

## **VTH Small Animal Research Animal Housing Standard Operating Procedure**

The primary housing sites for research dogs, cats, and rodents are at the Painter Center or the Rampart facility at Foothills Campus. However, there is limited space for these species at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

- 1 All studies using research animals will ultimately have to have appropriate approvals from the Research Integrity and Compliance Office prior to the animals being purchased (<http://web.research.colostate.edu/ricro/>).
- 2 The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) will also request a review from the CVMBS Clinical Review Board for some studies (<http://www.cvmbs.colostate.edu/clinsci/clinicalreviewpro2008.pdf>).
- 3 If an investigator would like to house cats, dogs, or rodents in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, a firm date should be identified as soon as possible and the space requested by contacting Elisa French ([efrench@mail.colostate.edu](mailto:efrench@mail.colostate.edu)) at Laboratory Animal Resources. Ms. French will maintain the dog room, cat room, and rodent room schedules and will help coordinate animal purchase and transfer for funded projects.
- 4 If more than one researcher requests research animal space in the VTH for the same time, Ms. French will first discuss alternate dates with the investigators to attempt to meet everyone's needs. If an acceptable solution cannot be reached by adapting dates, Ms. French will contact the Department of Clinical Sciences Research Committee chairperson (currently Michael Lappin, [mlappin@colostate.edu](mailto:mlappin@colostate.edu)). Dr. Lappin will promptly originate a meeting of the Research Committee to evaluate the animal needs requests and determine which protocol will get preference for VTH housing (versus Painter Center or Foothills campus) during that time period. Factors that will be considered include when the initial space request was made and which of the projects has the most intensive needs for VTH equipment or staffing.