



Stop Animal Exploitation NOW!

Gary S. May, Chancellor
University of California, Davis
One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616
Via email: chancellor@ucdavis.edu

9/18/23

Chancellor May,

I am writing to you today to insist that you terminate the staff responsible for killing a monkey by literally cooking this animal to death, in violation of the federal Animal Welfare Act.

As you know, the University of California Davis recently posted a report online which discusses this unnecessary death. This report contains the details of the incidents and it is available at: file:///Users/Michael/Downloads/Adverse%20Event%20Review%20Report%208-25-23_Redacted.pdf

Without going into great detail and thereby reiterating the entire report, during and immediately after transportation a monkey was subjected to forced air heat of 130 degrees for 1 1/3 hours to 2 1/4 hours. This period of excessive heat put the animal into a coma, which led to euthanasia.

Anyone who is even minimally aware of the standards for proper care of a monkey would know that this type of treatment could easily cause excessive elevation of the monkey's temperature resulting in injury or death.

No one who is so oblivious to the welfare of an animal as to subject them to forced air heat of 130 degrees, and then leave them unattended for 50 - 90 minutes should be handling animals.

Therefore the individuals involved in this incident must be immediately terminated, or at the very least reassigned to areas where they will never handle animals again.

The safety of these animals is in your hands. You can either remove the responsible staff, or ignore this heinous and unnecessary death, until your university is prosecuted by the USDA for violating the federal Animal Welfare Act.

You should know that as a part of our efforts to impact this situation we have filed a Federal Complaint with USDA/APHIS/AC. Your staff should expect a visit within the next 90 days.

The UC Davis website, when discussing animal research claims to provide “the best possible care to animals in our charge.”

This incident is a clear failure in this regard, and publishing a report online which is essentially an effort at public relations will not change that.

If you want to demonstrate some actual concern for the animals within the labs of UC Davis you should begin by terminating the individuals responsible for this negligent death. Then you should make a commitment to move on to more accurate cutting edge methods of research such as organ-on-a-chip technology, three dimensional bio printing, etc.

This incident has clearly demonstrated that animals in the care of UC Davis are not safe from harm. This must change.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T.,
Executive Director, SAEN