



MEDIA RELEASE

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Ethics Committee lacking in ethics

Laboratory animals have been denied a chance of life due to the stubborn, or some would say illogical decision by an Animal Ethics Committee.

LaTrobe University students have been using lambs in a study to determine the effect of different feeds on wool growth. (Animal Nutrition AGR2AN).

The experiment is over but the university is now considering the slaughter of the animals rather than offer them to appropriate care.

Reputable animal sanctuary, Edgar's Mission has offered to ensure that these animals are provided with necessary accommodation, however the university seems determined to kill the animals regardless.

In response to protests from students and animal welfare groups, LaTrobe has advised that a report on the animal ethics committee's findings has been prepared and the lambs "**will be disposed of at a later date.** *The ethics committee is aware of the offer from Edgar's Mission.*"

Chief Executive Officer of HRA, Helen Marston, said today "*The fact that the university is even considering sending these lambs to an abattoir despite the offer by Edgar's Mission clearly shows how some ethics committees are failing in their duty to consider the wellbeing of animals and merely regard them as commodities.*"

"The university has ignored the pleas of students and animal welfare advocates to save these lambs. There is no logical reason to deny them sanctuary at Edgar's Mission."

For further information or comment:

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