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## Science Notes - Statement of the Position of the Iowa Academy of Science on the Issue of Animal Rights

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## **Statement of the Position of the Iowa Academy of Science on the Issue of Animal Rights**

The Iowa Academy of Science strongly opposes the attempts, made in the guise of "animal rights," to abolish the use of animals as scientific research and teaching subjects.

Significant success in life science research has been due, in large, to the use of experimental animals. The rationale for such use lies in the fact that their organ systems, metabolic pathways and genetics have counterparts in humans. Therefore, the information gained from such research has been of enormous value to the welfare of humans and other animals.

Those engaged in research using animals must always balance the value of information received against the need to:

- a) obtain from reputable sources the most appropriate species for the study under consideration.
- b) optimize the comfort of the subject.
- c) utilize the smallest number of subjects appropriate for the experimental design.
- d) avoid using species that are either endangered or nearing endangerment.

The Iowa Academy of Science supports the use of animals in research and teaching. It recognizes that responsible scientists must continue to acknowledge and respect the interdependency and unique qualities of all of Earth's organisms.

*(Approved by a majority of all voting members  
of the Iowa Academy of Science in April 1990)*

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The American Geological Institute (in cooperation with the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and the Geological Society of America) is offering its brochure titled "Careers in the Geosciences" free of charge to interested educators.

The full-color fold-out includes information on what geoscientists are, what they do, where they work, a geoscience job and salary outlook and a resource section for persons interested in pursuing a career in the field of geoscience.

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-S.A.A.