

## **UCSD Animal Subjects Program director honored for increasing public understanding of the use of animals in teaching/research**

**June 21, 1999**

Media Contact: Jan Jennings, (858) 822-1684, [jjennings@ucsd.edu](mailto:jjennings@ucsd.edu)

### **UCSD ANIMAL SUBJECTS PROGRAM DIRECTOR HONORED FOR INCREASING PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE USE OF ANIMALS IN TEACHING/RESEARCH**

Marky Pitts, director of the Animal Subjects Program at the University of California, San Diego, has been honored for extraordinary service to California's biomedical research community and devotion to increasing public awareness and understanding of the use of animals in research and teaching.

Pitts received the 1999 Distinguished Service Award from the California Biomedical Research Association, California Society for Biomedical Research at its annual meeting last month in Novato, Calif.

Cindy Sardo, CBRA vice president, said Pitts "shows tireless energy and commitment to the conduct of biomedical research and to public outreach in support of research," adding that her "accomplishments have been demonstrated through public advocacy, educational programs, public awareness and outreach seminars, legislative issues and coalition building."

Sardo said Pitts far surpassed the usual duties and responsibilities of her job, "demonstrating leadership locally, regionally and nationwide."

Among Pitts' accomplishments are serving as a reliable source of information and policy translation to local and national elected officials on animal research issues, as a liaison between city and county school districts and CBRA's educational programs, and as a proponent who turns attempts to negatively portray animal research into positive public relations opportunities.

Pitts produced a brochure highlighting the research and animal care program at UCSD which remains a model publication for similar research programs.

(June 22, 1999)