

Care and Use of Animals Policy- Plymouth State University

1. Preamble

1.1 Plymouth State University (PSU) recognizes its responsibility to produce and disseminate knowledge in accordance with its mission of research, teaching, and public service. Some activities conducted at PSU necessitate the use of live vertebrate animals. Recognizing the importance of using live animals for these purposes, PSU, for both ethical and scientific reasons, insists upon the highest standards for the care and use of such animals. Accordingly, PSU maintains a policy for the care and use of live vertebrate animals at the institution that is balanced with PSU's mission. PSU strives to ensure that all members of its community understand and adhere to this policy.

2. Definitions

2.1 Activities: Include, but are not limited to, research, research training, biological testing, instruction of students, and maintenance of animal collections, exhibits, flocks, or herds.

2.2 Animal Welfare Act: Public Law 89-544, 1966, as amended, (P.L. 91-579, P.L. 94-279 and P.L. 99-198) 7 U.S.C. 2131 et. Seq. Implementing regulations are published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR, Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, parts 1, 2, and 3), and are administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

2.3 Assurance: PSU Assurance of Compliance with U.S. Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

2.4 Care and Use: Petting, feeding, watering, cleaning, manipulating, loading, crating, shifting, transferring, immobilizing, restraining, treating, training, working and moving, or any similar activity with respect to any animal.

2.5 Guide: The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, National Academy Press, 1996, Washington, D.C., or succeeding revised editions.

2.6 Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC): The committee established by PSU Administration to oversee PSU's animal program, facilities, and procedures.

2.7 Institutional Official: The individual designated by PSU Administration to ensure that activities involving the care and use of animals at PSU are humane and in compliance with all applicable regulations and internal policies. This individual is the Provost.

3. Statement of the Policy

3.1 At PSU, all activities proposed to involve the care and use of live vertebrate animals must be reviewed and receive written, unconditional approval from the IACUC before commencing. In addition, all activities involving vertebrate animals must be in accordance with:

3.1.1 Federal, state, and local laws and regulations applicable to the care and/or use of animals. These include, but are not limited to, the Animal Welfare Act; federal regulations implementing the Animal Welfare Act; the Health Research Extension Act of 1985; the Public Health Service Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals; the provisions and principles set forth in the most recent editions of the Guide; the Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Agricultural Research and Teaching; and,

3.1.2 PSU policy as set forth in the Assurance.

4. Applicability. This policy is applicable to any activity involving the care and use of vertebrate animals:

4.1 Sponsored by PSU, or

4.2 Conducted by or under the direction of any employee, student, or agent of PSU in connection with his or her individual PSU responsibilities, or

4.3 Conducted by or under the direction of any employee, student, or agent of PSU involving the use of any PSU property or facility, or

4.4 Involving any collaborating, sub granting, or subcontracting individual or institution working with PSU.

5. Administration of Policy

5.1 The Institutional Official is responsible for the administration of this policy and its procedures as set forth in the Assurance.

6. Enforcement

6.1 The Institutional Official is responsible for establishing and enforcing this policy. Violations of this policy fall under the purview of the Assurance.