



Animal Care and Use Policy

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Purpose

- 1 The purpose of this policy is to establish a research environment that ensures ethical and humane use and responsible care of Animals in research, teaching and testing in accordance with applicable laws, guidelines and regulations.

The policy will outline:

- a) ethical principles that govern Animal care in research, teaching and testing;
- b) expectations pertaining to Animal care and Animal ethics; and
- c) consequences of non-compliance with the policy.

Scope

- 2 This policy applies to all research, teaching, and testing involving Animals:
 - a) that is conducted by University of Calgary Faculty, Staff, or Students;
 - b) that is undertaken under the auspices of or in Affiliation with the University of Calgary; or
 - c) that uses University of Calgary equipment, facilities or resources.

Definitions

- 3 In this policy
 - a) "Affiliation" describes a close connection or formal relationship. An Affiliate is an organization that has a close connection to or formal relationship with the University of Calgary.
 - b) "Animal" means any living non-human vertebrate and any living invertebrate of the class of cephalopoda, including free-living and reproducing larval forms used for research, teaching, breeding, or testing purposes.
 - c) "Animal Care Committee" includes the University Animal Welfare Committee, the Health Sciences Animal Care Committee, and the

Life and Environmental Sciences Animal Care Committee.

- d) "Faculty" means an individual who holds an academic staff appointment.
- e) "Staff" means an individual employed by the University of Calgary and an individual employed by a Faculty member.
- f) "Student" means an individual registered in a course and/or program of study at the University of Calgary as well as an individual visiting the University of Calgary and using University of Calgary facilities, equipment or resources to conduct their program of study.

Policy Statement 4 Objective

4.1 Research involving the use of Animals and tissues derived from Animals will be conducted in accordance with the University's ethical standards in every aspect of their care.

Principles

4.2 The use of Animals and tissues derived from Animals for research, teaching and testing is a privilege, not a right.

4.3 Animals and tissues derived from Animals are only used for research purposes when there is a reasonable expectation of obtaining knowledge that will benefit people and Animals.

4.4 The University will discourage research that results in the end stage death of the Animal.

Facilities for Animals

4.5 The University will acquire and maintain only the number and type of Animals that can be accommodated in existing facilities in accordance with applicable regulation.

4.6 If space is unavailable, the research may need to be modified or rescheduled or funds may need to be allocated for modification or expansion of existing facilities.

4.7 Certification of a protocol, authorization of a research grant, or receipt of a contract does not guarantee that the University will be able to acquire, house, and care for the research or laboratory Animals specified under the terms of the project if, at the time the work proceeds, the capacity of the University's facilities is otherwise fully utilized or space is unavailable.

Regulatory Framework

4.8 Research, teaching, and testing involving Animals will be carried out in accordance with the most current federal and provincial legislation.

4.9 In addition, the University will adhere to:
a) The Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) guidelines, policies and standards,

- b) The Canadian Association of Laboratory Animal Medicine (CALAM) Standards of Veterinary Care, and
- c) The Alberta Veterinary Association (AVMA) professional codes and standards
as revised from time to time.

4.10 The University will also consider compliance with the requirements of other organizations on a project-by-project basis provided that these do not diminish the standards of care and conduct that would otherwise apply.

Animal Care Committee

4.11 An Animal Care Committee will review the ethics of proposed teaching, research and testing involving Animals and tissues derived from Animals.

4.12 The relevant Animal Care Committee will determine if the proposed use and protocol comply with applicable regulation. If the Committee finds that they are compliant, the protocol will be certified by the Animal Care Committee.

4.13 Findings of the Animal Care Committee may be appealed to the Vice-President (Research).

4.14 Uncertified acquisition or use of Animals and tissues derived from Animals is prohibited.

Accountability

4.15 The responsible head or director of the academic unit will ensure that those who use Animals for research, teaching, or testing and those who are being trained to conduct use Animals and tissues derived from Animals for research, teaching or testing:

- a) understand their responsibilities,
- b) receive appropriate training in the skills necessary for the ethical conduct of such Research, and
- c) are aware of the standards relevant to the particular area of Research.

4.16 Individuals who undertake activities that fall within the scope of this policy will be thoroughly familiar and comply with applicable requirements.

4.17 Deans and Department Heads as well as specific individuals, committees or units such as the University Animal Welfare Committee, the Animal Health Unit, the University of Calgary Animal Research and Education Unit, the Animal Care Committees, and the University Veterinarian share responsibility with the Implementation Authority for implementation of this policy.

Violations

4.18 Violators of this policy may lose the privilege of carrying out research using animals and may also be subject to penalties under University regulations, collective agreements, and under provincial and federal law.

- Responsibilities** **5** *Animal Resource Centres* will provide space, materials and support for Animal husbandry and Animal care related activities. The Animal Resources Centres collectively form the Animal Resources Unit.

Approval Authority ensures appropriate rigour and due diligence in the development or revision of this policy.

Deans/Department Heads have a general responsibility for the teaching and research carried out in their Faculty or department, and for encouraging and ensuring compliance with applicable University policies and procedures. Deans have the authority to terminate Animal use which, in the Dean's opinion, does not comply with University policies.

Faculty are responsible for designing and carrying out their teaching and research in accordance with applicable requirements. This includes integrating their activities with those of their colleagues and rationalizing their requirements in terms of the facilities and services. Faculty are also responsible for educating Students in the rationale for and the application of the applicable requirements and for ensuring that Students working under their supervision respect and observe the applicable requirements. Faculty have a special responsibility to ensure that work carried out under their general direction or supervision is properly reviewed and certified.

Implementation Authority (Vice-President (Research)) will ensure that employees are aware of and understand the implications of this policy and related procedures; monitors compliance with the policy and related procedures; regularly reviews the policy and related procedures to ensure consistency in practice; sponsors the revision of this policy and related procedures when necessary; and appoints a Policy Advisor to administer and manage these activities. The Vice-President (Research) will also hear and decide appeals of administrative or Animal Care Committee actions and/or decisions.

The University Animal Welfare Committee is charged with specific duties and responsibilities that are stipulated in federal and provincial law as well as the Canadian Council on Animal Care. The committee membership and terms of reference are legislated.

The Committee is also responsible for ensuring University-wide understanding of, and compliance with, the applicable requirements, and for ensuring that Animals used in teaching, research and testing are humanely cared for and used in accordance with the applicable requirements. The Committee advises on the need and planning for Animal care facilities.

The University Veterinarian is appointed by and reports to the Vice-President (Research). The University Veterinarian acts as an expert advisor to the Vice-President and to the University Animal Welfare Committee. The appointee is responsible for the general supervision of the operations of the Animal Resources Unit. The Vice-President (Research) may appoint an Assistant University Veterinarian or Veterinarians to act in the absence of and/or to work with the University Veterinarian.

- Appendices** **6** University of Calgary Animal Welfare and Animal Care Committee Terms

of Reference

University Animal Welfare Committee Terms of Reference

Life & Environmental Sciences Animal Care Committee Terms of Reference

Health Sciences Animal Care Committee Terms of Reference

Procedures

7 Under development

References

8 Tri-Council Policy Statement
Province of Alberta Animal Protection Act
Province of Alberta Animal Protection Regulation
Canadian Council on Animal Care
Canadian Association of Laboratory Animal Medicine Statement of Adequate Veterinary Care
University of Calgary Animal Research and Education Unit (Animal Health Unit)
Alberta Veterinary Profession Act

History

9 Presidential Review Committee on Animal Care. Report and Recommendations, 10 June, 1992.

Vice-President (Research & International), Policy, Organization and Implementation Proposals, June, 1992.

President's Executive Advisory Committee, for advice, 17 November, 1992.

President, for interim approval, 17 November, 1992.

Research Policy Committee, for information and advice, 10 December, 1992.

Revised and Approved Vice-President (Research & International) 16 December, 1992.

University Animal Welfare Committee, for action/recommendation, 18 December, 1992.

General Faculties Council Executive, for information, 5 January, 1993.

General Faculties Council, for information, 14 January, 1993.

Board of Governors, for action, 29 January, 1993.

Approved by resolution of the Board of Governors, 29 January, 1993, as follows: "That the Board of Governors approve the recommended Animal Care Policy (as set forth in Section 1.) and authorize the President to implement the policy in accordance with the Implementation and Organization Plan (as set forth in Sections 2. and 4.) [including the authority] to make necessary alterations in the Plan after consultation with

the University Animal Welfare Committee."

A number of revisions were approved by various officers in 2004.

Revised: June 26, 2008 with approval from General Faculties Council;
revisions effective June 26, 2008.

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