

# Animals and Society (Australia) Study Group

*News Bulletin \* June 2009*

**Conferences and Seminars:** Updates, international conferences, papers

- **Minding Animals**

**2009 International Academic and Community Conference on Animals and Society.** Civic Precinct Newcastle, NSW. 13-19 July 2009

[Final program](#) for the Minding Animals conference has now been released. Please visit the website to download the file: [www.mindinganimals.com](http://www.mindinganimals.com)

[Session moderators are required!](#) – please contact [mindinganimals@pco.com.au](mailto:mindinganimals@pco.com.au)

### Special Lunchtime Conference sessions

There will be Special Lunchtime Roundtable sessions held on every day of the conference (excluding the first day). They will be dedicated to:

- Tuesday - Nonhuman Animals and the Queer Communities
- Wednesday - Student Forum
- Thursday - Activist Exchange
- Friday - Feminist Approaches to Nonhuman Animals
- Saturday - Animals and Society Groups Follow-up

If you are interested in being involved in any of these roundtable sessions at the conference, turn up and add to the debate. There will be no fixed agenda, just a space where those delegates that are interested in these issues can exchange ideas and swap contact details. The Saturday session will expand on the ideas elaborated by delegates in the Animals and Society Groups Forum presentations from Monday. If you have any questions, please contact the Conference Co-convenor, Dr Rod Bennison, at: [rod.bennison@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:rod.bennison@newcastle.edu.au)

### Animals and Art Exhibitions

The conference will hold a special exhibition and [fundraiser for the Tasmanian Devil](#), which is faced with extinction after a debilitating disease has swept through much of its population. The exhibition will be held at the Conservatorium of Music Foyer in Newcastle, close to the conference venue on Tuesday evening 14 July.

Watt Space will also be hosting a [drop-in space for students](#) and others that are not conference delegates and who are interested in animals and art. The student exhibition at the Watt Space Gallery will include two student prizes to be judged by Dr Gene Sherman and Brian Sherman AM, and presented at the Closing Plenary of the conference.

More details regarding all the exhibitions are available on the Conference website.

### Animals Documentaries

An Animal Documentaries Festival will be held in on 12 July, the day before the conference. The Festival will include the Australian release of the multi-award winning film, 'Saving Luna'. Also to have their Australian release will be the documentaries, 'Meat the Truth', 'Animal People', 'American Coyote - Still Wild at Heart' and 'The Disenchanted Forest'. The Australian documentaries 'A Delicate Balance', as well as 'Animal Matters' and 'Beyond the Cage', and the UK-produced 'Servants of Ganesh' and 'Safer Medicines' will also be shown. The festival will be held in the Playhouse Theatre, attached to the Civic Theatre and adjacent to the Conference Venue.

### First Call for Conference papers:

Publications from the Minding Animals conference will include special editions of at least six journals and a book series currently being negotiated with a prestigious publication house. Presenters who are interested in publication, please forward your paper in Word 2003 or 2007 format to the Conference Co-convenor, Dr Rod Bennison. Papers MUST be in Times New Roman 12pt. format.

See the [Blog](#) on the conference website for updates of conferences news:  
[http://www.mindinganimals.com//index.php?option=com\\_mamblog&Itemid=152](http://www.mindinganimals.com//index.php?option=com_mamblog&Itemid=152)

- **Geographies of Relatedness**

**A Workshop of the Cultural Geography Study Group (CGSG) of the Institute of Australian Geographers (IAG).** Cairns, Queensland. Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 September 2009

This workshop is an opportunity to engage in a debate about the usefulness of an analytical focus on relatedness and to discuss the range of developments, issues and concepts it foregrounds. We will explore relatedness as a model of connections between people based on shared substance – blood or genes – inherited through patterns of parentage and kinship. This profoundly potent model of collective identity and belonging links together themes of nationhood, ethnicity, race, diaspora and indigeneity, ideas of nature, culture, sexuality and gender, and modern forms of citizenship and subjectivity. These themes will be addressed both historically and in relation to current scientific developments and cultural practices. The following topics will also be canvassed:

- the different meanings and implications of conceiving of connections between people and between people and places through ideas of ancestry and descent
- the political implications of genealogy as a practice and form of knowledge that reflects particular approaches to conceptualising human relationships and forms of belonging
- [the biotechnological manipulation of humans, plants, animals and micro-organisms as challenging what counts as biology or culture](#)
- ideas of race, ethnicity, and human genetic similarity as they figure in recent scientific and popular accounts of recent research in human population genetics
- global geographies of reproduction – the specific and interconnected dynamics of human reproduction that are shaped by new technologies as well as the conventional ideologies of gender and racialised difference.

For registration contact Rachel Hughes: [racheljustin@bigpond.com](mailto:racheljustin@bigpond.com)

- **Human-Animal Interaction: Impacting Multiple Species**

**Society for Anthrozoology (ISAZ) 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference.** Kansas City Missouri. 20-23 October, 2009



**University of Missouri, College of Veterinary Medicine Research Centre for Human-Animal Interaction (ReCHAI).** 1<sup>st</sup> Human Animal Interaction Conference. Kansas Missouri. 22-25 October, 2009

The ISAZ/HAI sequential conferences will provide an exciting opportunity for those working in HAI research and practice to share their latest findings and program outcomes. They will serve as a source of renewal for those who have been working in the field for some time, and as a source of inspiration for those newly joining or contemplating entry into the field. What sets these conferences apart from other HAI conferences is the merging of investigators with those working in HAI practice with the express purpose of stimulating dialog and listening between the two groups. A Special Symposium will focus on how human animal interaction may help fight obesity across the lifespan.

## Conference Themes

- **Challenges for enhancing HAI** – Animal environmental enrichment; Shelter animals Animal rescue organizations; Animal abuse; Animal hoarding; Animal relinquishment to shelters; Animal bite and attack injury; Zoonoses- Infection control; Dog/animal fighting
- **Bio-Psycho-Social-Spiritual Wellness Across Species (ONE HEALTH) Obesity/ Physical activity, prevention and treatment** – Environment/Interchange; Cultural ideas and preferences; Quality of life; Long term care of animals
- **AAA and AAT** – Professional/Educational training; Humane approach to animals doing this work; Service animals
- **HAI impacting professional practice** – Optimizing practice; Advocacy; Practitioner responsibilities and consequences; The right companion animal for the family; Mental health area; Animal hospice care; Role of animals related to children's development; Older adults and companion animals
- **HAI crisis planning** – Pet Evacuation Act; Animal emergency; Daily care vs. Crises/ Catastrophe care; Value of animals during crisis
- **Open track** – Eco tourism; Balance in nature; Animal behavior

### **ISAZ Keynote:** Oct. 20

Shared Feelings: Neuropsychological Interfaces Between Animal and Human Emotions:

[Dr. Jaak Panksepp](#), Professor, Veterinary & Comparative Anatomy, Pharmacology & Physiology, College of Veterinary Medicine, Washington State University

### **ISAZ Plenary:** Oct. 22

Wild Justice, Cooperation, & Fairness: What Humans Can Learn

from Animal Play: [Dr. Marc Bekoff](#), Professor Emeritus of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Colorado, Boulder

### **HAI Plenary:** Oct. 24

A Tale of Two Species: The Human Animal Bond: [Dr. Alan Beck](#), [Dorothy N. McAllister](#) Professor of Animal Ecology, Director, Center of the Human-Animal Bond, School of Veterinary Medicine, Purdue University, Indiana

### **HAI Workshop:** Oct. 25

Maintaining the Disabled Person-Assistance Dog Team through Behavioral Intervention: A case study approach: [Dr. Ed Eames & Toni Eames](#), International Association of Assistance Dog Partners, California State University, Fresno

### **Special Symposium,** Oct. 23

Research meets practice: Human-animal interaction in obesity across the lifespan (Scholarships may be available for attendance at this Symposium)

## Speakers

*Introduction to Dog Walking and Physical Activity:* [Jacquelyn Epping](#), MEd, CDC Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity, Atlanta, Georgia

*Epidemiology of Dog Walking for Fitness and Health:* [Dr. Adrian Bauman](#), Sesquicentenary Professor of Public Health in Behavioral Epidemiology and Health Promotion, School of Public Health, Institute of Obesity, Nutrition & Exercise, University of Sydney, Australia

*Innovative Physical Activity Programs and Obesity in Children:* [Dr. Audwin Fletcher](#), Professor, School of Nursing, University of Mississippi, Jackson

*Dog Walking as Physical Activity for Older Adults:* [Dr. Roland Thorpe](#), Assistant Scientist, Center for Health Disparities Solutions, Johns Hopkins University, Maryland

For further details: [http://rechai.missouri.edu/isaz\\_hai09.htm](http://rechai.missouri.edu/isaz_hai09.htm)

- **Policy to Practice**

**2009 Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Conference.** Canberra ACT. 20-21 October, 2009

This conference is for all environmental professionals across Australia and New Zealand who are interested in policy development and the practice of implementing policy to achieve better environment outcomes. This Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) conference represents an opportunity for practitioners to discuss which environmental policies work and why. It is expected that the conference will cover a broad range of traditional policy issues from soil conservation, environmental impact assessment and endangered species protection through contemporary policy issues such as water security, climate change risk assessment and carbon pollution reduction.

**Conference Themes with HAS relevance**

Biodiversity conservation  
Biosecurity  
Climate change  
Environmental assessment  
Marine Park planning  
Natural resource management  
Protected area management  
Sustainability  
Threatened species

**Key Dates**

Closing dates for abstracts: 12 June

Last day for early registration: 31 July

For further information see: [www.conlog.com.au/eianz](http://www.conlog.com.au/eianz)

- **Healthy People Healthy Parks**

**International Congress 2010.** Melbourne, 11-16 April, 2010

The Inaugural International Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress will explore how nature significantly contributes to our wellbeing and broader societal benefits. It is expected to attract over 1000 delegates from Australia and around the world. Participants will come from many different sectors including urban planning, community development, physical and mental health, tourism, education, recreation, ecology and park management (urban and protected area). This diversity of perspectives will allow delegates to understand the benefits of nature through the eyes of many.

The Congress will be memorable in all senses – inspirational speakers, innovative techniques to involve delegates, creative workshop and discussion sessions, enjoyable networking opportunities and social activities. The focus is on nature so many sessions will be in outdoors settings. All in all an interactive event not to be missed!

**Congress objectives**

To attract delegates from policy, planning, research and operational roles across a variety of sectors including urban planning, community development, physical and mental health, tourism, education and management (urban and protected area). This diversity of perspectives will allow delegates to:

- Explore the many societal benefits that parks and nature provide.
- Build the relevance of parks and nature to society.
- Share knowledge, initiatives and innovations achieved by collaborating across sectors.
- Develop an international agenda that reunites nature with social health.
- Identify opportunities for better collaboration at global, international and local levels.
- Establish an information exchange network.



Ambassadors include **Sean Willmore, Thin Green Line Foundation**: “*There are no communities without conservation...and there is no conservation without communities...pretty simple really.*”

The closing date for abstract submissions is Monday 22nd June 2009. Registration opens October 2009. More details:  
<http://www.healthyparkshealthypeoplecongress.org/>

- **Assessing Animal Welfare**

**University of Melbourne, Friday June 26 2009 1.45- 4.00pm**

This seminar will be held in the DPI Attwood Lecture Theatre (Melways map 5 K2)

“What cognitive abilities are indispensable for experiencing welfare?”  
Prof Berry Spruijt, University of Utrecht, Netherlands

“Using physiology and behaviour to assess welfare in farm animals: research of the United States Department of Agriculture”  
Dr Don Lay, Research Leader, Livestock Behavioural Research Unit, USDA, USA

Please RSVP before 12th June to [jskuse@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:jskuse@unimelb.edu.au)

- **AAWS08 International Animal Welfare Conference — Papers now available**

This conference was held on the Gold Coast in Queensland from 31 August to 3 September 2008.

The first conference of its type in Australia, this successful event attracted more than 350 delegates covering all animal management sectors. There were 88 presentations on a wide range of topics, from the welfare of racing greyhounds to consumer and media expectations of animal welfare in food production; from animal welfare in disasters to measuring cognition and emotion in animals; from town planning, the law and pets to the links between animal welfare and human health. Copies of a number of the conference papers are now available online at:

[http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/aaws/aaws\\_international\\_animal\\_welfare\\_conference](http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/aaws/aaws_international_animal_welfare_conference)

- **The Art of Evolution: Charles Darwin and Visual Culture**  
**The Courtauld Institute of Art, London. 2- 4 July 2009**

In this Darwin bicentenary year, the full impact of the research and theories of the naturalist who spent most of his life at Down House, Kent, is coming to the fore. Few intellectual disciplines have remained untouched by the thought of Charles Darwin, as revealed by visual cultures in the form of art, anthropological, medical, and scientific imagery, as well as the popular images that feature in the press. *The Art of Evolution: Charles Darwin and Visual Cultures* will explore the impact of Charles Darwin on visual cultures through the examination of aesthetics, the museum, slavery and concepts of indigenous people, as well as [the representation of animals](#). It will investigate the repercussions of Darwin's theories upon images of the body, eugenics and genetics, sexualities, Surrealism, film and contemporary art. Including exhibitions and film screenings, the conference will conclude with a reading of Justin Fleming's provocative new play, *Origin*, directed by Wayne Harrison.

**Speakers:** Giovanni Aloi (Editor in Chief of *Antennae*, *The Journal of Nature in Visual Culture*; Queen Mary University of London), Suzanne Anker (School of Visual Arts, New York City), Bergit Arends (Natural History Museum, London), Caroline Arscott (The Courtauld Institute of Art), Fae Brauer (University of East London; The University of New South Wales), Christina Cogdell

(University of California, Davis), Barbara Creed (University of Melbourne), Whitney Davis (University of California, Berkeley), Marion Endt (Henry Moore Foundation), Sabine Flach (Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung Berlin), Maria P. Gindhart (Georgia State University, Ernest G. Welch School of Art and Design), Rikke Hansen (Tate Britain), Jeanette Hoorn (University of Melbourne), Serena Keshavjee (University of Winnipeg), Barbara Larson (University of West Florida), Arthur MacGregor (formerly of the Ashmolean Museum), Jeremy Melius (Yale Center for British Art), Marsha Morton (Pratt Institute), Gavin Parkinson (The Courtauld Institute of Art), Phillip Prodger (Peabody Essex Museum), Donna Roberts (independent scholar), Cannon Schmitt (University of Toronto), Monique Scott (American Museum of Natural History), Pat Simpson (University of Hertfordshire), Jonathan Smith (University of Michigan, Dearborn), Sarah Thomas (University of Sydney), and with artists Tania Kovats and Phyllida Barlow in conversation

For more information see: <http://www.courtauld.ac.uk/researchforum/conferences/current.shtml>

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## Institutes, Centres and Networks: People, courses, membership

### Animals and Society Institute

- [Membership Offer](#)

The [Animals and Society Institute](#) is a US-based organization led by Ken Shapiro, whose mission includes the development of Human-Animal Studies. The ASI works to further establish HAS by improving its presence and standing in academia, developing institutional infrastructure, promoting professional organizations and making an impact on public policy.

The ASI is extending to readers of this Bulletin its recent invitation to scholars and students throughout the world interested in HAS, to join or renew membership in the Animals and Society Institute. Benefits of ASI membership include exclusive networking opportunities and significant discounts on books and journals.

If you join or renew by **August 19, 2009**, at the \$35 annual membership rate (\$25 student), you will receive a free copy of Ken Shapiro's new policy paper, "Human-Animal Studies: Growing the Field, Applying the Field." You will also receive a second free policy paper of your choice (**see titles and details below**).

The ASI's programs and publications include:

- *Society and Animals: Journal of Human-Animal Studies*
- *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science*
- The Brill Human-Animal Studies book series
- *The Guide to Experts in Animal Issues*
- *Teaching the Animal: Human-Animal Studies Across the Disciplines (in press)*
- The Human-Animal Studies Fellowship program, now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year
- The Animals' Platform
- ASI Policy papers series (five titles)
- The HAS listserv; join at the homepage of our Web site, [www.animalsandsociety.org](http://www.animalsandsociety.org)
- The ASI Web site, a comprehensive site of HAS resources.

#### To join or renew membership:

1. Visit <http://www.animalsandsociety.org/donate/>
2. Click on the "Make a Donation to ASI" link, to the "Online Donation Form" where you can become a member for \$35 (\$25 student) (Visa/MasterCard accepted).

#### To select your second policy paper:

Indicate the title of your selection in the "Comments" box of the "Online Donation Form." The titles are:

- “Dog Bites: Problems and Solutions” by Janis Bradley
- “Animals in Disasters: Responsibility and Action” by Leslie Irvine
- “Elephants in Circuses: Analysis of Practice, Policy, and Future” by G. A. Bradshaw
- “Dolphin-Human Interaction Programs: Policies, Problems and Alternatives” by Kristin L. Stewart and Lori Marino

If you have questions, please email [info@animalsandsociety.org](mailto:info@animalsandsociety.org).

- **Australian Tapped for the Animals and Society Institute’s Human-Animal Studies Fellowship**

June 1 marked the first day of the third annual **Human-Animal Studies Fellowship Program**, an annual six-week summer residency that brings together six to eight HAS researchers, under the aegis of experienced professionals, in the stimulating environment of a college or university with outstanding HAS resources and commitment to advancement of the field. **Beverley Miles of Macquarie University**, is the first Australian scholar to participate.

Ken Shapiro, Executive Director of the Animals and Society Institute noted: “This year’s fellows include a mix of established and younger scholars, with backgrounds in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. The quality and diversity of the fellows make us optimistic about the future of Human-Animal Studies, not only in the US but throughout the world.”

Each summer a different college or university is invited to host the program. This year, the fellowship is being held at Duke University, in North Carolina. Kathy Rudy, Associate Professor in Women’s Studies and Ethics at Duke, is the primary host scholar, and Marilyn Forbes, Senior Lecturing Fellow at the Duke University School of Law, is providing additional faculty support.

This year’s fellows come from the United States and Great Britain, as well as Australia:

**Jere Alexander**, JD, PhD Candidate, Graduate Institute of Liberal Arts, Emory University. Fellowship topic: “Let the Dogs Do the Talkin’: Dog-Man Relationships in Dogfighting Culture”

**Nancy Barrickman**, PhD, Researcher, Duke Lemur Center. Fellowship topic: “Human Animal Relationships at the Duke Lemur Center”

**Hayley Glaholt**, PhD Candidate, Department of Religion, Northwestern University. Fellowship topic: “Peaceable Queendoms: Victorian Quaker Women’s Contributions to Feminist-Animal Ethics”

**Robert Kirk**, PhD, Wellcome Research Fellow, Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, University of Manchester (UK). Fellowship topic: “Constituting Animal-Human Relations: Animal experiment, animal welfare, and animal ability in mid to late twentieth century Anglo-American science”

**Beverley Miles**, PhD Candidate, Ancient History Department, Macquarie University, Australia. Fellowship topic: “The Pushy Dog: Rare and Enigmatic Physical Contact between the Ancient Egyptians and Dogs during the Old Kingdom (c.2686-2160 B.C.E)”

**Kris Weller**, JD, Ph.D. Candidate, History of Consciousness, University of California Santa Cruz. Fellowship topic: “Legal Personhood, Animal Advocacy, and Human-Animal Relationships”

The fellows have been assigned scholars who will be in communication with them throughout the course of the program, and who will come to Duke during the final week of the fellowship to comment on the fellows’ presentations and to give their own presentations. They include:

Eva Hayward, Assistant Professor, Department of Cinematic Arts, University of New Mexico

Mollie Bloomsmith, Head of Behavioral Management, Yerkes National Primate Center and Adjunct Psychology Professor, Emory University

Kari Weil, Professor, College of Letters, Wesleyan University

John Gluck, Emeritus Professor, Psychology, University of New Mexico

Karla Armbruster, Associate Professor of English and Environmental Studies, Webster University

Marilyn Forbes, Senior Lecturing Fellow at the Duke University School of Law

## New Zealand Centre for Human-Animal Studies

The Centre has two new [International Associates](#): Wendy Woodward and Marti Kheel.

[Wendy Woodward](#) is a Professor in the English Department at the University of the Western Cape in greater Cape Town. She has introduced animals into the undergraduate module Reading the Environment and co-developed a postgraduate course on Animals and Ecologies. Her research has focused on representations of nonhuman animals and their subjectivities and is now beginning to study the adaptabilities of literary animals in cities. Human-Animal Studies is just beginning to develop locally; her recent *The Animal Gaze: Animal Subjectivities in Southern African Narratives* (Wits University Press 2008) is the first monograph in HAS in Southern Africa.

Read more: <http://www.nzchas.canterbury.ac.nz/associates/woodward.shtml>

[Dr Marti Kheel](#) is a prominent writer and activist in the areas of ecofeminism, animal advocacy, and environmental ethics. Her articles have been widely published in journals and anthologies both within the United States and abroad. She co-founded Feminists for Animal Rights in 1982 and holds a doctorate from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, where she is currently a visiting scholar.

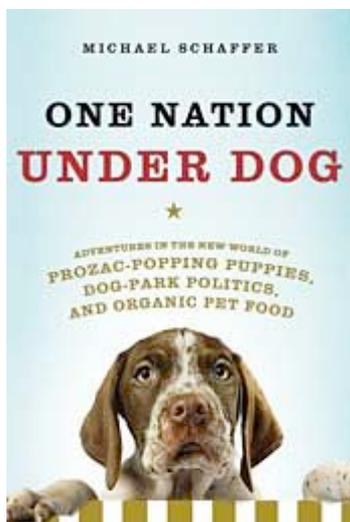
Read more: <http://www.nzchas.canterbury.ac.nz/associates/kheel.shtml>

Visit the [NZCHAS website](#) for a full list of Associates, news and events, publications and more:  
<http://www.nzchas.canterbury.ac.nz/>

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## New Books

**ONE NATION UNDER DOG** by [Michael Schaffer](#). Macmillan, 2009



From [Macmillan's website](#): **A witty, insightful, and affectionate examination of how and why we spend billions on our pets, and what this tells us about ourselves**

In 2003, Michael Schaffer and his wife drove to a rural shelter and adopted an emaciated, dreadlocked Saint Bernard who they named Murphy. They vowed that they'd never become the kind of people who send dogs named Baxter and Sonoma out to get facials, or shell out for \$12,000 hip replacements. But then they started to get weird looks from the in-laws: You hired a trainer? Your vet prescribed antidepressants? So Schaffer started poking around and before long happened on an astonishing statistic: the pet industry, estimated at \$43 billion this year, was just \$17 billion barely a decade earlier.

*One Nation Under Dog* is about America's pet obsession—the explosion, over the past generation, of an industry full of pet masseuses, professional dog-walkers, organic kibble, leash-law militants, luxury pet spas, veterinary grief counselors, upscale dog shampoos, and the like: a booming economy that is evidence of tremendous and rapid change in the status of America's pets. Schaffer provides a surprising and lively portrait of our country—as how we treat our pets reflects evolving ideas about domesticity, consumerism, politics, and family—through this fabulously reported and sympathetic look at both us and our dogs.

[Michael Schaffer](#) has written for *The Washington Post*, *Slate*, *The New Republic*, and *US News & World Report*, among other publications. He lives in Philadelphia with his wife, Keltie Hawkins, and their well-loved—but not freakishly pampered, they insist—pets, Murphy the Saint Bernard and Amelia the black cat.

*MADE FOR EACH OTHER: The Biology of the Human-Animal Bond* by [Meg Daley Olmert](#). Da Capo Press, 2009

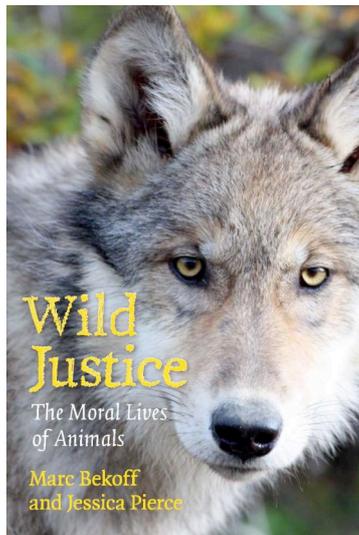


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From a review by [Marc Bekoff](#) in *New Scientist* 14 March, 2009.

Why and how do we bond with other beings? The rapidly growing field of anthrozoology, the study of human-animal relationships, is attracting scholars from a wide range of disciplines who want to answer this question. To this end, Meg Daley Olmert has written a fascinating, wideranging and easy read about the biology of the human-animal bond. It comes with a strong endorsement from renowned scientist E. O. Wilson, who coined the term “biophilia” to highlight our innate attraction to the natural world. Olmert’s goal is to show that “our curiosity about other living things... is biological, is genetic, and can stand up to scientific scrutiny”. As Olmert writes: “The satisfaction that washes over us as we watch our pets sleep is the ancient reminder that when all is well in their world, all is well in ours.”

*WILD JUSTICE: The Moral Lives of Animals* by [Marc Bekoff](#) and [Jessica Pierce](#). University of Chicago Press, 2009.



Scientists have long counselled against interpreting animal behavior in terms of human emotions, warning that such anthropomorphizing limits our ability to understand animals as they really are. Yet what are we to make of a female gorilla in a German zoo who spent days mourning the death of her baby? Or a wild female elephant who cared for a younger female after she was injured by a rambunctious teenage male? Or a rat who refused to push a lever for food when he saw that doing so caused another rat to be shocked? Aren't these clear signs that animals have recognizable emotions and moral intelligence?

With *Wild Justice* Marc Bekoff and Jessica Pierce unequivocally answer yes. Marrying years of behavioral and cognitive research with compelling and moving anecdotes, Bekoff and Pierce reveal that animals exhibit a broad repertoire of moral behaviors, including fairness, empathy, trust, and reciprocity. Underlying these behaviors is a complex and nuanced range of emotions, backed by a high degree of intelligence and surprising behavioral flexibility. Animals,

in short, are incredibly adept social beings, relying on rules of conduct to navigate intricate social networks that are essential to their survival.

Ultimately, Bekoff and Pierce draw the astonishing conclusion that there is no moral gap between humans and other species: morality is an evolved trait that we unquestionably share with other social mammals. Sure to be controversial, *Wild Justice* offers not just cutting-edge science, but a provocative call to rethink our relationship with—and our responsibilities toward—our fellow animals.

"In a time when biological determinism, competition, and 'red tooth and claw' views of animal and human behavior are so prevalent in both scientific and popular literature, Bekoff and Pierce offer a breath of fresh air. They provide ample evidence and a rational theory for the evolution and existence of cooperation, justice, empathy, and morality in social-living animals. This collaboration of a biologist and a philosopher has done a great service to the current understanding and future

direction of the study of animal behavior."

-- Robert W. Sussman, coeditor of *The Origins and Nature of Sociality*

"Wild Justice represents multi-disciplinary scholarship at its finest. All future collaborations between ethologists and philosophers will be measured against the high standard set by Bekoff and Pierce."

-- Tom Regan, author of *Empty Cage*

## FORTHCOMING COLLECTION

*Considering Animals: Contemporary Studies in Human-Animal Relations* edited by Carol Freeman, Elizabeth Leane and Yvette Watt. Ashgate, forthcoming 2010.

Informed by the expertise of scholars trained in the biological sciences, humanities, and social sciences, this multidisciplinary collection investigates how we treat, represent, and relate to non-human animals. At the same time, the contributors acknowledge new evidence that non-human animals are capable of considering each other as well as us. Each essay takes its cue from an "animal moment" - the frequent and sometimes uncanny interaction with animals that brings into focus the complexities of our relationship with them.

The international group of contributors engages with broad issues and debates central to human-animal studies to illuminate specific events, incidents, and controversies in which relationships between humans and other animals come to the fore. Written in an accessible and jargon-free style, this collection demonstrates that, in the face of extinction, global warming, and environmental destruction, the roles and fates of animals are too important to be left to any one academic discipline.

Watch this space for further details about what promises to be an exciting new contribution to human-animal studies!

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## Journals: Human-animal related journals and articles

- ***Journal of Animal Ethics***

**New multidisciplinary and international journal** to be published by the University of Illinois Press in partnership with the Ferrater Mora Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics in 2010.

### Call for Papers

- The Journal will be a journal of inquiry, argument, and exchange dedicated to exploring the moral dimension of our relations with animals.
- Its aim is to put animals on the intellectual agenda and to stimulate discussion within academic and professional institutions.
- It will be multidisciplinary in nature and international in scope, as well as peer reviewed.
- It will cover theoretical and applied aspects of animal ethics - of interest to academics from the humanities and the sciences, as well as professionals working in the field of animal protection.
- The Journal will comprise: full-length scholarly articles, shorter articles, "Argument" pieces in which authors will advance a particular perspective (usually related to current affairs) or respond to a previous article, review or research report, as well as review articles and reviews.
- The Editors will be Professors Andrew Linzey and Priscilla N. Cohn.

We are looking for articles (3-5,000 words), "Argument" pieces (1-2,000 words), reviews and review articles that have relevance to the ethics of our treatment of animals.

Contributions should be sent via email to the co-editor, Professor Andrew Linzey, at [director@oxfordanimaethics.com](mailto:director@oxfordanimaethics.com), who would also be pleased to discuss potential contributions. Books for review should be sent to the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics, 91 Iffley Road, Oxford OX4 1EG.

- ***Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics***

**The Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics** presents articles on ethical issues confronting agriculture, food production and environmental concerns. The goal of this journal is to create a forum for discussion of moral issues arising from actual or projected social policies in regard to a wide range of questions. Among these are ethical questions concerning the responsibilities of agricultural producers, the assessment of technological changes affecting farm populations, the utilization of farmland and other resources, the deployment of intensive agriculture, the modification of ecosystems, animal welfare, the professional responsibilities of agrologists, veterinarians, or food scientists, the use of biotechnology, the safety, availability, and affordability of food. The journal publishes scientific articles that are relevant to ethical issues, as well as philosophical papers and brief discussion pieces.

For content see: <http://www.springerlink.com/content/1187-7863>

Authors and editors see: <http://www.springer.com/philosophy/ethics/journal/10806>

Volume 22, 209, pp 15-30 “The Ethics and Politics of Animal Welfare in New Zealand: Broiler Chicken Production as a Case Study”.

Dr Michael Morris, Associate of the [New Zealand Centre for Human-Animal Studies](#), examines the ethics of broiler chicken farming in New Zealand. In this article, Morris argues that, while there are many causes of poor welfare in broiler chickens (chickens bred for meat), the most significant factor is genotype. In other words, broiler chickens have been selectively bred to grow faster and bigger (to produce meat quicker) at the expense of the birds’ health and well-being. Rapid growth in broiler chickens causes (amongst other things) the birds’ muscles to outgrow their skeletons resulting in lameness, leg fractures and chronic pain. Morris investigates the attitudes of government to broiler chicken welfare issues, ultimately arguing that improvements to the lives of chickens grown for meat in this country might only be possible under an independent animal welfare advisory service. Dr Morris is based at the Marine and Environmental Management at the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic. For more details contact: [Michael.Morris@boppoly.ac.nz](mailto:Michael.Morris@boppoly.ac.nz)

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## Projects

### *Uncertainty in the City* - **Radio Animal**

*Uncertainty in the City* is an art project by the artist team Snæbjörnsdóttir/Wilson. In August 2007 the Storey Gallery in Lancaster, UK commissioned Bryndís Snæbjörnsdóttir and Mark Wilson to undertake a period of research. During this time the artists worked closely with various groups and individuals observing the variety of relationships humans develop with their animal counterparts and how these relations become increasingly complex when animals encroach upon the personal boundaries of humans. A two-phase project was proposed as a result of this research; *Radio Animal* takes place from June to November 2009 and an exhibition, conference and publication will follow in February – March 2010.



**Radio Animal** is a touring web-based radio station, dedicated to the debate and documentation of human/animal relationships across Lancashire and the North of England. The artists Snæbjörnsdóttir/Wilson will go on the road inviting listeners and participants to discuss their experiences of uninvited animals, whether these be the source of problems, fear, fascination, disgust etc. Guest speakers including wild life enthusiasts, hunters, vegetarians, trappers, fishers, pet owners, dog breeders, farmers, and pest control officers will be invited to spark debate as

well as offer guidance. Animals themselves will also have their say. Radio Animal will visit people's homes, summer fairs, pigeon-fancying competitions, agricultural shows, and town centres. It will map the feelings of people in the region towards the presence of rabbits, pigeons, deer, ants, starlings, rats, mice, foxes, wasps etc., in what we (humans) characteristically and erroneously perceive as 'our' environment. Radio Animal will be a depository, a battery, a tool for knowledge and knowledge dissemination. It will be a means of sparking debate and an attempt to make sense of our increasingly complex relationship with the animal world of which we are a part.



### ***between you and me***

In March 2009 Snæbjörnsdóttir/Wilson completed a new project entitled *between you and me* exploring the relationship between humans and seals and our shifting ideas regarding their significance to humans and their intrinsic status with a strategic focus on their incidence around the coast of Iceland. Predominately a video/audio work it draws on encounters and footage conducted in the field with individual seals and humans whose lives are both historically and currently bound up in this relationship.

The installation ***between you and me*** is part of the **Minding Animals conference in Newcastle** NSW and will be exhibited in the Pod Space Gallery in Newcastle, NSW from 17<sup>th</sup> of July to 1<sup>st</sup> of August.

For more examples of Bryndis Snæbjörnsdóttir and Mark Wilson's work see: [www.snaebjornsdottirwilson.com](http://www.snaebjornsdottirwilson.com) and [www.radioanimal.org](http://www.radioanimal.org)

## **Antennae's Pig Experiment**

**Antennae** is launching an unprecedented online experiment in the field of animal studies, based on the work of internationally renowned Rosemarie Trockel and Carsten Holler *Ein Haus - A House for Pigs and People*. A thought provoking installation presented at Documenta X in 1997, *Ein Haus*, consisted of a symbolic house space completed with a back-garden filled with live pigs. It could be argued that the work, echoed the exclusive nature of our consciousness which allows us to experience the world as outside ourselves and therefore to separate from nature. However, through the use of live pigs, the installation brought to the surface further complexity. The introduction to the book *Ein Haus – A House for Pigs and People*, written by artists Carsten Holler and Rosemarie Trockel is a literal avalanche of multi-layered and interlinked questions uncomfortably and at times painfully demanding us to consider and re-consider our stand, in relation to religion, sexuality, politics, sociology, psychology and philosophy as explored through the animal.

With the collaboration of the artists, *Antennae* has designed a new web-page on its website to create an interactive platform supporting the creation of an original text incorporating and answering the

original set of questions proposed in the introduction of the book. We have (with permission of the artists) reproduced the original text and have split it into 47 clusters of questions.

- We invite our readers to answer these questions in the ways they consider most appropriate; from the knowledge of their academic backgrounds, professional practices, and daily experiences as well as from their personal outlooks.
- Readers are welcome to invite colleagues from different disciplines or scholarly fields to contribute. Each reader is invited to produce answers no longer than 300 words for any given question.
- One reader can give answers to no more than 10 questions from the list.
- Each answer will be added to our web page and inserted, in black, following the original question (which will remain red). Each answer may be followed or preceded by that of another reader. Each will be kept anonymous.
- A list of names of those who have participated to the creation of the text will be printed in alphabetical order at the end of the piece.

The artists and *Antennae's* Editors will be editing the final version of the piece which will be published in *Antennae's Pig issue*, available online in December 2009. The finished piece, effectively a collaboration between Rosemarie Trockel, Carsten Holler, Antennae and its readership will represent a snapshot of attitudes, approaches, answers and counter-questions to a wide range of provocative and thought provoking animal-related and animal-centred issues. Be playful; take it seriously; have fun with it; create connections; orchestrate dissonance; layer multiple voices.

Just send your answers to our editorial email address [antennaproject@gmail.com](mailto:antennaproject@gmail.com) indicating which question-number you are answering at the beginning of your text. Your answers will be added to the text as soon as possible, allowing other readers to read your response and to follow up in the creation of the biggest and freest online animal-debate.

To read the full text please visit: <http://antennae.org.uk/A%20House%20Divided.html>  
To submit your answers email: [antennaproject@gmail.com](mailto:antennaproject@gmail.com)

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**Links:** Resource pages, art spaces.

- **CriminalAnimal**

CriminalAnimal is a space for web-aware art and criticism about animals, humans, and the stuff in between. The site has three main thrusts: Projects, People and Resources.

**Projects** is art/criticism created specifically for the site with the idea that such work will specifically flourish in the web environment.

**People** is a selected list of scholars, artists, scientists, practitioners, activists engaged in work on animal and human cultures. These participants have been asked to prepare a statement about their current research as well as a brief bio citing previous accomplishments within their fields. We are primarily interested in how people from different practices who are occupied with the significance of animals-within-culture can come together to learn from each other.

**Resources** is a fairly open-ended list of relevant websites, films, texts and special events.

See <http://www.criminalanimal.org/info/info.htm>

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## Profiles: Human-animal studies scholars and activists

### Dr Siobhan O'Sullivan



Research Fellow in the School of Social and Political Sciences at Melbourne University. I began specialising in animal protection studies when I wrote an honours thesis on modern property relations and animals. Following my honours year I worked for 18 months at the World League for Protection of Animals, then I returned to university to undertake my PhD. My doctoral dissertation focused on the structure of animal welfare legislation and the equity principle. I was awarded my PhD by Sydney University in early 2008. While writing my PhD I remained actively engaged in animal protection matters, including performing limited volunteer work for Animals Australia and Animal Liberation NSW.

Since graduating I have continued to research and publish in the field of animal protection. Most recently my work appeared in *Animal Law in Australasia* (2009), and I am also currently working on a monograph. I am an Associate Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics and I hope to continue researching, publishing, and teaching in the field of human/animal relations for many years to come.

My interest in the area originated with my own personal ethical beliefs. But I think the study of animals and politics is a challenging and rewarding endeavour. I never get weary of thinking about what we owe animals and how that debt can be paid. For a full list of my publications and research interests please see my webpage at: <http://www.ssps.unimelb.edu.au/about/staff/profiles/osullivan>

### Dr Rod Bennison



Co-convenor of the Minding Animals conference, Newcastle.

As we approach the Minding Animals Conference, I would just like to introduce myself to those who I have not met. I have a long-standing history within the environmental and animal protection and advocacy movements, being a former Australian Conservation Foundation Councillor, Save Animals from Exploitation (Australia) President and am currently the NPA Hunter Branch President. I have worked for the National Parks Association (NPA) of New South Wales, and Australians for Animals.

Over the years, I have been a member and active within several other organisations. I was the National Policy Coordinator for the Australian Democrats for over twelve years and also a Deputy National President. I worked for several Democrat parliamentarians, including the long-time animal activist Richard Jones. In the now almost defunct Democrats, my main area of interest was the party's environmental and animal platform.

Currently, I am a conjoint academic and lecturer at the University of Newcastle and an environmental consultant. I also currently hold a position on the Worimi Conservation Lands Board of Management where I am the representative of the NPA and Nature Conservation Council of NSW.

I have written many journal articles (not all refereed and not all on animals) and I have presented at several conferences, both within Australia and internationally, on animal and environmental issues, drug law reform, prison reform and HIV/AIDS issues. I have presented at the first two Australian conferences on Animals and Society and took up the challenge of co-convening (with Jill Bough) the 2009 conference, which everyone knows has now blossomed as the first International Conference on Animals and Society.

My main interests in our nonhuman animal kin lie with their commercial exploitation, our representations of other animals as only insignificant others, and the divide between animal protection and environmentalism. In particular, I am concerned with how nonhuman animals are described as pests, wild, feral, invasive or, somehow, out-of-place, and how such mechanistic terminology has come to pervade an almost compliant environmental movement.

See the [Minding Animals website](http://www.mindinganimals.com.au): [www.mindinganimals.com.au](http://www.mindinganimals.com.au)

## Yvette Watt



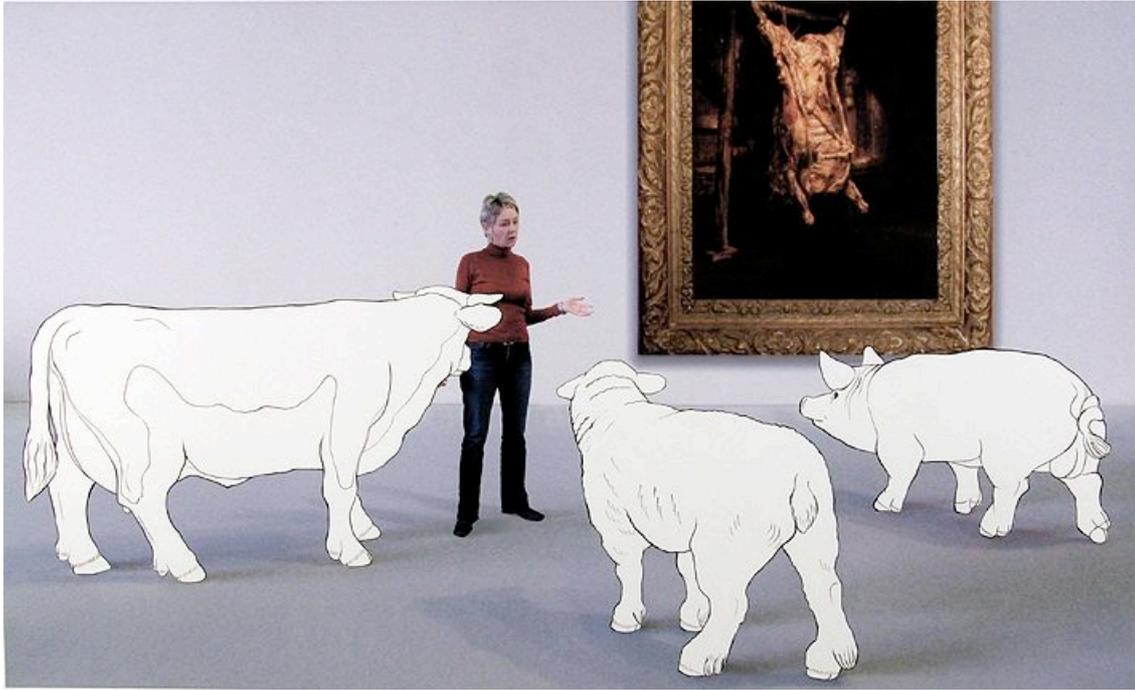
[Tasmanian School of Art, University of Tasmania](http://www.tasmanian.edu.au). I am an artist and animal advocate, whose art practice spans more than 20 years. For almost as long as I can remember art and animals have been twin passions that have ruled my life, but in the mid 1980s these passions collided when I began my career as an artist and, almost simultaneously, became actively involved in animal rights. The aim of my artwork is to engage a broad audience with a consideration of the ethical issues surrounding human-animal relations, and is based on a firm belief that art can be an important tool for making socio-political comment and thus in aiding in instigating change. As Wayne Pacelle, the Director of the Humane Society of the United States has noted, '[a]rt and other cultural forms can be powerful media for promoting awareness of animal suffering and abuse, and for celebrating animals as creatures who deserve our admiration and respect...'.

*Domestic Animals (Art Lesson)*, 2007,  
giclee print and ink on hanemuller photo  
rag paper, 80 x 130cm

I have recently completed my PhD in Fine Art at the Tasmanian School of Art, University of Tasmania, with a research project titled 'Animals, Art and Activism'. The PhD involved the production of artworks that actively encourage the viewer to consider animals – particularly 'farm' animals – as sentient beings rather than as insensate, objectified commodities. I achieved this through judicious use of anthropomorphism or, more aptly, 'egomorphism' in the depiction of the animals. The latter term, coined by social anthropologist Kay Milton, places the self, rather than humanness in general, as the primary departure point for any understanding of non-human animals. The activation of egomorphism in the work reflects the fact that this research was driven by a very personal empathy for non-human animals, and a consequent concern about human attitudes toward and treatment of other animals, especially those used for food.

Over the last two decades or more I have held numerous solo exhibitions. My work is held in a number of significant public and private collections including Parliament House, Canberra; Parliament House, Western Australia; Artbank and the Art Gallery of WA. I was a founding member of Animal Rights Advocates (WA) and of Against Animal Cruelty Tasmania and am currently Vice President of Animals Australia.

For more images of Yvette's work see [New Zealand Centre for Human-Animal Studies website](http://www.nzchas.canterbury.ac.nz/artists.shtml): <http://www.nzchas.canterbury.ac.nz/artists.shtml>



Yvette Watt. Alternative Points of View #2, 2007 acrylic, watercolour and gouache on paper, total size 154 x 114cm

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