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## Dr. Sherrie Clark

Dr. Sherrie Clark is the Swine Species Veterinarian for the Agricultural Animal Care and Use Program (AACUP). She earned her DVM at Virginia Tech and then joined the University of Illinois as a resident in Theriogenology while enrolled in the Executive Veterinary Program in Swine Health Management. Upon finishing this combined program, Dr. Clark embarked on a joint PhD program as a practicing veterinarian for the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine while pursuing a PhD in reproductive physiology in the Department of Animal Sciences. In addition to her position as Swine Species Veterinarian, Dr. Clark is a member of the Farm Animal Reproduction, Medicine and Surgery section.



In her role as the Swine Species Veterinarian, Dr. Clark oversees the health of pigs at the Imported Swine Research Laboratory, the Swine Research Center, the Veterinary Research Farm and the outdoor swine facility at Dixon Springs

Agricultural Center. She collaborates with investigators from across campus on a variety of swine projects, including those utilizing swine as biomedical models. She is currently working with investigators in biomedical engineering, biochemistry, and genomic biology. Her knowledge of swine health and physiology and her surgical training make her a valuable resource and an integral part of these projects. She is also available to help train new investigators and their students.

## Record Keeping

According to the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Guidebook, records must be accessible to regulatory and funding agencies for inspection or copying. Records that relate directly to funded projects, IACUC-approved protocols, or animal use activities shall be maintained for the duration of the activity and for an additional three years after completion. At the end of the three years, investigators are free to dispose of the documents. Due to concerns for confidentiality, shredding is the recommended disposal method.

## Reporting Unexpected Mortality on Research Trials

Death as an endpoint in a research project is occasionally predictable, but requires scientific justification and approval by the IACUC. When an agricultural animal or group of animals dies unexpectedly during the course of a project, this information must be reported to the AACUP in a timely fashion. A necropsy should be conducted on animals dying of uncertain causes to determine the underlying reason. In rare cases, the IACUC may investigate and be required to report to the USDA or OLAW.

## Update Protocols Now

Now is the time to ensure that your teaching protocols are updated for the fall 2006 semester. Do you have new students or personnel that need to be added to your protocol? Have the new project personnel enrolled in the Occupational Health and Safety Plan and completed the online training modules? Are animal numbers available on the protocol sufficient to meet the needs of the course? Most changes only require a Minor Amendment to be submitted to the IACUC office. Now is the time to complete these tasks to assure amendments are approved before the semester starts.