POLICY 7.10 – Standardized Training in Animal Care and Use

Policy Category: Research
Subject: Standardized training in animal care and use
Approving Authority: Board of Governors
Responsible Officer: Vice-President (Research)
Responsible Office: Office of the Vice-President (Research)
Related Procedures: Procedures for Standardized Training in Animal Care and Use
Related University Policies: MAPP 7.12 - Policy and Procedures for the Use of Animals in Research and Teaching
Effective Date: November 22, 2012
Revised: January 27, 2005, November 29, 2009

I. PURPOSE & SCOPE

This policy applies to all individuals who care for and/or use animals, as defined by the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC), in academic endeavours for research, teaching, and/or testing, or through their employment at the University and its affiliated institutions, herein referred to as “Animal Users,” describes the training required by CCAC for such individuals, and assigns responsibility for the oversight of that training.

II. POLICY

1. “Animal Users,” are required to complete the following CCAC-mandated animal training:
   1.1 Animal Care and Use Sakai course;
   1.2 Appropriate ‘hands-on’ workshops and their associated Sakai prerequisites.
2. Evidence that an equivalent course or experience has been obtained elsewhere may exempt the Animal User from the requirement outline in paragraph 1, above. Detailed information with respect to potential exemptions is found in the associated procedures for this policy.
3. Documentation that the Animal Care and Use Sakai course and applicable workshops have been completed successfully must be confirmed prior to performing procedures on animals.
4. On behalf of the Animal Use Subcommittee (AUS), the Animal Care and Veterinary Services (ACVS) Research Education Team will administer the University’s CCAC-mandated training programs.

5. The responsibility for institutional animal user training and competence assurance is shared among ACVS Research Education Team, as well as Principal Investigators and other supervisors, e.g. facility managers. Principal Investigators and supervisors are responsible to oversee all new animal users and ensure demonstrated competence of all individuals working with animals associated with AUS-approved Animal Use Protocols within AUS-approved areas.

6. Competence in animal procedures is defined as meeting the appropriate standards in accordance with all regulatory guidelines.