

Cadavers at the WRNC Symposium

Various labs at the symposium require appropriate cadavers (birds and/or mammals) for hands-on practice. Typically we need a minimum of 1 cadaver for every two participants, which translates to 20+ cadavers for the “average” lab. Some cadavers can be reused if the labs are on the same day and if bodies were not opened during the first lab.

Instructor may need their own set of animals thawed (Pre-bandaged animals for the large avian bandage lab, for instance)

Plan on a minimum of 100 (?) avian bodies and 25 (?) mammal bodies. Variety is important – aim for different sizes/species representing different groups of animals.

Be considerate of NCSU-CVM professors and students utilizing the lab space after hours – work around their needs.

Collection of cadavers – we only accept cadavers from reputable sources. All animals must be in good condition – no bloody, flattened, or dismembered specimens. Each animal must be labeled so we can trace the source in case there is a problem. Example: disease discovered during necropsy lab.

Transportation to symposium – bodies must be delivered Friday afternoon just prior to the symposium; most need to be frozen but some need to be partially thawed for any Saturday morning labs.

During the symposium

- VSL's and vet student volunteers can help with unloading on Friday
- Cadavers are stored in the small room adjacent to D-239, the teaching lab, or in the large refrigerator in the lab.
- Boxes/bags of animals need to be clearly labeled for their purpose - mammal lab, necropsy lab, lg avian bandaging lab, etc.
- Appropriate boxes/bags need to be thawed out ahead of time for each lab. In some cases that may require animals to be spread out on the tables at the end of the day (after all labs are finished) so they can thaw more quickly overnight.
- VSL's and vet student volunteers clean the lab space (tables, etc.) after each lab and can help with set-up.

At the end of the symposium (Sunday afternoon)

- Professors at NCSU-CVM may be interested in keeping some of the cadavers that are appropriate for their research or labs; we need to make preliminary arrangements a few weeks in advance so that they are aware of this option. Dr. Lewbart may be aware of additional needs.
- All cadavers that are not needed by NCSU-CVM or taken back by the organization/individual rehabilitator that brought them to the symposium must be prepared for incineration through NCSU-CVM. Remove all bandaging/splints or individual wrapping/bags and store cadavers in large black trash bags.
- VSL's and vet student volunteers can assist with bagging and storing large bags of cadavers in the appropriate locations (freezers for incineration, freezer or refrigerator for NCSU-CVM use).
- Any shipping containers must be removed from the lab and storage area and placed in the trash or recycle bins located at the loading dock.
- VSL's and vet student volunteers clean the lab space (tables, etc.) after each lab and perform a thorough cleaning (floors, etc.) on Sunday afternoon, at the conclusion of the symposium.

Bring a box of large trash bags

Basic cleaning supplies are located in the lab – spray bottles with disinfectant, paper towels