



UNIVERSITIES FEDERATION FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

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Media Release

From the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW)

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For Immediate Release:

Swiss award for UFAW Professor William Russell Fellowship researchers

Professor Joseph Garner and Dr Brianna Gaskill have been awarded the *Praemium Eximae Scientiae* (Prize for Exceptional Science) by the Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Versuchstierkunde (Swiss Laboratory Animal Science Association) – in recognition of their work at Stanford and Purdue Universities on the thermal requirements of laboratory mice.

Their research, funded through the UFAW Professor William Russell Research Fellowship, drew attention to the fact that mice prefer temperatures 4°C or more warmer than standard laboratory environments, and that standard temperatures change their physiology. They showed that providing nesting material for mice used in laboratories improves mouse welfare, results in better science and has economic benefits. Dr Garner emphasised that “this work would not have been possible without the support of UFAW”, during the award ceremony in Lausanne.

UFAW established this Fellowship in 2008 in honour of Professor William Russell and his work with Rex Burch at UFAW that led to the publication of ‘The Principles of Humane Experimental Technique’ in 1959. This work established the concept of the 3Rs (Replacement, Reduction and Refinement) now recognised throughout the world as guiding principles in the use of animals in scientific procedures.

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Note to Editors:

The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW) is an internationally recognised, independent scientific and educational animal welfare charity. It works to improve knowledge and understanding of animals’ needs in order to achieve high standards of welfare for farm, companion, research, captive wild animals and those with which we interact in the wild.

UFAW improves animal welfare worldwide through its programme of awards, grants and scholarships; by educational initiatives, especially at university and college level; by providing information in books, videos, reports and in its scientific journal *Animal Welfare*; by providing expert advice to governments and others, including for legislation and ‘best practice’ guidelines and codes; and by working with animal keepers, scientists, vets, lawyers and all those who care about animals.

This work relies on the support of members, subscribers and donors.

SCIENCE IN THE SERVICE OF ANIMAL WELFARE

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