

# Australian Animal Studies Group

*News Bulletin \* Issue 9, September 2010*

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# Australian Animal Studies Group

*News Bulletin \* Issue 9, September 2010*

## Editorial

*This is the first of occasional editorials that respond to particularly interesting events or significant milestones. The launch of the new [AASG website](#) next month is one such marker in the growth and development of both the Group and the field of human-animal studies in Australia. There has been considerable enthusiasm for this initiative among animal studies academics. Those responsible for the establishment of the website hope it will become a useful, even invaluable, tool in the study of human-animal relations. It has the capacity to forge links between researchers and animal advocates, as well as with our international colleagues.*

*The contents of the website will complement our [News Bulletin](#). Current news items, links and other information will be fed onto the site after each Bulletin appears. The Bulletin will still present leading edge animal studies news and include international conferences and other items. The website will concentrate on information about Australian courses, participants, resources and events.*

*The vitality of the Australian Animal Studies Group and the establishment of the website is the result of the continuing efforts of the AASG committee. In particular, [Natalie Edwards](#) has been actively responsible for developing the site, while [Siobhan O'Sullivan](#) has organised valuable publicity. Without their energy and commitment the website may not have eventuated. But its continued success depends on the support of scholars, artists, activists and anyone else in the Australian community who is interested in animals.*

*One of the cornerstones of the AASG has been a multidisciplinary focus and inclusive attitude. The Bulletin exemplifies the diverse nature of animal studies, with an emphasis in this particular issue on the work of artists, and Tasmanian events. The website will again demonstrate this stance. In addition, now anyone, anywhere will be able to access the information we provide and, more importantly, they will have the opportunity to talk with each other about the website's contents and discuss a multitude of issues concerning relations between human and nonhuman animals. We hope the site will also result in interdisciplinary projects and productive collaborations that will benefit animal studies in Australia into the future.*



**New Australian Animal Studies Group website  
Accessible October!**

## National News

### **AASG Committee activities**

The AASG committee, in the course of its regular meetings, has come to the conclusion that the Group must incorporate. This will elevate its status and facilitate the reception of grants and other monies to ensure its growth. AGMs will need to be held regularly and are planned to take place at the biennial conferences and, hopefully, at a symposium or similar event in the intervening years. Progress in this endeavour will be communicated in the *Bulletin* and on the AASG website.

## Fourth AASG conference in Brisbane

The poster is for the 4th Australian Animal Studies Group Conference. It features a red background with a white circular logo on the left. The logo contains a globe and the text "Animals, people - a shared environment" around the top and "10-13 July 2011" at the bottom. To the right of the logo, the text "Mark your diary!" is written in a cursive font. Below that, the conference title "The 4th Australian Animal Studies Group Conference" and dates "10-13 JULY 2011" are displayed in bold. Further down, the location "Griffith University in Southbank, Brisbane, Australia" and dates "10 - 13 July 2011" are listed. A paragraph describes the conference's focus on animal theorists and scientists. At the bottom, contact information is provided, along with logos for the Australian Animal Studies Group and Griffith University's Environmental Futures Centre.

*Mark your diary!*

**The 4th  
Australian  
Animal Studies  
Group Conference**  
**10-13 JULY 2011**

**The 4th Australian Animal Studies Group Conference  
will be held at Griffith University in Southbank,  
Brisbane, Australia, from 10 – 13 July 2011.**

Join us as we bring together animal theorists &  
scientists from a broad range of academic disciplines to examine  
the interrelationships between human & nonhuman animals.

**Animals, people – a shared environment**

**For more info visit [www.aasg2011.com.au](http://www.aasg2011.com.au)  
email [aasg@hievents.com.au](mailto:aasg@hievents.com.au) or call +61 7 3210 1646**

Australian  
**Animal Studies**  
Group

Griffith  
Environmental  
Futures Centre

Organisation for the Australian Animal Studies Group's 4th conference continues. It will be held in Brisbane from July 10-13, 2010 and is titled

"Animals, People – a shared environment"

The venue will be Southbank, at the beautiful Queensland Conservatorium and the historic Ship Inn. Join us as we bring together animal theorists & scientists from a broad range of academic disciplines to examine the interrelationships between human & nonhuman animals!

The conference committee have engaged HI Events, a Brisbane based company, to be their PCO and they are currently working on the website. Further information can be obtained from the chair of the local organising committee, Leah Burns: [Leah.Burns@griffith.edu.au](mailto:Leah.Burns@griffith.edu.au)

## **AASG Discussion Group**

To reflect the Group's recent title change, there have been adjustments to the [Discussion Group's](#) email addresses:

Post message: [AustralianAnimalStudies@yahoogroups.com.au](mailto:AustralianAnimalStudies@yahoogroups.com.au)

Subscribe: [AustralianAnimalStudies-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.au](mailto:AustralianAnimalStudies-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.au)

Unsubscribe: [AustralianAnimalStudies-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com.au](mailto:AustralianAnimalStudies-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com.au)

List owner: [AustralianAnimalStudies-owner@yahoogroups.com.au](mailto:AustralianAnimalStudies-owner@yahoogroups.com.au)

## **Minding Animals**

### [Minding Animals Study Circles](#)

Check out the Minding Animals Study Circle page. Topics include:

- Animals and Children
- Animals and Climate Change
- Meat and Animals
- Commercialisation of Animals
- Animals and Extinction
- Feminism and Animals
- Animals in Art and Aesthetics
- Animals in Captivity, Entertainment and Sport
- Minding Animals in Science
- Animals, Politics and the Law
- Animals and Religion
- and many more . . . .

[http://www.mindinganimals.com//index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=220&Itemid=246](http://www.mindinganimals.com//index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=220&Itemid=246)

### [Minding Animals Conference 2012](#)

Watch the progress of the Conference webpage, now on the University of Utrecht site:

<http://www.uu.nl/EN/FACULTIES/HUMANITIES/CONGRES/MINDINGANIMALS/Pages/default.aspx>

## **AASG Publicity**

Siobhan O'Sullivan obtained valuable publicity for animal studies in Australia through an article by Jill Rowbotham in the Higher Education section of *The Australian* on Wednesday, Sept 1.

Titled "[Enter, the pursuit of animals](#)" and graced with a photo of Siobhan and Maddie, her friend's dog, the article noted that human-animal studies is an "emerging and interdisciplinary" field of study and that in Australia it is pursued by scholars in philosophy, law, the visual arts and communications. The article drew attention to the new website, the upcoming conference in 2011, and recent and forthcoming publications from Australian scholars in the field:

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/higher-education/enter-the-pursuit-of-animals/story-e6frgcjx-1225912493746>

## Publications

Articles and books by Australian animal studies scholars that have been published recently or are forthcoming:

### Elizabeth Ellis

'Collaborative Advocacy: Framing the Interests of Animals as a Social Justice Concern' in Sankoff and White (eds) *Animal Law in Australasia: A New Dialogue* (2009, Federation Press).

'Enforcing Animal Welfare Law: the NSW Experience' *Australian Animal Protection Law Journal* 2.6 (2009) (with Keely Boom)

'Making Sausages and Law: the Failure of Animal Welfare Laws to Protect both Animals and Fundamental Tenets of Australia's Legal System'. *Australian Animal Protection Law Journal* 4.6 [2010] (forthcoming).

### Peter Hobbins

Hobbins, Peter G., 'Serpentine science: Charles Kellaway and the fluctuating fortunes of venom research in interwar Australia', *Historical Records of Australian Science*, 21, no. 1 (2010), 1–34.

### Adrian Peace

2009 'Ponies Out of Place? Wild Animals, Wilderness and Environmental Governance'. *Anthropological Forum* 19(1): 53-72.

2009 "'Man Grabs Shark With Bare Hands, Blames Vodka": Sharks, Stereotypes, Speciesism and the Late Steve Irwin'. *Australian Zoologist* 35(1): 9-17.

2009 'Wildlife, Wilderness and the Politics of Alternative Land Use: an Australian Ethnography'. In Francesca Merlan et al. eds. *Rural Futures*. E-book, ANU Press: Canberra. Pp. 79-82.

2010 'The Whaling War: Conflicting Cultural Perspectives'. *Anthropology Today* 26 (3): 5-9.

2010. 'Speaking of Whales: From Totemizing the Humpback to Demonizing the Japanese'. In Jan Erik Ringstad ed. *Whaling and History III*. Kommander Chr. Christensen Hvalfangstmuseum: Sandefjord.

### Elissa Pearson

Pearson, E.L., Davis, J.M., & Litchfield, C.A. (2010). 'A case study of Orangutan and Siamang behavior in a mixed-species zoo exhibit'. *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science*, 13(4), 1-17.

### Deborah Rose

*Wild Dog Dreaming: Love and Extinction*, University of Virginia Press, forthcoming early 2011. On extinctions and the moral imagination.

'Unloved Others: Death of the Disregarded in the Time of Extinctions' – a collection of essays - will be published in *Australian Humanities Review*, May 2011.

### Tania Signal

Hazel, S.J., Signal, T.D., & Taylor, N. (2010). 'Can teaching veterinary and animal science students about animal welfare affect their attitude to animals and human-related empathy?' Forthcoming, *Journal of Veterinary Medicine Education*.

Taylor, N., & Signal, T. (2009). 'Lock 'em up and throw away the key? Community opinion regarding current animal abuse penalties'. *Australian Animal Law Protection Journal*, 3, 33-52.

Taylor, N., & Signal, T. (2009). 'Overview of the research - the abuse of wild animals' In A. Linzey (Ed.), *The Link between Animal Abuse and Human Violence*. UK: Sussex Academic Press.

Arbour, R., Signal, T., & Taylor, N. (2009). Teaching Kindness: The Promise of Humane Education. *Society & Animals*, 17, 136-148.

Taylor, N., & Signal, T. (2009). Pet, pest, profit: Isolating differences in attitudes towards the treatment of animals, *Anthrozoos*, 22, 129-135.

Taylor, N., & Signal, T. (2009). Willingness to pay for farm animal welfare: Australian consumers. *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare*, 12, 345-359.

**Nik Taylor**

Taylor, N., & Signal, T. (in press) (Eds.) *Theorizing Animals* (Brill Academic Publishers).

Taylor, N. (in press). 'Animal Abuse and Criminology: The Contribution and the Challenge'. *Critical Criminology*.

Taylor, N. (2010). 'Animal Shelter Emotion Management: A Case of in situ Hegemonic Resistance?' *Sociology*, 44(1), 85-102.

Please send us notification of your publications and we will include them in the next issue of the *Bulletin*

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## Regional News

### New South Wales

#### Macquarie University: Animals and Society Working Group

The members of the 'Animals and Society Working Group' include research scholars at all stages of academic career from executive dean to doctoral candidate. Research questions range widely across issues of extinction, conservation and rescue; zoos, biopolitics and resurrections; cities, wildlife and urban planning; devotion, friendship, co-existence, and companionship. Disciplinary perspectives include history, literature, philosophy, cultural studies, human geography, law, anthropology, sociology, and religious studies. It is the most recent group to join the set of research clusters based in the Centre for Research on Social Inclusion, and its members are committed to promoting more convivial relationships between humans and other animals.

For more information or enquiries contact: [deborah.rose@mq.edu.au](mailto:deborah.rose@mq.edu.au)

### Tasmania

#### Bruny Island Bird Festival

22-24 October, 2010

The festival in October is not only the inaugural [Bruny Island Bird Festival](#) but as far as we can discover the first to be held anywhere in Tasmania. It is appropriate that Bruny is the first as it is the one location where it is possible to see all the 12 Tasmanian endemic species in one place. Add to that the presence of so many endangered species that are hard to find elsewhere such as the Forty-spotted pardalote, swift parrot and (white) grey goshawk it is no wonder Bruny is world renowned amongst avid birdwatchers.

A portion of all proceeds from festival events will go towards bird and habitat conservation projects on the island. There is an opportunity to exhibit in the [Photography and Art](#) exhibit running for 4 days over the festival, or take a stall at the market on Saturday 23rd.

For full program and an online booking form see: Bird Festival section on [www.bien.org.au](http://www.bien.org.au)

## University of Tasmania, Tasmania School of Art

**Yvette Watt** has been successful in obtaining a New Appointees Research Grant (NARGS) for the following project:

Called 'Animal Factories' the project is both a conceptual and technical development of her PhD research. The research will pursue further the role of art in communicating issues surrounding the ethics of human-animal relationships in regards to 'farm' animals, however the new work will be based on documentary photographs and video taken of the outside of large-scale factory farms of the type that intensively house chickens and pigs.

## Victoria

### University of Melbourne Animal Protection Society

UMAPS raised over \$100 at its Open Day stall and gathered hundreds of petition signatures for its campaign. Upcoming events include an excursion to Edgar's Sanctuary and an amazing vegan bake sale and well as a social dinner at the Food Café, Fitzroy St. and a program that finds homes for pets needing adoption.

The group's [website](#) is soon to go live and they will hopefully have a celebratory launch / vegan bbq / AGM. For more information: [umapsociety@googlegroups.com](mailto:umapsociety@googlegroups.com)

### The Future Shots Sustainability Film Challenge

For the second year running, [Future Shots](#) invites all young Victorians to create a short film of under three minutes addressing the theme of sustainability. You could film a drama, documentary, animation, music video, advertisement, a blend of these, or even a new genre altogether! All you have to remember is to stick to the Future Shots theme of 'sustainability'. There are over \$9000 in cash and prizes to win across 10 categories, so all young Victorians - whether you're 5 or 25 - have a great chance of being in the running.

[Deadline: November 15](#)

For more information on how to enter visit [www.futureshots.com.au](http://www.futureshots.com.au)

## Queensland

### RSPCA Qld World Farm Animal Day Symposium 2010

[The Handling and Transportation of Farm Animals](#)

Friday 1 October, 8:45am - 4:30pm

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, South Bank, Brisbane

Handling of farm animals is necessary for many husbandry practices such as castration, branding, drenching and dipping, to name a few. How the animals are handled and treated during these procedures is directly related to the amount of stress they experience. They are also handled when they are loaded onto trucks for transportation, and transportation itself causes stress to animals. The discussion will be informed by the latest research in the area, the industry perspective and the government's approach.

For further information or to register: phone 07 3426 9932 or email [events@rspcaqld.org.au](mailto:events@rspcaqld.org.au)

## Special Report

*This report is in recognition of [National Threatened Species Day](#) on September 7 and the death of Cedric, a Tasmanian Devil who had become known for 'his contribution to attempts to solve the puzzle of Facial Tumour Disease', which is currently endangering the existence of the species.*

### Cedric and Other Devils



Just a week before [Threatened Species Day](#), Cedric, a six year old Tasmanian Devil who was involved in research into this virulent cancer at the Menzies Research Centre in Hobart, died. Cedric symbolised hope for the species, as for two years he showed an immune response to injections of disease cells. But eventually tumours appeared in his lungs.

Researchers say that Cedric provided clues for alternative immunisation strategies and the possibility of a vaccine, but already the disease has affected 60% of the Devil population in Tasmania. More than 90% of adults in high density areas and 40-50% in medium-low density areas have died. Devil Facial Tumour Disease is not pleasant. First, tumours are noticed in and around an animal's mouth as small lesions or lumps; then, these develop into large tumours around the face, neck and sometimes other parts of the body. The cancer is unusual as it spreads like a contagious disease, passed from one devil to another by biting. Infected Devils die within months of the lesions first appearing and the disease is always fatal. It is mutating in the wild, with 13 different strains currently identified. Solutions to the problem have been varied and there has been some criticism of the strategies used by the Tasmanian Government and University teams to control the disease, including frustration with the slowness of response and gaps in research hampered by initial unwillingness to allow outside access to genetic material.

Barrier fences have been suggested to protect healthy devils in the north of the State, while trapping regimes have increased the chances of removing infected animals on Forestier Peninsula, and a captive breeding program is in progress on Maria Island off the East coast. To insure the Devil against extinction, the Save the Devil program aims to provide a potential source of disease-free animals for release into the wild. Some intensively managed populations exist in interstate zoos, while free range enclosures of 12ha and upwards have shown some success. Captive management is believed to encourage genetic diversity so important in sustaining a viable population, as it is impossible to control every aspect of the animals' welfare in the wild and large enclosures can result in one or two males dominating breeding and narrowing the genetic pool. The captive Devil population on mainland Australia is reported to have had its best season

yet, with many females carrying pouch-young. Close to 200 devils are held by 19 zoos that are well isolated from Facial Tumour Disease.

However, ultimately, the Save the Devil Program aims to keep Devils sustainable in the wild, as they are considered a vital part of the Tasmanian ecosystem and their extinction would put many other native species at risk. A promising development in this race against time is the recent mapping of the Devil's genome by Elizabeth Murchison of the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute in UK. It is hoped that the draft genome from a healthy Devil will enable comparisons with that of cancerous Devils, track geographical routes in the spread of the disease and barriers in its transmission, that can then shape conservation efforts. As Devils currently face a bleak future and suffer profoundly as a result of this disease, it is hoped that Murchison's research indeed provides some answers.

The Tasmanian Devil is listed as 'Endangered' under the Commonwealth of Australia Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 and the Tasmanian Government's Threatened Species Protection Act 1995. Cedric's death is a sad moment in both the progress of the disease and the ongoing battle to save the species.



Story: Carol Freeman Pictures: Wikipedia Commons

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**Conferences and Symposiums:** Updates, international conferences and seminars

- **International Symposium on Food: The Scientist, the Cook and the Grower**  
16 December, 2010. [University of South Australia](#).

#### CALL FOR PAPERS

The Hawke Research Institute at the University of South Australia is hosting an international symposium, which aims to further debate about the production and consumption of food beyond its safe confines as 'feel good politics'. There will be a public panel featuring a well-known cook, growers and food social/scientists on the afternoon of December 15th, followed by a full day symposium.

Keynote speakers include:

[A/Prof Julie Guthman](#), a geographer who teaches in Community Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She is the author of numerous seminal interventions into food politics,

including *Agrarian Dreams: The Paradox of Organic Farming in California*, and 'How Michael Pollan et al. Made Me Want to Eat Cheetos'.

**Dr. Mara Miele**, a Senior Fellow at the School of City and Regional Planning at Cardiff University. Her extensive research covers more-than-human geographies, alternative food ways, and critical analyses of Slow Food. She is the author of *Creating Sustainability, The Social Construction of the Market for Organic Products*, and numerous articles.

**Prof. Elspeth Probyn**, Director of the Hawke, will speak on research resulting from her current ARC grant, '*Taste and Place: The Transglobal Production and Consumption of Food and Drink*'. Submission of abstracts are invited on the following thematics. We particularly encourage wide-ranging interdisciplinary frameworks.

- The politics of food production & consumption
- Regionality within the global
- Food security
- Indigenous food enterprises
- Terroir: water, soil, climate
- New markets, old problems

Deadline: 15 October

Please send abstracts (300 words) and short biographies to Shveta Vyas:  
[shveta.vyas@unisa.edu.au](mailto:shveta.vyas@unisa.edu.au)

- **Agri-Food XVII: Conference of the Australian and New Zealand Agri-Food Research Network**  
29 November, 2010. Gippsland Campus of Monash University.

#### CALL FOR PAPERS

The **Agri-Food Research Network** is a forum for Australian and New Zealand social scientists researching the economic, cultural, social and environmental implications of agricultural and food systems.

Since its establishment in 1992 it has convened regular annual research conferences and facilitated the publication of research for the following purposes:

- to promote innovative and inter-disciplinary research on agri-food issues;
- to encourage debate, information exchange and collaboration between researchers based in universities and other organisations;
- to provide a supportive site for nurturing post-graduate students and early-career researchers studying agri-food issues;
- to engage with policy-makers and agri-food professionals.

Deadline for abstracts of no more than 200 words and posters has been extended to 1 October. For more information: <http://www.gippsland.monash.edu.au/media/events2010/agrifood/>

Please send all abstracts to Vaughan Higgins, Conference Convenor:  
[vaughan.higgins@monash.edu](mailto:vaughan.higgins@monash.edu)

- **Animals and Humans in the Culture of the Middle Ages**  
Twenty-second Barnard Medieval and Renaissance Conference  
4 December, 2010. Barnard College NYC

An interdisciplinary conference that will explore some of the many ways in which the human-animal connection and 'divide' was imagined, employed, figured and explained by people in the

Middle Ages and Renaissance. Special attention will be given to the multiple constructions and fluid and tense nature of the boundaries between wild and civilized. We seek proposals that go beyond animal figuration and instead focus on literal and metaphorical interactions between humans and other animals. Papers might consider texts on husbandry, falconry, hunting, companion animals, warfare, bestiaries, fables, encyclopedias, heraldry, visual arts, narrative, philosophy, and theology, and analyses informed by current critical animal theory are especially welcomed.

Plenary speakers:

[Laurie Shannon](#) (Northwestern University)  
[Bruce Holsinger](#) (University of Virginia)

Plenary panel:

[Aranye Fradenberg](#) (UC Santa Barbara)  
[Paula Lee](#) (Arete Initiative, U of Chicago)  
[Karl Steel](#) (CUNY Brooklyn College)  
[Sarah Stanbury](#) (Holy Cross)  
[Julian Yates](#) (U of Delaware)

[Call for Papers has now closed.](#)

For more information contact: Laurie Postlewaite: [lpostlew@barnard.edu](mailto:lpostlew@barnard.edu)

- **Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting**  
[12-16 April, 2011. Seattle, Washington.](#)

#### [CALL FOR PAPERS](#)

##### **Animated Representations: Animals, Media and Place**

Organizer: Sharon Wilcox Adams (University of Texas- Austin)

We are inviting contributions for a session exploring the complex connections [between animals, media, and place](#) for the 2011 AAG Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington April 12-16. Possible paper topics may include the role of animal representations in place-making; the impact of media representations on live animals; animal imagery and the modern conservation movement; the impacts of animal representations on law and policy; economic development and the representation of animal imagery; ethics; animal agency; perception and anthropomorphism; animal subjectivities; and human-animal boundary making. All forms/medium of media may be considered, and papers from any geographic perspective and historical period are welcome.

[Deadline October 1, 2010.](#)

Please submit abstracts to Sharon Wilcox Adams, [SEWilcox@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:SEWilcox@mail.utexas.edu) to allow time to read abstracts and prepare the final panel submission by October 20, 2010.

- **Lives of Dogs: Origins & Evolution of Hunting & Sporting Breeds**  
[23 October, 2010. National Sporting Library & Museum, Middleburg, Va.](#)

The National Sporting Library & Museum will host a full-day symposium "Lives of Dogs: Origins & Evolution of Hunting & Sporting Breeds" from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, October 23. An international panel of six speakers, moderated by Timothy J. Greenan, M.D., will trace the history of hunting with dogs from prehistory through the present day. The symposium, made possible by the gift of an anonymous donor, is part of the Library's Public Lecture Series, and coincides with the exhibition "Lives of Dogs, Viewed through Literature, Art, & Ephemera" on view through December 11, 2010.

The symposium features several distinguished speakers, each experts in their fields. [Dr. James Serpell](#), who has written on early domestication of dogs, is a Professor at the University of Pennsylvania. Historian [Dr. Emma Griffin](#) of the University of East Anglia in England is the author

of a history of hunting in England. [Benjamin H. Hardaway, III](#), is a nationally-recognized authority on foxhounds and is the Past President of the Masters of Foxhounds Association of America. [Dr. Martin Wallen](#), a former Daniels research fellow at the NSL, teaches English literature at Oklahoma State University. [Dr. Harriet Ritvo](#), a historian from MIT, has written extensively on animals and dogs in Victorian England. [Nelle Wyatt](#), a veterinary technician and dog breeder from Knoxville, Tenn., has worked extensively with coursing dogs.

Pre-registration required, seating limited. Contact Elizabeth Tobey at [fellowship@nsl.org](mailto:fellowship@nsl.org) or 540-687-6542 x 11 or visit <http://www.nsl.org/dogsymposium.html>

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## **Groups, Institutes and Networks:** Courses, fellowships, awards, membership

### **Baccalaureate Degree in Animal Studies**

[Eastern Kentucky University](#)

Eastern Kentucky University's new baccalaureate degree program in [Animal Studies](#) is believed to be the first of its kind in the world. Housed in ECU's Department of Psychology, the cross-disciplinary program will concentrate on non-human animals, their interactions and relationships with people, and the mutual influences that humans and non-human animals exert on each other's existence, evolution and history. Incorporating applied fields, science and the arts and humanities, ECU's Animal Studies major "will provide students with a means to become knowledgeable about animals and their relationship with humans from diverse perspectives, and simultaneously experience and learn from a strong, traditional liberal arts education," said Dr. Robert Mitchell, professor of psychology, who developed the program and will serve as coordinator. "Students are engaged by animals, and the program has the potential to [draw students from all over the U.S., and perhaps the globe](#). With this program, ECU has the possibility of starting something intellectually challenging, novel, and on the cutting edge of academia."

Courses in the program, which begins this fall, include Animals in History, Animal Ethics, Sociology of Animal-Human Relations, Animals in Literature, General Zoology, Comparative Psychology, Ecology, Animal Behavior, Principles of Animal Science, Primate Conservation, Animals and the Law, Wildlife Law and Law Enforcement, Principles of Biology, Introduction to Cultural Anthropology and Introduction to Physical Anthropology, among other requirements and electives. In addition to their broad-based liberal arts background, Animal Studies majors will be able to concentrate on specialized areas for particular careers they wish to target. "The program allows a student to bring Animal Studies into whatever their area of interest is," said Dr. Bob Brubaker, chair of the Department of Psychology. "To me, that's a strength of the program."

For more information see: <http://www.eku.edu/news/baccalaureate-degree-animal-studies-believed-be-first-world>

Contact: Dr. Bob Mitchell [robert.mitchell@eku.edu](mailto:robert.mitchell@eku.edu)

### **Animals and Society Course Awards**

[Call for Nominations](#) for The Humane Society of the United States 2010 Animals and Society Course Awards

The HSUS and the Animals and Society Institute invite applications from college and university faculty members for its eleventh annual [Animals and Society Course Awards](#). The awards recognize excellence in courses concerning the human-animal bond, human obligations toward animals, the status of animals, and related topics. Past recipients have included scholars working in academic fields including animal science, animal-assisted therapy, anthropology, archeology, art, biology, communications, culture studies, education, environmental studies,

ethology, history, law, literature, medicine, philosophy, political science, psychology, religion, sociology and veterinary medicine.

Judging is administered by [Bernard Unti](#), Ph.D., of the HSUS, with [Kenneth Shapiro](#), Ph.D., of the Animals and Society Institute, editor of *Society and Animals*. Input is provided by outside readers, selected for their expertise in the disciplines of applicants who reach the final stage in the vetting process. Judges use criteria such as depth and rigor within the topic, impact on the field of human-animal studies, and originality of approach. Competitive entries for the awards would be courses that bring the study of animals and society into new arenas; approach the field from a novel perspective, or make use of novel teaching methods; provide exposure to students who would not otherwise address academic issues relating to animals and society; or are tailored to participants whose learning experience will have a direct impact upon animals and/or animal protection.

Two Animals and Society Awards will be presented for courses at either the undergraduate or graduate level, at [colleges and universities worldwide](#). The first award is for an established course currently being taught. The second award is for a new course scheduled to be offered. Each award carries a prize of \$1,500. Nominees who offer more than one course may submit multiple applications. The prize money will be given to the institutional department in which the winning course is taught.

Nominations must include:

- a cover letter from the faculty member
- a course outline or syllabus with enough detail and annotation to show the substance of the course
- a one or two paragraph description of the pedagogical strategy or framework that guides the course
- a one paragraph description of how the prize money will be used
- student evaluations for the previous two years the course was offered, where appropriate
- a letter of recommendation from the relevant department chairperson

**Deadline: October 15, 2010.** No special forms are necessary. Send nominations as e-mail attachments to [fgaeta@hsus.org](mailto:fgaeta@hsus.org)

## **AniCare and Human-Animal Studies Courses Online**

Arizona State University School of Social Work and the Animals and Society Institute announce that they are once again partnering to provide two online courses: TAA1 and TAA2. The program is delivered online using the ASU Blackboard system. CEUs are available for both courses.

[TAA2 Assessment and Treatment of Animal Abuse](#) (14 weeks) Spring semester, 2011.

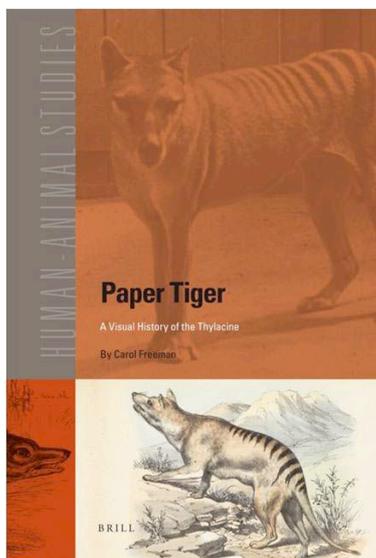
Designed for both mental health practitioners and other professionals working with adults and children, this course presents AniCare an assessment and treatment approach for children and adults who have abused animals. Based on a well-established clinical theory and interventions for perpetrators of domestic violence, AniCare emphasizes the social-psychological causes of violence. Building on cognitive behavioral, psychodynamic, and attachment theories, AniCare Child keys on empathy and self-management. Through a manual, a demonstration DVD, and clinical case materials, students are introduced to a variety of exercises and other tools, such as puppet role play and projective material.

For information about registration visit <http://ssw.asu.edu/portal/academic/certificates/treating-animal-abuse-certificate> or contact Dr. Christina Risley-Curtiss ([risley.curtiss@asu.edu](mailto:risley.curtiss@asu.edu)).

**Deadline for TAA2: January 1, 2011.** For information about scholarships (available for needy students) contact Dr. Ken Shapiro ([ken.shapiro@animalsandsociety.org](mailto:ken.shapiro@animalsandsociety.org))

## New Books

**PAPER TIGER: A Visual History of the Thylacine** by [Carol Freeman](#). Brill Human-Animal Studies series, 2010.



Images of animals generate perceptions that have a profound effect on attitudes toward species. Can representations contribute to their extinction? *Paper Tiger* considers the role of illustrations in the demise of the thylacine or Tasmanian 'tiger'. It critiques 80 engravings, lithographs, drawings and photographs published between 1808 and 1936, paying attention to the messages they convey, the politics of representation, and the impact on the lives of animals.

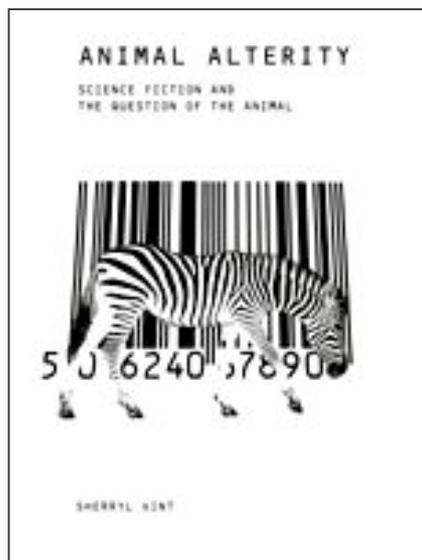
This approach challenges conventional histories, offers new understandings of human-animal interactions, and presents a chilling story of just how misleading and powerful visual representation can be. It demonstrates how pictures, together with words, can have a vital influence on species' survival.

This book will interest human-animal studies scholars, zoologists, conservationists, cultural historians, print collectors and museum curators. It provides both a visual resource and a compelling story for general readers.

'... this book is a remarkable achievement. Freeman writes thoughtfully, carefully and with force, telling the story of the thylacine in an original and deeply affecting way ... and the book is a very good read.' (Nigel Rothfels, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)

[Carol Freeman](#) is a Research Associate at the University of Tasmania. Her publications focus on visual representations of animals, bioethics, and the role of popular culture in wildlife conservation. She is also co-editor, with Elizabeth Leane and Yvette Watt, of a forthcoming book *Considering Animals: Contemporary Studies in Human-Animal Relations* to be published by Ashgate in 2011.

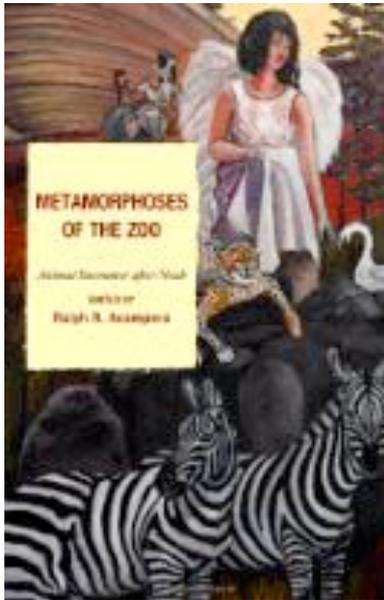
**ANIMAL ALTERITY: Science Fiction and the Question of the Animal** by [Sherryl Vint](#). University of Liverpool Press, 2010.



*Animal Alterity* uses readings of science fiction texts to explore how animals are central to our perception of humanity. Arguing that the academic field of animal studies and the popular genre of science fiction share a number of critical concerns, Sherryl Vint expresses an urgent need to reconsider the human-animal boundary in a world of genetic engineering, factory farming, species extinctions, and increasing evidence of animal intelligence, emotions, and tool use. Mapping the complex terrain of human relations with non-human animals, this book offers an important intervention into the contentious ongoing discussions of the post-human.

[Sherryl Vint](#) is associate professor in the Department of English Language and Literature at Brock University. She is the author of *Bodies of Tomorrow: Technology, Subjectivity, and Science Fiction* and coeditor of *Science Fiction Film and Television*, the latter also published by Liverpool University Press.

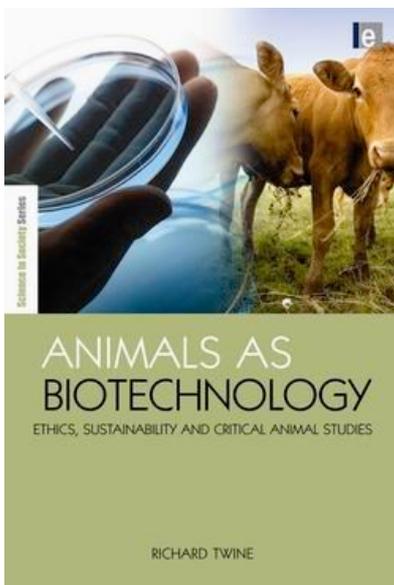
**METAMORPHOSIS OF THE ZOO: Animal Encounter after Noah** by [Ralph Acampora](#).  
Lexington Press, 2010.



*Metamorphoses of the Zoo* marshals a unique compendium of critical interventions that envision novel modes of authentic encounter that cultivate humanity's biophilic tendencies without abusing or degrading other animals. These take the form of radical restructurings of what were formerly zoos or map out entirely new, post-zoo sites or experiences. The result is a volume that contributes to moral progress on the inter-species front and eco-psychological health for a humankind whose habitats are now mostly citified or urbanizing. *Metamorphoses of the Zoo* emphasizes creative and reconstructive analyses of zoos that do not simply advocate marginal reform or quick abolition. By focusing on issues such as interspecies progress and eco-psychological health, this unique collection will satisfy those in disciplines ranging from ecophilosophy to humanistic psychology to environmental studies.

[Ralph R. Acampora](#) is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Hofstra University, teaches in the areas of applied ethics and history of (especially modern) philosophy. He conducts research in the fields of environmental philosophy, bioethics, and animal studies. Recent interests include the hermeneutics of spectatorship at zoos, moral issues pertaining to the built, including biotechnical environment, and the ontological status of nature

**ANIMALS AS BIOTECHNOLOGY: Ethics, Sustainability and Critical Animal Studies** by [Richard Twine](#). Earthscan, 2010.



In *Animals as Biotechnology* sociologist Richard Twine places the question of human/animal relations at the heart of sustainability and climate change debates. The book is shaped by the emergence of two contradictory trends within our approach to nonhuman animals: the biotechnological turn in animal sciences, which aims to increase the efficiency and profitability of meat and dairy production; and the emerging field of critical animal studies - mostly in the humanities and social sciences - which works to question the nature of our relations with other animals.

The first part of the book focuses on ethics, examining critically the dominant paradigms of bioethics and power relations between human and non-human. The second part considers animal biotechnology and political economy, examining commercialisation and regulation. The final part of the book centres on discussions of sustainability, limits and an examination of the prospects for animal ethics if biotechnology becomes part of the dominant agricultural paradigm. Twine concludes by considering whether growing calls to reduce our

consumption of meat/dairy products in the face of climate change threats are in fact complicit with an anthropocentric understanding of sustainability and that what is needed is a more fundamental ethical and political questioning of relations and distinctions between humans, animals and nature.

[Richard Twine](#) is a Senior Research Associate at Cesagen (ESRC Centre for Economic and Social Aspects of Genomics), Lancaster University, UK.

## CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

### **Anthology on Human-Animal Relationships**

Call for submissions for an anthology about humans and non-human animals: Have you had a significant relationship or encounter with a non-human animal ("domestic" or "wild")?

The editor seeks thoughtful **literary narrative non-fiction** that tells an engaging story of an animal-human relationship and also offers insight into themes such as animal nature, human nature, the nature of animal-human relationships, or the place of humans in nature.

Submissions should be approx. 4 – 15 pages, in standard manuscript format. Selected texts will receive an honorarium.

**Deadline:** October 30, 2010.

Submit by email to [pkchamberlain@hotmail.com](mailto:pkchamberlain@hotmail.com) Please include an email address or a SASE. Feel free to email with questions.

### ***In Hir Corages: Rethinking Chaucerian Beasts***

**Proposed edited collection:** FromCarolynn Van Dyke, English, Lafayette College.

In the wake of well received sessions on "**Animal Discourses**" at the recent New Chaucer Society conference in Siena, I plan to propose a collection of essays on animal agency in Chaucer's works.

When he rhymes human longings to visit holy sites with birds' *corages*, "pricked" by Nature in the spring, what relationship does Chaucer imply? Does he slyly reduce the pilgrims' motivation to a biological urge? Does he, on the contrary, use springtime revivals in nature as metaphoric vehicles for spiritual renewal? Or is the connection more balanced, an observation of real avian behavior that resonates in undefined ways with human desires and acts?

Understandably, most critics have looked to Chaucer's birds, horses, dogs, and so forth primarily for what they signify about human characters and concerns. But recently, scientists and others in animal studies have reminded us of what Chaucer and his contemporaries had daily reason to witness: that nonhuman animals communicate, intend, and act in their own right. A focus on animals as agents can enlarge our understanding of Chaucer and of creaturely existence.

Susan Crane and David Lawton are coordinating a theoretically focused collection emerging from the NCS "Animal Discourses" sessions, but some who attended those sessions expressed an interest in more textually grounded discussions. I'm hoping that this volume can show newcomers, especially Chaucerians, the potential of **cultural animal studies**. On the other hand, we might disrupt the tendency of some people in animal studies to assume that medieval and early modern writers held rigid, doctrinaire conceptions of animals and animal-human relations.

Here are a few possible areas of focus:

- animal science as known to Chaucer, and connections between medieval and modern ethology;
- intertextual animals (connections between animals in Chaucer and in his sources, contemporaries, and successors);
- new ways of reading animal metaphors, analogies, and personifications in Chaucer;
- questions of anthropomorphism, including animal speech and particularly Chaucer's talking birds;
- animal identity—the gender, individuality, and "character" of nonhuman creatures;
- philosophical and theological implications of animal agency.

I have corresponded briefly with Caroline Palmer of Boydell & Brewer, to whom I plan to send a proposal with a set of abstracts. I'm now broadening the call for abstracts beyond the eight or nine NCS panelists who have already told me that they plan to participate. Ms. Palmer has requested that each abstract should indicate clearly how the essay in question relates to the overall theme of the volume. I invite immediate expressions of interest.

Deadline for abstracts (300-600 words): December 15 to Carolyn Van Dyke:  
[vandykec@lafayette.edu](mailto:vandykec@lafayette.edu)

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**Journals:** Human-animal related journals, special issues and articles

### ***Feminism and Psychology***

Volume 20 Issue 3, 2010

*Feminism, Psychology and Nonhuman Animals*. Ed. Annie Potts

- Introduction: Combating speciesism in psychology and feminism [Annie Potts](#) (Editor)
- Why feminist-vegan now? [Carol J Adams](#)
- Kiwi chicken advocate talks with Californian dog companion [Annie Potts](#) and [Donna Haraway](#)
- Structuring relationships: On science, feminism and non-human animals [Lynda Birke](#)
- Some other kind of being: Human nature and animal subjects in ape language research  
[Rebecca Bishop](#)
- Roosters, hawks and dawgs: Toward an inclusive, embodied eco/feminist psychology [patrice jones](#)
- Gender and slaughter in popular gastronomy [Jovian Parry](#)
- Intersectional disgust? Animals and (eco)feminism [Richard Twine](#)
- You see me, but do you hear me? The science and sensibility of trans-species dialogue [GA Bradshaw](#)
- Gender differences in family and peer reaction to the adoption of a vegetarian diet [Ben Merriman](#)

For access see: <http://fap.sagepub.com/content/20/3.toc?etoc>

### ***Annals of Science***

Volume 67 Issue 3, 2010

Special issue: *Representations of Animals in the Early Modern Period*

This issue includes these articles on animals:

- The representation of animals in the early modern period [Domenico Bertoloni Meli](#); [Anita Guerrini](#)
- The sources of Gessner's pictures for the *Historia animalium* [S. Kusakawa](#)
- Fabricius's and Harvey's representations of animal generation  
[Karin J. Ekholm](#)
- Searching the animal psyche with Charles Le Brun [Sarah R. Cohen](#)
- The king's animals and the king's books: the illustrations for the Paris Academy's *Histoire des animaux* [Anita Guerrini](#)
- The representation of insects in the seventeenth century: a comparative approach [Domenico Bertoloni Meli](#)

For free access see: <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~db=all~content=g923824918>

## **Spring: A Journal of Archetype and Culture**

Volume 83 2010

Special Issue: [Minding the Animal Psyche](#). Guest ed. G.A Bradshaw

In the past, depth psychology has largely confined its reflections upon animals to human dreams and encounters. In [Minding the Animal Psyche](#), Spring seeks to greatly broaden this inquiry, turning the psychological eye from its inward gaze to honor and explore the psyches of our animal kin and the mutual interrelationships that exist between species. As our global society moves from anthropocentrism to eco-centricism, individuation of the ecopsyche mandates that we reflect on what animals bring into our lives and what we bring to the psyches of the animals with whom we live. Psychology's acknowledgement of the animal psyche—in the same way that we do the human psyche—represents a dramatic, expansive shift and an exciting opportunity to bring insights from animal-oriented disciplines to depth psychology:

- Jung and the Parrot: Facts, Interpretations, and Connections [Phoebe Greene Linden](#)
- The Art of Cultural Brokerage: Recreating Elephant-Human Relationship and Community [Carol Buckley & G.A. Bradshaw](#)
- Imagining Coexistence: What Grizzly Bears Have to Teach Us [Susie O'Keeffe](#)
- My Father was a Bear: Human-Animal Transformation in Native American Teachings [Jeanne A. Lacourt](#)
- Where the Wild Things Are: Dreaming the Bioregion [Patricia Reis](#)
- Discovering the Way Back to the Solid Ground of Ethical Uncertainty: From Animal Use to Animal Protection [John P. Gluck](#)
- Animals on Film: The Ethics of the Human Gaze [Randy Malamud](#)
- We, Matata: Bicultural Living Among Apes [G. A. Bradshaw](#)
- Harbingers of (Silent) Spring: Archetypal Avians, Avian Archetypes, and the Truly Collective Unconscious [patrice jones](#)
- Freud and the Family Horse: Exploration into Equine Psychotherapy [Vera Muller-Paisner and G.A. Bradshaw](#)
- Becoming Rabbit: Living with and Knowing Rabbits [Margo DeMello](#)
- Chicken-Human Relationships: From Procrustean Genocide to Empathic Anthropomorphism [Karen Davis](#)
- Developing Beyond a Narcissistic Relationship with Animals [Brenda Murrow](#)
- Re-visioning Eco-psychology: Seeing through Dream Animals to Species in Peril [Debra Merskin](#)
- The Evolution of Ethology: An Interview with Marc Bekoff [G.A. Bradshaw](#)
- Ecopsychology and the Sacred: the Psychological Basis of the Environmental Crisis [David Tacey](#)

For access see:

[http://www.springjournalandbooks.com/cgi-bin/ecommerce/ac/agora.cgi?p\\_id=00913&xm=on&ppinc=search1](http://www.springjournalandbooks.com/cgi-bin/ecommerce/ac/agora.cgi?p_id=00913&xm=on&ppinc=search1)

## **Antennae: The Journal of Nature in Visual Culture**

### *The Politics of Meat*

The current issue of Antennae takes into consideration the essence of meat as an actively political medium. Its title is of course an homage to the work of Carol J. Adams who also gave us, for the occasion, a compelling exclusive interview. The current issue also includes the voices of Carol Gigliotti and Helena Pedersen who looked at respectively, the subject of meat and animal killing in art and that of 'visual consumption of animals' in everyday life. The work of artist Heide Hatry provides a valued opportunity to discuss the complexities involved in the use of animal meat and skin as artistic media, whilst we are most proud to be able to present a portfolio of new images from Steve Baker's challenging photographic project *Norfolk Roadkill, Mainly*.

Antennae's new issue can be downloaded for free at [antennae.org.uk](http://antennae.org.uk)

## CALLS FOR PAPERS

### **Canadian Journal of Environmental Education**

Special Issue: [Animality and Environmental Education](#)

Volume 16, 2011

As scholarship in critical animal studies and human–nonhuman animal relations grows, and as environmental education researchers and practitioners turn attention to the question of the nonhuman animal (see, for example, Kahn & Humes, 2009; Oakley et al., 2010), we invite contributions that critically consider the [nonhuman animal in environmental education theory and practice](#). Papers addressing topics relating to emancipatory human/nonhuman animal relations, teaching and learning against speciesism, and/or environmental education praxis that incorporates political perspectives on the nonhuman animal (e.g., via humane education, ecofeminism, posthumanism, ecopedagogy, or other forms of intersectionalist pedagogy) are welcome. Contributions to the special theme should move us toward thoughtful human-animal relations that situate nonhuman animals as stakeholders in the world and subjects of their own lives. We especially seek submissions that move beyond either the mere anthropomorphizing or “Othering” of nonhuman animals, and which dialectically re-envision or redefine the political and pedagogical categories of “human” and “animal” for forms of environmental education that aim at social transformation.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- pedagogical attempts to draw attention to the overt or hidden curriculum of speciesism and/or the needs or perspectives of other animals beyond it,
- critical or creative engagements with representations, ideologies, or discourses surrounding the “human” and/or the “animal” in environmental education theory and practice
- nonhuman animal advocacy, activism, and/or interspecies collaboration in environmental education research: efforts to account for the complexity of nonhuman animal lives and consciousness,
- intersectional analyses of social justice movements, including responses to anthropocentric/speciesist
- humanism and the oppression of nonhuman animals as part of the domination of nature,
- convergences/divergences between environmental education and critical animal studies,
- challenges to the dominant structures and norms of oppression for all life on the planet.

Questions can be directed to [Jan Oakley](#), Lakehead University, [joakley@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:joakley@lakeheadu.ca) or [Richard Kahn](#), Antioch University Los Angeles, [rvkahn@gmail.com](mailto:rvkahn@gmail.com). Guidelines for submission can be found on the CJEE website: <http://cjee.lakeheadu.ca>.

Deadline for submissions: [October 31, 2010](#)

### **Environmental Education Research**

Special Issue: [The Media, Animal Conservation and Environmental Education](#)

*Environmental Education Research* ([www.informaworld.com/ceer](http://www.informaworld.com/ceer)) is commissioning a Special Issue about the role of conventional and new media in promoting environmental education and conservation action with particular emphasis on the relationship between [species extinction](#), [animal welfare in a variety of arenas](#), and [socio-economic development](#).

Research-based articles are invited from academics, educators, filmmakers and photographers who are closely involved in environmental education research, teaching and conservation from across the globe.

**Deadline: 1 November 2010.** Summaries of proposed articles for consideration for inclusion in this issue should be no longer than 500 words.

For more information please visit: [www.tandf.co.uk/journals/cfp/ceercfp.pdf](http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/cfp/ceercfp.pdf)

## **Ecological Humanities in *Australian Humanities Review***

### **Ethnographies for a multispecies world**

This special issue of the **Ecological Humanities** in the *Australian Humanities Review* will bring together a group of papers that explore some of the many possibilities in an emerging field of multispecies ethnography.\* The core element of multispecies ethnographies is an attempt to take nonhumans seriously, as more than resources or passive backgrounds for human endeavours. Instead, however, of attempting to write the way of life of a *single* nonhuman population or species – thereby simply replacing the *ethnos* of more traditional anthropological inquiry with a nonhuman subject – we are seeking papers that represent a definitively *multispecies* approach to ethnography; that take key critters or species as starting points to draw in a host of others – human and not – and explore the messy relationships in which they and our tangled multispecies worlds are constituted.

\* See, for example, the November 2010 special issue of *Cultural Anthropology* edited by Stefan Helmreich and Eben Kirksey.

**Deadline for submission: 30 May 2011**

Submissions should be 5000-8000 words. Please include a 200 word abstract. All submissions will be refereed by two academic referees.

Deborah Bird Rose: [Deborah.rose@mq.edu.au](mailto:Deborah.rose@mq.edu.au) and Thom van Dooren [thom.van.dooren@utas.edu.au](mailto:thom.van.dooren@utas.edu.au)

For further information, please visit:

<http://www.australianhumanitiesreview.org> ; <http://www.ecologicalhumanities.org/ejournal.html>

## ***Angelaki: Journal of the Theoretical Humanities***

### **Special Issue: Techne and Animality**

This is a call for papers for a special issue of the journal *Angelaki* on the theme of techne and animality. Please find an explication and parameters of the call below. Contributors include **Cary Wolfe** and **Bernard Stiegler**.

We are seeking to confront and explore how the questions of **animality and techne** can be thought together in the hope that these two emergent discourses (both denied ‘an original category of existence’) might open up new modes of experimental, artistic and radical knowledge in the humanities in order to inscribe a new assemblage exploring revolutionary (in)possibilities of the a-venir in order to intervene into the concept of the political. In other words, we hope to explore the Animality Revolutions to-come. We are interested in how new subjectivities might be invented when animality is introduced as the wild card of the ‘human and tool’ classical bind that haunts Western ontologies; what implications this will have on humanism, the polis, State, and the collective? In this, we believe a more radical concept of subjectivities might be created that would unwork a classical concept of, and the need for the State, polis, etc.. Perhaps animality coupled with techne can radically transform the polis.

We seek papers from a broad range of disciplines in the humanities, including art, critical theory, philosophy, politics, and culture and new media studies. We are particularly interested in rigorous, creative and experimental essays that open up borders between animality, techne and the State.

Deadline: 1 December

Abstracts should be submitted in electronic format to the editors: [fyoung3@ucmerced.edu](mailto:fyoung3@ucmerced.edu) and [ron.broglio@asu.edu](mailto:ron.broglio@asu.edu)

### ***The Journal of Critical Animal Studies***

#### Animals and Prison

The connection between [nonhuman animals and incarceration discourses](#) has never been more intimately associated. It seems one cannot discuss animal liberation without conversing about prison, whether that be in the form of imprisoned nonhuman animals or human prisoners incarcerated for their role in liberating nonhuman animals. As activists continue to be sentenced under the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act, prison becomes more reality than metaphor in human-animal studies. At the recent Let Live Animal Rights Conference in Portland, Oregon, former political prisoner Andy Stepanian served as the opening speaker. The synopsis of his talk asks, “what if you closed your eyes and woke up a prisoner? What if you were estranged from your family and labeled a convict? What if you lived your entire life in a cage? What if you were convicted and imprisoned for trying to set beings free from their cages?” It’s unclear whether he is speaking about nonhuman animals or his own incarceration, which is exactly the point. We are at a critical moment in history with mass incarceration and mass exploitation of nonhuman animals. This issue seeks to illuminate connections between animals and prison and to generate new ways of thinking through and tackling nonhuman and human oppression.

Possible Areas of Inquiry:

- Policing bodies
- Prison industrial complex and mass animal agriculture production
- History of prison reform and rise of the animal rights movement
- Nonhuman animal prisoners/ human prisoners
- Invisibility and incarcerated hidden populations
- Nonhuman animals in human prisons, such as dog training programs
- Linked oppressions
- Connection of race, animals and prison culture
- Prison abolition/animal abolition movements
- Discourse of prison in animal liberation material
- Capitalism and the animal/military/agricultural industrial complexes
- Caging, control, domination and power

Papers Due: April 15, 2011 at 5pm EST

Send papers to: Professor Susan Thomas ([herapellet@aol.com](mailto:herapellet@aol.com)), Director, Gender and Women’s Studies, Associate Professor of Gender and Women’s Studies, and Political Science, Hollins University, Roanoke, VA 24020

Visit [http://www.criticalanimalstudies.org/?page\\_id89](http://www.criticalanimalstudies.org/?page_id89) for submission guidelines.

### **And don’t forget the new *Australian Animal Protection Law Journal***

Sponsored by [Voiceless](#), [the Fund for Animals](#), the journal is a scholarly, peer-reviewed bi-annual legal journal. The first of its kind in Australia, the journal is intended to serve as a source of information about current developments in animal protection law, to be used by members of the Australian legal profession. The journal calls for ‘contributors and reviewers, not necessarily legally qualified yet’. The target audience is anyone interested in animals.

**Enquiries:** Email John Mancy, Editor, [mancyj@gmail.com](mailto:mancyj@gmail.com) or PO Box 552, Beecroft, NSW 2119, Australia.

## Exhibitions

### Junko Go

all about . . . animals



Acrylic, pastel and charcoal on canvas. 122 x 122 cm

*Animals never waste energy complaining or wondering why they are too big, or too tall, or unable to fly.*

#### ARTIST STATEMENT

*No one can ignore the animal kingdom. Nature is ever changing. Environment and the instinct for survival have conspired to develop stunning variations in the wild animals of our planet.*  
[Stewart Merrit, 1993]

In this 10<sup>th</sup> exhibition, I have once again taken up my best-favourite animal theme as I did in the first show. Animals are not only a natural source of visual inspiration, looking at them also engenders an awareness of the human condition revealing the true nature of our existence, as they always go about their business of simple existence and survival. Depicted the associated story with the animal visually, the image represents my constant fascination with natural world and joy of life. Through imagery, I aim to provoke thought and reflection about what it is to be human.

**Handmark Gallery, Evandale Tasmania**

Friday September 3 – Wednesday October 6, 2010

For more information about the exhibition or Junko's work please contact Handmark Gallery:  
[www.handmarkgallery.com](http://www.handmarkgallery.com) or email [info@handmarkgallery.com](mailto:info@handmarkgallery.com)



Catherine Clover

*Calling the Birds*

opp-opp

#### ARTIST STATEMENT

Using field recordings and text-based dvd projection 'Calling the Birds' is part of an exploration into our mixed relationship with common noisy and highly intelligent birds through voice (animal/human) and language (animal/human), including the spoken and written word (human). While some of us admire these birds' obvious abilities in terms of survival, intelligence and ingenuity, many of us dislike their presence. We also feel threatened by those very attributes we share with them.

**Trocadera Art Space**, Level 1, 119 Hopkins St., Footscray VIC

For more information see: [www.tracaderaarespace.com.au](http://www.tracaderaarespace.com.au) and [www.ciclover.com](http://www.ciclover.com)

#### CALL FOR WORKS

##### **Sentience: An Exhibition of Life**

Animal Rights Advocates Inc. Perth, Western Australia

Artists of all persuasions are invited to submit works that express the sentience of animals (their ability to perceive and feel) to be included in ARA's inaugural art exhibition: [sentience; an exhibition of life](#)

Artwork will be displayed at the Kurb Gallery at 310 William Street in Perth, Western Australia from 15-21 January 2011. Submissions may include (but are not limited to) photography, drawing, painting and sculpture and should be submitted by 30 November 2010.

For more information on submitting your work contact ARA on: [info@ara.org.au](mailto:info@ara.org.au) or <http://www.ara.org.au/>

##### **A call for work that responds to Gertrude Stein's assertion: "I am I because my little dog knows me."**

The Front, New Orleans

Who is it whom your little (or big) dog knows? How is your sense of (your)self mediated by or through your relationship with your dog? Does this self exist outside of the relationship? Humans look into mirrors and recognize their own reflections; dogs look into mirrors to get a better angle of sight. Who do you see reflected in your dog's eyes? How do you know what your dog knows? Works exploring these issues with other species of companion animals are also eligible.

Works will be part of the exhibition "Standing Heat" featuring the work of internationally known new media artist Kathy High and in conjunction with a performance by Holly Hughes of her new work "The Dog and Pony Show" at [The Front in New Orleans](#), November 13- December 5, 2010. The Front [www.nolafront.org](http://www.nolafront.org) is an artist-run collective in New Orleans' upper ninth ward, fosters the development of contemporary art in the city of New Orleans through exhibitions and community-based projects.

Deadline: 5pm, Sept. 15, 2010

Two-dimensional work in any media, no larger than 8 1/2 by 11 inches is eligible. Please send JPEG submissions (no more than 3) with total email size no larger than 2 MB to co-curators Holly Hughes and Lee Deigaard, A&D MFA 2003, at [sagaciouscreatures@gmail.com](mailto:sagaciouscreatures@gmail.com). Artists whose work has been accepted will be notified by October 13, and works must be shipped with return postage included to arrive in New Orleans on or before November 3, 2010.

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## Artworks

**Mary Scott**

**Acquisition – [Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery](#)**



Untitled from The Keeping Room series, 2009. Oil on linen 107x137 cm

### ARTIST STATEMENT

In 2004, and again in 2006, Mary Scott visited the *Natural History Museum* in London to view and photograph the *Hummingbird Tree* (c1700), an exhibit of about 500 birds contained in a glass display case. The case belongs to the pre-Enlightenment *Wunderkammer* (cabinet of curiosities) tradition by which encyclopedic collections of objects, whose categorical boundaries were, at their time of making, yet to be defined. Like many of these cabinets, the *Hummingbird Tree* reflects an

idiosyncratic organizational structure formed through the interests of an individual rather than by a universal system of scientific classification and taxonomy.

For Scott, the spectacle of the hundreds of tiny birds frozen in flight engendered a sense of amazement countered by the horror at the proximity of lifelessness embodied in such a vast collection.<sup>1</sup> Scott remembers similar encounters in the family home of her grandparents. Her grandfather, a poet and curator at the Queen Victoria Museum in Launceston, Tasmania, was a dedicated ichthyologist and inveterate collector of specimens; many rare, but curious, marvelous and grotesque through a young child's eyes. Every room of the weatherboard house was crammed with jars of specimens, exquisitely detailed drawings, beautifully illustrated books and scientific papers. Creatures, simultaneously monstrous and extraordinary, strange and wondrous, haunted shadows and corners and triggered imaginative speculation. The ordinary artifacts of daily living remained hidden under the spreading chaos, and the banality of everyday experience dissolved into something extra-ordinary.

Foremost, the paintings that make up *The Keeping Room* are a tribute to these memories, and the sensations they recall. The paintings depict fictional spaces where intense observation and imaginative speculation co-exist. The tension between proximity and unbridgeable distance conveys Scott's passion for nature's elegance and her dismay at the 'muteness' of these specimens. The finely worked surfaces forge a connection to the specimens, yet the harsh shadows and the cool violet-blue light compress space and suspend the birds in a silent vacuum. The simplified shapes and use of chromatic sparseness signal an interest in the eloquence of form, but there remains an expression of the complex and uneasy relationship humans have with the 'natural' world.

Mary Scott's professional practice began in 1990, and she is represented in a number of public and private collections around Australia. Her most recent solo exhibitions include *gathering lies* (2007) Criterion Gallery, Hobart; *fleshings* (2005) Carnegie Gallery, Hobart and Linden Gallery, Melbourne; and *skirted* (2004) Criterion Gallery. Scott received her PhD from the Tasmanian School of Art, University of Tasmania in 2001, where she has lectured since 1990.

Mary Scott's series of paintings was the first artwork purchased under a new scheme announced by the [Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery](#) and will be part of the permanent collection there.

For more information: <http://www.tmag.tas.gov.au/index.aspx?sys=News%20Article&intID=2027>



<sup>1</sup> Recent studies have found hummingbirds, in the family Trochilidae, to be among the most intelligent of birds. Endemic to the Americas, they can hover in mid-air by rapidly flapping their wings 15–80 times per second (varies across species) and can fly backwards; the only group of birds able to do so.

**Gerry Webb**

**Winner – Ceramics category, City of Hobart Art Prize 2010**



in paperclay, cool ice, slips. Dimensions variable

#### ARTIST STATEMENT

I walk a lot, well that is if hitchhiking to and from the surf without any success constitutes serious walking. As I walk and the world slows down, I notice a lot more than I would from the passenger seat of the car; useful pieces of rope, various discarded bits of clothing and footwear (thongs are prominent) and of course rubbish. Lately I have noticed the alarming and portentous amount of small dead birds: canaries- in- the -coalmine perhaps? Have they flown into reflective windscreens? It's hard to say as the bodies show little evidence of trauma.

This work was on display at the **Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery**

[Saturday 24 July - Sunday 29 August 2010](#)

For other prize winners see:

[http://www.hobartcity.com.au/content/InternetWebsite/Community/Arts\\_and\\_Culture/2010\\_City\\_of\\_Hobart\\_Art\\_Prize.aspx](http://www.hobartcity.com.au/content/InternetWebsite/Community/Arts_and_Culture/2010_City_of_Hobart_Art_Prize.aspx)

**Yvette Watt**



*The Eyes Have It (Sheep, Pig, Cow, Chicken)*  
2010, giclee prints on hahnemuhle photo rage paper, each work 23 x 59cm

Yvette Watt's deadpan lineups of sheep, cattle, poultry and other domesticated creatures provide shrewd commentaries on the factory-farming industry's heartless commodification of living creatures. That she expresses her deep concern for animal welfare not through angry polemic but by means of wry satirical humour - using mass-produced animal toys as anonymous substitutes for living creatures - makes it all the more convincing and emotionally effecting.

**Criterion Gallery**, Hobart: from the show *Group Action Six* in May/June 2010

For more information see: <http://www.criteriongallery.com.au/>

## Performances

### MARCUS COATES Questions & Answers

**Kate MacGarry Gallery**, 7a Vyner St, London E2  
3 September - 10 October 2010

**Marcus Coates** is renowned for his shamanic performances, where a community or an individual is invited to ask difficult questions pertaining to their own predicament, from the deeply personal to the broadly political. Coates summons answers by communing with an **animal kingdom** that is part imagined, part scientifically observed. In costume and literally entranced, he relates the nature of this host of species and their attendant attributes; and from these narratives he extracts analogies, identifies thought patterns and discerns clues to a wider understanding.

For his first exhibition at the gallery, Coates has absented himself from the gallery, displaying only the material peripherals of these performances. We are presented with the questions asked and answers offered, as well as the costumes and objects used to facilitate the exchange, displayed like anthropological artefacts of a strangely familiar culture. The questions and answers are translated and transcribed during each performance, the handwriting indicating a sense of urgency behind each social, political or personal problem addressed. The objects have been collected, adapted and reused over years, bridging the utilitarian and the symbolic, the everyday and the mythical. Several pairs of glasses bound together become a mask and a mode of seeing beyond the immediate; lemon juice produces a soured, contorted face, which, in some shamanic traditions, increases the chance of admittance to the grotesque realm of the spirits.

Participants in these performances may or may not believe in Coates's abilities as a transcendental shaman – the point is not so much the validity of his claims, but the discussion they elicit. With such pressing issues as anorexia and war on participants' agendas, it can be the naïve outsider who asks the obvious, but useful, questions. And it is Coates's recourse to the **world of animals** that demarcates an alternative space, enabling the demystification of social relations, imaginative speculation on causes and the dramatic resolution of enduring problems.

**MARCUS COATES** born 1968 in London, lives and works in London.

For more information please contact the gallery: [mail@katemacgarry.com](mailto:mail@katemacgarry.com)

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## Films

### ***My Dog Tulip***

Animated film

*My Dog Tulip* was written, directed and animated by award-winning filmmakers **Paul and Sandra Fierlinger**. It is the first animated feature ever to be entirely hand drawn and painted utilizing paperless computer technology. An official selection of the 2009 Toronto International Film Festival, *My Dog Tulip* is based on the book by British author and distinguished man of letters J.R. Ackerley. Ackerley hardly thought of himself as a dog lover when, in middle age, he came to adopt Tulip – a beautiful, yet intolerable 18-month-old German shepherd. To his surprise, she turned out to be the love of his life, the ideal companion he had been searching for in vain. Originally published in England in 1956, *My Dog Tulip* is now published in the US by the New York Review of Books in their Classics Series and is the series' best selling book. In vivid and sometimes startling detail, the film reveals Tulip's often erratic behavior, canine tastes, and Ackerley's determined efforts to ensure an existence of perfect happiness for her. Although unrated, *My Dog Tulip* is directed toward an adult sensibility.

Find out more and watch videos on the film's website: <http://www.tulipthedog.com/>

This film was released in Australia at the Melbourne International Film Festival on 31, July, 2010

## **A Cow At My Table**

Documentary film

*A Cow At My Table* explores Western attitudes towards farm animals and meat, and the intense battle between animal advocates and the meat industry to influence the consumer's mind. Five years in production took Director [Jennifer Abbott](#) across Canada, the US, Australia and New Zealand to meet with the leaders of the animal rights movement, animal welfare advocates as well as spokespeople from livestock industries.

*A Cow At My Table* inter-cuts these diverse perspectives with archival films, images from modern-day agribusiness and footage of farm animals shot from uncharacteristic vantage points. The result, say critics and programmers, is a documentary that is "brilliant," "visually smart," "extremely accomplished" and "extraordinarily compelling and powerful."

In the words of Toronto's NOW Magazine film critic Cameron Bailey, "Like all the best documentaries, this film offers more questions than answers." Excerpt from [animalliberationfront.com](http://animalliberationfront.com)

Full documentary available online: <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/a-cow-at-my-table/>

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### **Links:** Resource pages, blogs

- **Religion and Nature**

[ReligionandNature.com](http://www.religionandnature.com) is a gateway into an ongoing inquiry into the complex relationships between human beings, their religious beliefs and practices, and their earthly habitats. It features the work and projects of an international and interdisciplinary community of scholars investigating the nexus of religion, nature and culture, including the subfield sometimes called religion and ecology.

<http://www.religionandnature.com/>

- **Wildlife Extra**

An Australian [online newsletter](#) that features sections on News, Australian wildlife, World wildlife, Safaris, Wildlife photography, Birds, Whales and Dolphins, Marine and diving and a Forum. It's packed with information and links about animals!

<http://www.religionandnature.com/>

- **National Geographic: Animals**

Another series of pages about animals containing [educational material](#) and sources for critical research and comment. Includes pages on Animal facts, Animal photos, Animal Quizzes, Wild TV schedule and a blog.

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/?source=NavAniHome>

- **Ghost of the Bird**

[Ghost of the Bird Design and Production](http://www.ghostofthebird.com/) provides tailor-made, creative media that promotes environmental, economical and socially sustainable outcomes. Its small, but versatile team combines honest and genuine dialogue with cutting edge, world class media, utilising a grass roots approach for a modern market.

<http://www.ghostofthebird.com/>

- **Brightside Farm Sanctuary**

[Brightside Farm Sanctuary](http://www.brightside.org.au/) offers a permanent home to over 250 farm animals and companion animals. They rescue/re home over 200 animals each year, placing them in approved loving homes. Many of the animals Brightside gives help to have been rescued from appalling cruelty; others were no longer able to stay in their previous homes due to unforeseen circumstances. [Brightside's](http://www.brightside.org.au/) mission is to raise the level of awareness with regard to the plight of millions of factory farmed animals in Australia and to make the world a kinder place for all animals. They hope that by opening the doors of their sanctuary to [school groups](#) people will see that farm animals deserve the respect that many people reserve only for dogs and cats.

<http://www.brightside.org.au/>

- **Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine**

Founded in 1985, the [Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine](http://www.pcrm.org/) (PCRM) is a nonprofit organization that promotes preventive medicine, conducts clinical research, and encourages higher standards for ethics and effectiveness in research. They promote alternatives to animal research and animal testing. They have worked to put a stop to gruesome experiments, such as the military's cat-shooting studies, DEA narcotics experiments, and monkey self-mutilation projects. They also promote non-animal methods in medical education. Currently, more than three-quarters of all U.S. medical schools have dropped their animal labs for medical students.

<http://www.pcrm.org/>

- **artwork about human and animal lives in an unstable world**

The website of artist [Kate Foster](http://www.meansealevel.net/): "My artistic practice is about finding routes into looking at the enormity and complexity of our global environmental crisis. Investigations lead from specific things – such as a temperature gauge in an aquarium; a bird-skin; a desire to fly to South Africa with a swallow. The work unravels aspects of uncertainty, seeks spaces where there is possibility for action - but avoids simplifying issues and acknowledges complicity".

<http://www.meansealevel.net/>

- **The Society of Animal Artists**

[The Society of Animal Artists](http://www.societyofanimalartists.com/index.html) is an association of animal and wildlife painters and sculptors. Founded in 1960, the Society is devoted to promoting excellence in the portrayal of the creatures sharing our planet, and to the education of the public through its informative art seminars, lectures and teaching demonstrations. Some of the finest animal artists from the United States, Canada, Europe, Africa, Japan, and Australia are represented in the Society's membership. Over the past 40 years the work created by these artists has established new standards of artistic excellence and respect, helping animal and wildlife art to achieve a place of honour in the field of fine art.

<http://www.societyofanimalartists.com/index.html>

### Steven White



My academic interest in the relationship between humans and non-human animals began with Peter Singer's *Animal Liberation*. Combined with personal experience of animal shelters and the welfare issues they reflect, I became aware of the acute vulnerability of animals across a range of settings, and the ways in which animals are routinely exploited by humans.

After completing a law degree and later joining Griffith Law School in 2003, I began examining how the law regulates the treatment of animals in Australia, and in particular the way in which the law sanctions the exploitation of animals. Although 'animal law' was well-developed in the United States at that time, in Australia there was very little academic attention paid to this area. In recent years a vibrant and distinctive animal law discipline has evolved in Australasia, with a number of academics now teaching and researching in the area.

In 2007 I developed an elective course in animal law, the first undergraduate animal law course in the country, which I continue to teach. In terms of examining, questioning and potentially reforming the legal status of animals, teaching this course is one of the most important activities that I undertake. Already former students are working as professionals in a range of areas which address the interests of animals.

I've published in the broad areas of animal ethics and the law, animal law education, and animal welfare regulation (including in the *Federal Law Review*, the *Melbourne University Law Review* and the *University of New South Wales Law Journal*). I've recently been involved in the completion of two books, co-editing and contributing to *Animal Law in Australasia: A New Dialogue* (with Peter Sankoff, Federation Press) and contributing to Deborah Cao's recently published *Animal Law in Australia and New Zealand* (Thomson Reuters). I'm currently working on a PhD which draws on the discipline of regulatory theory/studies to analyse the regulation of the treatment of companion and farm animals, federally and in Queensland. On completion of my PhD I hope to work collaboratively to explore the intersection of animal law with politics and political theory, as well as the relationship between law, the environment and the welfare of wild animals.

After attending the *Minding Animals Conference* in 2009 at Newcastle, and seeing the range of disciplines exploring the relationship between humans and animals, I believe that lawyers could do much more to constructively contribute to disciplinary exchange in the area of human-animal studies. I'll be doing so in a practical way in coming months, as a member of the organising committee for the next Australian Animal Studies Group Conference (to be held in Brisbane in July next year)!

## Dr Chris Degeling



I am fortunate to have spent most of my working life with animals. Several years of community-based vetting in South London and inner-Sydney have provided a rich insight into how essential animal companionship is for all strata of society. More recently my involvement with this type of interaction has been in the abstract. Nonetheless my interest in animal studies is a product of my experiences in companion animal health care. The every-day negotiation of complex entanglements of reciprocal relationships, ethics, biology and technologies can be an astounding achievement, not least because animals receiving restorative care usually exert agency in shaping the type of medicine they receive.

My passion is for unravelling the networks embedded within health care practices, and how they are shaped by events, processes values and meaning. I found an academic environment that accommodated this interest somewhere between the Unit for History and Philosophy of Science and the Centre for Values, Ethics and Law in Medicine at Sydney University. Much of my work has been an exploration of changes in the valuation and use of animals by humans to meet social, medical and technological needs. This has led to publications on animal health care in journals such as *Science, Technology and Human Values*, *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences*, *Health and History* and most recently a piece on the surgical idealization of canines in *Medicine Studies*.

Having spent the past twenty years focused on the health care of individuals, I have now started to work with collectives at the Population Health Intervention Research Centre at the University of Calgary in Canada. The Director, Dr. Melanie Rock, is developing a suite of interrelated projects that examine how non-human health 'knowledges' can be utilised to realise human population health outcomes. Rather than just look at human and animal health care, elements of these investigations are assessing the impact of animal welfare charities and animal by-laws on human health and community wellbeing. At the moment I am interviewing some of the most committed companion animal owners I have ever met. Aside from the twice a daily excursions at minus 30 Celsius, hearing how the urban animal population of this large city on the foothills of the Rocky Mountains lives with the periodic presence of bears, coyotes, cowboys and beavers puts an interesting spin on something as seemingly mundane as walking the dog. Although so far I have declined several invitations to join them on these chilling forays, what is emerging from this work is a better understanding of how to promote human-animal relationships that better elevate the health and welfare of each. For further details of current projects see the website: [www.ucalgary.ca/PHIRC/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/PHIRC/)

## Gill Ainsworth

PhD Candidate: Social Values of Australian Threatened Birds

School for Environmental Research, Charles Darwin University, Darwin, Northern Territory



Birds have always been an integral part of human society and they inspire people in tremendous ways. Birds brought me halfway across the world to Australia.

The human desire to develop connections with other species is a wonderful thing and what those relationships might mean for conservation is a constant source of fascination for me. In Scotland, encouraged by animal-loving parents, my childhood and formative years were spent with family cats and dogs, on friends' farms and most often on horseback. A school project on Australian flora and fauna captured my imagination at age 11 and seeded dreams of living in the Australian bush with marsupials, reptiles and exotic colourful birds.

Now as part of my PhD I'm studying the theories behind environmental identity and human-animal bonds and I see this was a fairly classic upbringing for someone who would inevitably become personally committed to environmental protection.

An Honours degree in Mandarin and Japanese took me in a different direction and afterwards I spent seven years working internationally in pharmaceutical market research. A professional urge to understand the human body and mind motivated this spell in the corporate sector. The skills I learned in research design and analysis are paying dividends now I have the opportunity to apply them with both my heart and head.

The epiphany that brought me back to nature happened in a rainforest in Cairns in the late nineties – a wise old local, his love of the forest combined with the healing powers of nature spurred me on to fulfil that childhood dream. Six years of working in the environmental community sector in Melbourne and Darwin, followed by three years as a Research Associate with the School for Environmental Research at CDU have given me an insight into the social aspects of environmental problems and solutions. Eight years living on my rural Darwin bush block have taught me much about the spiritual connection humans have with the natural environment; about the values we place on wildlife and nature.

Birds brought me to this point and most people I meet share a love of birds, but many of our native species are in serious trouble. My research is uncovering in which ways and how strongly Australians value native birds. What do birds mean to us in our daily lives, what special place do we hold for threatened birds and how can these relationships help to conserve them?

If you would like to be removed from the Australian Animal Studies elist, please post a reply with 'Remove' in the subject line

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