### **MEMBERSHIP**

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) must be composed of a Chairperson and at least two additional members. [2.31, Policy #15]

#### **Members**

The IACUC must be composed of: [2.31(b)(2)]

- a Chairperson
- at least one Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)
- at least one nonaffiliated member

NOTE: To be a valid IACUC, all three positions must be filled.

IACUC members must be qualified to assess the research facility's animal program, facilities, and procedures. The research facility is responsible for: [Policy #15]

- ensuring the qualifications of the members
- providing training and instruction to the members in areas such as:
  - the Animal Welfare Act
  - protocol review
  - facility inspection

Although not specifically prohibited by the AWA, APHIS strongly discourages one person from filling more than one of these positions, such as: [Policy #15]

- the DVM being the Chairperson
- the nonaffiliated member being the Chairperson

Note: APHIS also strongly discourages the research facility's Institutional Official from being the Chairperson or DVM.

If the IACUC consists of more than three members, not more than three members can be from the same administrative unit of the research facility, such as: [2.31(b)(4)]

- Biology Department
- Cardiology Department

### Chairperson

The Chairperson is responsible for all activities of the IACUC including, but not limited to:

- scheduling meetings
- setting the agenda for meetings

- sending a list of protocols to be reviewed to members
- moderating the meetings
- ensuring the research facility's compliance with the AWA and its regulations and standards
- keeping records of activities
- informing the Principal Investigator of the IACUC's decisions regarding his/her protocol
- sending the required reports to the Institutional Official

Note: The Chairperson may delegate one or more of these activities to other IACUC members or research facility staff.

# Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine must have: [2.31(b)(3)(i)]

- training or experience in laboratory animal science or medicine, and
- direct or delegated responsibility for activities involving animals at the research facility, and
- ability to critically review a protocol for veterinary care issues

NOTE: A research facility's Attending Veterinarian may fulfill the role of the DVM on the IACUC or the position may be filled by another veterinarian.

## Nonaffiliated Member

The nonaffiliated or outside member represents the interests of the general public and must NOT be: [2.31(b)(3)(ii), Policy #15]

- a member of the immediate family of a person who is affiliated with the research facility
- a laboratory animal user at any research facility
- a person with a financial interest in the facility, such as an animal supplier
- compensated to an amount which jeopardizes the member's status as a nonaffiliated member

Compensation for the nonaffiliated member may include: [Policy #15]

- travel expenses
- parking

- meals
- a modest monetary payment which does not:
  - become an important source of income
  - ▶ influence voting on the IACUC

Examples of nonaffiliated members include, but are not limited to:

- clergy
- retirees
- humane society volunteers or employees
- practicing veterinarians
- physicians
- biologists not conducting animal research
- bioethicists
- non-research staff members from other institutions

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