

International Animal Action

International Association Against Painful Experiments on Animals

IAAPEA AWARD SEVEN HUMANE RESEARCH GRANTS IN THE UKRAINE

by Brian Gunn Secretary General

The IAAPEA have already saved many animals from suffering painful experiments in Eastern Europe.

To accelerate our campaign in the Ukraine, we invited the country's leading Scientists to submit research applications that would replace live animals in experiments.

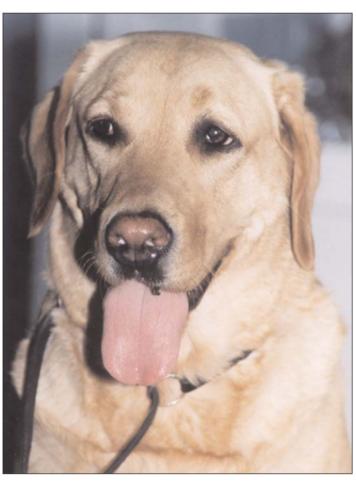
Numerous applications for research projects were received. The applications were assessed by a committee under the leadership of our Hon. Scientific Director, Dr Robert Sharpe.

After much clarification and deliberation it was decided that because of the very high quality of the research projects, the IAAPEA would award not 3 Grants as we had planned, but 7 Humane Research Grants. Though this research meant that we would be spending more money than we had originally planned, we could not let the animals down. We believe that thousands more animals will be saved by the IAAPEA sponsoring these 7 Humane Research projects in the Ukraine.

MEETINGS

I recently visited the Ukraine to present the Awards to the Scientists involved in the 7 Humane Research projects and also met Representatives from Animal Organisations and Government Officials

HUMANE RESEARCH GRANTS



STRAY DOG SAVED FROM VIVISECTION IN THE UKRAINE
Photograph by Brian Gunn / IAAPEA ©

REDUCING THE NUMBER OF DOGS USED FOR EDUCATION PURPOSES

In the Veterinary Academy stray dogs are experimented on for education purposes. Poverty-stricken Ukrainian Institutions haven't any funds to buy computer simulation programmes showing alternatives to animals. The IAAPEA Grant will help provide vital CD ROMS and video films. Many dogs will be saved by this IAAPEA Grant.

INSULIN RESEARCH

The research is to be undertaken at the State Scientific Centre of Drugs. The SSCD is a member of the Scientific Institutions of Ukranian Ministry of Public Health and National Academy of Sciences, it is now the State Committee for Medical and Microbiological Industry. The SSCD coordinates work in the field of creation, preclinical study, the development of normative and technical documentation and drugs inculcation for industrial production in the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences Institutions.

The project will involve testing the function of insulin receptors of blood cells. This historic IAAPEA Humane Research Grant is the first that the prestigious State Scientific Centre of Drugs has ever received from an animal welfare organisation.

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SAVING ANIMALS IN THE UKRAINE







Photographs by Brian Gunn / IAAPEA ©

INTERNET CENTRE FOR SCIENTISTS AND STUDENTS

At the present time, because of the cost, the Internet is not widely used in the Ukraine. The IAAPEA grant will fund a new Internet Centre. Scientists and students will now be able to learn and find alternatives that will replace live animals in research.

STUDYING MECHANISMS OF DEVELOPMENTAL CARDIOMYOPATHY WITH USE OF PATIENTS CLINICAL MATERIAL

This IAAPEA Humane Research Grant will study heart disease. Innumerable animals are experimented on in the Ukraine for research linked to heart disease.

KHARKOV REGIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS

Countless stray dogs and cats are tortured in the Ukrainian laboratories. The grant will be used to help the homeless animals in Kharkov and launch an education programme.

EDUCATION

A grant was awarded to the influential H S Skovoroda Pedagogical University. In the project they will be questioning teachers and students training at the Pedagogical University and 3 colleges in the Kharkov region. The training of teachers with a high level of bioethical education will reduce the number of animals used for biology in schools and institutions.

LABORATORY OF CELLULAR CULTURES

The head of the laboratory will be Dr Tatyana Shchegoleva, she is one of Ukraine's leading Scientists and Campaigners for laboratory animals. The laboratory will be used to carry out biomedical research. This will enable the transfer of many biomedical experiments that previously involved using live animals.



PRESS CONFERENCE

A very successful two-hour Press Conference was held in Kharkov. This was attended by a television film crew and journalists from radio stations, newspapers and magazines. Vital publicity was gained for our cause and Dr. Shchegoleva and myself were both interviewed on Ukrainian television and radio.

LECTURES

While in the Ukraine I gave a lecture to staff and students at the Kharkiv National University.

This University is among the oldest and most recognised University in Eastern Europe. It incorporates 15 schools and 97 departments; its total enrolment amounts to 13,000 undergraduates, graduate and postgraduate students. The University employs about 2,000 lecturers and research officers, including over 200 full Professors with Doctor Degrees and over 1,000 Associate Professors with Candidate Degrees.

The University is among the largest Research Centres in the Ukraine committed to work in almost all trends of modern fundamental research. The University comprises of Research Institutes of Chemistry, Biology, Laser Biology and Laser Medicine.

A further lecture was also given at H S Skovoroda Pedagogical University, which is a teacher training University.

The response to my lectures was very encouraging and they were followed by some very stimulating questions and support.

LEGISLATION

There is very little animal welfare legislation in the Ukraine. Any animal legislation that does exist is totally ignored and not implemented by the Authorities. So the researchers can torture the animals safe in the knowledge that the Authorities do not care at all about animal abuse and suffering.

SAVING THE ANIMALS

The IAAPEA Scientific Advisors are confident that the IAAPEA-sponsored historic research in the Ukraine will save the lives of tens of thousands of defenceless laboratory animals.

With your invaluable support and donations, the IAAPEA will continue to save these vulnerable animals who so desperately need our help.

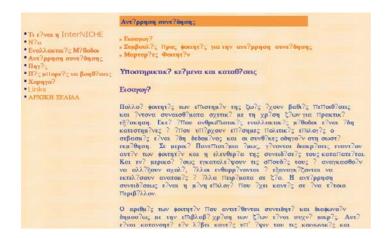
We will of course, be keeping you fully informed on the progress of these seven exciting Humane Research Grants in the Ukraine.





IAAPEA SPONSORING HUMANE RESEARCH IN THE UKRAINE.

Photographs by Brian Gunn / IAAPEA ©





Following our successful launch of the first ever 'Alternative' Internet web site in Russian, the IAAPEA have now funded a new Alternative web site in Greek.

The Greek version of the world's largest web site devoted to modernising life science education and replacing animal experiments with progressive, humane alternatives has now been launched by the International Network for Humane Education.

This unique site is aimed at teachers and students of biological science, medicine and veterinary medicine. It is also recommended viewing for University Ethics Committees, Legislators, Civil Rights and Animal Protection Groups.

The content provides news and information about the advances in life science teaching across the world and shows arguments for the implementation of 'alternatives'. These innovative learning tools and approaches include advanced computer software, training manikins and simulators, student self-experimentation and problem-based learning, ethically-sourced animal cadavers and clinical learning opportunities with animal patients.

Also available on the site are details of InterNICHE resources, assessment of 'alternatives' and links to producers, plus contacts to International Libraries where teachers can borrow such products for free trial. Over 1000 new resources and links including case studies written by University teachers who have implemented alternatives, will be added to the site during 2004. Providing teachers with further information to support their work in effective curriculum design.

The conventional animal practicals at many Universities often included dissection, for the study of animal anatomy and animal experimentation to teach physiology, pharmacology and surgery.

Despite the tradition of humane education in some disciplines or countries and the growing momentum for replacement, harmful animal use is still the majority practice. Tens, if not hundreds of millions of animals worldwide are killed annually for dissection and animal experiments. Aware of the limitations of these approaches, teachers at many institutes across the world have been redesigning courses to improve the learning environment for students and to meet learning objectives more effectively.

Most animal practicals have changed little over the decades, with students performing the same experiments to produce the same contrived results, to the detriment of critical thinking and effective acquisition of knowledge and skills. Many are also brief, unsupervised and poorly performed.



Over 30 published academic studies show that students using 'alternatives', perform equal or better than those using conventional methods. Conscious design of a curriculum allows teachers to choose from a range of tools and approaches to meet identified teaching objectives effectively and ethically. For many teachers, 'alternative' methods therefore are just better ways for students to learn. The power of modern multimedia with its exceptional potential to facilitate the visualisation of structure and understanding, can be harnessed to our learning process. Students can also repeat a task or procedure until they have gained the confidence and competence to move on to the next stage of learning. They can also use the training manikins for clinical skills practice and ethicallysourced animal cadavers for surgery practice.

The hidden curriculum of harmful animal use. teaches disrespect for life and the desensitisation of students, has significant social consequences. Compulsory dissection and vivisection teaches students that their ethical concerns and beliefs are unimportant. Many are therefore coerced into animal practicals under the threat of academic or psychological penalty, which has resulted in a number of legal cases against Universities. 'Alternative' tools and approaches do not require killing or harming animals and do not limit students legal and moral rights to freedom of conscience. Unlike harmful animal use, the implementation of 'alternatives' should encourage emotional and ethical literacy and respect for important cultural values such as compassion, empathy and personal responsibility.

'Alternatives' are widely available and there are countless examples of full replacement already achieved. Harmful animal use is detrimental to education and life sciences and has questionable relevance. It is also against the word and spirit of legislation such as the European Convention 123, European Directive 86/609 and other National and International Legislation.

Ethical and financial concerns and the opportunities provided by recent developments in multimedia technology, have prompted a re-assessment of conventional practice. Harmful animal use is therefore increasingly being replaced by combinations of superior teaching methods that are much more appropriate to training future life science professionals.

The IAAPEA's representative in Greece, Dr George Haritakis, Founder and Chairman of Doctors in Greece for Responsible Medicine, was the spokesman for the web site's successful Press Launch in Athens.

The new IAAPEA-sponsored web site will help save the lives and suffering of numerous laboratory animals throughout Greece.



The Greek site is available at www.interniche.org/gr.



The English site is available at www.interniche.org



The Russian site is available at www.interniche.org/rs

WHERE THERE'S A WILL ...THERE'S A WAY!

At certain times in your life it is important to review your Will.

These include the death of a partner, marriage (or remarriage), divorce, and the arrival of grandchildren.

When you've made sure the ones you love are looked after in your Will,

please spare a thought for laboratory animals.

The
International
Association
Against Painful
Experiments on
Animals has
already saved the
lives of countless
laboratory animals.



We also fund medical research without animal experiments into cancer, heart disease, diabetes and other illnesses.



With your support we can save many more animals from suffering painful experiments in the future.

We are the voice for the voiceless.
Please help us to save the animals.

A Will not only makes sense, it makes perfect peace of mind.



The frustration of prolonged close confinement in a research laboratory has forced the monkey into psychotic behaviour such as eating his own excrement.

Photograph by Brian Gunn/IAAPEA ©



MONKEY RESEARCH

Monkeys should be phased out of toxicity and drug safety testing experiments, Home Office Advisors have said.

The Animal Procedures Committee stated in a report that around 40,000 non-human primates, mostly marmosets and tamarins, were used for research between 1990 and 2000.

Science has advanced so much that some drugs can be tested in tiny doses on humans rather than continuing to use monkeys for the experiments, the Government's Official Advisory Body has decided.

The recommendation is one of many in two longawaited reports by the Animal Procedures Committee, firstly into whether experiments on primates could be justified on ethical grounds and secondly into whether there are better and cheaper alternatives.

The Committee fears that the current number of primates - normally macaques, marmosets and tamarin monkeys - being used in experiments will grow as drug companies search for new drugs to combat the diseases of old age.

Currently most research is for 'lifestyle' illnesses such as heart disease and cancer which also have genetic origins, but is now switching to Alzheimer's and brain disorders, common in older people.

Drug companies believe this will require more primates in research because only they have brains sufficiently similar to humans for effective tests on the toxicity and side effects of the drugs.

Due to the advances in science, micro doses of drugs administered to human subjects can be detected in various organs to see where they accumulate and what damage they might do.

The committee suggests drug companies using this method could go straight to human testing of new drugs and avoid intermediate stages of testing drugs on monkeys.

Another way of reducing animal experiments suggested by the Committee is for human tissue to be used for experiments rather than live animals.





APES SAVED IN SWEDEN

The Swedish Government has exempted all great apes and nine species of gibbon from research procedures, as part of a new set of regulations pertaining to the use of animals in research. Great apes include chimpanzees, bonobos, gorillas and orangutans. Gibbons comprise of various species of smaller apes.

Sweden joins a small, but growing list of countries (including the UK, Japan, New Zealand and The Netherlands) that have banned the use of great apes in biomedical research.

IAAPEA President Ingrid Persson, one of Sweden's leading Animal Rights Campaigners, said;

'Although I welcome this important step forward, the IAAPEA would be stepping up its campaign in Sweden for a complete ban on the use of all primates for research'.

SWITZERLAND

The number of animal experiments in Switzerland is increasing. Over 600,000 animals were used in experiments during 2002, an increase of almost 9% from 2001.





Government figures reveal that 2,732,712 experiments were performed on live animals in Great Britain during 2002.

In a Press Release IAAPEA Secretary General, Brian Gunn 'condemned the figures as a national disgrace and a catalogue of cruelty, which recorded the highest number of animal experiments in Great Britain for 8 years.' He went on to demand, 'that the Government set up an Independent Commission of Inquiry into the validity of animal tests and the potential of Alternative Techniques.' Following the publication of the Press Release Brian Gunn was interviewed on a number of radio stations.

The government figures also revealed that:

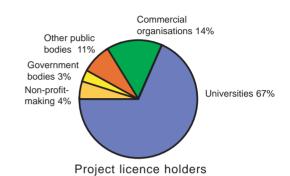
60% of all procedures on living animals were performed without any form of anaesthesia

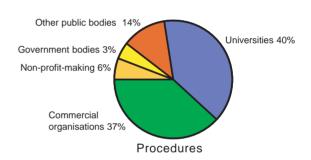
75% increase in experiments for household products

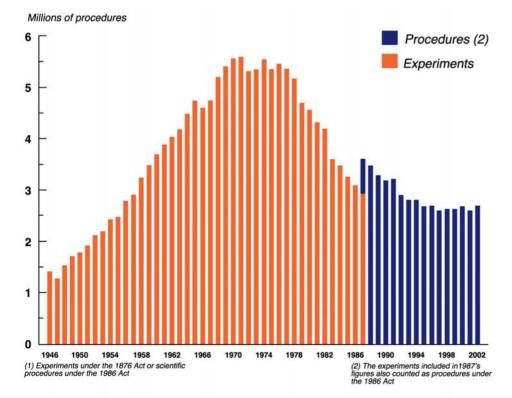
51% increase in experiments for food additives

Procedures on genetically manipulated (transgenic) animals now represent a quarter of all procedures, and have increased by 12% from 2001. Procedures on transgenic animals have consistently risen every year since 1990 when they represented a mere 1.5% of the total.

There were 31 infringements recorded during 2002. 26 of these were categorised as Class Two or Three infringements and as such are defined as potentially criminal offences. However, Surprise! Surprise! no licences were revoked and there were no prosecutions.







PORTON DOWN

A total of 15,940 animals were used at the notorious Government Defence and Science Laboratory at Porton Down during 2002.

The species experimented on were 14,874 mice, 644 guinea pigs, 24 rabbits, 88 pigs, 268 rats and 42 primates.



Figure 1: Experiments or procedures commenced each year, 1946 - 2002

SUCCESS IN JAPAN

There is no legislation governing animal experiments in Japan and stray dogs and cats are frequently used for horrific experiments in Japanese laboratories. But three prefectures (the Yamagata, Iwate and Hokkaido) have now banned the transfer of abandoned dogs and cats from local pounds to research laboratories.

IAAPEA Secretary General, Brian Gunn, has taken photos in numerous Japanese labs, he describes the conditions found there as horrendous and among the worst he has ever seen.

The IAAPEA will now be campaigning to persuade other government prefectures in Japan to outlaw the use of stray pet dogs and cats in Japanese laboratories.



This dog had been left chained up, on a dirty basement floor in a Japanese laboratory, after an experiment which involved major surgery. No after-care facilities were provided by the vivisectors - the blankets having been provided by animal welfare workers.

Photo by Brian Gunn/IAAPEA©

FLUORESCENT FISH

Scientists have created genetically modified fish that glow in the dark. In future, there will be no need for aquarium lights - fluorescent fish will provide their own illumination!

This is just the start, Scientists believe 'Night Pearl' bio-fish represent the shape of pets to come. The 'Night Pearl' began as a research tool created by H J Tsai, a Professor at the National Taiwan University.

The fish have gone on sale in Taiwan and will soon appear in America. The 'Night Pearls' glow in different red and green patterns, thanks to genes from jellyfish and marine coral. Now the team is working on a glowing dragon fish, which many Asians believe is a lucky species.



SAVING ANIMALS IN MOSCOW

Professor Tatyana Pavlova has completed the computer programme which is now used to replace live animals in demonstrations at the Moscow Veterinarian Academy.

It is the first programme on physiology of its kind in Russia and has saved the lives of many animals.

ANIMAL RESULTS RETRACTED

Incorrect labels on two laboratory bottles have been blamed for an embarrassing withdrawal of a scientific study which purported to show that one tablet of the drug Ecstasy could result in Parkinson's disease later in life.

The journal, 'Science' reported that the study is being retracted after the Scientists involved failed to replicate their findings.

The study involved injecting Ecstasy into 10 primates. Two of the animals died of heat stroke, and another two were in such distress they were not given any further doses and six weeks later dopamine levels in the surviving animals were 65% down.

Many animal experiments are performed at the John Hopkins University, in Baltimore.

In academic circles the mistake is a severe embarrassment to the University which attracts millions of dollars of research funding from both the Government and Companies.





Natalia Spiridonova with one of her rescued dogs Photograph by Brian Gunn / IAAPEA ©



At the present time there is no animal welfare legislation at all in Belarus.

In the recent City and Vitebsk regional elections, Natalia Spiridonova campaigned for the animals. This was the first time that a candidate had campaigned for animals in a Belarus Election.

Natalia is a graduate of the Medical University and a dynamic advocate for animals.

Natalia's election team consisted of about 20 young people. The first stage was to collect the necessary number of electorate signatures, only then could Natalia be nominated as a candidate, but she obtained the signatures and the six-week election campaign commenced.

The IAAPEA supports Natalia and her group 'Animal Friends'. With the help of a computer that the IAAPEA had donated to the group, campaign leaflets were produced and election meetings were held.

The campaign gathered momentum and support from the electorate. Natalia stood as an Independent candidate therefore did not receive support from the state as an Official Government candidate. Despite this, Natalia lost by only 200 votes.

NEW TEST WILL SAVE 200,000 RABBITS FROM RESEARCH LAB

Two hundred thousand rabbits a year could be spared an untimely death, thanks to new methods of testing drugs, announced the European Commission.

Scientists have found a way of using human blood cells instead of rabbits in six tests to detect potential fever-causing agents, known as pyrogens, in drugs.

The animal-friendly test has been developed by an EU-backed research team. For 50 years rabbits have been used in the only suitable check for the presence of pyrogens.

As well as saving the lives of up to 200,000 rabbits a year, the replacement test is quicker, more accurate and more effective.

EDUCATION

Education plays an important part in the work of the IAAPEA. The children of today are the adults of tomorrow and IAAPEA Representatives continue to give talks in Schools, Colleges and Universities in many countries.

IAAPEA MAGAZINE

In order to save a large amount of money that the IAAPEA currently spends on printing, producing and postage for our magazine International Animal Action, we shall in future publish the magazine once a year in the Spring.

The money saved will be awarded in grants to sponsor more Humane Research and also to financially assist new animal societies and groups, thus helping them to set up and run education campaigns in countries where there is at present little support for animal defence.



Photograph by Brian Gunn / IAAPEA ©

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CRUELTY KNOWS NO FRONTIERS

The IAAPEA, founded in 1969, established World Day for Laboratory Animals. Introduced in 1979 World Day for Laboratory Animals is now a focal point for Actions Worldwide.

THE IAAPEA

Is the only Organisation concerned solely with laboratory animals which has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Councils.

Sponsors the development of Humane nonanimal research - further grants are planned

Organises and finances undercover work to obtain vital photographic evidence of the cruelty involved in animal experimentation. With countless animal organisations throughout the world, from the world's largest animal organisation PETA, to small animal groups, all using IAAPEA photos in their publicity campaigns.

Initiated and fostered opposition to animal tests in countries where previously there was no, or negligible activity on behalf of the animals in laboratories

Have sponsored Internet web sites in Russian, English and Greek - further languages are planned.

Assists new societies, small societies, and those in countries where there is little support for animal defence.

WE BELIEVE onsultative Status with the Economic-Social Council

THE IAAPEA DEPENDS ENTIRELY ON VOLUNTARY DONATIONS AND DESPERATELY NEEDS YOUR HELP TO COMBAT LABORATORY CRUELTY AND TO PROMOTE A MORE RELIABLE APPROACH TO MEDICAL RESEARCH.

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ABOUT ...DOGS IN RUSSIA ...
RABBITS IN MEXICO ...
CATS IN JAPAN ...

WE DO!



On behalf of every little face behind every set of bars in every laboratory cage, the International Association Against Painful Experiments on Animals cares passionately about animals all over the world who are tortured in painful laboratory experiments.

Your legacy could help us end this cruel abuse on animals.

It is of the utmost importance that those intending to benefit the Association should state in their Will the Association's full name and address. Failure to use the correct title may lead to costly litigation and the loss of the whole or part of the legacy.

We earnestly ask all testators to use the following form of bequest.

I give free of tax to the -

International Association Against Painful Experiments on Animals, PO Box 14, Hayling Island, Hampshire, PO11 9BF England

and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper officer for the time being thereof shall be sufficient discharge to my Executors.

WITH YOUR HELP WE CAN SAVE THE ANIMALS
ONLY YOU CAN PROVIDE THE VITAL FUNDS
THANK YOU FOR CARING!