

## **Marian University Indianapolis Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee Charter**

The mission of the Marian University Indianapolis (MU-Indy) Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee (IACUC) is to ensure the appropriate care and treatment of all vertebrate animals used in teaching and/or research activities in facilities under of the oversight of Marian University (except on the campus at Marian University's Ancilla College (MUAC), which is under the oversight of the MUAC-IACUC). Additionally, the MU-Indy IACUC will oversee activities involving vertebrate animals carried out by representatives of Marian University (faculty, staff, students, volunteers, etc.) at field sites or locations where another IACUC does not have oversight.

The MU-Indy is guided by the institution's Catholic and Franciscan values and regulations outlined in the Federal Animal Welfare Act, Chapter 54:2143(b), the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care, the *Use of Laboratory Animals and the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, and other statutory locations.

### Institutional Structure & Support

The MU-Indy IACUC is administratively located within the Office of Research Operations, Integrity & Compliance within the Research & Scholarship Administration of the Division of Academic Affairs. The MU-Indy IACUC is led by an appointed Chairperson. A Vice-Chairperson may also be appointed. The MU-Indy IACUC is financially and operationally supported by the Research & Scholarship Administration and directly reports to the Assistant Provost for Research & Scholarship on behalf of the Provost, who serves as the Institutional Official.

### Authority & Purview

Under the authority of the Institutional Official, the MU-Indy IACUC is empowered to:

- Review, at least semiannually, the institution's program for the humane care and use of animals;
- Inspect, at least semiannually, the institution's animal facilities (including satellite facilities);
- Prepare reports to the Institutional Official of the IACUC evaluations;
- Review animal welfare concerns;
- Make recommendations to the IO on any aspect of the animal program, facilities, or personnel training;
- Review and approve research and teaching activities related to the care and use of animals;
- Review and approve, proposed significant changes to the use of animals in ongoing activities; and
- Be authorized to suspend an activity involving animals.

Except as noted above, all teaching or research conducted involving vertebrate animals must be reviewed and approved by the MU-Indy IACUC prior to the initiation. The MU-Indy IACUC also provides continuous oversight of projects for changes in protocol which may alter the investigational situation. Additionally, the MU-Indy IACUC provides advice and consultation to investigators on employing vertebrate animals in an activity. All pertinent records related to MU-Indy deliberations and actions are kept on behalf of the committee by the Marian University Office of Research Operations, Integrity & Compliance in accordance with state and federal regulations.

### Composition

In accordance with federal statute, composition of the MU-Indy IACUC must include at least five voting members, each of whom have voting rights:

- A chairperson, who must be a member of the Marian University faculty
- A veterinarian with training or experience in laboratory animal science and medicine, who has direct or delegated authority and responsibility for activities involving animals at the institution;
- At least one member from the Marian University faculty with experience in animal research;
- One member who does not utilize laboratory animals, has no affiliation to Marian University outside of IACUC involvement, and whose immediate family members (spouse/domestic partner or dependent children) have no such affiliation with Marian University;
- One member whose primary concerns are in a non-scientific area (for example but not limited to an ethicist, lawyer, member of the clergy).

The following positions are *ex officio*, non-voting members of the IRB to serve as liaisons with research administrative units:

- Animal Facility Supervisor
- Director of Research Safety & Risk Management
- Director of Research Operations & Compliance
- Director of Sponsored Programs & Research
- Assistant Provost for Research & Scholarship

This charter is enacted by signature this \_\_9\_\_ day of \_\_November\_\_ in the year \_\_2023\_\_ by the Institutional Official and supersedes any and all other guiding documents of the Marian University Indianapolis IACUC.



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Alan Silva, PhD  
Executive Vice President & Provost