



March 18, 2026

Dr. Elizabeth R. Cantwell
President
Washington State University

Via e-mail: president@wsu.edu; elizabeth.cantwell@wsu.edu

Dear President Cantwell:

On behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals—PETA entities have more than 10.4 millions members and supporters around the world—thank you for the decision by Washington State University (WSU) to cancel its terminal equine surgery course.¹ Sparing these eight healthy horses is the ethical and scientifically sound step forward for the College of Veterinary Medicine, and it reflects the fundamental duty to protect life that veterinary professionals are sworn to uphold.

We are writing to reiterate our remaining requests that WSU:

- 1. Release these eight horses to a reputable sanctuary so they may live out their lives in peace. As we previously informed you in our March 12, 2026, letter to you,² Triple J Horse Haven in Apple Valley, California, has reportedly offered to take in these horses.**
- 2. Permanently cancel the remaining Junior Surgery laboratory that involves harming and killing goats, in favor of using humane clinical programs and modern simulation methods.**

You can contact me at MaggieW@peta.org. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Maggie Wiśniewska, Ph.D.
Science Policy Advisor - International Laboratory Methods Division
Laboratory Investigations Department

¹ The Lewiston Tribune. 2026. *WSU cancels horse surgery course after public backlash*. <https://www.lmtribune.com/local-news/wsu-cancels-horse-surgery-course-after-public-backlash-b4faca9a>.

² Wiśniewska M. March 12, 2026. *Letter to Washington State University leadership regarding the Junior Surgery laboratory*. PETA. <https://www.peta.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/2026-03-12-letter-to-usu-vet-leadership-to-retain-horses-and-goats-from-kill-teaching-lab.pdf>

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