

RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL

RESEARCH GRIEVANCE POLICY

In cases where Researchers and the Reviewing Committees cannot reach agreement through discussion regarding a recommendation, the Research Advisory Council (RAC) permits an appeal process according to the following:

- 1 The decision of the Research Ethics Committee (REC) or the Animal Care & Use Committee (ACUC) not to recommend approval of a proposal (or to suspend or terminate a previously approved proposal) may be appealed by the Principal Investigator (PI) only to the Committee that did not recommend approval. The RAC may not override such a decision by the REC or the ACUC.

- 2 The decision of the Clinical Research Committee or the Basic Research Committee (BRC) not to recommend approval of a proposal (or to suspend or terminate a previously approved proposal) may be appealed by the PI to the RAC.
 - 2.1 The PI should submit an appeal in writing to the RAC Chairman, explaining and documenting the reasons for such a request.
 - 2.2 The RAC Chairman will review the appeal and take one of the following actions:
 - 2.2.1 Form an ad hoc appeal body made up of three members, one of whom should be a member of the Committee which did not recommend approval of the proposal, or
 - 2.2.2 If the PI did not present enough supporting evidence against the Committee's decision, inform the PI in writing that the decision made by the Committee is final.
 - 2.3 The appeal body will critically review the merit of the proposal and the comments of the Reviewers and the Committee's Members and may interview the PI. The body will forward its recommendation to the Chairman of the RAC, whose decision will be final.