

IACUC Informational Powerpoint

A-State IACUC Guidelines

What Does IACUC Stand for?

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

IACUCs are required by.....

- * **Federal Law (Animal Welfare Act)**
- * **Regulations - United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)**
- * **Policies - Public Health Service (PHS)**

What are the functions of IACUC?

- * To assist investigators and instructors in maintaining the institution's compliance with the Animal Welfare Act and federal animal welfare regulations
- * Review of research and teaching activities involving the use of vertebrate animals
- * Review/monitor welfare of vertebrate animals maintained by the institution (housing and care)

Who are concerned with animal welfare?

Governmental Agencies

- **USDA - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)**
- **Health and Human Services (HHS) Public Health Service (PHS)**
 - National Institutes of Health (NIH)**
 - Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW)**
 - Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**

Who else is concerned with animal welfare?

- * **Scientists**

- **Scientists' Center for Animal Welfare (SCAW)**
- **American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS)**
- **Association for the Accreditation and Assessment of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC, International)**
- **Institute for Laboratory Animal Research (ILAR)**
- **Federation of Animal Science Societies (FASS)**

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Who else is interested?

- * **Public Animal-Centric Organizations**
American Humane Association (AHA)
Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)
Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA)
- * **Health Care Consumers**
(medical treatments, vaccines, cures for disease)
- * **Agricultural Operations**
(Meat and Dairy Producers)
- * **Consumers-Public**

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Animal Welfare and Animal Rights

USDA, PHS, OLAW and IACUCs are concerned with the safe, appropriate and humane use of animals for agricultural and biomedical research and teaching. Our focus is animal welfare.

Many animal rights groups, based on the views of individuals, are opposed to the use of animals for research, education, transportation, recreation, or exhibition, to name a few.

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What information is available to the public?

Under Freedom Of Information Act (FOIA), the following can be requested by the public:

- * USDA Inspection Reports**
- * Approved Protocols**
- * Minutes of IACUC meetings**
- * Assurance Statement**
- * Animal Care Program reviews**
- * Facility inspection reports**

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Why do Universities need IACUCs?

- * **Laws, Regulations, and Policies**
 - * These committees were established in accordance with the Animal Welfare Act (1966, 1970) and the 1976, 1985, and 1990 AWA Amendments
 - * Mice, Rats, and Birds were originally excluded from the act
 - * In 1999 a petition was filed with the USDA Secretary of Agriculture to remove this exclusion
 - * The Helms amendment to the 2002 Agriculture Bill specifically exempts Mice, Rats and Birds

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Why do researchers need IACUC approval?

- * Institutions can establish policies requiring all vertebrate animal use subject to IACUC review and approval.
- * Federal Funding Agencies require IACUC approval of proposals if vertebrate animals are used before releasing their funds.
- * Many journals insist on IACUC approval if vertebrate animals are used in the study to be published.

What can happen if an institution is out of compliance with federal regulations?

Federal funding (USDA, NIH, PHS, NSF etc.) could be withdrawn from an institution found to be noncompliant with the AWA and federal regulations. The Animal Welfare Assurance Statement that ASU has on file with OLAW assures the federal government that ASU will comply with the AWA and all federal regulations. Also institution can incur heavy fines including in rare instances, prison sentences.

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Oversight of Animal Use

- * **AWA administered by USDA-APHIS**
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/index.shtml
 - * **Regulations**
 - * **Policies**
 - * **Conducts annual inspections**
- * **PHS (OLAW)** <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>
 - * **Animal Welfare Assurance Statements**
- * **AAALAC for accredited institutions (Optional)**

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At A-State

- * **Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Studies (our Institutional Official)**
 - * **Relies on the IACUC reports**
- * **IACUC**
 - **Reviews and approves, or disapproves proposed animal use; monitors conditions of animal housing and use areas through facility inspections; conducts semiannual program reviews; reports to the Institutional Official**

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Composition of IACUC

- * **PHS policy states that IACUCs must consist of no less than 5 members, including:**
 - * **A veterinarian**
 - * **A practicing scientist experienced in animal research**
 - * **A member whose primary concerns are in a nonscientific area**
 - * **A member who is not affiliated with the institution and is not a member of the family of an IACUC member**
 - * **One individual may fulfill more than one requirement**

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How do we do it?

- * **Appropriate Training**
- * **Interpretation and utilization of the regulations and guidelines**
- * **Defining Pain and Distress**
- * **Implementation of Institutional policies**
- * **Accepted Animal Care Guidelines**

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IACUC Considerations for Animal Use

When reviewing a proposal, IACUC considers the following:

- * **The Rationale provided for using animals**
What is the significance of this research that can justify animal use?
- * **Appropriateness of the species**
Why use this species? Justification of the species and the number of animals to be used.
- * **For pain categories D and E, required search for alternatives**
Were alternatives considered for this research? For example, use of cell lines for cell cultures, use of mathematical models, computer simulations, etc.
- * **Consideration of the “Three Rs:”**
 - * Replacement
 - * Reduction
 - * Refinement
- * **Literature Search**
 - * Other information services
 - * Search methods used
 - * Summarize and justify findings

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Reference Guides for Animal Care and Use

- * **Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals**
(8th Ed, National Academy Press, 2011)
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/Guide-for-the-care-and-use-of-Laboratory-animals.pdf>
- * **Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Agricultural Research and Teaching**
(FASS, 3rd Ed, 2010)
http://www.fass.org/docs/agguide3rd/Ag_Guide_3rd_ed.pdf
- * **AVMA Panel Report on Euthanasia**
(American Veterinary Medical Association, 2007)
http://www.avma.org/issues/animal_welfare/euthanasia.pdf

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A-State Resources

- * Research and Technology Transfer - Research Compliance – [IACUC](#)
Links for [CITI](#) Training and [Cayuse](#) are at the bottom right corner.
- * CITI – CITI training must be up to date prior to submitting a protocol.
 - * First-time [CITI](#) users may self-register for a [CITI](#) account. Please note that you must affiliate with Arkansas State University-Jonesboro.
 - * You must take both of the following courses:
 - IACUC Investigators, Staff and Students, Basic Course, and
 - the most relevant Responsible Conduct of Research Course
 - * Save the CITI completion reports (not certificates) to attach to your Cayuse submission.
- * CAYUSE – First time Cayuse users must request log-in credentials from CayuseIRB@astate.edu.
 - * Please include your name, email, position (assistant professor, student, etc.), and department phone, fax, and post office box.
 - * Please note it takes two business days for Cayuse to process new users.
- * Complete the IACUC application in [Cayuse](#), attaching CITI certificates and other documents, as prompted.

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