



Animal Care and Use Program

Vivarium Visitor Policy

Objective:	To provide guidance to Vivarium guests on appropriate conduct inside the facility so as to reduce/eliminate potential harm to guests and housed animals.
Author:	Attending Veterinarian, Laboratory Animal Resources
Date:	February 22, 2021

UNC Charlotte's Commitment to the Animal Research Program

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte is committed to a program of animal care which ensures that all animals involved in research and teaching are used in ways judged to be scientifically, technically, and humanely appropriate.

The University is further committed to assisting faculty and students in fulfilling their obligation to plan and conduct animal experiments in accord with the highest scientific, humane, and ethical principles, and in accord with the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, and the Animal Welfare Act.

In support of these commitments, the University has established the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) that, together with the University Attending Veterinarian and the Director of Laboratory Animal Resources (DLAR), administers policies and procedures related to the University's program of animal care. Final responsibility for the program rests with the Institutional Official.

Revision History

Approved August 27, 2012
Re-approved May 18, 2015
Revised April 23, 2018
Re-approved February 22, 2021
Administrative changes October 1, 2022



Vivarium Visitor Authorization Form
Memorandum of Understanding

Name of Visitor:		Purpose of Visit:	
Date of Visit:		Vivarium Sponsor:	

Visitor’s Statements of Assurance

The University’s commitment to ensure all aspects of a sound program of animal care extends to visitors to the animal housing facility. To this end, we require that, as a visitor to our facility, you provide certain assurances to the University that your presence in the facility could in no way bring harm to you or the animals housed in the facility.

I acknowledge the following covenants are required before I will be authorized to visit or tour the UNC Charlotte animal housing facility:

- (1) **Biosecurity:** I have not been in a rodent facility within the last 48 hours.
- (2) **Physical Security of Facilities and Animals:** I will not take any pictures of the animals or animal facilities while touring the facility.
- (3) **Confidentiality:** I recognize that I may come into contact with proprietary information of the University or third party sponsors and that I am bound to maintain this information in confidence in perpetuity unless granted authority to release the information by the University, the UNC Charlotte IACUC or third party sponsor as otherwise may be required by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (4) **Personal Danger and Indemnification of UNC Charlotte:** I acknowledge that there are certain inherent dangers in touring animal facilities and, to this end, indemnify and hold harmless the University from any harm, howsoever caused, that may accrue to me resulting from my tour of the animal housing facility.
- (5) **Obligation to Report Concerns:** If I observe any practices or circumstances that I believe represent less than the highest standard of ethical care and treatment of animals I will report such to the UNC Charlotte IACUC. The IACUC will consider the concerns and may call upon me to present additional details in writing or in person to the IACUC but will not be obligated to report back to me the outcome of their deliberations.
- (6) **Opinion on Animal Use:** To the extent I support/am opposed to the use of animals in research and/or training purposes, I recognize that UNC Charlotte’s efforts to include visitors external to the IACUC and appropriate facility’s management is intended to raise awareness and confidence in our animal care and use program.
- (7) **Campus Security Involvement:** Campus security may be informed of my visit request and authorization or refusal to visit the facility. They may perform a background check after consulting and garnering my specific and separate approval.

By signing below I have read and understand the covenants above and recognize my responsibilities and obligations in visiting the UNC Charlotte animal housing facility.

Visitor’s Signature	
_____	_____
Visitor’s Signature	Date

Visitor’s Name (Please Print)	

Reviewed & Approved by:	
_____	_____
Facility Manager / Vivarium Sponsor	Date