I. **INTRODUCTION** (Purpose and Intent)

The University of South Florida (USF) affirms that respect for all forms of life is an inherent characteristic of scientists who conduct research involving animals; that the respectful treatment, care, and use of animals involved in research is an ethical and scientific necessity; and that the use of animals in research and teaching contributes to the advancement of knowledge and understanding.

Accordingly, USF has established and provides resources for an Animal Care and Use program that is managed in accordance with the *Animal Welfare Act and Regulations* and the *Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* ("PHS Policy").

All research and teaching activities involving vertebrate animals must be conducted in accordance with USF Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) policies, available in the policies section of the Research & Innovation web site: [https://www.usf.edu/research-innovation/research-integrity-compliance/documents/iacuc/iacuc-policies.pdf](https://www.usf.edu/research-innovation/research-integrity-compliance/documents/iacuc/iacuc-policies.pdf).

II. **INSTITUTIONAL OFFICIAL**

The Senior Vice President for Research, Innovation & Knowledge Enterprise is the Institutional Official responsible for the Animal Care and Use program. The Institutional Official has appointed an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) that is responsible for the oversight and evaluation of the animal care and use program, procedures, and facilities.
III. **INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE**

All vertebrate animal use, including field studies, conducted by USF faculty, students, or staff, must be reviewed and approved by the IACUC pursuant to IACUC policies.

The IACUC has authority to review, approve, require modification, or withhold approval of proposed research or teaching using vertebrate animals; to review the facilities and program for animal care and use, including laboratories outside of animal facilities where procedures are performed; to review and, if warranted, investigate concerns involving the care and use of vertebrate animals; to prepare written reports of its evaluations; to make recommendations to the Institutional Official concerning any aspect of the animal care and use program; and to suspend any activity involving vertebrate animals that does not conform to IACUC policies or state or federal regulations.

IV. **DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE**

Comparative Medicine in Research & Innovation serves as an advocate for all animals housed at USF facilities, implements and administers the Animal Care and Use program, and provides various services and functions as described in the IACUC policies.

V. **RESEARCH INTEGRITY & COMPLIANCE**

Research Integrity & Compliance in Research & Innovation provides the IACUC with administrative support services and assists the IACUC with its functions of oversight and evaluation of the Animal Care and Use program.

*Current Responsible Office: Research & Innovation*

*Refer to the appropriate Responsible Office website for a current name of the Vice President or other Responsible Officer.*

*History: New 12-6-89, Amended 1-26-09, 8-24-16 (technical), 3-24-20 (technical), 10-1-21 (technical).*

*Consolidation Amendments Effective: 7-1-20*