

## STATEMENT OF CONFORMANCE

The extent to which there is overall conformance with the *Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes - edition 8, 2013* (the Code) is the subject of external review, USQ12122018.

This review was undertaken, on behalf of University of Southern Queensland, by Scientific Auditing Services Pty. Ltd. in line with the provisions outlined in section 6 (s 6.1 - 6.7) of the Code.

### The scope and outcome of the review included:

- the conduct of all people involved in the care and use of animals for scientific purposes on behalf of the institution, including the AEC, institutional officers and administrators, investigators and animal carers (c 6.6 [i])
- the adequacy of the institutional program to ensure that the care and use of animals for scientific purposes is conducted in compliance with the Code; is subject to ethical review, approval and monitoring by an AEC; and is conducted in accordance with the AEC approval (c 6.6 [ii])
- the adequacy of institutional support, resources and educational programs for the AEC and its members, and for people involved in any aspect of the care and use of animals for scientific purposes, to ensure that they can meet their responsibilities under the Code (c 6.6 [iii])
- whether the AEC is operating effectively in accordance with the Code (c 6.6 [iv])
- the effectiveness of institutional strategies to promote and monitor the implementation of the governing principles (c 6.6 [v])
- whether there is effective monitoring of the wellbeing of animals (c 6.6 [iv])
- whether facilities used to house animals are managed to support and safeguard animal wellbeing (c 6.6 [vii])

### Conclusion

The independent external review has concluded University of Southern Queensland has achieved a high level of conformance with the Code. The institution provides for an ongoing program to support the level of conformance with the Code and was found to have demonstrated a commitment to the review of, and continual improvement to the systems governing the care and use of animals undertaken by its staff and students for scientific purposes. Twenty (20) secondary non-conformances were identified during the review period and recommendations for corrective actions have been provided by the External Review Panel. The institution has undertaken to consider the findings and recommendations outlined in report USQ12122018.