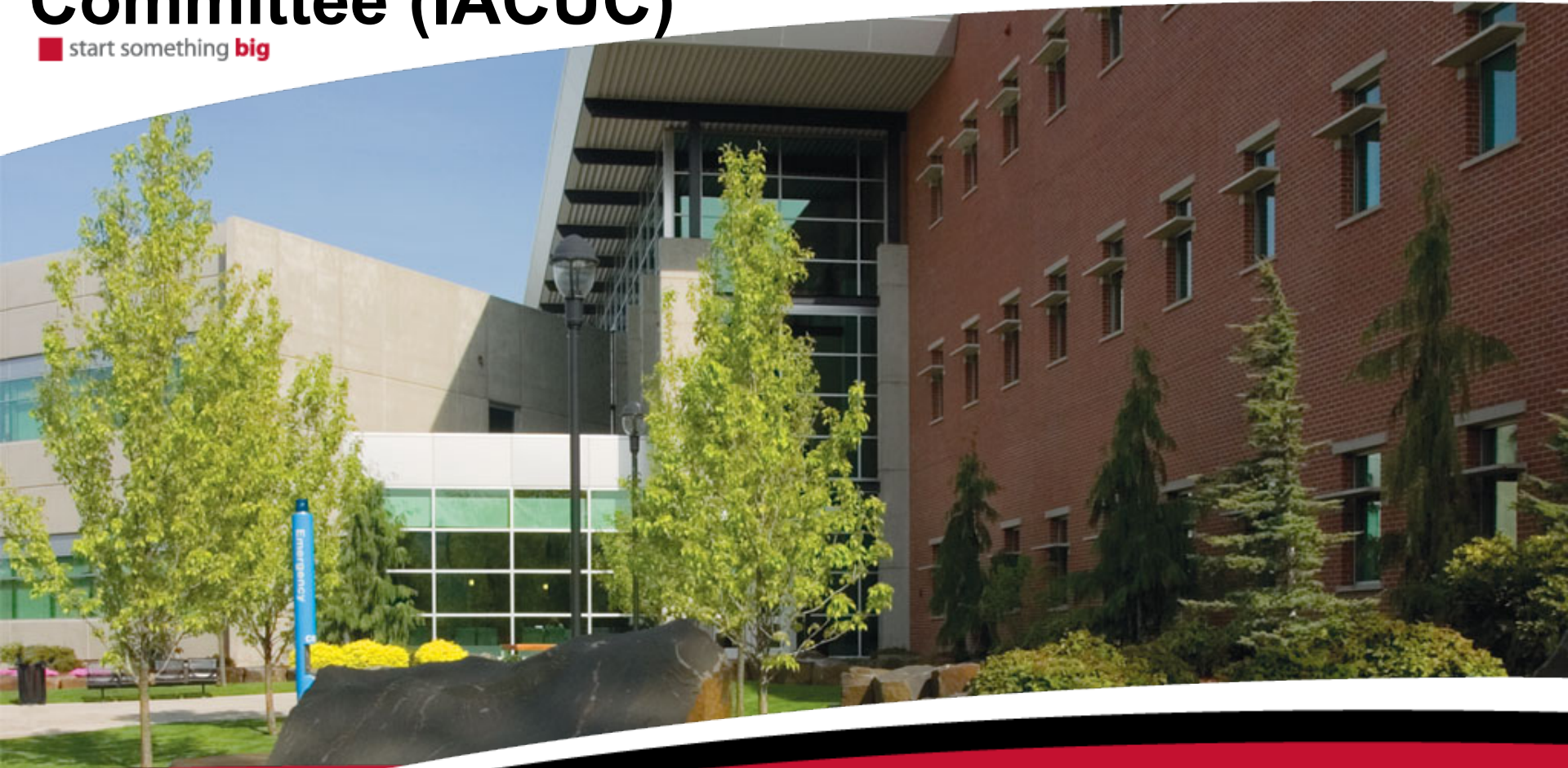


The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

start something **big**



Office of Grant & Research Development

Why were IACUC's Developed?

■ start something **big**

- [The Health Research Extension Act of 1985 \(Public Law 99-158\)](#) provides the legislative mandate for the Public Health Service (PHS) Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals ([Policy](#)).
- It establishes guidelines for the proper care and treatment of animals used in research, and for the organization and operation of animal care committees.
- Animal care committees ensure that institutions comply with the law



The Committee

■ start something **big**

- The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, or IACUC, is a committee appointed by the chief executive officer (President) of the institution.
- The IACUC has certain federally mandated responsibilities, such as review of protocols and periodic evaluations of the program of animal care and use, including inspections of facilities.
- The [ARENA/OLAW IACUC Guidebook](#) (PDF) is a recommended manual for IACUCs.



Membership

■ start something **big**

- Membership consists of at least 5 members and includes:
 - one 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;
 - one practicing scientist experienced in research with animals;
 - one member whose primary concerns are in a nonscientific area (e.g., ethicist, lawyer, member of the clergy); and
 - one member who is not affiliated with the institution other than as a member of the IACUC.



What are the functions of a Program of Animal Care and Use?

 start something **big**

- Eight different functions for the IACUC
 1. Review animal program
 2. Inspect animal facilities
 3. Report the results of 1 & 2
 4. Review animal care and concerns
 5. Make recommendations to the Institutional Official (IO)
 6. Review and approve, require modifications or withhold approval of animal care protocols
 7. Review and approve, require modifications or withhold approval of proposed changes to ongoing animal activities
 8. Suspend an activity involving animals



IACUC Responsibilities

■ start something **big**

- Conduct of IACUC semiannual program evaluations;
- IACUC inspection of animal facilities;
- Protocol review;
- Handling of concerns about animal care or use;
- Treatment of whistleblowers (required by the [Animal Welfare Regulations](#));
- Maintenance of IACUC records; and
- Development of reports to the Institutional Official.



Responsibilities:



1. Review Animal Program

- Program review makes an IACUC responsible for assessing the effectiveness of other institutional components.
- An IACUC must ensure that institutional responsibilities are being met as part of program review, for example:
 - There is adequate veterinary care and animal housing.
 - Animal-program has relevant occupational health and safety program/standards.
 - There is a comprehensive emergency/disaster plan.

2. Inspect Animal Facilities- PHS policy directs IACUC's to inspect, at least every six months all of the institutions animal facilities using the [GUIDE](#) as the basis for the evaluation



Responsibilities:



3. Report to the Institutional Official (IO)

- Semi annual reports are signed by members and sent to the Presidents office
- Questions/deficiencies are addressed and followed up upon

4. Review animal care and use concerns

- Concerns are addressed at any time
- Anonymity is preserved
- Public relations issues are addressed
- Policies/ Guidelines for allegations and procedures are in place



Responsibilities:

■ start something **big**

5. Make recommendations to the Institutional Official (IO)

- Provide information short term and long term issues

6. Protocol Review

- Reviewing all animal use and care procedures to ensure policies and guidelines are followed
- All IACUC members have the responsibility to review protocols

7. Post Approval Monitoring

- Review/approve significant changes
- Laboratory inspections to ensure animal care



Responsibilities:

■ start something **big**

8. Suspend Animal Activities

- IACUC has the power to suspend any animal activity if non compliance is found
- Consult with the IO regarding reasons of suspension
- Corrective action must be taken
- Must be reported to OLAW

