

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

PURPOSE:

- The Animal Welfare Act requires that minimum standards of care and treatment must be provided for certain animals used for research, teaching, or exhibition purposes. All activities and procedures that use vertebrate animals at Fort Hays State University must comply with public laws, policies and guidelines, and be reviewed and approved by the FHSU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee to ensure that such activities are in compliance with all federal, state and FHSU regulations, policies and standards in to ensure proper animal care and use.
- The IACUC is also responsible for conducting inspections of all areas where animals are housed and used, reviews the institutional program for animal use and reports its findings.
- The IACUC collaborates to educate the faculty and students on the policies and procedures effecting the above activities.
- The IACUC also is required to furnish annual reports that include, in addition to other information and assurances, the common names and number of animals used, listed by procedures involving no pain or distress; pain or distress for which appropriate anesthetic, analgesic, or tranquilizing drugs were used; and pain or distress for which the use of appropriate drugs would have adversely affected the procedures, results or interpretation of the research. The report must certify anesthetic, analgesic and tranquilizing drugs were used appropriately during research and ensure the principal investigator (PI) considered alternatives to painful procedures.

MEMBERSHIP:

- According to the federal regulations, the IACUC must have no fewer than 5 members, including:
 - one Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
 - one practicing scientist experienced in research involving animals
 - one member whose primary concerns are in a nonscientific area
 - one individual who is not affiliated with the institution in any way other than as a member of the IACUC, and is not a member of the immediate family of a person who is affiliated with the institution
- Officers
 - The Chairperson is elected by the IACUC, and is responsible for running convened meetings of the IRB.
- Ex-officio
 - The IACUC administrator (Coordinator of Office of Scholarship and Sponsored Projects) serves as secretary, and maintains all records of meetings, collection permits and other IACUC documents.

HOW APPOINTED:	Chairs make recommendations
ROTATION:	Because the IACUC was recently established (2012), and because of the limited number of qualified personnel, it was decided to maintain stable leadership. The IACUC is in the process of revisiting current procedures and determining rotations
WHEN APPOINTED:	The membership of the IACUC has remained fairly stable.
MEETING FREQUENCY:	The IACUC meets as necessary to conduct the business of the committee, meeting at least twice during each academic semester.
PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE	A modified version of Robert's Rules of Order governs the committee in all cases. Quorum is met when a simple majority, that is 50% of the committee plus one, is present. No business can be conducted without a quorum present.