

**Name:** Policy on the Role and Responsibility of Principal Investigators Using Animals in Research or Teaching at Saint Mary's University

**Approving Authority:**

3-NOV-2023

**Office:** Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, Animal Care Committee

**:** Associate Vice President Research

**(s):** NA

NA

**Next Required Review:** 2026

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## 1. Preamble

- 1.1 As a certified institution of the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC), Saint Mary's University (SMU) follows the [CCAC Policy Statement for: senior administrators responsible for animal care and use programs](#) which outlines the responsibilities of authors of Animal Use Protocols (AUP).
- 1.2 The Policy on the Role and Responsibility of Principal Investigators Using Animals in Research or Teaching at Saint Mary's University is ultimately the responsibility of the Vice President Academic and Research (VPAR). The VPAR has designated day-to-day responsibility for the Policy to the Associate Vice President Research (AVPR). The AVPR has authorized the SMU Animal Care Committee (ACC) to oversee the Policy, to review it annually, and make recommendations on any changes to the AVPR.

## 2. Purpose

- 2.1 The purpose of this policy is to describe the role and responsibilities of Principal Investigators who work with, or are planning to work with, animals in research and/or teaching.

## 3. Jurisdiction/Scope

- 3.1 This policy applies to all Principal Investigators (PI) who hold Animal Use Protocols (AUP) approved by the SMU ACC, or PIs planning to work with animals

#### 4. Definitions

ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEE (ACC)	The local representative of the CCAC responsible for ensuring that all animals used in teaching, research or testing at SMU are treated ethically and in accordance with the Canadian Council on Animal Care's (CCAC) policies and guidelines.
ANIMAL FACILITY MANAGER	Designated personnel who oversee animal facility activities and operations. SMU has an Animal Facility Manager who is responsible for the SMU Aquatic Research Facility. In some cases, a PI holds this role.
ANIMAL USER	Any faculty, staff, or student who use animals for research or teaching covered under CCAC mandate (for more information, see <a href="#">CCAC Policy: Requirement for submitting an animal protocol</a> ).
ANIMAL USE PROTOCOL (AUP)	A protocol outlining use of animals in research or teaching that has been submitted by a PI and received approval by the ACC.
NON-COMPLIANCE	



It is the responsibility of the PI to report all animal welfare incidents to the SMU ACC within 24 hours of an incident occurring. For more information, see the Policy for Reporting Animal Welfare Incidents at Saint Mary's University.

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