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SUBJECT: INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE
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515.1 — PURPOSE

Bridgerland Applied Technology College (BATC) as subject to the authority of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) operates an animal care and use program including a properly constituted and functioning Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). BATC's Veterinary Assisting/Pre-Veterinary Technician (Vet Assist) Program has an Advisory Committee (AC) that functions as the IACUC.

515.2 — DEFINITIONS

ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AC) A Committee composed of community members with an interest in the Vet Assist program who meet regularly to advise instructors and administration on matters applicable to the program. This committee will function as the IACUC for BATC.

ANIMAL WELFARE ACT (AWA) A federal law applicable to animal carriers, handlers, dealers, breeders, and exhibitors in addition to research laboratories, and sets minimum standards of care that must be provided for animals - including housing, handling, sanitation, food, water, veterinary care and protection from weather extremes.

HEALTH RESEARCH EXTENSION ACT (HREA) OF 1985 Public law that calls for the proper care of animals, the proper treatment of animals (including proper veterinary medical support and nursing care); and the organization and operation of animal care and use committees.

INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC) A self-regulating entity that, according to U.S. federal law, must be established by institutions that use laboratory animals for research or instructional purposes to oversee and evaluate all aspects of the institution's animal care and use program.

INSTITUTIONAL OFFICER (IO) BATC has designated the Associate Vice President for Instruction over the Vet Assist program to serve in this capacity. The IACUC/AC reports to this individual.

OFFICE OF LABORATORY ANIMAL WELFARE (OLAW) Provides guidance and interpretation of the Public Health Service (PHS) Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, supports educational programs, and monitors compliance by institutions to ensure the humane care and use of animals in PHS-supported research, testing, and training, thereby contributing to the quality of PHS-supported activities.

VETERINARY ASSISTING/PRE-VETERINARY TECHNICIAN (VET ASSIST) PROGRAM The program at BATC that is instrumental in training Veterinary Assistants.

515.3 — POLICY STATEMENT

In order to ensure the highest ethical and animal welfare standards are met and BATC is in compliance with the Animal Welfare Act, the IACUC/AC will operate within the guidelines established by the Health Research Extension Act (HREA) of 1985 as administered by the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW). These guidelines establish standards for the proper care and treatment of animals through the organization and operation of the IACUC/AC.

The BATC IACUC/AC oversees the Vet Assist program's use and care of animals, gives approval for teaching projects associated with the program (including classroom demonstration/presentation of animals), and addresses any concerns that may arise.

The Vet Assist program at BATC is supported by the IACUC/AC committee comprised of business and industry representatives who are concerned with individual programs. Members are invited to serve by the department head of the program area and are approved by the Associate Vice President. IACUC/AC committees do not develop BATC policy. Their purpose is to provide information regarding program content, business and industry needs, and suggestions/recommendations for programmatic changes. The IACUC will report to the Associate Vice President for Instruction over the Vet Assist program, designated as the



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Institutional Official (IO).

515.4 — MEMBERSHIP

The Vet Assist IACUC/AC consists of the department head and instructor for the program, along with a minimum of three external members including:

- one veterinarian (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine with training or experience in laboratory animal science and medicine),
- one vet assistant/technician, and
- one community member, not affiliated in any way with the institution and not a member of the immediate family of a person who is affiliated with BATC to provide representation for general community interest in the proper care and treatment of animals.

If the IACUC/AC committee consists of more than three members, no more than three members will be from the same administrative unit.

515.5 — FUNCTIONS

The IACUC/AC will review, inspect, and prepare reports according to guidelines from the AWA:

- a. Review the facility's program for humane care and use of animals at least once every six months.
- b. Inspect the college's animal facilities at least once every six months.
- c. Prepare reports of its evaluations and submit the reports to the IO. The reports are reviewed and signed by a majority of the IACUC/AC members, updated every six months, maintained by BATC, and available to APHIS for inspection and copying upon request.
- d. Investigate concerns resulting from public complaints involving the care and use of animals.
- e. Make recommendations to the IO regarding any aspect of the program.
- f. Review and approve or withhold approval of components of proposed activities or proposed significant changes related to the care and use of animals.
- g. Suspend any activity of the Vet Assist program as deemed necessary by a majority of the committee.

515.6 — PROTOCOL REVIEW

The IACUC/AC shall determine if:

- a. Proposed activities or significant changes in ongoing activities involving animals need to be made in order to avoid or minimize discomfort, distress, and pain to the animals.
- b. Animals' living conditions will be appropriate for their species and contribute to their health and comfort.
- c. The housing, feeding, and nonmedical care of the animals will be directed by the attending veterinarian trained and experienced in the proper care, handling, and use of the species being maintained.
- d. Medical care for the animals will be available and provided as necessary by a qualified veterinarian.
- e. Personnel conducting procedures on the species being maintained will be appropriately qualified and trained in those procedures.

Prior to the IACUC/AC review, each member of the committee will be provided with a list of proposed activities to be reviewed including written descriptions of all proposed activities that involve the use and care of animals. The IACUC/AC shall conduct continuing reviews of activities at least annually. Submission of proposed activities will follow AWA guidelines.

The committee may suspend an activity previously approved only after review of the matter at a convened meeting of quorum (more than 50 percent of the voting members) of the IACUC/AC and with the suspension vote of a majority of the quorum present. Suspensions will follow reporting guidelines of the AWA.