



Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

Policy on Vivarium Space Assignment

Date Reviewed: April 3, 2020

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the UCSC BIOMED facility meets the needs of the researchers.

POLICY:

One purpose of the Vivarium Advisory Committee is to advise on the assignment of research space within the BioMed vivarium.

COMPOSITION:

- a) UCSC Veterinarian and Vivarium manager and Asst VCR
- b) Faculty assigned to chair the committee
- c) Division-selected Faculty members whose research represents the types of animal investigation carried out in the facility.

AUTHORITY:

The Vice Chancellor for Research has the final authority for space assignment. The advising authority of the vivarium advisory Committee will vary depending on the nature of the problem being addressed.

The VCR has approved the following guidelines to be utilized in assigning space:

Vivarium Space Assignment Guidelines

All reasonable efforts will be made to meet the space needs of investigators without jeopardizing accreditation standards or the health and well-being of animals.

Users who have compatible species and compatible protocols may be required to share rooms.

Three principles apply to the priority guidelines below:

- All room assignments are temporary.
- Sponsored research has highest priority.
- Some space must be available for unsponsored research.

Priority (highest to lowest)

- Sponsored Research: Peer reviewed competitive research from major federal agencies, e.g., NIH, USDA, FDA, CDC, DOD, and other grants and contracts.
- Unsponsored Interdisciplinary projects with anticipated outcomes of publications and/or grant applications



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- Unsponsored individual investigators with anticipated outcomes of publications and/or grant applications
- Graduate student research

Space Allocation Decision-Making Procedures

If there is available space, the Asst. VCR and Vivarium Manager will make space assignments in coordination with the Biomed vivarium space assignment committee and the Attending Veterinarian.

If there are difficult decisions, the VCR will make the final assignments.

New PIs or PIs with expanded space needs should also try to capitalize on the strong collegiality among PIs conducting research and work out sharing space.

UCSC Space Use Application Procedures

Optimum space allocation requires anticipating future space needs.

No commitment of vivarium space in grant applications or contracts or during faculty searches may be made without review by the Vivarium Advisory Committee.

Department chairs and unit directors searching for new faculty and PIs applying for grants and contracts should consult the Vivarium Advisory Committee as early as possible on future space needs.