



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

University of Calgary Animal Research and Education (UCARE) Executive Committee

Terms of Reference

Purpose:

The UCARE Executive Committee aims to guide and direct the institutional focus of animal use at the University of Calgary (the University). The UCARE Executive Committee serves as a forum for discussion of academic, operational and strategic matters pertaining to animal care and use at the University. The committee is advisory to the University Veterinarian and Vice President Research of the University on issues related to animal care and use. Through the input of its members, drawn from all academic segments of the University involved with animal use, the UCARE Executive Committee aims to help in the evaluation, refinement and optimization of animal care and use practices at the University.

The UCARE Executive Committee also aims to help in the resolution of animal use and animal use-related policy issues. In undertaking these activities the UCARE Executive Committee will exploit its multidisciplinary composition: its advice will be based on the best that the Faculty clusters and other segments of the University have to offer.

Other University committees active in animal research policy, planning and development include the University Animal Welfare Committee (UAWC), the Health Sciences Animal Care Committee (HSACC), the Life & Environmental Sciences Animal Care Committee (LESACC), and the Veterinary Sciences Animal Care Committee (VSACC). UCARE Executive Committee complements, and does not duplicate, activities undertaken elsewhere.

Membership:

University Veterinarian (Chair)

Associate Vice President Research (Vice Chair)

Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (or designate)

Senior Associate Dean Research, Faculty of Medicine (or designate)

Associate Dean Research, Faculty of Science (or designate)

Associate Dean Research, Faculty of Kinesiology (or designate)

Associate Dean Research, Faculty of Arts (or designate)

Four (4) to eight (8) academics from various sectors of research animal use (egs. Behavioural Neuroscientists, Physiologists, Immunologists, Pathophysiologists, etc) and Faculties (egs. Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Science, Arts, Kinesiology or Engineering) representing the Principal Investigators or research animal users.

Two (2) to four (4) academics representing animal use in education and teaching.

Any additional Full Members required, at the discretion of the Committee.

Executive Secretary (Recording Secretary) supplied by the University Veterinarian Office.
Membership may be supplemented through ad hoc member addition for examination of specific and focused issues at the discretion of the Chair.

Duties:

Acts to proactively guide and direct the institutional focus of animal use and to create the best environment possible for animal-based research and teaching.

To review, evaluate and make recommendations with respect to operational and financial matters in animal facilities.

Acts as a forum for discussion and to provide advice and feedback to the University Veterinarian and Vice President Research of the University on issues related to animal care and use in research and teaching.

Acts in an advisory capacity to, and can formulate recommendations for action by, the University Veterinarian and the Vice-President (Research) as appropriate with a view to improving the environment of animal use in research and teaching.

Acts to guide the University in terms of academic issues that affect animal user Principal Investigators and/or Educators and their abilities to be competitive for grants and new technologies involving animal research and teaching.

May strike specific subcommittees (with additional resources and/or personnel/members when deemed necessary) to address focused issues of need or concern.

Meeting Frequency

The Committee will meet a minimum of four (4) times per year.

Reporting:

The Committee reports annually to the Vice President Research through the Chair.

Terms of Reference Review:

The Committee Terms of Reference can be informally reviewed at any given time. They will be formally reviewed by the Committee at least every 3 years. Approval by at least 51% of members (via email or in person) is required.

Membership Review:

The Committee membership will be formally reviewed by the Committee at least every 3 years.