

Committee on Animal Research & Ethics (CARE)

2019 Annual Report

Committee Members

Peter Pierre, PhD (Chair), Juan Dominguez, PhD, Michael Hennessey, PhD, Pamela Hunt, PhD, Malini Suchak, PhD, and Jennifer Vonk, PhD

Staff Liaison(s)

Sangy Panicker, PhD

Advocating for Responsible Research with Nonhuman Animals

Noting that the unrelenting assault on research with nonhuman animals has steadily gained strength and met with much success in recent years, CARE focused on advocating at the federal and regulatory levels. CARE engaged in activities to highlight the importance of such research not only to the health and wellbeing of humans, but also that of other animals and the environment.

Congressional Briefing - Supporting Truth about Animal Research (STAR), a coalition of scientific societies founded by CARE sponsored a Congressional briefing titled *Research with Nonhuman Primates: Advancing Health and Scientific Knowledge*

Hill Day -- CARE members & STAR representatives visited 25 congressional offices representing districts in 9 states to inform legislators about the importance of nonhuman animal research and to urge their support for such research.

Resolution on the Ownership of Exotic Animals as Pets

Given that the Committee's mission includes a mandate to *(d) disseminate ... guidelines for protecting the welfare of animals, other than humans, that are used in research, teaching, and practical applications, and to consult on the implementation of these guidelines*, CARE drafted a *Resolution on Ownership of Exotic Animals as Pets*. Research by psychological scientists on the cognitive processes, emotions, and behavior of non-human animals has elucidated the physical and psychological needs of exotic animals and informed our understanding of the psychological issues these animals face when living in environments that do not meet those needs. With this expertise comes the responsibility to ensure that decisions about the welfare of all animals are being guided by psychological research. The *Resolution* will be forwarded to the Council of Representatives for approval in 2020.

Impact on APA's Strategic Priorities

The Committee's advocacy efforts fit squarely within the APA strategic plan and contribute to numerous goals including (i) expanding the public's perception of psychology to accurately reflect the full breadth of the field, (ii) making psychological science accessible and understandable to the public and key decision makers; and (iii) increasing the impact of APA's legislative, regulatory, marketplace and social welfare advocacy.