Purdue Animal Care and Use Committee (PACUC)
Adoption Policy

Animals that have been used in teaching and research at Purdue may, under some circumstances, be adopted after their use in Purdue programs has been completed. The faculty member who holds the protocol the animal is on is responsible for that animal (e.g., housing and care costs) until such time that the adoption is finalized.

In this regard, the following principles exist:

1. Individuals 18 years of age or older are eligible to adopt animals. If a minor desires to adopt an animal, an adult parent or guardian must also be an adopting co-owner.

2. Animals that will not, or may not, be eligible for adoption:
   - Animals that have been infected with a biohazard or contained radioisotope.
   - Any animal that is not clinically and behaviorally normal will not be eligible for adoption. Exceptions to this may be made for animals with manageable conditions (such as seizures or hypothyroidism). All veterinarians who have had contact with the animal should record in its medical record any concerns on the animal's clinical or behavioral condition. These same veterinarians should make a congruent decision as to whether or not an animal is considered adoptable.
   - Transgenic animals and animals that have had non-FDA approved compounds administered to them are not eligible for adoption.

3. At the time of adoption, the new owner must assume responsibility for housing, care and medication of the animal being adopted. The principal investigator (or his/her delegate) must determine that the new owner is capable of adequately providing for the care and needs of the animal, as well as the suitability of the pet for the prospective new owner. This will be done in consultation with the laboratory animal veterinarians.

4. Adoptive owners must be given a synopsis (not a copy of the green sheets), by the Principal Investigator, of the medical history and use at Purdue. Information such as number of sedations/anesthesias, radiographs, and invasive procedures are relevant to the future clinical care of the animal.

5. All cats and dogs must be neutered or spayed at the time of adoption and prior to leaving the premises of Purdue University unless an exception has been granted by the PACUC/LAP office. The cost for this will be incurred by the PI. If a microchip was implanted into an animal

Originally approved 04/15/2009
Last approved 10/17/2012
while at Purdue, this microchip **must** be transferred to the new owners before the dog/cat leaves the premises. The paperwork for the transfer of the chip will be completed by VLAC personnel and the cost associated with the transfer of the microchip will be incurred by the adopter.

6. To adopt out an animal, the principal investigator must complete the attached "Animal Adoption Form." This record should be maintained by the animal housing facility for a period of 5 years from the date of signature by the new owner.

7. To adopt an animal, the new owner must complete the attached “Release of Liability” form. This record should be maintained by the animal housing facility for a period of 5 years from the date of signature by the new owner.

8. Agricultural food production animals (e.g., cattle, poultry, swine, sheep) are exempt from the adoption policy (i.e., adoption paperwork does not have to be completed).
ANIMAL ADOPTION FORM

New Owner’s Name: ________________________________
Address: _______________________________________

Telephone: ______________________________________
Date of transfer to new owner: _______________________
Method of transportation (if a privately-owned vehicle is used, the name of the person who owns the vehicle): __________

DESCRIPTION/IDENTIFICATION:
Name of animal: ________________________________

Species: ____________ Breed: ____________ PACUC #: ____________ USDA#: ____________
Tattoo #/Microchip: ____________ Weight: ________ Age: ________ Sex: M M(C) F F(S)
Color/Markings: ______________________________

VACCINATION HISTORY: __________________________

MEDICAL/BEHAVIORAL INFORMATION: __________________________

If applicable, this release form has been reviewed for Principal Investigator/Professor of Record approval and regulatory compliance.

Principal Investigator/Prof. of Record ____________ Date ____________

Regulatory compliance: I, the undersigned, have reviewed the process and documents surrounding this adoption and, to the best of my knowledge, believe that it meets the requirements for regulatory compliance.

Laboratory Animal Veterinarian ____________ Date ____________

WAIVER OF OWNERSHIP:
I certify that the above described animal is of no further value to Purdue University. As an authorized representative of Purdue University, I hereby release the described animal to the new owner.

Signature: __________________________________________ Date: __________________________

– Department Head

ACCEPTANCE OF NEW OWNERSHIP:
I, (we), the undersigned, do hereby certify that I (we) accept full ownership and responsibility for the animal(s) described above and do hereby release Purdue University, its Trustees, officers, agents, and employees, from any and all liability arising out of or in any way connected with the adoption, ownership or behavior of the animal(s), including but not limited to personal injury to or death of the owners, members of the owner’s family or others, injury or death to other animals or damage to the owner’s property or property of others. I (we) accept complete responsibility for maintaining accurate records of the animal and complete authority in deciding, recommending, or carrying out disposal of the above animal. I (we) acknowledge that I (we) have read and understood this document before signing.

Signature: __________________________________________ Date: __________________________

Signature of parent or guardian required if new owner is a minor.

Originally approved 04/15/2009
Last approved 10/17/2012
RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I understand that by adopting this animal from Purdue University, I am making a long-term commitment to this pet.

_____ I understand that following the completion of the adoption, the animal cannot be returned to Purdue University for any reason.*

*An exception to this will be made for blood donor dogs and cats and animals donated from clients of the veterinary teaching hospital. These animals are allowed to be returned if they do not work out in the home. All other adopted animals become the adopter’s responsibility and if they do not work out in the home, the new owner is responsible for finding the animal another home.

_____ I understand that following the completion of the adoption, if for any reason I am unable to keep or provide for this animal that it will be my responsibility to find it a new home.

_____ I agree that the above described animal, upon my receipt, will be my responsibility. I will accept all responsibility for the animal that I am adopting which includes providing adequate veterinary care for the animal.

_____ I understand that any animal can carry potentially infectious agents with or without exhibiting signs of disease. Any animal can then potentially transmit these agents to people and potentially result in disease. These diseases are called zoonoses. Sources of information regarding such diseases can be found at the Center for Disease Control Healthy Pets Healthy People website (http://www.cdc.gov/HEALTHYPETS) or the American Veterinary Medical Association website (http://www.avma.org/animal_health/pets_ZD_faq.asp). Certain people may be more likely than others to acquire diseases from animals. If you or other adoptee(s) have young children, are pregnant, have HIV/AIDS, have received an organ transplant, are being treated for cancer, or have concerns regarding zoonotic disease, you should discuss these concerns with your personal physician prior to adopting any animal. A Purdue Laboratory Animal Program veterinarian is available to review the known health history of the animal that you are adopting as listed on the Purdue Animal Adoption Form.

_____ I acknowledge that I am adopting this animal as is and that Purdue makes no claims or representations as to the temperament, health, or mental disposition of any animal put up for adoption.

_____ In consideration for receiving the adopted animal described above, I hereby release, waive and discharge Purdue University, its officers, employees, and agents forever from liability for any and all injuries or damages to any person or property caused in the future by the animal described above, and from any causes of action, claims, suits, or demands whatsoever that may arise as a result of such injuries or damages.

Signature of adopter:___________________________ Date:______________________