

TEACHING ANIMAL WELFARE IN THE VETERINARY CURRICULUM AT TIHO  
HANNOVER, GERMANY AND NANJING AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, P.R. CHINA  
- CAPACITY BUILDING IN TEACHING AND RESEARCH -

**Joerg Hartung<sup>1</sup> and Endong Bao<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover, Foundation, Institute for Animal Hygiene, Animal Welfare and Farm Animal Behaviour, Hannover, Germany (TiHo)

<sup>2</sup> Nanjing Agricultural University, College of Veterinary Medicine, Nanjing, P. R. China (NAU)

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The aim of this paper is to describe an example of capacity building in animal welfare by teaching and research. Cooperation started between the two universities in 1987 with the exchange of staff members in clinical veterinary medicine, infectious diseases, animal pathology and Chinese traditional medicine. Since 1997 the cooperation was extended to animal husbandry, hygiene and welfare. Every year teacher from Hannover gave lectures on EU animal welfare legislation and international standards like OIE in Nanjing. Chinese researchers stayed for longer periods (18 months) in Hannover. Fruitful research was carried out on expression of heat shock proteins (HSP) in broilers and pigs under transport stress resulting in 23 publications to date. At TiHo 140 lessons are given related to animal welfare legislation, ethology and housing and handling animals, 14 lessons deal with laboratory animals. A practical course on farm comprises 12 h. In China Prof. Lu's book "Introduction to animal welfare" of 1999 (2<sup>nd</sup> edition in 2003) forms the basis of teaching animal welfare at NAU and other universities in China. However, only a few universities in China teach regularly animal welfare. Therefore the principle which is followed presently is teaching the teachers. Several international animal welfare workshops were organised in Nanjing (2007), Beijing (2009), Xinjiang (2010) and Nanjing again (2011) on health aspects and concepts of animal welfare. In 2013 (May 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>) NAU will host in co-operation with the Chinese Association of Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine (CAAV) and ISAH the 16th Congress of the International Society for Animal Hygiene (ISAH): "Animal Hygiene, Health and Welfare as Corner Stones of Sustainable Livestock Production" ([www.ISAH-soc.org](http://www.ISAH-soc.org)). The exchange of people, ideas and teaching animal welfare should continue, a new contract between TiHo and NAU was signed this year until 2017.

**Keywords:** animal welfare – capacity building – EU legislation – OIE standards.