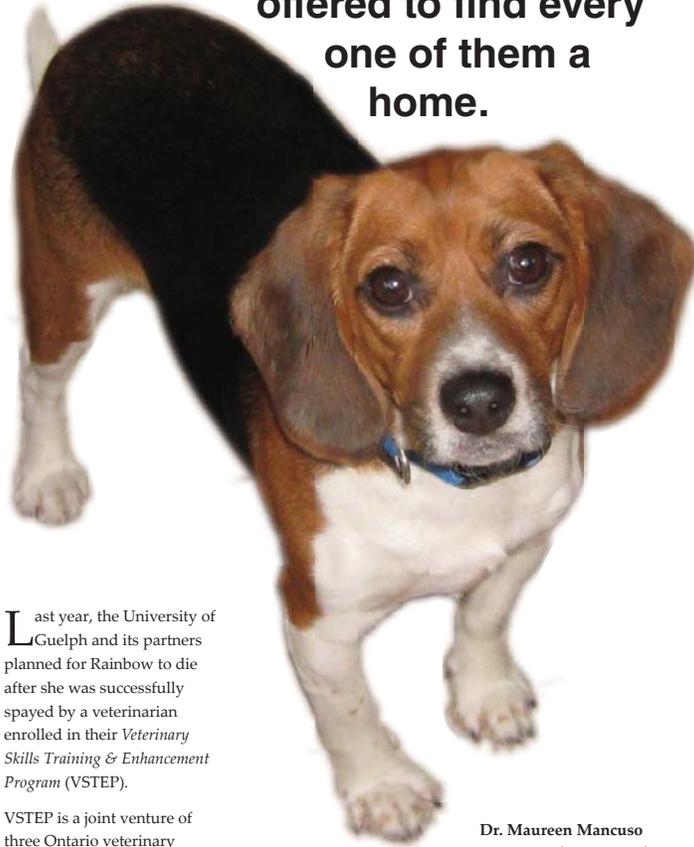


On August 4th, the University of Guelph and its partners plan to kill 10 little dogs like Rainbow.

They know they don't need to kill them, because we've offered to find every one of them a home.



Last year, the University of Guelph and its partners planned for Rainbow to die after she was successfully spayed by a veterinarian enrolled in their *Veterinary Skills Training & Enhancement Program (VSTEP)*.

VSTEP is a joint venture of three Ontario veterinary institutions:

- Ontario Veterinary College of the University of Guelph
- College of Veterinarians of Ontario
- Ontario Veterinary Medical Association

The VSTEP mission is:

To create a re-training program for internationally educated veterinarians requiring upgrading and North American clinical experience in order to gain access to professional networks, advance to full licensure and pursue a rewarding and successful veterinary career.

VSTEP includes routine surgery—a simple spay operation—performed on dogs, like Rainbow, who have been purpose bred for research.

Rainbow was 11 months old when she and 39 similar dogs were bought by the University for VSTEP. Of the 40, only Rainbow survived. The University and its VSTEP partners had all the others killed.

The VSTEP dogs are healthy and adoptable. We could have found homes for them all.

Rainbow survived because the VSTEP veterinarian who spayed her refused to kill her (there was no medical reason to do so). She asked permission from the VSTEP administrators to find her patient a home. Getting permission was very difficult, but the vet prevailed. Finding a home for Rainbow was very easy.

Right now, there's another group of little beagles in VSTEP. The University and its VSTEP partners want them killed, too, on August 4th. We've appealed to the VSTEP administrators to spare the dogs and let us find them homes. They're considering our appeal.

You can help the VSTEP dogs by telephoning or emailing:

Dr. Patricia Turner
Animal Care Committee Chair
University of Guelph
(519) 824-4120 ext. 54497
pturner@uoguelph.ca

Dr. Maureen Mancuso
Provost and Vice President Academic
University of Guelph
(519) 824-4120 ext. 53845
mmancuso@exec.uoguelph.ca

Please! Ask them to show mercy and compassion and to let us find the VSTEP dogs loving homes.

Tell them, no animal should ever be killed unnecessarily.



Animal Alliance of Canada
Suite 101-221 Broadview Ave.
Toronto, ON M4M 2G3
Tel: 416.462.9541
www.AnimalAlliance.ca



The Responsible Animal Care Society
PO Box 26097
Westbank, BC V4T 2G3
Tel: 250.768.4803
www.tracs-bc.ca/