas A&M University System provided *Guidelines for the Collection of Blood Specimens via Venipuncture for Human Research Purposes*, now available for review in the [Research Compliance and Integrity Toolkit](#).

Reflections on NIH's April Virtual Meeting on USG Biosecurity Oversight Framework

Dr. Lyric Jorgenson, Acting Associate Director for Science Policy and the Acting Director of the Office of Science Policy at the NIH, published a [summary of takeaways from the NIH Office of Science Policy virtual meeting on April 27](#). The meeting engaged stakeholders and gathered feedback on the current U.S. Government oversight framework for research involving enhanced potential pandemic pathogens. Stakeholders provided feedback on the scope of the framework, strategies for minimizing potential biosafety and biosecurity risks, considerations for supporting international ePPP research and how to balance security with public transparency. A [recording of the meeting](#) is available for viewing on the NIH website.

Animal Welfare Program Presentation - AUP Development and iRIS Functionality

The Animal Welfare Office is pleased to offer virtual training May 13, 2022, 12-1:00 pm on how to develop a well written animal use protocol (AUP) with specific emphasis on experimental design, procedures, observation and tracking of clinical signs, humane endpoints/early removal criteria. The training will also include basic information on how to navigate iRIS and view the current version of the approved protocol.

Registration is required: <https://tamu.zoom.us/joining/register/tJwsfuCgrT4rGNDRRRECMRnW5dcrWuGEUWDU>

Participants are reminded to add the training to their calendar after registering.

Please contact the Animal Welfare Office at animalcompliance@tamu.edu or 979.845.1828 if you have questions or need assistance. The AWO welcomes suggestions for future training topics and is available to provide focused training to individuals, lab groups or departments.

Modification of Animal Use Protocols

Principal Investigators (PIs) are reminded that proposed modifications to their animal use protocol (AUP) must be reviewed and approved by the IACUC, or undergo completion of the veterinary verification and consultation (VVC) process (as applicable to the requested modification), prior to implementation of the change to avoid noncompliance. Select modifications to funding, personnel and animal housing and use location may be administratively processed by Animal Welfare Office staff as well.

The Animal Welfare Program encourages PIs to view the AUP as a "contract" between the PI and the IACUC stipulating that the proposed activities with animals will follow all institutional requirements and procedures, and be performed as described within the AUP. Like a contract, the AUP should be accurate and amended anytime a variance, change or modification is needed.

For more information on the amendment and VVC processes, please visit: <https://vpr.tamu.edu/animals-in-research-and-teaching/approval-process-for-research-teaching-with-animals/how-to-change-an-approved-animal-use-protocol/>. Please contact the Animal Welfare Office at animalcompliance@tamu.edu or 979.845.1828 if you have questions or need assistance.

AAALAC Site Visit Tip for Success – Single Housing of Social Animals

In preparation for the 2023 AAALAC International site visit, the Animal Welfare Program offers the following tip for Principal Investigators (PIs) that singly house social biomedical species indoors:

Single housing of animals for experimental purposes must be described in the animal use protocol (AUP), and only occur for the duration approved. See IACUC Guidance TAMU-G-027 *Guidelines on Environmental Enrichment, Single Housing of Social, Biomedical Species Housed Indoors* for more information on single housing, as well as IACUC approved program-wide social housing exemptions which may be employed without additional justification within the AUP to reduce PI burden. IACUC Guidance may be accessed with TAMU authentication: <https://vpr.tamu.edu/animals-in-research-and-teaching/texas-am-iacuc-guidance/>.

Please contact the Animal Welfare Office at animalcompliance@tamu.edu or 979.845.1828 if you have questions or need assistance.

Resource for Principal Investigators in Performance of Alternative Literature Searches to meet the "3Rs"

The Animal Welfare Office offers the following valuable resource for Principal Investigators (PIs) who are looking for assistance in performing an alternative literature search to identify potential alternatives to procedures that may cause more than momentary pain or distress to animals: <https://www.nal.usda.gov/programs/awic>.

The USDA National Agricultural Library Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC) offers training on meeting the requirements of the Animal Welfare Act, 3Rs alternatives and alternative literature searching; as well as providing free alternatives literature searching services and instruction in best practices for performing an alternative literature search.

Please contact the Animal Welfare Office at animalcompliance@tamu.edu or 979.845.1828 if you have questions or need assistance.

Animal Welfare Program Outreach to Departments and Colleges

The Animal Welfare Office (AWO) welcomes the opportunity to speak at departmental or college faculty meetings on topics of interest related to the use of vertebrate animals. Have an area of special concern or want more information on a particular issue? Please contact the Animal Welfare Office at pam-awo@tamu.edu or 979.845.1828 to discuss and schedule a presentation.