Introduction
The Laboratory Animal Care Unit (LACU) functions as a full-service core supported by the Office of Research, serving all animal related research on the UTHSC campus. The core operates several facilities throughout the campus, to best serve the individual research departments and to maintain health status of the colonies. Our primary focus is to provide high-quality care and housing of study animals. Our program and facilities are accredited by the Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) since 1993. Our department is supported by 3 clinical veterinarians, 2 veterinary residents, 2 veterinary technicians, 5 supervisors, over 30 additional staff members. Administrative staff provides billing and departmental support. We are available for training, fee for service work and collaborations.

Services
1. Animal Husbandry: Housing, health status, and day-to-day care of all research animals on campus. Will assist in special housing and diet/water needs of specific research projects.
2. Study Procedural Space: Most facilities have contained procedure rooms within the vivariums to allow for quick access to your animals and reduced stress from transport.
4. Animal Import and Export: Obtain animals from standard vendors (JAX, Charles River, Envigo), organize transfers between institutions, and handle quarantine program.
5. Animal Imaging: Rodent micro-ultrasound (Vevo 2100), digital radiography, fluoroscopy, and micro-CT.

Equipment and Software
- Vevo 2100, VisualSonics
- CODA Tail-Cuff Blood Pressure System, Kent Scientific Inc.
- IDEXX, RADIL – Animal Health Monitoring, Pathology
- ACAP – bar-coded card printing and colony management system
- ACIM – billing, VetCare application system
- Anprolene – ethylene oxide sterilization
- MouseOx – SPO2 and EKG monitoring
- Small Animal Imaging – digital radiography, Xenogen IVIS (CRB), Xenogen Spectrum (RBL).
- Imtek Micro CAT II- x-ray computed tomography
- OEC 9600 – C-arm fluoroscopy
- Abaxis VetScanHm5 – blood analyzer (housed in Rm 269 CRB)