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Animalearn Helps African Students Save Animals

Jenkintown, PA--Starting in fall 2010, The College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) at Michigan State Univ To address the worldwide concern about the harmful use of animals in education and training labs, Animalearn, the educational division of the American Anti-Vivisection Society, is helping teachers and students in Tanzania, Africa with a donation of humane dissection alternatives.

Through the Tanzania Animal Welfare Society's (TAWESO) Animal Replacement Project, Animalearn is sending a variety of virtual science lab experiments and dissection software valued at \$10,000 to replace the harmful use of cats, pigs, frogs, and rats in schools, colleges, and universities. The Animal Replacement Project enriches students' education, saves animals' lives, and addresses the health and environmental concerns of using chemicals like chloroform for dissection exercises. TAWESO's goals are to improve attitudes towards the humane treatment of animals in education and to have alternatives incorporated into the education system.

Dr. Thomas Kahema, TAWESO's Executive Director, explained "In our country, most students dislike science subjects because they fear of killing animals for the dissection classes. The alternatives from Animalearn will help to sensitize students and their teachers towards the use of animals in the education system in Tanzania. We thank Animalearn for this support as the project will be able to start to move toward incorporating the use of animal alternatives in the national education syllabus."

Laura Ducceschi, Director of Animalearn, commented "These alternatives are so interactive and educational, there is really no reason to harm animals in classrooms in order to learn science. And we're very excited to hear that TAWESO is discussing the Animal Replacement Project with the Ministry of Education and some members of parliament. They are making a good case for alternatives."

TAWESO, an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, relies solely on contributions for its public education campaigns and initiatives to end animal cruelty. TAWESO is currently seeking additional funding for new or used laptop computers and projectors, as well as for travel costs to demonstrate the alternatives in classrooms across the country.



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