

Procedure: IACUC-60
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Supersedes: New

**UC Davis
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)**

Title: Use of Cameras and Audiovisual Recordings Policy

I. Purpose:

To describe the permissible circumstances and approval process for the use of cameras or other audiovisual recording devices in the vicinity of research, teaching, or outreach animals, or in locations where research, teaching, or outreach activities involving animals are or could be housed, tested, studied, or used.

II. Background:

UC Davis is a large and diverse campus with world-renowned veterinary, agriculture, and scientific research facilities, which include a variety of vivaria, indoor and outdoor animal housing, animal medical areas, and other areas where teaching, research, or outreach activities involving animals may be conducted. Research activities, teaching activities, and herd management practices may take place at any IACUC-approved location on or off campus.

The use of photography, audio and/or visual recording can be an important tool in research, teaching, and animal care. However, UC Davis regulates recording of the University animals and animal facilities in order to ensure the health, safety and humane treatment of animals, as well as the safety and privacy of faculty, staff, and students. In addition, the University may restrict or prohibit the recording of animals and the storage or publication of such recordings for ethical reasons and to reduce the risk that such recordings may be misused or misinterpreted.

III. Policy:

1. Definitions.

- a. Recording means any audio and/or visual recording, internet-posting, or internet-streaming of a University animal by any means whatsoever, including but not limited to photographs, videos, or other tape recordings,

whether in digital, electronic, film or any other format now or hereafter existing.

- b. Recording device means any University-owned or personal device that is equipped with photographic, video, and/or audio recording capabilities, including but not limited to cameras, tape recorders, and personal electronic devices (e.g., smartphones, tablets, smartwatches).
 - c. University animal means any animal involved in a teaching, research, or husbandry activity led by or involving UC Davis faculty, staff, students, or contractors.
 - d. University animal facility means vivaria, agricultural experiment station, animal hospital or veterinary clinic, core service facilities (including without limitation the California National Primate Research Center), or PI laboratories where animals are housed, tested, or used and conveyances in which animals are transported between University animal facilities.
2. In addition to the requirements set forth in this Policy, individual schools, departments, units, and laboratories may have their own recording policies and protocols, which must be followed. In the event of any conflict between this IACUC policy and a school, department, unit or laboratory policy, protocol, or requirement, the policy, protocol, or requirement that is most restrictive of recordings shall apply.
3. Conditions for Recording: The use of recording devices to make a recording of University animals or University animal facilities, including any University personnel, documents, equipment, or vehicles located in a University animal facility, is prohibited with the following exceptions:
- a. Recordings made by government inspectors (e.g., USDA veterinary medical officers).
 - b. Recordings that are authorized by the principal investigator or designee as required for legitimate scientific, research, or educational purposes.
 - c. Recordings made by personnel authorized by research animal veterinary staff for research or clinical purposes.
 - d. Recordings made by authorized personnel as required to document the condition of facilities, or compliance or animal handling issues at the direction of University officials, IACUCs, veterinarians, or representatives of federal agencies.
 - e. Recordings of animals made for the purpose of reporting concerns related to animal welfare under [UC Policy on Reporting and Investigating Allegations of Suspected Improper Governmental Activities](#) and the UC Davis Fraud Risk

Management Policy [PPM 400-05](#), also described in [IACUC-14](#). Recordings made for these purposes should be forwarded within a reasonable amount of time to ensure an appropriate investigation can be carried out.

- f. Recordings made of University animals while such animals are displayed for or viewable by the public for the purpose of teaching, outreach, or adoption.
- g. Recordings that are authorized in writing by the UC Davis attending veterinarian or their veterinary designee.

4. Rights of individuals

- a. Students, staff, and faculty who may appear in a recording of University animals or University animal facility must be informed when such activity is imminent.
- b. Any individual may decline to appear in a recording and is not required to be subject to recording.

5. Security and Context

- a. Individuals making recordings should ensure recordings depict appropriate context to avoid misrepresentation or misinterpretation of the work being done (e.g., ensure all personnel are wearing appropriate PPE for the work being demonstrated; if an animal is sedated, show the tray with the sedation drugs).
- b. For security and safety purposes, recordings should not depict unique animal identifiers (e.g., tattoos, ear tags, etc.), location identifiers (e.g., room numbers, building names, etc.), or confidential documents or information (e.g., anesthesia records, cage cards, employee ID badges etc.).

- 6. Records Retention. Recordings made in accordance with this policy may be a "Record" within the meaning of the UC Davis Records Management Program and may be subject to maintenance and disposal processes in accordance with the UC Records Retention Schedule. Records may be subject to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests or subpoena.

IV. **Resources:**

- 1. ILAR, Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
<http://nap.edu/12910>
- 2. UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine Photography Policy
<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/sites/g/files/dgvnsk491/files/inline-files/SVM-Photography-Policy-March2021.pdf>

3. UC Davis PPM 320-10, Records Management Program
<https://ucdavispolicy.ellucid.com/documents/view/391/active/>
4. UC Records Retention Schedule
<http://recordsretention.ucop.edu/>
5. University of California Records Management Policies
<https://www.ucop.edu/information-technology-services/policies/records-management-policies.html>