July 27, 2017
To: Emory University Animal Users
Re: Announcement of Huron/Click as new IACUC software provider

Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to announce that the Emory University IACUC will be transitioning from the current electronic software to a new solution, provided by Huron. A number of commercially available products were considered, with Huron/Click consistently grading out as the superior solution based on a number of criteria listed below:

➢ Favorable references from benchmark institutions including University of Washington, Penn State, UCLA, Rutgers, Northwestern, Seattle Childrens and Michigan State
➢ Overall size, stability, and resources of the company to meet the needs of the University
➢ Standardized IACUC protocol submission form developed through analysis of best practice and regulatory compliance across multiple academic institutions of similar size and complexity to Emory University
➢ Incorporation of pre-approved standard protocol templates into the base protocol form allowing for use of common language available in a selection menu. This should increase consistency of procedure content, decrease complexity of review, and simplify protocol submission for investigators
➢ Simplification of the mechanisms to track grant funding resulting in reduction of protocol complexity and redundancy
➢ User-group driven mechanism for Huron product changes driven by the needs of the community. This mechanism should allow for process driven changes to the form based on changing needs of the community in a systematic manner
➢ A live demonstration of the Huron solution was presented to selected faculty, staff and administration representatives prior to its selection, and met with unanimous approval.

During the next six weeks, we will begin IACUC training in the new solution. During this critical onboarding phase, we will introduce the solution to key project stakeholders across campus, and institute business practice changes to adapt to the new solution. Following the onboarding completion, we will begin the implementation and testing phase which we expect will last until the end of the calendar year. Toward the end of the onboarding phase and throughout the remainder of implementation, we will be conducting town hall meetings and other forums to provide opportunities to see the Huron solution. During and after product "go-live", the IACUC office will be working to migrate protocols to the new solution, with the goal to reduce the burden on PI's and their research staff as much as possible.

We are excited to be able to deliver this great news, and hope you share our enthusiasm as you have the opportunity to participate in the process. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Samuel H. Speck, Ph.D.
Chair, Emory IACUC
Professor, Microbiology & Immunology