Sanctions of Animal Users for Issues of Non-Compliance

I. The purpose of Sanctions instigated by the IACUC against animal users
   a. The use of sanctions is intended to promote compliance with federal and state laws and regulations, and with Georgia Southern University (GSU) policies.
   b. Sanctions by the IACUC are not intended as punishment against any individual or group of animal users.

II. Authority of the IACUC to impose sanctions
   a. The IACUC has final authority and responsibility for approval of activities directly related to the care and use of live vertebrate animals by GSU faculty, staff, and students.

III. Implementation of sanctions
   a. Sanctions can be suggested through committee discussion. Sanctions will be implemented by the IACUC based upon a majority decision of the IACUC. Minority views will be noted in the minutes.
   b. Sanctions may be proposed following an investigation of alleged non-compliance
   c. Sanctions may be proposed following semi-annual site inspections
   d. Sanctions must be decided by a majority vote of a properly convened meeting of the IACUC
   e. More than one sanction may be implemented against an individual at one time.

IV. Possible sanctions
   a. Sanctions that the IACUC may impose upon an investigator following issues of non-compliance include but are not limited to:
      i. Mandatory correction of the non-compliance issue
      ii. A letter to the individual stating the findings of non-compliance and seeking additional explanation
      iii. A letter to the individual and his or her supervisor/department head detailing the findings of non-compliance
      iv. Mandatory retraining of individuals in areas of non-compliance
      v. Demonstration of competency in approved procedures to designated members of the IACUC or IACUC appointed representative.
      vi. Mandatory attendance at IACUC meetings
      vii. Mandatory full committee review of any future protocols or amendments submitted by the individual
      viii. Restriction of access to animal housing facilities and/or research animals.
      ix. Refusal to approve or renew protocols submitted to the IACUC.
      x. Restriction of funding
         1. This requires the notification and approval of the Office of the Associate Vice President for Research (AVPR), which
will give the order for restricting access by the investigator to research funds.

xi. Suspension of IACUC protocol associated with the issue of non-compliance

xii. Suspension of all IACUC protocols for an individual PI found to be non-compliant

1. Suspensions will be reported in writing with in 15 days following committee action as follows:
   a. All suspensions
      i. Institutional Official
      ii. AVPR
      iii. Dean
      iv. Department Chair
      v. PI
   b. USDA regulated species
      i. USDA/APHIS
   c. Federally Funded Research
      i. Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW)
      ii. Funding Agency

V. The IACUC has no authority to mandate any form of administrative sanctions against an individual.
   a. All sanctions will be conducted in accordance with Faculty-Staff Handbook.
   b. If appropriate, the IACUC can recommend to the AVPR possible administrative sanctions.