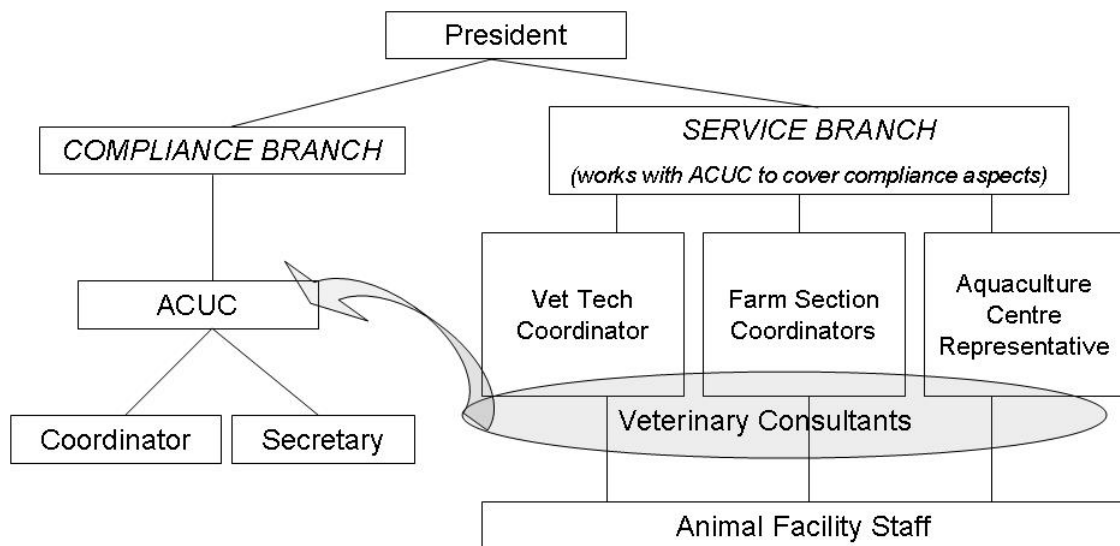


Policy on Animal Care and Use at Nova Scotia Agricultural College

Approved by NSAC Senior Management, February 1, 2008

1. Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) maintains compliance with the guidelines of the Canadian Council on Animal Care.
2. The President of NSAC holds primary responsibility for animal care and use at NSAC through the following organizational structure as recommended by CCAC¹ (Canadian Council on Animal Care) for small universities:

NSAC Animal Care & Use Program Structure



3. The Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC), a standing committee of the President of NSAC, is responsible for ensuring that animal related activities at NSAC and those carried out by NSAC faculty and staff comply with the guidelines of the Canadian Council on Animal Care. Terms of reference of the ACUC are the responsibility of the ACUC subject to the President's approval.
4. Designated Coordinators/Representatives of the Veterinary Technician program, NSAC Farm Sections Units and Aquaculture Centre work with the ACUC to cover compliance aspects.
5. All individuals (includes faculty, researchers, staff, students and visiting scholars) working in NSAC facilities with animals, and all NSAC faculty and staff conducting work off-site with animals, must:
 - a. Complete the required training for animal users as indicated by the ACUC (undergraduate students do not normally have formal requirements for training, but are expected to be supervised at all times when working with animals).

¹ Draft CCAC Policy Statement for Senior Administrators responsible for Animal Care and Use Programs, March 22, 2007.

- b. Obtain approval by ACUC of all protocols for research, testing and teaching.
 - c. Obtain approval by ACUC of standard operating procedures (SOPs) involving animal use.
- 6.** Staff members with primary responsibilities for animal care (e.g., farm unit staff, veterinary technician program staff) have additional responsibility to:
- a. Provide a safe and healthy environment for all animals in their care.
 - b. Place animal care and health as the highest priority on their duties list, second only to human health and safety.
 - c. Advise and/or develop SOPs for routine animal care and handling in your unit. Update when necessary.
 - d. Adhere to SOPs.
 - e. Obtain appropriate training prior to conducting new procedures on animals.
 - f. Ensure appropriate veterinary advice is solicited for all animals in their care when required.
 - g. Report any deviations from approved SOPs or ACUC protocols to their supervisor or the Chair of the ACUC.
 - h. Be able to recognize signs of stress and be aware of protocol endpoints, as well as procedures for intervention and emergency animal care.
 - i. Intervene according to established protocols for the animal unit if procedures causing unnecessary distress or pain to animals are observed.
 - j. Report any accidents, protocol deviation or stoppage, or other animal incidents to their supervisor and the ACUC.