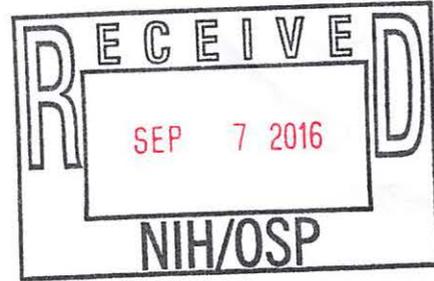


August 30, 2016

Office of Science Policy  
The National Institutes of Health  
6705 Rockledge Drive, Suite 750  
Bethesda, MD 20892



TO: National Institutes of Health  
FROM: Charles J. Schisla  
SUBJECT: Human – Animal Chimeras

I am writing to strongly object to the National Institutes of Health's proposal to rescind its moratorium on funding of research involving human-animal chimeras.

The creation and manipulation of part-human, part-animal beings blurs the line between humans and non-human animals. This proposed research raises the ethical problems of human embryonic stem cell research and serious additional problems related to the creation of animal beings with partly or substantially human brains and/or human gametes.

I also strongly object to the NIH's apparent lack of consideration for the ethical issues implicated by this research. In 2015, the NIH pledged to undertake a deliberative process to evaluate the state of the science in this area, along with *the ethical issues that should be considered* and the relevant animal welfare concerns associated with these types of studies. However, to date there is no evidence of any discussion of the ethical issues involved in creating partly human animals.

I strongly urge you to maintain the current moratorium on funding research involving the creation and manipulation of human-animal chimeras.

Most sincerely,

Charles J. Schisla  
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Indianapolis, IN 46226-3347