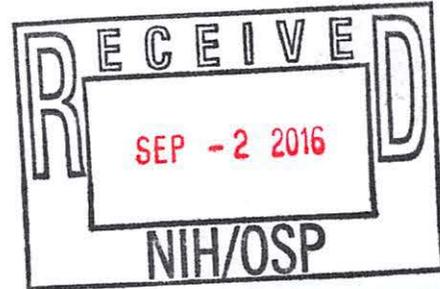


August 31, 2016

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



Dear Science Policy Officials:

In the name of all that is decent, I ask you to **continue the moratorium** on research regarding chimeras – or part-human, part-animal organisms.

There are so many health care issues, from birth defects to the Zika virus to issues of aging, which are crying out for tax-payer dollars for research. There is absolutely NO need to create a human-animal organism that could qualify as the protagonist for a science fiction book. This is a ludicrous waste of our research dollars.

The very idea of combining human and animal elements denigrates the dignity and uniqueness of human beings as a whole. In addition, the use of human embryonic tissue for this misguided research would most probably rely upon the barbaric practice of abortion for its accomplishment.

Let us use your talents and expertise in the field of science for much higher, nobler purposes. Let us tackle practical, critical problems such as cancer and shelve any further consideration of research which sounds like the plot line for a grade B movie.

Thank you for reading this. Please, please **continue the moratorium at the least, or even better, scrap the entire concept of chimeras.**

Sincerely yours,

Christine Conklin

Christine Corbett Conklin