

Media Release

22nd September, 2014 For Immediate Release:

Humane Slaughter Association invites applications for Animal Welfare Research Training (PhD) Scholarship

The Humane Slaughter Association (HSA) is now inviting applications from veterinary or science graduates for its 2015 Research Training Scholarship to enable a three-year programme of research leading to a degree at the doctorate level. Applications are invited from students registered at UK universities or colleges or from students at universities outside the UK where the university has a UFAW/HSA University LINK (see www.ufaw.org.uk/links-news-events.php).

The HSA is recognized internationally for promoting scientific and educational work to improve the welfare of food animals worldwide during transport, marketing, slaughter or killing for welfare reasons and disease control. Up to £110,000 will be awarded for a project aimed at significant improvement in animal welfare in these areas.

The HSA welcomes research proposals on any relevant topic but particularly wishes to encourage projects in the following: development of improved or novel methods of stunning animals; refinements in electrical stunning of turkeys, ducks and geese; improvements in fasting, handling, transport & slaughter of fish; refinement of existing, or development of novel, methods of assessing states of consciousness, enabling correlations of neurological activity with animal behaviour and physiology; refinements to electrical stunning methods, to improve both animal welfare and meat quality.

There is a two-stage application process. Initially, Concept Note applications are to be submitted by the student's supervisor to the HSA by 19th November 2014. Following assessment of these Concept Notes, selected applicants will be invited (in mid-December 2014) to submit a more detailed proposal by 23rd January 2015. The HSA hopes to announce the winner of the Scholarship by mid-March 2015.

Further information and Concept Note application forms are available at www.hsa.org.uk or from the HSA office, email info@hsa.org.uk.

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Note to Editors:

The HSA is an independent charity recognised internationally for promoting scientific, technical and educational advances towards improving the welfare of food animals worldwide at slaughter, killing, marketing and transport.

Its work includes researching, refining and demonstrating humane slaughter methods, publishing material such as guidelines, best practice, books and videos, funding research projects and the development of equipment. Specialist technical staff provide expert and practical advice on all welfare issues relating to food animals.

The HSA is funded by voluntary donations, subscriptions and legacies.

For more information about the HSA's work call 01582 831919, email <u>info@hsa.org.uk</u> or visit www.hsa.org.uk

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