Animals on Campus Q&A

What are the different types of animals?
- **Emotional support animals** are generally prescribed by a licensed therapist in a letter stating the person to be disabled and the presence of the animal is necessary for the person in order to enjoy the benefits of their living environment.
- **Service animals** are trained to perform tasks to assist people with disabilities.
- **Therapy animals** are obedience trained and screened for their ability to interact favorably with people and other animals. Therapy animals provide attention and comfort to people in various settings.

What animals are allowed on campus?
Emotional support animals can generally only be allowed in campus housing (i.e. a residential hall or apartment, but not the dining center, classrooms, or library). In order to have an emotional support animal on campus, a student must receive approval from the Disability Programs and Resource Center (DPRC) and Residential Life prior to bringing the animal to their residence.

Service animals can be in most areas of campus where the public is allowed unless there is a direct safety concern. Visitors do not need to register their service animal. However, students who request a service animal to live with them in University Housing must register with DPRC prior to bringing the animal to the residence.

All service and emotional support animals must be housebroken and under control. Certain safety guidelines apply, i.e. they can’t go into a public swimming pool, nor enter some lab/health environments. Employees who request a service or emotional support animal as a reasonable accommodations based on disability must register with the DPRC Employee Accommodations Program prior to bringing the animal to work.

What is animal etiquette?
Animal etiquette is how to handle your animal or how to interact with people who have one. It includes the following:
- Keeping your animal on a short leash, watching for trip hazards, pick up the waste, etc.
- Being mindful that some people are afraid of animals or have allergies.
- Keeping the animal clean and free from fleas.
- Refraining from petting other people’s animals without asking as this may interfere with the animal’s ability to provide a service and possibly affect the health and safety of the handler.
- Never separating a service animal from its handler.

If you have any questions regarding reasonable accommodations based on disability, please contact DPRC at 415-338-2472.