



## **Animal Welfare Scientists Celebrate 50 years' Improvements**

**10th January 2005**

A leading charity is calling for scientific papers to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 3Rs concept which was developed to ensure a humane approach to the use of animals in research.

Nearly half a century ago, research fellows William Russell and Rex Burch from the Universities Federation of Animal Welfare devised the concept which comprises:

- **Replacement** of animals wherever possible with other experimental protocols such as computer modelling and the use of cell culture and *in vitro* techniques
- **Reduction** of the number of animals used to the minimum necessary to achieve the objective by the use of improved statistical techniques
- **Refinement** of husbandry and experimental techniques to minimise the risk of harm to welfare

UFAW aims to publish a special issue of its journal *Animal Welfare* in November 2005 to celebrate the 3Rs and is calling for research papers (up to 8000 words) and technical contributions (up to 2000 words). It will focus on recent developments in the 3Rs in science and teaching including medical, veterinary, biological, conservation and related fields. Instructions for authors are available on the charity's website ([www.ufaw.org.uk](http://www.ufaw.org.uk)) or by request from UFAW. The deadline for submissions is **31<sup>st</sup> March 2005**.

The 3Rs have been adopted worldwide as guiding principles for the humane use of animals in scientific procedures.

*Animal Welfare* is a highly acclaimed, objective, international forum for the quarterly publication of peer-reviewed scientific research and technical studies. It relates to the welfare of animals kept on farms, in laboratories, as companions, in zoos or those managed in the wild. **-ends-**

### SCIENCE IN THE SERVICE OF ANIMAL WELFARE



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**The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare ([www.ufaw.org.uk](http://www.ufaw.org.uk))** is an internationally recognised, independent, scientific and educational charity. It promotes high standards of welfare for all animals including wild, captive, farm, laboratory animals and pets. It depends on members and supporters for all funding. UFAW improves animal welfare worldwide through its programme of awards, grants and scholarship schemes; by public education especially at university and college level; by providing information in books, videos, articles, technical reports and in its quarterly scientific journal *Animal Welfare*; by providing expert advice to government departments including the drafting of legislation and guidelines, and by working with animal keepers, scientists, vets, lawyers and all those who care about animals.

“Improvements in the care of animals are not now likely to come of their own accord, merely by wishing them: there must be research ..... and it is in sponsoring research of this kind, making its results widely known, that UFAW performs one of its most valuable services.” (Sir Peter Medawar, CBE, FRS, 8<sup>th</sup> May 1957 – Nobel Laureate (1960), Chairman of the UFAW Scientific Advisory Committee 1951-1962)

## SCIENCE IN THE SERVICE OF ANIMAL WELFARE

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