

October 31, 2007

Memorandum To: Deans, Directors, Chairs and Faculty

From: Michael J. Pazzani

Subject: Animal Per Diem Rate Increases

In an effort to meet rising costs and demand for space and services, I have found it necessary to raise per diem rates for calendar years 2008 and 2009. These are the first per diem increases since July 2003. Standard rates for each species may be found on the Laboratory Animal Services (LAS) HomeCage <http://las.rutgers.edu>.

The new rates will reflect a 3% increase in standard rates effective January 1, 2008, a 5% increase on June 30, 2008 and an 8% increase on June 30, 2009. These increases are very modest given the demands for service faced by LAS. The revenues from these increases will be used to improve service and to provide for major equipment and caging.

These increases are being implemented in consultation with Laboratory Animal Services, the Vice President for Academic Affairs and with the endorsement of the Rutgers Animal Care and Facilities Committee (ACFC). The need for the increase is based on several factors:

- Per diem rates have not increased since July 2003.
- Operational costs have increased in these four years. The animal care staff salary scale, for example, has increased more than 15% since 2003.
- Rutgers current rates do not recover all direct costs as recommended by PHS and NIH.

The delay in the immediate increase of rates is intended to allow Principal Investigators an opportunity to re-budget appropriately. Principal Investigators should begin now to plan for the additional increases in per diem rates effective June 2008 and June 2009 by putting the new rates into their new, competing and, where possible, their non-competing renewals.