

## The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

### THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER

#### POLICY STATEMENT

##### **Training Programs**

The Public Health Service Policy, the United States Department of Agriculture, 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. Information relevant to the IACUC, its function, and Animal Activity Protocol forms may be located on the Office of Research web site [<http://research.umc.edu/>]. Additionally, this site contains an “IACUC on-training” link (<http://www.researchtraining.org/>). This training site offers topics related to the IACUC, differing laboratory animal species, animal surgery, and anesthesia/analgesics.

The Laboratory Animal Facilities 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, the Laboratory Animal Facilities produces a handbook [*Laboratory Animal Facilities Training & Procedural Manual*], providing a thorough review of programs and policies.

Another form of training is found in the *LAF Newsletter*, providing topical information related to IACUC, LAF, or general animal research-related items.

Finally, extensive training opportunities are found through the Institutional Biohazards Committee, 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. The IACUC maintains a database of registered employees who have received training. The “Training Requirements Registration” form is completed and signed by the Principal Investigator and maintained on file with the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the Principle Investigator to ensure that their employees are appropriately trained for their duties, ensuring safety and compliance with UMMC policy.

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