NIH Award from the National Center for Research Resources

Principal investigator: Philippe Baneux, Center for Comparative Medicine
Office for Research

- Project: Containment Equipment Improvements for Northwestern University
- Start Date: July 17, 2009
- Total Award Amount: $500,000

How the results of this project will benefit society:
Animal research is the foundation for virtually every medical breakthrough over the past century. Every day, dedicated scientists are using animal models to find cures for the diseases and conditions that affect people and animals. Animal research is saving both human and animal lives every day. The Center for Comparative Medicine (CCM) supports the research, teaching and testing activities of Northwestern University faculty using animals. CCM provides the care for and oversees the humane use of animals, houses research animals, maintains support spaces and services for the use of animals, provides training in the care and use of animals and supports the activities of the Northwestern Animal Care and Use Committee.

The problem the project is trying to solve:
The University has experienced extensive growth in the use of animals in research and as a result there are increased needs for animal research-associated resources.

How this project will work:
Over the last seven years the University has built two new animal facilities: the Pancoe Building on the Evanston campus and the Lurie Building on the Chicago campus. Areas needing increased resources are the University’s containment and quarantine facilities. This funding will assist with the purchase of containment racks, cabinets and caging systems. The purchase of this equipment will allow the University to:

1. Maintain a safe and secure working environment for personnel using animals that require the containment housing.
2. Improve the University’s animal resources so that it may continue to comply with all relevant guidelines, policies and regulations which relate to standards of research animal care.
3. Increase the capacity and efficiencies of the containment and quarantine facilities.
4. Meet the growing needs of investigators performing studies involving hazards and/or viral vectors.

This award is funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, NIH Award number: 1G20RR025834-01.