TO: Dr. Eric Pani, Institutional Official as per PHS assurance #A3646-01
Dr. Leonard Director, Office of Sponsored Programs and Research

FROM: Sharon A. Meyer, Ph.D.
Chair, IACUC

SUBJECT: Semiannual Evaluation of Animal Care and Use Program and Inspection of Facilities

DATE: June 3, 2014

This represents the semiannual report of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) to the Institutional Official, as required by the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, as a condition of this institution’s Animal Welfare Assurance with the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW), and the Animal Welfare Act and USDA Animal Welfare Regulations, as applicable.

Review of Animal Care and Use Program

The IACUC conducted its semiannual evaluation of the institution’s animal care and use program on October 14, 2013 using the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide), 8th edition, and as applicable, 9 CFR Chapter I, 2.31. No major deficiencies were identified. All aspects of the program are consistent with PHS Policy, the Guide, 8th ed. and applicable Animal Welfare Regulations. Two protocols previously approved with a departure from the Guide remains active. The IACUC wishes to inform the Institute with this memo that studies of one of these, 13APR-HMM-01, and IACUC’s approval have been misrepresented as being conducted in compliance with the Guide at a national meeting.

Three new animal welfare assurance proposals on were evaluated and approved by full committee (FCR). Six active 3-yr-old protocols were re-reviewed and approved, including the protocol with IACUC approval with departure from the Guide. There are currently 38 protocols in effect. An audit of all active protocols will take place prior to the semiannual meeting in October, 2014.

Inspection of Animal Facilities

The IACUC inspected the Bienville animal facilities on Apr 28, 2014 using the 8th ed. of Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide), and as applicable, 9 CFR Chapter I, 2.31. Facility inspection was aided by use of the OLAW checklist.

All surgical suites were observed and found acceptable.
The IACUC chair and one member also viewed CNSB 313, the site of conduct of a short term tadpole study. All aspects of the study site and conduct, eg., dealing with chloramine in water and waste management, were acceptable. Since at present, this particular study is short term, IACUC has no strong opinion as to whether the site should be listed by the Institute as a satellite on our Assurance with OLAW.
Departures from the Guide
Departures from the Guide, 8th ed., continue in protocols 13APR-HMM-01 and 13APR-HMM-02 with non-humane, experimental endpoints that were approved by IACUC based upon scientific justification on 4/3/13.

Minority Views:
No minority views were offered in objection or to modify this report.

Signatures:
Names of IACUC members
Dr. Sharon A. Meyer, Chair
Dr. John Carr
Dr. Keith Jackson
Dr. Seetharama Jois
Mr. Steve Tolson
Dr. Brent White
Dr. Benny L. Blaylock, ex officio
Mr. Coty Lee, ex officio