Animal Program Policy

Title: Photography in the Animal Facility

Date Created: 3/25/2014
Date Reviewed: 7/26/2023

For security reasons, photography or video recording in the animal facility is prohibited. While everyone is now accustomed to taking pictures of anything with their cell phones, this is not acceptable inside the animal facility.

If images of animals are required for experimental or publication purposes, this should be described at the time of protocol submission. Sharing of photographs outside of Forsyth should be described in the protocol.

Unauthorized taking of photographs will result in loss of access to the animal facility.

If photographs are taken using a cell phone or other mobile device with wireless connection, those photographs must be removed from that device before it leaves the building. Photographs should be emailed to an appropriate Forsyth.org email address and stored on an appropriate server or computer within Forsyth, after which they must be deleted from the original device.

In no case may photographs of Forsyth-owned animals be shared with personnel outside of Forsyth without the express permission of the PI.

When photographing animals, ensure that any personnel in the photo are wearing appropriate PPE, that the animals are as healthy as possible and clean (no feces, blood or debris), that the background is clean and tidy, and that any cages have adequate food.

Exception: in consultation with animal facility staff, photographs of ill or injured animals may be taken for telemedicine consultation with the consulting veterinarian. Whenever possible, these photos should be taken by animal facility staff and forwarded to the veterinarian.