

## Statistical Assistance

It is recommended that a statistician be enlisted to assist in developing the experimental design for animal research projects. Statistical consulting resources at UNL are available from the Department of Statistics and the Survey, Statistics and Psychometrics Core Facility (SSPCF). Contact the UNL Department of Statistics Faculty Consultants at 472-7302, or refer to the website: <http://statistics.unl.edu/Resources/Consulting/> for assistance. The SSPCF web site is <http://ssp.unl.edu>.

Documentation of the statistical basis for determining the number of animals needed for each study is required on the Application to Use Animals Form (AUAF) to comply with the requirement to consider replacement, reduction and refinement alternatives. The number of animals should be the minimum number required to obtain statistically valid research results. A power analysis is strongly encouraged to justify group sizes when appropriate. A listing of power and sample size programs can be found at <http://www.biostat.ucsf.edu/samplesize.html>, and the statistical consulting faculty can also assist with doing a power analysis or other statistical determination of the number of animals required.