JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

Manual of Policies and Procedures

POLICY NUMBER: II:08:02 **DATE: January 1, 1988**

REVISION/REVIEW DATES: June 1991, May 1997, Aug 2008, Oct 2011, Mar 2015, October 2022, November 2026

SUBJECT: Research, Teaching, or Testing Using Animal Subjects

APPROVED: Dr. Don C. Killingsworth, Jr., President

PURPOSE

This policy ensures that research, teaching, or testing involving animal subjects is conducted in an ethical manner and in accordance with applicable federal and state laws or regulations.

DEFINITIONS

Animal: Any live vertebrate animal, or any other animal designated by applicable law, used, or intended for use in biomedical or behavioral research, production of biological materials, research training, teaching, or testing.

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC): The IACUC is appointed by the President of the University or by his or her designee and derives its authority from the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, the Animal Welfare Act, and the Health Research Extension Act. IACUC members are chosen based on their experience and expertise to oversee the University's animal programs, facilities, and procedures. The committee shall consist of at least 5 members, including a licensed veterinarian and a scientist.

I**nstitutional Official (IO)**: Designated by the President, the IO directs the work of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee to ensure ethical treatment of animals used in research, teaching, or testing.

Animal Care Facility: All buildings, rooms, areas, enclosures, or vehicles, including satellite facilities, used for animal confinement, transport, maintenance, breeding, or experiments. A satellite facility is any containment outside of a core facility or centrally designated or managed areas in which animals are housed for more than twenty-four hours.

POLICY

The Jacksonville State University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is charged with developing, implementing, and monitoring procedures which assure that the use of animal subjects in research, teaching, or testing at JSU is ethical and in compliance with the United States Public Health Service policy on humane care and use of laboratory animals (Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare) and the Animal Welfare Act (United States Department of Agriculture).

The President holds authority to delegate in writing the role of Institutional Official for the IACUC and subsequently oversight of the University's Animal Care and Use Program to a high–level University official. The IO is responsible for the IACUC and appoints members to the IACUC. The IO directs the work of the IACUC, initiates inspections by the IACUC, receives the committee's reports, has resources and authority to take action to correct any issues of noncompliance, prepares periodic reviews of the IACUC, and shares reports with the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and the President.

The IACUC establishes and regularly reviews guidelines to ensure ethical practice at JSU for research, teaching, or testing using animal subjects. These guidelines are available on the Sponsored Programs web page.

Additionally, in support of the University's commitment to ethical treatment and humane care of laboratory animals and its compliance with federal and state law, policy, and guidance, the IACUC, with assistance from Sponsored Programs, provides and documents appropriate training for those University faculty, staff, and students who use animal subjects in research, teaching, or testing.

Any animal care facilities maintained by the University shall be inspected by the IACUC at least semi–annually for compliance with federal guidelines. Inspections will be documented through written reports. The IO will share the reports with the President and Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and will ensure that any noncompliance is corrected in a timely manner.

In addition to reports of inspections and incidents, the IACUC will follow the process and schedule of annual reports of committees, with the IO responsible for the annual report.

Any JSU faculty principal investigator, staff, or student desiring to conduct research, teaching, or testing using animal subjects must submit a protocol to the IACUC for review and approval prior to beginning such work. Information on submission of a research protocol and the protocol form are available on the Sponsored Programs web page.

Questions or requests for additional information should be addressed to the IACUC Chair, at **Animal Research@JSU.edu.**

RESPONSIBILITY

The Assistant Vice Provost for Institutional Research and Effectiveness is responsible for this policy.

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed at least every five (5) years.