Hello everyone. First, please attach the following sign to your laboratories TODAY.

I have received some additional guidance from ULAM about your critical animals which I don’t think I previously communicated.

- **How do I Identify My Critical/High-Priority (20%) Preserve Animals at the Cage Level?**

  1. Please note that this guidance only refers to 20% of your active animal census (animals on campus) as of March 9, 2020. Any requests beyond that threshold must be approved by the ULAM Executive Director/U-M Attending Veterinarian, in consultation with an IACUC Subcommittee.

  2. To identify critical/high-priority animals at the cage level, use a sharpie marker and draw a large “S” on the cage card. The “S” should be 1-2” in height so that it’s clear to staff that it should be saved. ULAM Husbandry Supervisors are prepared to assist you in clearly identifying cages with a large “S” (save). Please contact your facility’s supervisor for additional assistance.

  3. This must be completed **no later than** Friday, March 20, 2020. **March 18, 2:40 p.m.**

If you have any other questions, please call me at 734-355-4878 or go to the following webpage

https://research.umich.edu/covid-19

Vicki
Therefore this decision is NOT up to you and you will have to fill out the attached form and send us to if you want to work in your labs after 5pm tomorrow. I have also been informed that EHS will be coming through labs after 5pm on Friday (I don’t know when) and doing inspections and if people are working in the lab and it has not been approved you will have to leave immediately.

The following is guidance from VP Rebecca Cunningham regarding getting approval to continue with critical research. She has also stated on numerous occasions she expects these exceptions to be rarely granted!

Please know that her definition of “catastrophic loss” is loss of data that would take YEARS to replicate. So even if you started work a month ago, you may have to shut it down by tomorrow at 5pm.

Also, they are ONLY approving work related to COVID19 if this work has been ongoing prior to this pandemic and faculty now “pivoting” their research will not be allowed to continue with this work, unless they obtain new funding!

Im sorry to be the bearer or bad news!
Vicki

What are considered “critical activities”?
- Activities in support of research that:
- Directly relate to COVID-19 and have a timeline for deployment that could address the current pandemic;
- Which ensure the continued viability of critical samples and/or animal populations that are not readily available from non-U-M entities;
- Keep critical equipment and infrastructure safe;
- If discontinued, would pose a safety hazard; or
- On-site research efforts where the nature of the work is essential to avoiding catastrophic loss to equipment or critical samples and/or data. March 18, 1:40 p.m.

Some examples of justifications faculty are not deemed sufficient to override our public health concerns:
- It will take time to get the lab up and running again
- Lab results are needed for a manuscript submission or revision
- My student is trying to do one more experiment to complete the work for their dissertation; this will delay their defense and their arrival at their postdoc lab
- We need to generate preliminary data for the next grant submission deadline
- The person performing the experiments has to return to their home country next month

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