

4.75 - ANIMAL USE IN RESEARCH

Effective: November 1, 2025

Purpose: To outline the requirements for use of animals in research activities and establish the Animal Care and Use Committee.

Scope: This policy applies to University research activities campus wide.

Responsible Office: Academic Affairs

Policy Statement: The use of cats, dogs, guinea pigs, hamsters, rabbits, nonhuman primates, and certain other warm-blooded animals other than humans in all activities under the purview of University faculty, staff members, and students is to be carried out in compliance with the federal Animal Welfare Act, as amended and related administrative regulations.

Guidelines For Forming and Operating the University-Wide Animal Care and Use Committee

To comply with the Animal Welfare Act of 1966 and its subsequent amendments to review and approve research proposals involving the use of animals that are submitted for federal funding, as well as to promote the best practices in safe and ethical handling and use of animals, the University shall establish an Animal Care and Use Committee. Such committee shall be selected by and report to the University's President and shall consist of a Chairperson and at least two additional members. Of the members of the committee, at least one shall be a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, with training or experience in laboratory animal science and medicine, who has direct or delegated program responsibility for activities involving animals at the university. At least one shall not be affiliated in any way with the university other than as a member of the Committee and shall not be a member of the immediate family of a person who is affiliated with the university. Beyond these minimum members required by law, the committee shall also consist of a designated representative from University Facilities, and designated representatives from each academic unit with at least one faculty involved with the use of non-human animals in research. Furthermore, if an academic unit without other representation on the committee has a faculty member or who teaches courses involving the planned use of live animals as part of course learning activities (e.g., a student who incidentally has a support animal for disability purposes taking a class in the academic unit would not be sufficient to meet this criterion. Similarly, a course taking place outside might incidentally encounter a live wild animal, but would not be sufficient to meet this criterion), the faculty member may request the University President consider them for a position on the committee as well, but their participation is not required under this policy.

All members of the Committee will be voting members except in situations where research or a project of one (1) of the members of the Committee is being reviewed. In such a case,

the person whose research or project is being considered will not have the right to vote for or against approval of the item being reviewed but may give input to the Committee.

The Animal Care and Use Committee will also review and approve all other University projects that require the use of animals.

Copies of the Committee's minutes and annual report shall be sent to:

- President's Office
- Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Executive Vice President for Finance
- Faculty Senate Office for maintaining records
- Chair of the Committee on Campus Governance
- Graduate School

Members of the Animal Care and Use Committee shall serve annual appointments which may be renewable without restriction of a number of terms.

Definitions: All words and phrases shall be interpreted utilizing their plain meanings unless otherwise defined in another University or Board of Regents policy or by statute or regulation.

Procedures: All procedures linked and related to the policies above shall have the full force and effect of policy if said procedures have first been properly approved by the University's administrator in charge of Academic Affairs.

[[Hyperlink to Academic Affair procedures](#)]

Related Policy Information: 7.01 – Animals and Pets; [[Hyperlink to Animal Welfare Act, 7 U.S.C. § 2131 et seq.](#)]

History: Adopted: XX/XX/1973 [Developed by Graduate Dean and approved by Vice President for Academic Affairs as Policy 3E.03]
 Revised: 12/10/2001 [FSB 01008 approved by President and included in UPM as Policy 3E.0301]
 Revised: 09/XX/2010 [Policy 3E.0301 updated]
 Revised: 10/02/2013 [Policy 3E.0301 updated]
 Revised: 10/25/2016 [Policy 3E.0301 approved by COCG]
 Revised: 08/15/2024 [Policies 3E.03 and 3E.0301 combined as part of UPM Revision]
 Revised: 11/01/2025 [remove references to specific programs for forming the committee]