

The Use of Animals in Displays and Demonstrations

Intent

At JCU, situations arise where animals are used for short periods in displays or demonstrations for the purpose of showcasing JCU's programs or for inspiring interest in or educating community groups or school children in animal research and welfare.

This policy aims to provide clear advice to staff and students when determining whether a short-term animal display or demonstration would require and application to the JCU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

Scope

This policy applies to all JCU staff who plan to use animals for one off or infrequent displays or demonstrations to the general public.

Definitions

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

Policy

- 1. An animal display or demonstration to the general public does not need IACUC approval if it meets all of the following criteria:**
 - 1.1. The animals are being held under a current holding/display IACUC approval or are privately owned
 - 1.2. The display/demonstration is not a structured education or training activity with defined learning outcomes
 - 1.3. The display/demonstration is infrequent and low impact
 - 1.4. The animals used are under the care and supervision of a competent person
 - 1.5. The animals are transported and housed in way that ensures their wellbeing
 - 1.6. The animals are secure from escape and theft
 - 1.7. The animals are only handled under the direct supervision of the person responsible for their care
 - 1.8. Any animals showing signs of stress is removed from the display/demonstration
 - 1.9. The animals are returned to their normal husbandry conditions as soon as possible after their use in the display/demonstration
- 2. When using animals in a short-term display or demonstration, the following principles apply:**
 - 2.1. Use animals only when it is justified
 - 2.2. Support the wellbeing of the animals involved
 - 2.3. Avoid or minimise harm, including pain and distress, to those animals
 - 2.4. Apply Replacement, Reduction and Refinement (the 3Rs) at all stages of animal care and use:

- 2.4.1. Animals only when no alternatives are available
- 2.4.2. The minimum number of animals
- 2.4.3. Techniques that minimise any adverse impact on animals
- 2.5. All those involved know and accept one's responsibilities

Related policy instruments

N.A.

Schedules/Appendices

None

Related documents and legislation

Animal and Birds Act

The Australian Code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes

Administration

Approval Details

Policy Sponsor	IACUC Chair
Approval Authority	James Cook University Singapore Board
Approval Date	
Version No.	2.0
Date for next review	09/02/2025

Version	Revision date	Implementation date	Details	Author
1.0	-	27/08/2018	Policy established	Dean Jerry
2.0	09/02/2022	-	Reviewed policy. Replaced: (1) Policy Sponsor 'Dean of Research Singapore' with IACUC Chair (2) Approval Authority 'IACUC' with James Cook University Singapore Board	Denise Dillon

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