

## CLEMSON UNIVERSITY RESEARCH POLICIES MANUAL

Policy Outlining the Responsibilities and Authority of the  
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

Approved: January 28, 2009

Updated: March 31, 2017

### Statement:

In order to demonstrate the University's commitment to the requirements of the Animal Welfare Act, the Health Research Extension Act, their implementing regulations, and to enable continued accreditation of our animal care and use programs and facilities by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care, International (AAALAC), this policy outlines the responsibilities and authority of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), in accordance with these laws, regulations and accreditation standards. Additionally, this policy demonstrates Clemson University's commitment to ensure the public confidence in our care and use of animals.

### Discussion:

Clemson University's Animal Welfare Assurance is approved by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Public Health Service (PHS), Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW). The animal facilities are registered with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and undergo annual, unannounced inspection by that agency. Additionally, Clemson University has maintained accreditation by AAALAC, International since 1994. In accordance with these federal laws and accreditation standards, the President of the University established the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). Committee membership is structured in accordance with these federal requirements and members are appointed by the President. Similarly, the President named the Vice President for Research as the Institutional Official (IO).

The IACUC is committed to ensuring all vertebrate animals used in teaching and research, under the auspices of Clemson University, receive humane care and use. In order to accomplish this, the IACUC has the responsibility and authority to review, approve, disapprove or require changes in research, teaching or testing activities involving the care and use of vertebrate animals. At least once each month, and regardless of where the work is performed or the source of funding, faculty, staff, or student- proposed research or teaching use of vertebrate animals, is reviewed by the IACUC. No animal use may begin without IACUC approval and annual and triennial review of approved research is required.

The IACUC has set forth procedures for reporting, without fear of reprisal, concerns about the humane care and use of vertebrate animals utilized in research and teaching at Clemson University, as well as procedures for investigating these concerns. The Committee also regularly inspects and monitors the animal care and use program and facilities at the University to ensure all components are in compliance with relevant regulations, guidelines and accreditation standards. Specific responsibilities and authority are detailed below.

#### Policy:

In accordance with federal requirements, Clemson University has established an IACUC with the responsibility and authority to perform the following mandates:

1. Review, at least once every 6 months, Clemson University's program for animal care and use, based on the Animal Welfare Act Regulations (AWARs), PHS Policy, the ILAR Guide and the Ag Guide. The program reviews include, but are not limited to, a review of the following:

- 1) IACUC Membership and Functions
- 2) IACUC Records and Reporting Requirements
- 3) Veterinary Care
- 4) Personnel Qualifications and Training
- 5) Occupational Health and Safety

2. Inspect, at least every 6 months, all of Clemson University's animal facilities, including animal study areas and satellite facilities, using the AWARs, PHS Policy, the ILAR Guide and the Ag Guide as a basis for evaluation. The facility inspections include, but are not limited to, inspection of the following:

- 1) Animal Housing Areas
- 2) Feed and Bedding Storage Areas
- 3) Animal Procedure Areas
- 4) Other Animal Care and Use Support Areas

3. Submit to the IO reports of the above evaluations which distinguish significant from minor deficiencies and contain a plan and schedule for correcting each deficiency. In addition, the reports are to describe any changes or departures from the ILAR Guide, the Ag Guide and PHS policy, are signed by the majority of the IACUC and contain any minority views.

4. Review animal-use protocols; approve, require modifications in or withhold approval of those components of proposed activities related to the care and use of animals.

5. Review and approve, require modifications in or withhold approval of proposed significant changes regarding the care and use of animals in on-going activities.

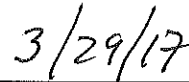
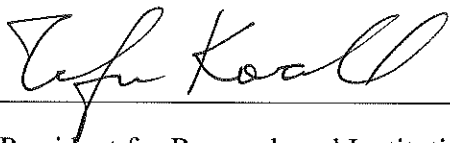
6. Review and if warranted, investigate concerns involving the care and use of animals at Clemson University resulting from public complaints or from reports of non-compliance received from personnel of Clemson University.

7. Suspend any activity involving animals if it does not comply with the AWARs, PHS Policy, the ILAR Guide or the Ag Guide. Non-compliances and suspensions must be reported to the OLAW and AAALAC, International.

8. Make recommendations to the IO regarding any aspect of Clemson University's animal care and use program, facilities or personnel training.

Approved:

Date:



Vice President for Research and Institutional Official