

POLICY ON THE ETHICAL USE OF ANIMALS IN RESEARCH AND TEACHING

Effective Date: October 31, 2014

Originating Office: Office of the Vice-President,
Research & Graduate Studies

Supersedes /Amends: n/a

Policy Number: VPRGS-13

PREAMBLE

The use of animals in research at Concordia is performed in accordance with the guidelines and standards of the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC). The CCAC was established in 1968 to oversee the ethical use of animals in science in Canada. As part of its mandate, the CCAC conducts regular site visits to institutions that use animals in research and issues the CCAC Certificate of GAP - Good Animal Practice® to those found to be in compliance with its standards.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy and its related [Procedures](#) is to ensure that all members of the University community (faculty, students and staff known as “Researchers”) who conduct research or teaching activities (whether funded or not) that involve the use of animals do so in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and in a humane and ethical manner.

SCOPE

This Policy, and its related [Procedures](#), apply to all Researchers and outline the principles that govern ethics review of research and teaching involving animals.

POLICY

1. The Vice-President of Research and Graduate Studies shall have the overall responsibility for Concordia’s animal use program and for the occasional review of this Policy.
2. Researchers shall be responsible for complying with the guidelines set forth by the CCAC as well as with this Policy and its related [Procedures](#), and any other related University guidelines and policies.
3. The [Procedures](#) related to this Policy address the following:

POLICY ON THE ETHICAL USE OF ANIMALS IN RESEARCH AND TEACHING

Page 2 of 2

- Composition of the Concordia University Animal Research Ethics Committee (UAREC)
- Mandate and Authority of the UAREC
- Mandate of the Office of Research (OOR), Consulting Veterinarians and Animal Care Facility (ACF)
- Meetings and related Processes of the UAREC
- Appeal Mechanism
- Miscellaneous UAREC Processes and Responsibilities

Any amendments to the [Procedures](#) as recommended by the Vice-President of Research and Graduate Studies and endorsed by the Chair, UAREC, are subject to the approval of relevant Faculty Deans.

4. All researchers conducting research (whether funded or not) involving the use of animals must submit an Animal Use Summary Protocol Form (AUSPF) for UAREC review, and must obtain the UAREC Certificate of Ethical Acceptability for Research or Teaching Involving the Use of Animals (Certificate) before the research begins. Research funds will not be released until the Certificate is obtained.
5. Any modifications to an originally approved protocol must be reviewed and approved by the UAREC or, if minor, by the Chair and veterinarians of UAREC as well as the Manager of the ACF.
6. The Certificate will remain valid for one (1) year following the date of approval. For all studies continuing beyond this one (1) year time-frame, an Animal Use Summary Protocol Renewal Form (AUSPRF) must be submitted to the UAREC for consideration before the end of the validity period in order to ensure on-going ethics approval. Protocols may be renewed twice, after which time a new AUSPF must be submitted.

Adopted by Senate at its meeting of October 31, 2014