

ANIMAL RESEARCH NEWS & ANALYSIS



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES



Sixth World Congress Held in Tokyo

Over 900 people participated in the Sixth World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences (6WC), held August

21-25, 2007 in Tokyo, Japan. This was one of the largest international conferences convened to discuss the latest developments and future directions for replacing, reducing, and refining the use of animals in research, testing, and education. In addition, satellite meetings held in Seoul (South Korea), Beijing (China), and Kyoto (Japan) were also well attended.

The presentations at the 6WC collectively conveyed a sense that alternative methods, particularly non-animal methods for toxicity testing, were entering a new era of sophistication and promise. The U.S. National Research Council's recent report on the future of toxicity testing was discussed with excitement. This report proposes a shift in safety testing and risk assessment away from traditional animal testing. In fact, the report holds out the possibility that all animal-based testing would become obsolete. Also encouraging at the 6WC were plans revealed by a major consumer products company that included the establishment of a non-animal testing approach to risk assessment.

According to The HSUS's Andrew Rowan, "The HSUS is excited at the prospects for significant progress over the next few years to eliminate laboratory animal use in safety testing and risk evaluation. We intend to be actively engaged in realizing the vision of a non-animal testing future."

Sources: [The HSUS](#); [Sixth World Congress](#)

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The HSUS Presents 2007 Russell and Burch Award

At the opening ceremony of the Sixth World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences, held in Tokyo, Japan in August, The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) presented the 2007 Russell & Burch Award to Rodger Curren in recognition of his efforts to advance the development and implementation of non-animal methods for toxicity testing. Dr. Curren is President and co-founder of the Institute for In Vitro Sciences, based in Gaithersburg, Maryland, USA. The Russell & Burch Award honors scientists who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of alternative methods in the areas of biomedical research, testing, or higher education.

According to The HSUS's Martin Stephens, "Dr. Curren has had a major influence on the field of non-animal methods of toxicity testing. His diverse efforts have included the development of customized, alternatives-based testing for industry; the formulation of the pre-validation concept; educational outreach to the regulatory and animal protection communities; and advocacy at key policy-setting meetings, as well as participation in the development, pre-validation and validation of new test methods."

Source: [The HSUS](#)



**Humane Education
Loan Program**



Noteworthy...

The Netherlands Centre Alternatives to animals use has revamped its website which now includes a directory of alternatives research in the Netherlands as well as links the Centre's newsletter. The website is available in Dutch and English. [More >>](#)



'Chimp Haven is Home' Amendment Introduced

Legislation has been introduced in the U.S. Congress to prevent chimpanzees formerly used in biomedical experimentation from being pulled out of retirement and put back into laboratories. The "Chimp Haven is Home Act" (S. 1916/H.R. 3295), co-introduced by Senators Burr (R-North Carolina), Landrieu (D-Louisiana) and Vitter (R-Louisiana) and by Representatives McCrery (R-Louisiana) and Melancon (D-Louisiana), would amend the Chimpanzee Health Improvement, Maintenance, and Protection (CHIMP) Act of 2000.

The CHIMP Act authorized construction of a federally funded sanctuary system to which chimpanzees formerly used in research would be retired. The chimpanzee is the only species used in research afforded such protection. Chimp Haven was awarded a 10-year contract to oversee the sanctuary system, which so far houses approximately 120 chimpanzees. The CHIMP Act prohibits invasive research on the chimpanzees while they live at the sanctuary; however the law allows chimps to be removed from the sanctuary for further use in research under certain conditions. The Chimp Haven is Home Act, strongly supported by The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), would remove this provision.

"It is important to close the loophole that allows for chimpanzees to be returned to research," said The HSUS's Kathleen Conlee. "These animals deserve permanent sanctuary after all they have endured as research subjects."

Source: [Chimp Haven](#)



Two More Universities End Use of Live Animals

Stony Brook University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine and Saint Louis University School of Medicine announced in August that they will end the use of live animal labs in their medical training programs, thereby joining eight other schools that have stopped the use of live animals in their medical training programs since 2006. Stony Brook University and St. Louis University made the announcements after receiving complaints from the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM), respectively. Stony Brook had been cited in March by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for violating the Animal Welfare Act by failing to have records that alternatives to animal use were considered.

In June, the New York Bar Association sent letters to Stony Brook urging the school to discontinue the use of live animals in its surgery laboratory "on legal, scientific, and ethical grounds." Before Stony Brook announced the end to live animal use, its fourth year students observed a surgical training using live pigs. The pigs were anesthetized during the surgical procedures and euthanized afterwards.

In letters to St. Louis University concerning the school's live animal use, PCRMM noted a resolution passed by the American Medical Student Association, which "strongly encourages the replacement of animal laboratories with non-animal alternatives in undergraduate medical education."

Source: [Physician's Committee for Responsible Medicine](#)

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Animal Research News & Analysis is produced by the Animal Research Issues section of The Humane Society of the United States. It is a free, electronic newsletter that provides up-to-date news stories and interpretive analyses on the use of animals in research, testing, and education. To subscribe, or for more information, please visit our [website](#). To unsubscribe, please send an [e-mail](#) including the words, "Unsubscribe: Animal Research News" in the subject line and your first and last name in the body of the message.