



March 2, 2015

Chancellor Rebecca M. Blank, PhD
Chancellor's Office, 165 Bascom Hall
500 Lincoln Drive
University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI 53706

President Ray Cross
Office of the President
1720 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706

Dear Chancellor Blank and President Cross:

One only has to look at the Ebola crisis to appreciate the vital role that animals play in biomedical research, in this case, in the testing of potentially life-saving vaccines. But, it doesn't stop there. Neuropsychiatric disorders are the leading cause of disability in the US. Advances in understanding and treating these devastating conditions rests on fundamental basic behavioral and brain science that, as with infectious diseases, begins with carefully conducted studies in animals. NIMH has supported the research in the Kalin lab for many years. This support is part of our commitment to the belief that careful, well-founded, peer-reviewed research such as this will lead to improvements in our understanding and treatment of mental disorders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas R. Insel".

Thomas R. Insel, M.D.
Director, NIMH