



**UNF**

UNIVERSITY *of*  
NORTH FLORIDA.

RESPONSIBLE CARE AND USE OF  
VERTEBRATE ANIMALS IN  
RESEARCH AND TEACHING



# PURPOSE OF ANIMAL USE IN RESEARCH AND TEACHING

- To advance human health and science when there are no non-animal alternatives, and when done in an ethical and humane way
  - Research
  - Teaching

# UNF ANIMAL CARE & USE PROGRAM

- UNF has an Animal Care and Use Program to ensure
  - Appropriate and humane care and use of animals in research and teaching
  - Compliance with federal and state animal use, care, and welfare laws



# REGULATIONS

- IRAC - Interagency Research Animal Committee
  - “U.S. Government Principles for the Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research and Education”
- Public Health Service Act as published by OLAW
  - Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
  - “Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals”
- Animal Welfare Act – Public Law
- THE GUIDE: “Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals”
  - Developed by National Academy of Sciences Institute for Laboratory Animal Resources (ILAR)
- 1993 AVMA Panel Report on Euthanasia
  - American Veterinary Medical Association



# COMPONENTS OF UNF's ANIMAL CARE AND USE PROGRAM

- Institutional Official(s)
- IACUC
- IACUC support staff and animal facility staff
- Researchers
- Instructors
- Policies, procedures, resources and facilities

# IACUC

- The animal care program is directed by the *Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee*
  - Committee qualified through the experience and expertise of its members that oversees the institution's animal research and educational use, facilities, policies, and procedures
  - Comprised of animal researchers, veterinarians, individuals who do not use animals
  - Individuals not affiliated with the Campus who represent the concerns of the Community

# ROLE OF THE IACUC

- (1) Review institution's Animal Program and its function
- (2) Animal use protocol review
- (3) Regular animal facilities review

# ROLE OF THE IACUC

- Communicate policies and procedures so that everyone understands expectations
- Implement regulations using scientifically sound, performance-based standards
- Establish effective training programs
- Assure the public of quality animal care
- Ensures oversight and compliance with Guide, Policy, AWRs, APHIS/AC, NIH/OLAW, AAALAC



# ANIMALS & ACTIVITIES THAT MAKE THE LIST . . .

- Any live vertebrate animal used or intended for use in research, research training, experimentation, biological testing, teaching, or related purposes
  - Does it have a backbone?
  - Dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, rats, mice, frogs, turtles, snakes, birds, fish
- Laboratory research use
- Classroom instruction
- Field use - studies conducted on free-living wild animals in natural habitat

# . . .AND THOSE THAT DON'T

- Crustaceans, worms, insects and other arthropods
- Animal tissue obtained from tissue banks off campus
  - If the animal was not specifically killed for the tissue, or the tissue was obtained commercially



# INSTITUTIONAL ASSURANCE NUMBER

- PHS-OLAW approves written assurance that the applicant organization:
  - Meets Public Law requirements of proper care and treatment of animals used in research and teaching
  - Has an animal care committee
  - Has available instruction or training in humane practice of animal use for personnel
  - Assurance resubmitted every 5 years
- No PHS funded activity involving animals permitted without approved Assurance



# GOALS AND BENEFITS FOR USE OF VERTEBRATE ANIMALS

## ■ Goals

- Use minimum species, numbers required to obtain valid results
- Avoid or minimize discomfort, distress, pain
- Replace with mathematical models, computer simulation, in vitro biological systems, videos

## ■ Benefits of animal use

- Advance human health
- Advance science
- External funding

# ANIMAL CARE ACRONYMS TO KNOW

- AAALAC-Int'l Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care-International
- AALAS-American Association of Laboratory Animal Science
- APHIS – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (U.S. Dept. Agriculture)
- AVMA – American Veterinary Medical Association
- AWRs – Animal Welfare Regulations AWA-Animal Welfare Act
- IACUC-Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
- ILAR - National Academy of Sciences Institute for Laboratory Animal Resources
- IRAC - Interagency Research Animal Committee
- OLAW-Office for Laboratory Animal Welfare (developed by ILAR)
- USDA-United States Department of Agriculture