



## Policy on the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

**Policy Number:** 3.0.5

**Version Number:** 001

**Classification:** Research Compliance

**Effective Date:** February 5, 2019

**Responsible University Office:** Office of Research Compliance

### 1.0 Purpose

The following policy has been developed to ensure compliance with the Animal Welfare Act (AWA), the Public Health Service (PHS) Policy, guidelines set forth by the Association for the Assessment and Accreditation for Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC), and to ensure the humane care and use of vertebrate animals. To meet these requirements and assure adherence to applicable laws and regulations associated with vertebrate animal use, Clemson University has established an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) to review all vertebrate animal activities within or associated with the University. This policy describes the responsibilities and authority of this committee.

### 2.0 Applicability

The policy applies to all University faculty, staff, students or others engaged in research, teaching, testing, or demonstration activities in which laboratory, wild, or agriculture vertebrate animals are utilized. **Scope:** The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee has the responsibility and authority to oversee all vertebrate animal activities conducted on University property and in the field. Research conducted by University faculty, staff and students at non-University facilities is subject to this policy and the companion procedures if the research is funded by NIH or other funding agencies through Clemson University.

### 3.0 Government Rules and Regulations

Applicable governmental regulations include the Animal Welfare Act and the Public Health Service Policy. Non-governmental guidance documents include, but are not limited to, guideline set forth by the Association for the Assessment and Accreditation for Laboratory Animal Care International, the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, and the Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching.

## 4.0 Definitions

Animal Definition (according to the *Animal Welfare Act Regulations*): Animal means any live or dead dog, cat, nonhuman primate, guinea pig, hamster, rabbit or any other warm-blooded animal, which is being used or is intended for use for research, teaching, testing, experimentation or exhibition purposes or as a pet. This term excludes: birds, rats of the genus *Rattus* and mice of the genus *Mus* bred for use in research and horses not used for research purposes and other farm animals, such as, but not limited to livestock or poultry, used or intended for use as food or fiber, or livestock or poultry used or intended for use for improving animal nutrition, breeding, management, or production efficiency, or for improving the quality of food or fiber. With respect to a dog, the term means all dogs, including those used for hunting, security, or breeding purposes.

Animal Definition (according to the *Public Health Service Policy*): Any live, vertebrate animal used or intended for use in research, research training, experimentation, or biological testing or for related purposes.

Field: The “field” refers to non-University owned locations used by wildlife researchers to collect data related to wildlife or to instruct students in methods related to wildlife research.

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC): The University committee created consistent with the requirements of the PHS Policy and AWA to review activities involving vertebrate animal use.

## 5.0 Policy

This policy establishes the Clemson University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). The IACUC is empowered with the responsibility for the oversight, review, and approval of all activities involving the use of laboratory, wild, and agriculture vertebrate animals and institutional compliance with federal, state and local requirements governing the use of vertebrate animals. All University faculty, staff, students, and others, including visiting scientists, companies and external scientists, engaged in vertebrate animal activities are responsible for the proper, safe and humane conduct of these activities at Clemson University facilities or in the field. All vertebrate animal activities must be completed in accordance with all applicable elements of this policy, IACUC policies and procedures, the requirements of federal, state, and local authorities, and policies of funding agencies.

## 5 Responsibilities

**Authority and Administration of Policy:** The President of the University has the authority to appoint the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). The IACUC reports to the Assistant Vice President for Research through the IACUC Chairperson. The Office of Research Compliance is responsible for the administration of IACUC functions.

**IACUC Membership:** Appointments made to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) shall be made in accordance with applicable federal requirements.

**Responsibilities of the IACUC include:**


- Review and approval of all (vertebrate) animal activities conducted at or in association with Clemson University
- Inspection of all University animal facilities on a semiannual basis
- Provide applicable reporting on animal use to appropriate regulatory bodies
- Assure that University animal care and use complies with all federal, state, and local regulations, as well as University policies
- Investigate allegations of animal misuse and issue corrective actions as needed
- Assure and promote the responsible and humane use of animals in research, teaching, testing, and demonstration.

**6 Sanctions for Non-Compliance**

The IACUC has the authority to suspend or terminate animal activities deemed not in compliance with governmental regulations or University Policy, as well as withholding of funding until compliance is achieved.

**7 Approval Signatures**

This policy has been approved by:

 \_\_\_\_\_ Date 2/5/2019  
Tanju Karanfil  
Vice President for Research

REVISION HISTORY		
EFFECTIVE DATE	REVISION NUMBER	MODIFICATION
February 5, 2019		Incorporated into VPR Policy Template