Duke University  
Office of Animal Welfare Assurance  
Policy  

POLICY ON  
OFF-SITE RESEARCH INVOLVING NON-DUKE PERSONNEL

PERFORMANCE STANDARD: All personnel working with animals will be adequately trained to perform their duties without causing injury or harm to themselves or animals.

REFERENCES:  
1. United States Department of Agriculture, 9 CFR Parts 1, 2, and 3.  
2. PHS Policy on the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, OPRR, 1996.  
3. OLAW Web Site: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/  
4. AAALAC Accreditation Guidelines: http://www.aalac.org  
5. 8th Edition: The Guide for the Care & Use of Laboratory Animals

BACKGROUND: Duke University is USDA Registered, PHS Assured, and AAALAC Accredited and is thus obligated to ensure that only trained individuals work with animals, that animal handlers are provided a safe working place, and that individuals working on approved animal activities have the opportunity to participate in an occupational health and safety program. Duke University performs animal based research both on and off campus. For some projects, research is performed in other countries. On occasion, support researchers may not be English speakers and/or may not have access to the internet. In certain settings, participation in an occupational health and safety program may not be possible.

ROLES: The Duke Principal Investigator is responsible for all approved activities involving animals. The Duke Principal Investigator must also assure a safe work environment for those assisting with the approved animal activities.

POLICY:  
A. Training: All protocol participants must complete required Duke animal program training. Exemptions to completion of training requirements must be granted by the Duke IACUC (e.g., Indigenous persons at foreign field locations).

NOTE: In cases where Non-Duke personnel are involved with Duke-approved animal protocols, AND obtaining a Duke Unique ID (for web training) is not practical due to lack of literacy, English comprehension, or lack of internet access, the PI should consult with the OAWA to find effective options / translators to help achieve the goals of the IACUC. Refer to Section ‘N’ of the protocol form for more information.

NOTE: The Principal Investigator shall report on the Annual Progress Report any adverse events with either animals or personnel which occurred in conjunction with the performance of the approved activities.

B. Occupational Health: The PI must confirm that:  
  a. Protocol participants are enrolled in an Occupational Health and Safety Program at their home institution, or  
  b. They will assure the indigenous persons participating / supporting the study are provided healthcare when / if it might become necessary.

Alternatively, persons may complete the Animal Handler Health Review online and submit it to Duke Employee Occupational Health and Welfare.