UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN • CHICAGO • SPRINGFIELD

April 30, 2015

Ms. Kara Jensen
[redacted]

Re: FOIA Request 15-288

Dear Ms. Jensen:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request dated April 13, 2015, and received in my office on April 16, 2015, in which you requested:

"…records related to an individual cat used for research at University of Illinois.

This animal's laboratory identification number is 06C021. Specifically, the records I seek are any and all intake records, transfer records, daily care logs, animal health records, treatment and progress report, veterinary reports, necropsy reports, photographs, and videos related to this animal (January 1, 2013-present). I also request any IACUC-approved protocols for any project to which this animal has been assigned since January 1, 2013."

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 202 pages.

Portions of these documents have been redacted and other documents have been withheld pursuant to the following section(s) of the Act:

- 140/7(1)(a) of the of the Act, which exempts from disclosure "Information specifically prohibited from disclosure by federal or State law or rules and regulations implementing adopted under federal or State law." The Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act of 2004 provides, "No veterinarian shall be required to disclose any information concerning the veterinarian's care of an animal except on written authorization or other waiver by the veterinarian's client or on appropriate court order or subpoena." Thus, medical care records are prohibited from production by law. In addition, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. §1232g) protects the privacy of student education records and prohibits the release of any information from a student's education record without the consent of the eligible student. Thus, records describing student academic placements and the names of students were redacted.

- 140/7(1)(b) that exempts from disclosure "Private information, unless disclosure is required by another provision of this Act, a State or federal law or a court order." This includes private email addresses, signatures and medical records.

- 140/7(1)(c) that exempts from disclosure "Personal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which, if disclosed, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information." This includes student placement information.

- 140/7(1)(d)(vi) of the Act, which exempts from disclosure information that, if released, would "endanger the life or physical safety of law enforcement personnel or any other person." Pursuant to this exemption, any information that would endanger life or physical safety if released, including the names, email addresses, phone numbers, and work locations of employees have been redacted.

- 140/7(1)(f) that exempts from disclosure "Preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda, and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated, except that a specific record of relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body." This includes communications containing recommendations, notes and communications regarding the formulation of an action or plan.

- 140/7(1)(g) that exempts from disclosure "Trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person or business where the trade secrets or commercial or financial information are furnished under a claim that they are proprietary, privileged or confidential, and that or where disclosure of the trade secrets or commercial or financial information would cause competitive harm to the person or business." This includes information that could expose details about research or confidential information.

- 140/7(1)(i) exempts from production "Valuable formulae, computer geographic systems, designs, drawings and research data obtained or produced by any public body when disclosure could reasonably be expected to produce private gain or public loss." This includes research information that, if disclosed, could lead to private gain or public loss.
- 140/7(1)(j)(iv) exempts from disclosure "course materials or research materials used by faculty members." This includes faculty research information.
- 140/7(1)(v) exempts from disclosure "vulnerability assessments, security measures, and response policies or plans that are designed to identify, prevent, or respond to potential attacks upon a community's population or systems, facilities, or installations, the destruction or contamination of which would constitute a clear and present danger to the health or safety of the community, but only to the extent that disclosure could reasonably be expected to jeopardize the effectiveness of the

measures or the safety of the personnel who implement them or the public." This includes facility and security information.

Should you wish to inspect or receive a physical copy of these documents, please call Melanie Kuehn at the phone number below and she will provide you with all necessary details.

You have a right, under the law, to seek a review of this response by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) in the Office of the Attorney General. The PAC may be reached by phone at 217-782-1396, by email to publicaccess@atg.state.il.us, or by postal mail at the Public Access Bureau, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706. You also have the right to seek judicial review under section 11 of this Act.

If you have questions for our office, please contact 217-333-6400.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Hardy
Executive Director
and Chief Records Officer