



\*REPLACE REDUCE REFINE

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**Re : Establishment of a chair for research on alternatives according to the 3R principles at the University of Geneva**

Dear Sirs, dear Madam,

This year the E. Naef Fondation pour la recherche in vitro (FENRIV) is celebrating its tenth anniversary. The foundation's aim is to motivate scientists to employ *in vitro* and *in silico* methods instead of laboratory animals in their research. To further this, the foundation awards an annual **main prize of CHF 10'000.-** and an extra prize of CHF 5'000.-. Additionally, the foundation supports, as far as its budget allows, research by contributing to laboratory equipment for *in vitro* methods. A short overview of the scientists and projects already supported can be found under [www.fondation-naef.com](http://www.fondation-naef.com).

Please note that the FENRIV works without any staff, office or shipping expenses. The only auxiliary costs are expenses for auditing, accounting and the costs of the award ceremony. As no chair for alternative methods currently exists at any Swiss University, the foundation is striving to close this gap by establishing a chair for animal-free research at the University of Geneva in cooperation with the University of Lausanne, entailing a full professorship, two assistants and the required research funding.

The University of Geneva is very interested in this chair as such a chair already appointed at the University of Konstanz for the past two years is yielding excellent results. A chair for alternative methods has also just been instated at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Utrecht. Academic teaching is guided by the **3R principles replace, reduce and refine**, which are of great interest to the pharmaceutical industry (more cost-effective and safer). The planned chair would be a premiere for Switzerland.

The E. Naef Foundation cordially requests you to support the chair with an annual contribution for the duration of five years. The sum of the personnel, operating and research costs should be maximum CHF 600'000.-.

The foundation and the Universities of Geneva and Lausanne would greatly appreciate your binding agreement to contribute a specified annual sum for five years, as the chair cannot be established without your support. Of course, the promised sum would only be due once all prerequisites are fulfilled, *i.e.* once the financing is assured and a competent professor and the assistants are appointed.

For a positive answer the Universities of Geneva and Lausanne and the E. Naef Foundation thank you most kindly in advance.

Yours sincerely,

**Fondation E. Naef pour la recherche *in vitro***