

## IACUC Guideline for Relative Humidity Levels in Animal Rooms at UWM

*Last Review: 4/2022*

*Revision History:*

According to the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition of *The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, "...the acceptable range of relative humidity is considered to be 30% to 70% for most mammalian species."

### **Lapham Hall Facility**

- Relative humidity levels are recorded daily in all animal rooms.
- Room humidity levels may be adjusted with individual humidistats in most animal rooms.
- Consideration will be made for animals housed in static micro-isolator units, which may experience higher humidity levels within the cage in comparison with the macro-environment.
- Daily animal health monitoring will include observances for excessive humidity levels and/or condensation within the cage.
- For conventionally housed rodents, animals will be checked daily for signs of ringtail, caused by a lack of humidity in the environment.
- Humidity levels outside the range noted in the Guide will be accepted if there are no related animal health issues.

### **Garland/Pearse Hall Facilities**

- Relative humidity levels are recorded daily in all animal rooms.
- Daily animal health monitoring will include observances for ringtail, caused by a lack of humidity in the environment.
- Humidity levels outside of the range noted in the Guide will be accepted if there are no related animal health issues.
- If adverse animal health conditions are noted, mechanisms to add moisture to the room will be used, such as portable humidifiers.