PROTECTION OF ANIMAL SUBJECTS IN RESEARCH THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO

(Approved by the Chancellor, April 12, 1983) (Revised May 2, 1989)

Background

On November 20, 1985, the United States Congress passed the Health Research Extension Act of 1985. This law applies Public Health Service policy on animal welfare to all institutions receiving federal funds for research and training activities involving animals. As a result of this legislation, the University has revised its animal care policy and amended its "Animal Care Assurance" previously filed with the Federal Government. In addition, modifications to internal evaluation procedures have been made for conformity with Public Health Service guidelines. The following statement supersedes all earlier communications about the use and care of animals at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

II. Policy

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro is committed to responsible and humane treatment of animals used in all research projects of students and faculty, whether or not such research projects are supported by federal funds. Use and care of all animals will comply with standards set by regulations of the federal government. Ongoing care of animals kept for research purposes will be regularly supervised, and plans for specific uses of animals in research activities will be reviewed by objective persons prior to the beginning of such work.

The Chancellor has responsibility for overseeing the implementation of this policy. The Chancellor reviews reports on the status of animal care and use and authorizes signature of compliance documents and special reports required by Federal regulations. To assist in carrying out this policy, the Chancellor has established the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) and has delegated to that body specific responsibilities. The Chancellor has designated the Director of the Office of Research Compliance as the Institutional Official responsible for submitting reports to Federal agencies on the use and care of animals.

III. Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee oversees the University's animal-related programs, facilities, and procedures.

A. Membership

The Committee consists of not fewer than five members and shall include:

- one doctor of veterinary medicine, with training or experience in laboratory animal science or medicine, who has direct or delegated program responsibility for activities involving animals at the University;
- (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);
- (4) one individual who is not affiliated with the institution 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 University;
- (5) the Director of the Office of Research Compliance and the Associate Provost for Research, ex officio members;
- (6) the chair of the committee will be appointed by the Chancellor for a term not to exceed two years.

B. Responsibilities

- (l) Review, as required by Federal regulation, the University's program for humane care and use of animals;
- (2) Inspect, as required by Federal regulation, all of the University's animal facilities;
- (3) Prepare reports of IACUC evaluations conducted as required above and submit the reports to the Institutional Official;
- (4) Review concerns involving the care and use of animals at the University;
- (5) Make recommendations to the Institutional Official regarding any aspect of the University's animal program, facilities, or personnel training;
- (6) Review proposed and ongoing research projects for compliance with University and Federal policies;
- (7) Modify or suspend research activities which are inconsistent with University and Federal policy on the humane care and use of animals;
- (8) Oversee training programs for personnel involved in animal care and research; and
- (9) In consultation with administrators, prepare reports as required by federal policy to sponsoring agencies on the status of the University's animal-related programs.

IV. Office of Research Compliance

A. Responsibilities

The Office of Research Compliance, through the Associate Provost for Research, serves as liaison with federal agencies in the ongoing implementation of the University animal care program and, in consultation with other administrators, prepares assurance documents as necessary. The Director has ongoing responsibility to communicate concerns regarding animal use and care to responsible University officials and faculty.

B. Implementation

The Office of Research Compliance and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee establishes and publishes procedures for the implementation of this policy in the Animal Facility Manual, which is available from the Manager of the Animal Facilities. These procedures are consistent continuously with the regulations published by the U.S. Public Health Service. Researchers who plan to use animals in sponsored or unsponsored research are responsible for knowledge of the University's procedures.