

## **Role and Authority of the Wofford College Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee**

- A. The status of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is to be the definitive source of information regarding the humane and ethical use of animals at Wofford College, to be referred to by the administration, principal investigators, and faculty for judgments regarding humane animal use.
- B. The role of the IACUC is to assist Wofford College and its agents, principal investigators and faculty in compliance with laws, regulations, and standards of good practice via review of written protocols.
- C. The authority of the IACUC is to approve, require revisions, withhold approval, or suspend animal use protocols. Without an approved protocol on file, a principal investigator may not begin work with animals. Disapproval of a protocol by the IACUC is final and may not be reversed by the administration. The administration may, however, suspend or deny protocols that have been approved by the IACUC.
- D. The IACUC acts as an advisory body to the administration and college faculty.
- E. The IACUC grants variances from the regulations in either of two circumstances:

Substitutions are permitted from the regulations in either of two circumstances:

- Substitutions are permitted which accomplish the aims of the guide or regulation in a better way, in the professional judgment of the IACUC and supported by scientific justification.
- Substitutions are permitted if the objectives of the study cannot be met following generally recognized practices, provided that the IACUC is persuaded that the principal investigator has designed the research in the most humane way possible consistent with achieving the scientific objectives.

- F. The IACUC consists of no less than 5 members\* who meet the following requirements:
  - 1. one Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, with training or experience in laboratory animal science and medicine, who has direct or delegated program authority and responsibility for activities involving animals at the college;
  - 2. one practicing scientist experienced in research involving animals;
  - 3. one member whose primary concerns are in a nonscientific area (for example, ethicist, lawyer, member of the clergy); and
  - 4. one individual who is not affiliated with the college 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 college.

\*An individual who meets the requirements of more than one of the above categories may fulfill more than one requirement. However, the committee must consist of no less than 5 members.

In the event of a conflict of interest, an IACUC member must be excused during the final deliberations and vote on the given protocol.

A quorum of the IACUC is defined as greater than 50% of members in attendance.