

## The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

### THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER

#### POLICY STATEMENT

##### **Training Programs**

The Public Health Service Policy (PHS), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and AAALAC International all require the institution to ensure that people caring for or using animals are qualified to do so. The IACUC is the implementation arm for training UMMC animal-based researchers.

Methods of providing training may be quite varied. The IACUC website [<http://iacuc.umc.edu/>] provides information relevant to the IACUC, its function, Animal Activity Protocol forms, and the *Training & Procedural Manual for Animal Use at UMMC*. Additionally, the site outlines the four (4) training requirements set forth by the IACUC for working with animals at UMMC: 1) attendance at an IACUC-sponsored orientation session, 2) completion of required online training courses (<http://www.citiprogram.org/>), 3) participation in an LAF tour, and 4) enrollment in the Occupational Health & Safety program. The CITI Program training site offers topics related to working with the IACUC, a variety of common laboratory animal species, animal surgery, and anesthesia/analgesics.

The Laboratory Animal Facilities (LAF) also provides an avenue for training. Occupational Health and Safety issues, Working with Nonhuman Primates, training in aseptic methodology, and suture training are provided regularly. As well, informal, one-on-one sessions occur on a frequent basis.

Finally, extensive training opportunities are found through the Institutional Biohazards Committee (IBC), the Radiation Safety office, Student/Employee Health, and Risk Management.

Each person involved in the care and use of laboratory animals must receive appropriate training. A "Training Requirements Registration" form serves to document receipt and completion of required training. This form is completed and signed by both the individual and Principal Investigator and maintained on file with the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. In addition, the IACUC training coordinator maintains and updates a database of registered employees who have received/completed training.

Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the Principle Investigator to ensure that her/his personnel are appropriately trained to conduct their duties, ensuring safety and compliance with UMMC policy.

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