Bioethics and Animal Welfare in the Veterinary Faculty of Autonomous University of Tamaulipas, México

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The Bioethics and Animal Welfare Committee at the Veterinary Faculty of Autonomous University of Tamaulipas (FMVZ-UAT) was founded in 2012, as to promote the animal welfare as well as a humane treatment and quality of life for animals by protecting their rights within the entire University Community. This Committee includes academic staff engaged in the philosophy of working together with the commitment of promoting animal welfare at various levels by applying the ethics as to ensure that the welfare of animals is considered within University facilities, private animal production units and related enterprises that deal with animals on daily basis. Our vision is to be a centre of reference in animal welfare, leading to the generation of knowledge on the use and husbandry of animal species for production or companion purposes. Our mission is to respond to the emerging concern of the society regarding the humane treatment of animals for food production or companion pets, through the propagation of knowledge concerning animal welfare at University and other institutions of education level. The aim is to develop liaison and interaction with international institutions dedicated to promote the animal welfare, as to establish a teaching program on animal welfare on the Veterinary Medicine scholars. Moreover, the goal of the Bioethics and Animal Welfare Committee is to contribute to the build up a group of professionals to increase the awareness in the practice of Veterinary Medicine concerning animal welfare and the importance of that in the society. As part of the regular duties of the Bioethics and Animal Welfare Committee of the FMVZ-UAT is to review and to assess the research projects to be developed at University and other activities involving husbandry of animals as to comply with the ethics and animal welfare regulations before they are approved.

Keywords: animal welfare – bioethics – committee – education – research.