



ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES

AAU STATEMENT ON ANIMAL RESEARCH

Brandeis University
Brown University
California Institute of Technology
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
Emory University
Harvard University
Indiana University
Iowa State University
The Johns Hopkins University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McGill University
Michigan State University
New York University
Northwestern University
The Ohio State University
The Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Purdue University
Rice University
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Stanford University
Stony Brook University – State University of New York
Syracuse University
Texas A&M University
Tulane University
University at Buffalo – State University of New York
The University of Arizona
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Chicago
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Florida
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
University of Iowa
University of Kansas
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of Missouri, Columbia
University of Nebraska - Lincoln
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rochester
University of Southern California
University of Texas at Austin
University of Toronto
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Vanderbilt University
Washington University in St. Louis
Yale University

Animal research has played a vital role in virtually every major biomedical advance of the last century—increasing scientific knowledge while furthering human and animal health. The research community and AAU are committed to ensuring that such research not only conforms with ethical, legal, and safety regulations but also maintains the highest standards of animal care and health. This obligation requires effective training and education of investigators and service personnel, as well as rigorous regulation and oversight of animal research.

Unfortunately, a few activists harass, intimidate, or use violence against those performing research using animals. Such behavior is unacceptable.

AAU has long championed academic and scientific freedom. Universities should continue to provide a forum for civil discourse and the open exchange of ideas about this or any other topic. But just as they protect the right of those who wish to express particular points of view through campus policies on free expression, universities must always ensure a safe environment for conducting their activities, including research involving the use of animals, free of intimidation or violence.

As some of the nation's and the world's leading research universities, the members of the Association of American Universities affirm their obligation to protect faculty, staff members, and students from harassment, threats, and physical harm, and to work with law enforcement authorities to safeguard animals, and facilities used for such work, as well as the families and homes of university personnel.

Approved by the AAU Membership
October 22, 2007