

February 10, 2006

Dixie E. Snider, Jr., M.D., M.P.H. Chief Science Officer Office of the Director Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 1600 Clifton Road, NE MS:D14 Atlanta, GA 30333

Dear Dr. Snider:

The Council on Accreditation of the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC International) has reviewed the correspondence received on January 11, 2006 from Dr. Julie L. Gerberding and your correspondence received on December 21, 2005 and has considered your oral appeal presented to the Council on January 15, 2006. Council acknowledges and shares your stated concern about the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) accreditation history and failure to fulfill commitments made by the CDC after the AAALAC International site visit in 2002. Moreover, you acknowledged that mandatory items for correction identified during the 2005 AAALAC International site visit were in certain cases similar to, or the same as, observations made during the previous site visit, and that the CDC had not fulfilled the commitment made to Council in the CDC's communication with Council following the 2002 site visit. Although this has compromised the credibility of the CDC with AAALAC International, you convinced Council that your plans to modify the existing institutional culture, institutional support, supervision, and oversight may result in the required improvements to return to Full Accreditation status. Therefore, Council has determined that the progress made to date, coupled with your intention to fully implement these plans, were sufficiently promising to merit PROBATIONARY ACCREDITATION for a period of six months from the date of this letter.

At the conclusion of this Probationary period, the Council intends to conduct a mandatory revisit, at the CDC's expense, to re-evaluate your program. Please update the current status of your animal care and use program by completing the enclosed Outline for Description of Institutional Animal Care and Use Program and submitting it to the AAALAC International office by August 1, 2006. The revisit will be conducted during the Fall trimester (September through November) 2006 following receipt and review of the requested information.

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Final accreditation status will be determined by the Council following review of the site revisit report. Thank you for your cooperation and continued interest in the AAALAC International program.

Sincerely,

Dale G. Martin, D.V.M., Ph.D. President, Council on Accreditation

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Enclosure

cc: Julie L. Gerberding, M.D., M.P.H., Director

