IACUC POLICY
ACCEPTING REVIEWS FROM OTHER INSTITUTIONS

BACKGROUND

There are many circumstances that involve partnerships between collaborating institutions or relationships between institutional animal care programs. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office for Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) agree that review of a research project or evaluation of a program or facility by more than one recognized Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is not a federal requirement. This policy defines when the University of Rhode Island (URI) will accept another institution’s IACUC approval and/or require submission to the university’s IACUC.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

WORK DONE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND WITH THE FUNDING ADMINISTERED THROUGH ANOTHER INSTITUTION.

The URI IACUC will review and approve all animal care and use activities performed in University-owned or leased facilities, and all animal care and use activities involving University-owned animals. The work must have a URI faculty member sponsor and the principal investigator must complete the URI IACUC online protocol submission form. All personnel involved in the study performed at URI must comply with all IACUC policies and procedures.

WORK DONE AT ANOTHER INSTITUTION WITH THE FUNDING ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

The URI IACUC will accept the review and approval of the institution performing the work if:

a. the performing institution has the required Public Health Service (PHS) assurance,
b. the performing institution has the required USDA registration,
c. the URI IACUC receives a copy of the approved protocol from the performing institution,
d. the URI IACUC receives a copy of the performing institution’s semi-annual report for the year(s) the study entails or information about any significant questions or issues related to the specific protocol raised during a semi-annual program inspection.
e. the URI IACUC receives a copy of the annual protocol renewal approval from the performing institution.

A formal written agreement between URI and the performing institution must describe these requirements. OLAW recommends that documentation on the protocol be maintained by both IACUCs.
If any of the requirements a – e are not met as required, then the PI will be required to submit a protocol to the URI IACUC for review. Note that submitting a protocol to the URI IACUC for work performed at another institution requires the URI IACUC add that location to URI’s PHS assurance and requires the URI IACUC to inspect, every six months, the performing institution’s facilities where animals will be housed and/or taken for use during the course of the studies. All expenses incurred by the IACUC to inspect the performing institution’s facilities must be paid by the University faculty member sponsor or another party on the sponsor’s behalf and not by the URI IACUC.

REFERENCES

Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, 8th Edition (2011)

NIH Grants Policy Statement, 2013 (Part II, 15.2.1)