UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Position Description

TITLE: Attending Veterinarian

DIVISION: Research & Economic Development

REPORTS TO: Vice President, Research & Economic Development

GRADE: N/A

SUPERVISES: Professional, technical, administrative and other Research Office support staff

BASIC FUNCTION:

Have overall responsibility for the veterinary care and animal husbandry program. Provide direct and indirect consultation and support regarding the health and welfare of all animals under the responsibility of the University in compliance with applicable Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the 8th Edition of the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, and other state and federal regulations as applicable.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Responsible for ensuring that proper husbandry and veterinary care is provided for all animals within the University’s central and satellite facilities.

Observe animals to assess their health. Perform clinical and surgical procedures and necropsies. Supervise, monitor and/or perform surgery, administrate anesthesia and pre- and post-operative care. Conduct clinical rounds with animal care technicians.

Maintain appropriate clinical records.

Develop and monitor animal-related research activities and animal health surveillance programs.

Assist and advise Principal Investigators in humane and proper experimental design and conduct as it relates to animal welfare and veterinary issues. Assist Principal Investigators with protocol development and execution.

Assist researchers in performing veterinary-related technical procedures in support of existing research to improve animal health, care or use.

Provide formal and informal training and consultation for faculty, staff and students on methods of laboratory animal surgery, aseptic technique, pre- and post-op care, pain management and euthanasia.

Assist with teaching the training classes mandated by Federal law and University policy to ensure appropriate care and use of laboratory animals.

As the University’s designated Attending Veterinarian, serve as a voting member of the URI Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

Work with the IACUC and the Office of Research Integrity (ORI) Director in formulating training programs.
Participate in the development and implementation of IACUC policies and in other assignments needed to support the ORI Director. Contribute to SOP development and implementation.

Assist faculty and staff in resolving problems and achieving compliance with research activities. Perform initial pre-review of protocols for IACUC.

Attend meetings on animal science, management, training and education.

Maintain knowledge of federal and state laws.

Correspond as necessary with federal and state officials, and consult IACUC concerning University policies and procedures.

Provide the ORI with data, documentation, and other information as needed for annual reports to federal regulatory agencies.

Be available for federally-required internal inspections (e.g., IACUC semi-annual inspections) and external inspections (e.g., USDA inspections) of animal facilities and program reviews.

Assist ORI Director in the oversight and administration of day-to-day operation of the animal facilities.

Assist ORI Director with building design modifications, preventative and building maintenance, ensuring facilities confirm to NIH guidelines and AAALAC accrediting standards.

Work with the University’s IO, ORI Director and IACUC to communicate with the community about biomedical research at the University.

Participate in the crisis management team and disaster planning.

Be available for on-call (off-hours, nights, weekends, and holidays).

OTHER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Perform other duties relevant to the office as required.

LICENSES, TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT:

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree; licensed to practice in at least one state. Personal computers, printers; word processing, database management and spreadsheet software.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS:

The potential exists where there is exposure to unpleasant odors, chemicals, drugs, radioactive isotopes, animal waste and the possibility of animal bites. This position is subject to both inside and outside work and extreme cold and hot temperatures can be encountered.

QUALIFICATIONS:

REQUIRED: Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM/VMD) from an AVMA-accredited college; diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM); demonstrated ability to provide leadership to a growing bio-medical research program; demonstrated strong oral and written communication skills; demonstrated strong interpersonal skills;
demonstrated relevant experience in managing a laboratory animal resources program; demonstrated past experience working as a veterinarian in a university environment; demonstrated knowledge of the regulatory and compliance environment, including demonstrated knowledge and experience with PHS Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals; demonstrated previous interaction with an IACUC board; demonstrated success in working as part of a team; demonstrated ability to work with diverse groups; demonstrated ability to organize, coordinate and supervise a support staff.

PREFERRED: Specialty Board certification by the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine; demonstrated knowledge and experience with AAALAC standards; experience with aquatic care and environments.

ALL REQUIREMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE MODIFICATION TO REASONABLY ACCOMMODATE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.