

**Yonushonis, William**

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**From:** Earle Holland [holland.8@osu.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2002 11:14 AM  
**To:** Tashjian.1@osu.edu  
**Cc:** moore.1@osu.edu  
**Subject:** kirwan statement  
**Importance:** High

As I said, Dave Lore is chasing on Mike Podell's departure for a story for tomorrow. Mike has said he doesn't want to talk to Dave or any other media.

There is an open question as to whether Mike's letter to NIH turning back the grant is OSU's official response. NIH is very interested in having the work continue here under the direction of another investigator so that it doesn't look like the animal rights protestors won on this issue.

I think we ought to have the president say the following through a written statement and then not do any interviews beyond that.

Dave is already on the phone talking to people, gathering rumors and the story will probably not be the best for tomorrow.

If there's any way to get a go ahead for this today so we could get it to Dave, that would be preferable. (remember, i am in the dentist's chair all afternoon -- Jeff is up to speed on this, however)

"LAST week, Ohio State researchers announced that the illegal drug methamphetamine can make an AIDS-like virus attack the brain 15 times faster than normal. This extraordinary discovery makes clear the deadly aspects of using illicit drugs. It also shows that some drugs that find their way to the brain can help viruses win the battle against our immune system. This project is a perfect example of research that must be done using animals as surrogates for humans.

"This work simply could not have been done using humans. Giving illicit drugs to persons with HIV -- even to those who may have chosen to use them in the past -- is unethical, immoral and illegal.

"We all owe a great deal to Dr. Michael Podell and his colleagues for conducting this research while relentlessly being impeded by activists opposed to using animals in research. He and his family have received repeated threats by email and telephone. Yet, it is thanks to their great courage and tenacity that we now better understand the threat viruses of this type pose to human health. AS DR. PODELL LEAVES OHIO STATE AND BEGINS A NEW PHASE OF HIS CAREER, WE WISH HIM THE BEST OF SUCCESS.

[the stuff in CAPS is my alterations from what Will had]

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