

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE

FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 6515S
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Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

FWDC 12: **Animal Care and Use Committee and Animal Subjects Policy**
(Faculty Handbook [Section 4.3.6.1](#) and [Section 10.4.18](#))

Effective date: Immediately

Summary: This document updates the description and functioning of the Animal Care and Use Committee and the UNC Asheville Animal Subjects Policy in five ways:

- 1) This document stipulates that the animal subjects policy applies only to research and teaching activities using *mammals*, unless research is funded by the National Institutes of Health, in which case it applies to all vertebrate animals. This definition is consistent with federal guidelines. It also informs PI's that the Animal Care and Use Committee is prepared to provide reviews which may not be required by federal law, but which are required before a research proposal will be considered by a specific funding agency.
- 2) It clarifies the interaction of the ACUC with OSSP.
- 3) It indicates that the non-affiliated member of the committee refers to affiliation with animal research rather than with the university, so that this person could be a member of the UNC Asheville faculty or staff.
- 4) It changes the appointment of the Chair of ACUC from URC to the Provost in consultation with FWDC.
- 5) Finally, it states that the PI for any project must be a member of the faculty.

Rationale: Changes 1-3 are consistent with federal guidelines and with the recent staffing of the committee to include members of the university community who are not participants in animal research. Having the Provost appoint the Chair in consultation with FWDC will result in more timely appointment, because URC must be appointed and meet before they could complete this task. Finally, requiring that the PI is a faculty member is consistent with our practices for IRB, ensuring that any student-directed research is done with faculty oversight.

1) Delete 4.3.6.1:

4.3.6.1 Animal Subjects Policy

The UNC Asheville Animal Care Committee (ACC) must approve projects which utilize live animals. ACC addresses public concerns about humane treatment of experimental animals, assures compliance with relevant legislation, monitors moral and ethical obligations to other living organisms, provides institutional assurances for granting agencies, and protects investigators and students from unsubstantiated or unwarranted allegations of improper procedures.

Any project by a UNC Asheville investigator (faculty or student) or any teaching procedure which requires the use of live animals must submit an application for animal use to ACC. These rules do not apply to plants, bacteria or protozoans. Information concerning applicable guidelines may be obtained from the ACC. If a previously approved project is revised or requires significant changes from the approved techniques, a supplemental form listing the changes must be submitted.

Applications can be obtained from and should be returned to the Director of Sponsored Scholarship and Programs. The form should be typed and each questions should be answered in specific detail or noted "not applicable". All applications require one copy of the application form and one copy of the complete grant proposal or instructor's syllabus (for teaching activities). After review and approval (2-3 weeks normally), the Chair of the ACC will send notification of approval to the Principal Investigator or to the student's research advisor.

Replace with revised 4.3.6.1:

4.3.6.1 Animal Subjects Policy

The UNC Asheville Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) (see [10.4.18](#)) must approve projects which utilize live animals. Any project by a UNC Asheville investigator or any teaching procedure which requires the use of animals, as defined by federal law, must submit an Application for Animal Use to the ACUC. All projects require the Primary Investigator to be a member of the faculty, including those initiated by students. For teaching activities, as well as research not funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), federal law defines "live animals" to include dogs, cats, nonhuman primates, guinea pigs, hamsters, and other ~~warm-blooded animals~~ mammals, but not birds. Researchers carrying out projects funded by NIH must submit an Application for Animal Use for any research involving live vertebrate animals. Other funding agencies may also mandate the type of review required. The ACUC will comply with the review requirements of the sponsoring agency. Application forms and information concerning applicable guidelines may be obtained from the chair of the ACUC. If a previously approved project is revised or requires significant changes from the approved techniques, a supplemental form listing the changes must be submitted. Any proposal that requests external funding must be coordinated with the Office of Sponsored Scholarship and Programs.

All applications require one copy of the application form and one copy of the complete research proposal or, in the case of teaching activities, the instructor's syllabus. After review and approval (2-3 weeks normally), the Chair of the ACUC will send notification of approval to the Principal Investigator or to the student's research advisor.

2) Revise 10.4.18 as follows:

10.4.18 Animal Care And Use Committee ([SD7303S](#))

Purpose

The Animal Care and Use Committee is charged with the task of reviewing and monitoring projects which utilize live animals to insure compliance with relevant legislation, to meet the University's moral and ethical obligations to other living organisms, to provide assurances for granting agencies, to address public concerns about the humane treatment of experimental animals, and to protect investigators and students from unsubstantiated or unwarranted allegations of improper procedures. (The definition of live animals is directed by federal law, i.e. Public Health Services Act (Public Law 99-158), Laboratory Animal Welfare Act (PL 99-198), and 1985 Health Research Extension Act.)

Duties

1. Review the Application for Animal Use required of any project by an investigator of UNC Asheville (faculty or student) or any teaching procedure which requires the use of live animals.
2. Review all grant applications by UNC Asheville investigators which require the use of live animals.
3. Conduct semi-annual site visits to all live animal housing facilities on campus.
4. The Chair should send out a yearly reminder about the appropriate use of animals.

Membership

- One faculty scientist who is using live animals (appointed by ~~URC~~[the Provost in consultation with FWDC](#)) as chair
- One veterinarian (appointed by the Chancellor)
- One non-affiliated person (This person is not to be ~~affiliated with the research facility engaged in research with live animals~~, [but may be a member of the UNC Asheville faculty or staff](#), and is to provide representation for the general community interests in the proper care and treatment of animals.) (appointed by the Chancellor)

~~Faculty~~ [All members of the committee](#) are appointed for two year terms. ~~Non-university and veterinary members are solicited through the Assistant to the Chancellor and serve two year terms.~~ Individuals may be reappointed to successive terms.

Recommendations to: the URC for policy and procedural changes

Reports to: the Provost and VCAA