If we say it will they hear? Student and faculty interest in animal research outreach.

Eric Sandgren, VMD, PhD, Professor

School of Veterinary Medicine

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Former Director and spokesperson, Animal Care and Use Program and Research Animal Resources Center

UW-Madison Animal Research Survey

- Developed by Eric Sandgren, VMD, PhD, School of Veterinary Medicine; Robert Streiffer, PhD, Medical History and Bioethics; and Nadia Assad, MS, Jennifer Dykema, PhD, and Jackson Moberg, UW-Madison Survey Center
- Funded by UW-Madison and School of Veterinary Medicine
- 27 questions; mainly Likert-scale; required an average of 12 minutes
- Web-based, with paper follow-up mailed to faculty
- Administered fall 2016 to randomly selected undergraduate students, and spring 2017 to all faculty
- One study question: is open discussion of animal research an organizational best practice?

Q2. How much do you feel you know about the facts and arguments for and against the use of animals in research?



Q1. How important to you is the issue of using animals in research?





Q18. Have you seen, heard, or read anything about the use of animals in research from any of the following sources?



Q17. How much do you trust the following sources to provide unbiased information about the use of animals in research?



Q19. Do you feel the amount you have seen, heard, or read about the use of animals in research from each of the following sources has been:



UW-Madison animal research communication

- We have been a frequent target of animal activist campaigns.
- 15+ year history of open discussion of animal research
 - Debates; formal and informal public discussions
 - Forum on Animal Research Ethics (FARE) and Learning About Ethics in Animal Research Now (LEARN)
 - In-house and traveling outreach
 - Engagement with reporters
- Animal use is acknowledged in press releases describing relevant UW-Madison research.
- Comprehensive website-linked description of our animal program, including controversial studies

Our observations suggest that the university community strongly favors increased open communication about animal research.

Open communication is a best-practice.

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Open communication is a best-practice.

They've said it; will we hear?