

Animail: April in New Zealand 2016

Dear All,

Welcome to the April edition of *Animail*, brought to you by the collective efforts of the AASA Executive team, and reflecting the talents of our AASA members and the diversity and strength of Animal studies in Australasia. This edition has a special focus on New Zealand. Over the last year, we've been working on internationalizing the Association, and so this edition of *Animail* highlights the fantastic work being done in New Zealand, with 3 profiles of AASA members who are in New Zealand (**Philip Armstrong** and **Steve Glassey**) as well as **Donelle Gadenne**, now based at Flinders University.

If you haven't already seen the incredible work being done at the The New Zealand Centre for Human-Animal Studies (NZCHAS), then it's worth checking out the website here: <http://www.nzchas.canterbury.ac.nz/>. The Centre was established in 2007 in the College of Arts at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch and is Co-directed by two AASA members - **Philip Armstrong** and **Annie Potts**. The Centre includes academic staff from English, Art History, Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Human Services, Classics, Political Science, Philosophy and Russian – but its home for teaching purposes is Cultural Studies which has a dedicated undergraduate and postgraduate stream in HAS (see <http://www.arts.canterbury.ac.nz/cultural/pathways.shtml#animal>). It's very exciting to see the spread of units being taught there. As well as this, 2018 NZCHAS will also be offering a **new doctorate in Human-Animal Studies**, with interdisciplinary supervision available from the centre's UC members.

In recent years NZCHAS members have published several books, including Philip Armstrong's *Knowing Animals* (with Lawrence Simmons, 2007), *What Animals Mean in the Fiction of Modernity* (2008) and *Sheep* (2016) – (for more information on this see the Member Profile pages below and Page 6 of New book Releases); Amy Fletcher's *Mendel's Ark: Biotechnology and the Future of Extinction* (2014); Henrietta Mondry's (2015) *Political Animals: Representing Dogs in Modern Russian Culture*; Patrick O'Sullivan's *Euripides' Cyclops and Major Fragments of Satyric Drama* (2013); Annie Potts's *Chicken* (2012), *A New Zealand Book of Beasts: Animals in our History, Culture and Everyday Life* (with Philip Armstrong and Deidre Brown, 2014), *Animals in Emergencies* (with Donelle Gadenne, 2014), and *Meat Culture* (2016 – a volume featuring contributions from a number of AASA members).

NZCHAS runs an "Animals on Campus" seminar series every year, has hosted talks by international speakers including Jonathan Balcombe, Sheryl Vint, Susan McHugh, Tobias Linne, and Kim Socha, and supports the 'Animals and Us' educational units for NZ high-schools produced by Save Animals from Exploitation (see <http://safe.org.nz/animals-us>). In 2011 a symposium called Cultural Animals included AASA's **Nik Taylor** as keynote speaker, and in 2015 the inaugural Aotearoa/New Zealand Human-Animals Conference involved AASA keynotes **Yvette Watt** and **Melissa Boyde** (as well as Susan McHugh) and was attended by a number of Australian HAS scholars (see http://www.nzchas.canterbury.ac.nz/graphics/AotearoaNZ_HAS_conference_2015photos.pdf). NZCHAS also has a staff and student teaching and research exchange programme (funded by the European Union) with Lund University's new Institute for Critical Animal Studies, run by Dr Tobias Linne in Lund, Sweden. And NZCHAS has an MOU for staff and student exchange with Kassel University's *Geschichte der Mensch-Tier-Beziehungen*. For further information on NZCHAS please contact annie.potts@canterbury.ac.nz or philip.armstrong@canterbury.ac.nz.

A reminder that our next **Annual General meeting** will be held at the University of Sydney, on July 12th. It will be occurring in the lunchtime break of *Animaladies*, a conference featuring Professor Lori Gruen as keynote. <http://sydney.edu.au/arts/research/harn/conferences/index.shtml>.

A reminder to contact the following Exec members if you'd like to contribute information to be included in *Animail*.

- **Blog:** Nik Taylor and Christine Townend, [christownend@bigpond.com] and nik.taylor@flinders.edu.au
- **Conference Calls** –<joanne.sneddon@uwa.edu.au> Please send your news to Jo
- **Membership News** –<R.DeVos@curtin.edu.au> Please send your news to Rick
- **New Book releases** –Annie Potts <annie.potts@canterbury.ac.nz> - Please send your news to Annie
- **Other news/AASA exec news** –Fiona Probyn-Rapsey (fiona.probyn-rapsey@sydney.edu.au). Please send any items to me.

Please enjoy the rest of *Animail* April: Membership News, New Book Releases and Conferences. You'll see AASA members represented in all of these sections.

AASA Blog

Edited by Christine Townend and Nik Taylor.

Check out the two most recent blogs – “Roogate” by David Brooks
<http://animalstudies.org.au/archives/4691>

Donelle Gadenne’s “From Celebrity Selfies to Sadistic Cruelty: the Paradoxical Life of Rottneest Island’s Quokkas” <http://animalstudies.org.au/archives/4686>

Member Profiles

Steve Glassey



(left Steve and Diesel)

As with most kiwi families I grew up having pets. At the age of 12 years I wanted a dog, but my parents said no. So my solution to that was to volunteer at the local SPCA where I then spent the next five years on all my weekends and school holidays working in the kennels, as well as undertaking other roles too. These were in the good ol' days when there was no health and safety, and it was OK to leave a 12 year old in charge of 14 adult dogs at a time! (What were we thinking back then? Though I am very grateful I was

allowed.)

Later, I joined the Wellington SPCA Inspectorate and on my 18th birthday I was warranted as New Zealand's youngest SPCA Inspector and spent four years working at Wellington SPCA and Manawatu

RNZSPCA as an Inspector and Branch Manager respectively. During that time I founded the first technical animal rescue team in the southern hemisphere (the ARU) and was Officer in Charge of the worst domestic animal hoarding and neglect cases in New Zealand at that time.

A career in public safety followed and for many years my passion for animal welfare merged with my emergency management postgraduate studies and I undertook the first substantial research in animal emergency management in New Zealand as part of a Masters with Charles Sturt University. This study led to many opportunities researching around the need to include animals in emergency planning, animal owner emergency preparedness, impacts on animals following the Christchurch (September) 2010 earthquake and creating the world's first nationally recognised disability assistance dog identification tag for use in emergencies. Though I commenced my PhD, I have had to put that dream on hold for now but hope to return to it one day to create better emergency management frameworks and practices that will enhance animal safety during emergencies, which in effect improve public safety. More information about my research can be found at www.animalsindisaster.com

Donelle Gadenne



My recurrent birthday wish as a child was that there were no animals. Clearly, even before I fully understood the (too often wicked) ways of the world, I determined that if animals could not be free, and live free from harm, it would be better to wish them extinct. Of course, I now realise that wishing a victim gone is not the way to solve the issue of victimisation.

Having always been empathetic to the experiences of victims, I have tried to advocate for nonhuman animals in various ways throughout my life. As a teenager I volunteered at numerous companion animal establishments; in my 20's I embarked on a career as a veterinary nurse; I joined Perth-based NGO Free the Bears Fund in my 30's and travelled to South-East Asia to visit numerous bear sanctuaries, including the Phnom Tamao Wildlife Rescue Centre in Cambodia, Tat Kuang Si Bear Rescue Centre in Laos and the Cat Tien Bear Sanctuary in Vietnam.

After deciding against becoming a wildlife veterinary professional, I determined academia to be the best way to effect greater change through a critique of the many institutions that exploit animals. I enrolled in university as a mature age student and completed a Bachelor of Arts in Writing in 2010. After completing Honours in 2011, I left Australia and moved to Christchurch for three years to learn more about human-animal relationships at The New Zealand Centre of Human-Animal Studies. I gained an English Masters degree in 2015. It was during this time that I discovered Critical Animal Studies.

As a student of Critical Animal Studies, I have written on the links between masculinity, religion and fly-fishing as depicted in American fishing literature. I have analysed a selection of dog narratives in order to critique our assumptions about language and interspecies communication and to explore the paradoxical and problematic way we socially categorise dogs as both property and persons. I co-authored along with Associate Professor Annie Potts *Animals in Emergencies: Learning from the Christchurch Earthquakes* (2014), a book that provides a record of animals' experiences of the 2010/2011 Christchurch city earthquakes. As an independent Critical Animal Studies scholar, I have written about the instrumentalisation of 'service animals' and, more recently, about quokka cruelty on Rottnest Island.



My current interests are veganism, cruelty-free investment, and human-animal relationships in the veterinary industry. I am presently considering Effective Altruism as the best means for me to help animal victims. This means working to earn an income and donating a significant portion of this income to charities researched and recommended by Animal Charity Evaluators. I also plan to begin studying for a PhD in Sociology in Australia in 2016/17.

Details of my publications can be found here:

<https://canterbury-nz.academia.edu/DonelleGadenne>

Philip Armstrong



Lola, Philip and Tippy

I first became interested in writing about animals as a result of my fascination with whales, both in life and in literature – and particularly my monomaniac obsession with *Moby-Dick* (one of the few classic monster-hunt stories in which the monster wins). That study formed the centre of what eventually became a book on animals in the modern novel, starting with Daniel Defoe and Jonathan Swift and Mary Shelley and finishing up with Margaret Atwood and J.M. Coetzee (*What Animals Mean in the Fiction of Modernity*, Routledge 2008).

More recently, my research and writing seem to have moved away from the wild, majestic, charismatic mega-beasts (whales, dinosaurs, and moa) to animals that are often perceived as too mundane even to think about: my latest book is *Sheep*, for the Reaktion animal series. Yet, of course, animals always refuse to conform to our prejudices: in writing that book I found out just what

extraordinary beings sheep actually are – not to mention how vital they have been, and remain, for many human societies.

My other increasing interest in recent years has been writing short fiction and poetry, almost all of which, not surprisingly, has also been concerned with animals and our relationships with them.

Over the next few years I'm hoping to finish a book about the capacity of nonhuman nature to disrupt our complacencies, and particularly our knowledge systems: the book will include chapters on earthquakes (about which I've acquired considerable close-up knowledge in the last half-dozen years!), storms, trees, oceans – and of course animals as well.

Yet I'd never have had the courage in the first place to focus my work on animals if it hadn't been for the inspiration and support of my partner Annie Potts. Working together, the two of us (along with our friend and colleague Alison Loveridge) were also able to get the New Zealand Centre for Human-Animal Studies up and running, and to co-author (with our friend and colleague Deidre Brown) *A New Zealand Book of Beasts: Animals in Our History, Culture and Everyday Life* (Auckland University Press, 2013).

When we're not reading and writing about animals, or teaching our fantastic students at the University of Canterbury about them, Annie and I spend a good deal of time running around after the two dogs, three cats, eight chickens, one cockatiel and one sparrow – all refugees from unhappy circumstances – who share our home.

Anyone who wants to know more about the New Zealand Centre for Human-Animal Studies can go to www.nzchas.canterbury.ac.nz. Details of my publications, including links to those that are freely available, can be found at <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/spark/Researcher.aspx?researcherid=87845>.

Recent publications

Marcus Baynes-Rock, 2016. 'The Ontogeny of Hyena Representations among the Harari People of Ethiopia', *Africa: Journal of the International African Institute*, 86 (2): 288-304. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S000197201600005X>

Karina Heikkila and Gary Wilson, 2016. 'Remembering Zander: The case against lay persons performing equine dentistry using power tools', *International Animal-Law Newsletter*.

<http://animal-law.biz/> (Use the link: 'Looking at equine dentistry through the legal lens');

or: http://animal-law.biz/sites/default/files/Zander_IAL_V2_submitted_30Mar2016.pdf

Rowena Lennox, 2016. 'After the war', *Southerly (War and Peace)*, 75 (3): 242-244.

Tania Signal, **Nik Taylor**, K. Prentice, M. McDade and K. J. Burke, 2016. 'Going to the dogs: A quasi-experimental assessment of animal assisted therapy for children who have experienced abuse'. *Applied Development Science*.

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10888691.2016.1165098?journalCode=hads20>

Dinesh Joseph Wadiwel, 2016. 'Do Fish Resist?' *Cultural Studies Review*, 22(1): 196–242. <http://epress.lib.uts.edu.au/journals/index.php/csrj/article/view/4363>.

Call for submissions

Sydney University Press is looking for submissions to the **Animal Publics** series.

It publishes original and important research in animal studies by both established and emerging scholars. Animal Publics takes inspiration from varied and changing modalities of the encounter between animal and human. The series explores intersections between humanities and the sciences, the creative arts and the social sciences, with an emphasis on ideas and practices about how animal life becomes public: attended to, listened to, made visible, foregrounded, included and transformed. Animal Publics investigates publics past and present, and publics to come, made up of more-than-humans and humans entangled with other species.

Authors are invited to discuss potential titles for the series and submit a proposal to Agata Mrva-Montoya: agata.mrva-montoya@sydney.edu.au

Series Editors: Dr Melissa Boyde and Associate Professor Fiona Probyn-Rapsey.

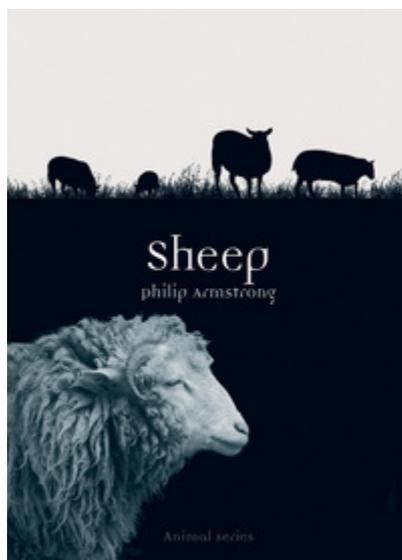
Advisory Board:

Professor Steve Baker (University of Central Lancashire); Professor Una Chaudhuri (New York University); Dr Matthew Chrulew (Curtin University); Professor Barbara Creed (University of Melbourne); Dr Chris Degeling (University of Sydney); Dr Thom van Dooren (University of New South Wales); Professor Adrian Franklin (University of Tasmania); Professor Lori Gruen (Wesleyan University); Professor Claire Kim (University of California, Irvine); Professor Paul McGreevy (University of Sydney); Dr Siobhan O'Sullivan (University of Melbourne); Professor Clare Palmer (University of Texas); Dr Anat Pick (Queen Mary, University of London); Dr Anthony Podberscek (University of Cambridge); Associate Professor Annie Potts (University of Canterbury); Professor Deborah Bird Rose (University of New South Wales); Professor Peta Tait (La Trobe University); A/Prof Nik Taylor (Flinders University); Dr Dinesh Wadiwel (University of Sydney); Professor Cary Wolfe (Rice University); Professor Wendy Woodward (University of the Western Cape).

NEW BOOK RELEASES

Compiled by Annie Potts

Sheep by Philip Armstrong, published by Reaktion, 2016

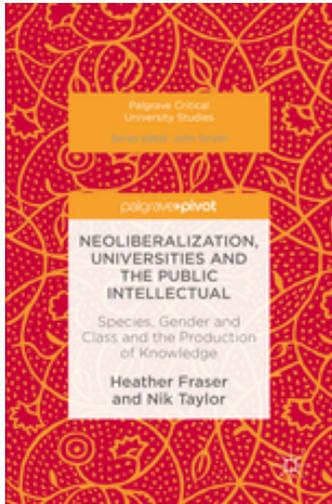


The Egyptians worshipped them, the Romans dressed them in fitted coats, early Christians made the shepherd synonymous with their divine saviour. In *Sheep*, Philip Armstrong traces the natural and cultural history of both the wild and domestic species of *Ovis*: from the Old World mouflon to the corkscrew-horned flocks of the Egyptians, to the 'Trojan sheep' of Homer's *Odyssey*, to the vast migratory mobs of Spanish merinos – all the way to Dolly the cloned ewe and the sheep-human hybrids of Haruki Murakami. Above all else, *Sheep* demonstrates that sometimes the most mundane animals turn out to be the most surprising.

<http://www.reaktionbooks.co.uk/display.asp?ISBN=9781780235936>

Neoliberalization, Universities and the Public Intellectual: Species, Gender and Class and the Production of Knowledge

By Heather Fraser and Nik Taylor, published by Palgrave Macmillan, 2016

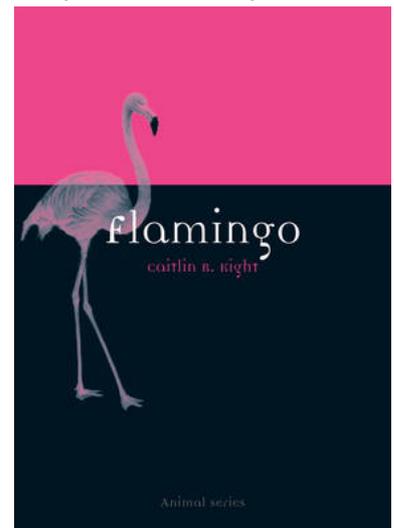


This book employs an intersectional feminist approach to highlight how research and teaching agendas are being skewed by commercialized, corporatized and commodified values and assumptions implicit in the neoliberalization of the academy. The authors combine 50 years of academic experience and focus on species, gender and class as they document the hazardous consequences of seeing people as instruments and knowledge as a form of capital. Personal-political examples are provided to illustrate some of the challenges but also opportunities facing activist scholars trying to resist neoliberalism. Heartfelt, frank, and unashamedly emotional, the book is a rallying cry for academics to defend their role as public intellectuals, to work together with communities, including those most negatively affected by neoliberalism and the corporatization of knowledge.

<http://www.palgrave.com/uk/book/9781137579089>

***Flamingo* by Caitlin R. Kight, published by Reaktion, 2015**

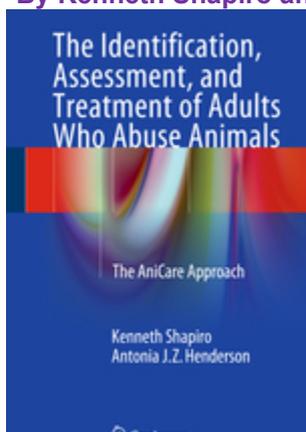
With its distinctive pink colouring and one-legged stance, the flamingo is possibly the most easily recognized bird in the world. But what most of us don't know is that there are actually six different species of flamingo, each differing in size and hue, and despite excellent fossil records, scientists have, until recently, had a difficult time positioning the flamingo within the avian genetic tree. *Flamingo* untangles the scientific research on this unusual bird and looks at its role in popular culture and the arts through the ages, from the croquet mallet in Alice's *Adventures in Wonderland* to the flocks of pink plastic birds on lawns across the U.S. *Flamingo* introduces the history of the bird, its behaviour and habitats and discusses why it has become such an iconic animal. It reveals how the birds get their extraordinary colour, and details the significance they have had in world cultures, whether as a spiritual totem or a commercial symbol of the tropical life. *Flamingo* provides valuable insight into just what makes this flashy-feathered character so special.



<http://www.reaktionbooks.co.uk/display.asp?ISBN=9781780234250&nat=false&stem=true&sf1=keyword&st1=flamingo&m=1&dc=1>

The Identification, Assessment, and Treatment of Adults Who Abuse Animals: The AniCare Approach

By Kenneth Shapiro and Antonia J.Z. Henderson, published by Springer, 2016



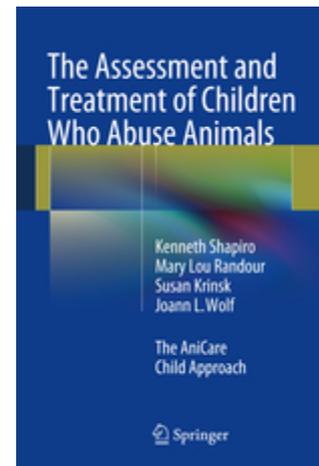
This handbook provides step-by-step guidance on how to identify, assess, and treat adults who have abused animals. The theoretical framework employed is broad, encompassing cognitive behavioral, psychodynamic, attachment, and trauma-based therapies. Organized by stages of therapy, the text discusses how to frame the therapy, establish a working relationship, deal with resistance, establish accountability, clarify values related to animals, and teach self-management skills such as empathy,

attachment, accommodation, reciprocity, and nurturance. Additional materials are included or references, including an appendix of cases that illustrates the variety of client presentations, and electronic supplementary material that demonstrates role-played interviews and a workshop presentation.

<http://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783319273600>

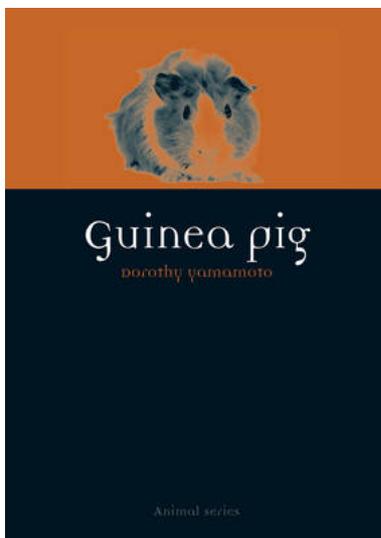
***The Assessment and Treatment of Children who Abuse Animals: The AniCare Child Approach* By K. Shapiro, M.L. Randour, S. Krinsk and J.L. Wolf, published by Springer, 2016**

This handbook is for therapists in social work, psychology, psychiatry and allied fields who work with children who have abused animals. Updating the original publication (2002), this second edition is intended as a self-guided package and includes two DVDs. The text includes two assessment instruments, numerous case studies, and excerpts from sessions. The two DVDs feature (1) role-played assessment and treatment and (2) workshop presentations of the pedagogical material. The theoretical frame is eclectic, including cognitive behavioral, psychodynamic, and attachment theories. Informed by the experience of presenting the approach (both juvenile and adult versions) in 65 workshops in 22 states and an online course through the Graduate School of Social Work at Arizona State University, I added in the second edition more consideration of the effects of witnessing animal abuse, more material on working with parents, more use of attachment theory as a frame, and a section on trauma-informed narratives.



<http://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783319010885>

***Guinea Pig* by Dorothy Yamamoto, published by Reaktion, 2015**



Guinea pigs are one of the world's most popular pets – small, friendly, easy to care for and unbearably cute. First domesticated in 5000 BCE, guinea pigs have been bred increasingly for their looks, shaped by humans in search of an ideal 'guinea pig' appearance, and have been used as scientific subjects since the seventeenth century. They have also been the focus of countless works of art and literature – including paintings by Jan Brueghel the Elder, illustrated stories by Beatrix Potter and Michael Bond's *The Tales of Olga da Polga* – inspiring children and adults alike.

Guinea Pig is the first book of its kind to take an in-depth look at the fascinating history of guinea pig and human interaction. It examines guinea pigs in their role as pets, their use as sacrificial offerings to Inca gods, the breeding of 'fancy' guinea pigs and the farming and eating of the animals throughout Andean countries. It also details the history of the guinea pig as an experimental subject – the term now applied to anyone who participates in a scientific study or test. *Guinea Pig* is the perfect companion for animal lovers, guinea pig owners and anyone interested in the history of domesticated animals.

<http://www.reaktionbooks.co.uk/display.asp?ISBN=9781780234267&m=87&dc=856>

Conference Calls

Compiled by Jo Sneddon

Antennae CFP: Animals and Film
Edited by Giovanni Aloï and Jonathan Burt

The centrality of animals to the history of film, and the particular powers and properties of the animal image on film require no introduction. For this issue of Antennae entirely dedicated to this subject we welcome proposals of all kinds but would be particularly interested in the following: the role of animals in contemporary and avant-garde film; the perspectives of artists/filmmakers and why they choose animal subject matter (whether centrally or peripherally); how filmmakers conceive of animals both symbolically and in relation to the technical questions they pose (and indeed the extent to which these two are interrelated); different kinds of filmmaking, whether amateur or professional, that work on the cusp between art and science, or art and politics. We would also very much welcome any contributions about or from non-Anglophone contexts, as well as comments on important and as yet untranslated texts such as Raymond Bellour's *Le Corps du Cinéma*, for example. It is intended to build up from this an overview of the role of the animal film-image in recent years and to ask whether the proliferation of the literature of animals and culture in the last two decades has had an influence on animal representation in the moving image.

Academic essays = length 6000-10000 words

(Please submit a 350 words abstract in the first instance)

Artists' portfolio = 5/6 images along with 1000 words max statement/commentary

Interviews = maximum length 8000 words

Fiction = maximum length 8000 words

www.antennae.org.uk email submissions at antennaeproject@gmail.com

Deadline for abstracts: 1st of July 2016

Finished pieces to be submitted by 1st of February 2017

2016 15th ANNUAL NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE FOR CRITICAL ANIMAL STUDIES

Fort Lewis College
Durango, Colorado, USA
Saturday, November 12 and Sunday, November 13, 2016

The North American Collective of the Institute for Critical Animal Studies (ICAS) is calling for presentations by activist-scholars for panels, workshops, trainings, teach-ins, spoken-word sessions, roundtables, documentary showings, and art performances that examine effective, successful activism. All sessions will be 1 ½ hours long. We are very interested in activism that promotes the intersections between speciesism, animal liberation, and the following: anarchism, sexism, racism, colonialism, economic justice, ableism, prison abolition, the war on drugs, green anarchism, youth justice, Hip Hop, punk, Transphobia, LGBTTTQQIA, elitism, veganism, vivisection, entertainment, fashion, music, media, imperialism, political prisoner support, total liberation, and the Animal Liberation Front.

ICAS is committed to making sure that critical animal studies is grounded in activism by activists rather than in mere theory by theorists and academics who speak about activism and nonhuman animals from a detached perspective.

ICAS strongly encourages those that volunteer and support the mission, people, and work of ICAS to submit proposals. We are striving to promote a space of collaboration, safety, unity, and common understanding of critical animal studies. Slots for presentations are limited.

The Institute for Critical Animal Studies (ICAS), rooted in animal liberation and anarchism, is an intersectional transformative, holistic, theory-to-action, activist-led organization. ICAS unapologetically examines, explains, is in solidarity with, and part of radical and revolutionary actions, theories, groups, and movements for total liberation. We seek to dismantle all systems of domination and oppression in quest of a just, equitable, inclusive, and peaceful world.

The 15th Annual Conference is a grass-roots, non-funded, fully-volunteer, free event (with donations being requested and welcomed during the conference). As this is a volunteer-led effort, the conference will not cover food, but attendees can eat in the cafeteria, where there will be vegan options. We have no scholarships or funding to pay for lodging or travel of anyone. We also because of our anarchist values will not pay people to speak or provide a plenary panel or keynote to value one over another.

Nestled in the Rocky Mountains, Durango, Colorado is an international vacation destination with hiking, bicycling, camping, skiing, rafting, climbing, art galleries, wonderful restaurants/cafes, and Native American ruins. Durango, Colorado has a local airport, over twenty hotels, public transportation, and is one of the most beautiful mountain towns in the United States. We invite you to not only attend the conference, but save time to enjoy the natural world as well.

Submit the Following:

1. Title
2. Biography in third person (one paragraph 80 to 100 words)
3. One paragraph abstract (200 to 300 words)
4. Format (i.e., panel, training, teach-in, workshop, roundtable, spoken-word)

E-mail Subject title: NA2016Sub

E-mail: icas@criticalanimalstudies.org

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: July 20, 2016
Acceptances will be sent via e-mail August 1, 2016

<http://www.criticalanimalstudies.org/2016/02/call-for-presentations-for-2016-15th-annual-north-american-conference-for-critical-animal-studies/>

2016 SYMPOSIUM ON MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH IN EFFECTIVE ANIMAL ADVOCACY.
November 12–13, 2016, Princeton University

This call for abstracts is addressed to researchers, faculty and graduate students engaged in research that has the potential to benefit animals and/or the animal advocacy movement. Post-graduate students, doctoral candidates and young researchers are welcome to submit an abstract, as are representatives of NGOs. Audience members will be researchers, faculty and graduate students as well as representatives of NGOs who are looking to gain information on current research, gather ideas for new research endeavors, and collaborate on current or future projects.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Peter Singer

TOPICS INCLUDE

- Why Prioritize Advocacy Research
- Advocacy Arenas and Priorities

- State of Animal Advocacy Today
- Advocacy by the Numbers
- Insights from Cognitive Science
- New and Emerging Research
- Avenues for Further Research
- Pioneering Innovation
- Translating Research into Action
- Multidisciplinary Collaboration

Deadline for abstract submission: June 30

To learn more about the conference or to submit a proposal, please visit [Animal Charity Evaluators](#).

Living with Animals

Dear Colleagues,

Many of you are familiar with the *Living with Animals* conference, held biennially at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Kentucky. The next *Living with Animals* conference will take place in March 2017. In conjunction with the 2017 conference, there will be two-day pre-conference, titled *Seeing with Animals*.

Seeing with Animals will address the ways that images of animals have been deployed—both historically and in contemporary practices in art, visual culture, and media studies—to mediate (or not) human-animal relationships, promote understanding of animal worlds, and/or serve as depositories of cultural commentary.

We invite proposals for topics and panels that address key issues in the discourse surrounding animal imagery. *Seeing with Animals* seeks to follow in the footsteps of a number of conferences in recent years that have engaged with the diverse issues surrounding animal imagery and to offer an opportunity to touch upon the issues that are presented in a wealth of new publications.

Because academic courses focusing on visual studies of animals are now proliferating, we need an opportunity to discuss pedagogical issues as a community. We welcome your contributions to the growing list of topics meriting attention in this field.

We appreciate any ideas/suggestions/pressing concerns that you would like to send us. At this point, we also welcome proposals for visual exhibitions or collaborative artist projects for exhibition or installation at companion venues during the conference.

A formal Call for Proposals for both *Seeing with Animals* and *Living with Animals* will be released in Fall 2016. As currently envisioned, the two conferences will span Wednesday to Saturday with regional outings scheduled on Thursday evening and Sunday. Please feel free to distribute this email widely.

Best wishes, and we look forward to seeing you in March 2017!

Your conference co-organizers,

Julia Schlosser, Jessica Dallow, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Martha Robinson, Concordia University, Montréal

Utopian Appetites - Symposium of Australian Gastronomy - Call for Papers

The 21st Symposium of Australian Gastronomy will be celebrated in Melbourne, Australia, from Friday 2 to Tuesday 6 December 2016. At this coming-of-age gathering of gastronomic scholars, writers and practitioners, we are looking with hope towards bright food futures with our guiding theme of 'Utopian Appetites'.

The year 2016 also marks five centuries since the publication of Thomas More's Utopia (1516). With its founding principles of desire, order, justice and hope, utopia represents a framework to think about gastronomy as both an imaginary ideal and a realisable goal for the future. The utopian theme encourages us to envisage the gastronomic project of eating well, bridging disciplinary boundaries, encompassing different spaces, practices, cultures and times.

Confirmed participants include:

- Darra Goldstein—founding editor of *Gastronomica*
- Robert Appelbaum—Uppsala University, Sweden
- Barbara Santich—food writer and emeritus professor, University of Adelaide
- David Szanto—Eco-Gastronomy Project at University of Gastronomic Sciences
- Stephanie Alexander—cook, food writer, and founder of the Kitchen Garden Foundation
- Josh Evans—Lead Researcher, Nordic Food Lab
- Annie Smithers—food writer and chef

We welcome submissions for original papers that explore real and ideal contexts of eating well – considered from historical, cultural, aesthetic, political, ideological, social, nutritional, environmental, religious, agricultural, philosophical, or any other perspectives. Australian gastronomy will be a feature of the programme but papers with an international focus are equally welcomed.

Topics may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Gastronomy and the politics of hope

Ecological utopias of past, present and future

Utopian culinary histories

Cockaigne, Lubberland, and realms of plenty

Utopian desires and dreaming

Terroir and utopia in wine production and consumption

Food and farming in utopian and dystopian literature

Utopian nature-cultures

Food gardens, pleasures and paradise

Governance, democracy and utopia

Food sovereignty, social experimentation and revolutionary hopes for change

Posthuman or postcolonial food imaginaries

Intentional food communities and new modes for living well

City and country connections and interdependency

Outrageous, improbable and impossible food futures

We invite proposals from academics and independent scholars, artists and activists, cooks and chefs, journalists and writers, food producers and artisans in the form of panel discussions, presentations, literary reflections, manifestos, performances and interactive experiments relating to utopia and gastronomy. Please send enquiries and proposals 350 words or less along with a 100-word biography of the presenter/s before 15 May 2016 to the symposium committee:

Jacqueline Dutton (University of Melbourne) – jld@unimelb.edu.au

Kelly Donati (William Angliss Institute) – kellyd@angliss.edu.au

Notification of paper acceptance will be sent on or before 30 June 2016.

To stay up to date on new information and Frequently Asked Questions about the Symposium, please see the website: www.gastronomers.net and join our Facebook group Symposium of Australian Gastronomy <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1653092668277952/>

Global Ecologies - Local Impacts

ASLEC-ANZ 2016 Conference

23-25 November, 2016 at The University of Sydney

ASLEC-ANZ <https://aslecanz.wordpress.com> in partnership with the SEI <http://sydney.edu.au/environment-institute/hfe/> will hold its 2016 biannual conference at the University of Sydney. The theme of this conference is on global and local environmental changes and their impact in the age of the Anthropocene.

Confirmed Speakers to Date

Joni Adamson (USA); Deborah Bird Rose (AUS); James Bradley (AUS); Elizabeth De Loughrey (USA); Iain McCalman (AUS); Jenny Newall (USA); Richard Kerridge (UK); David Schlosberg (AUS); David Ritter (AUS); Alice TePunga Somerville (NZ); Petra Tschakert (AUS); Kirsten Wehner (AUS); John Wolseley (AUS).

CALL FOR PAPERS

We welcome proposals for individual papers and interdisciplinary panels addressing a wide range of themes in the environmental social sciences and humanities, including: • The Anthropocene – the idea and critiques • Ecological Imaginaries – local, urban, and global • Ecological Transformations – terrestrial and oceanic, human and nonhuman • Environmental Governance • Environmental Justice • Climate Adaptation – resilience, transition, and transformation • Indigenous Ecologies and Knowledges • Cultural Representations of the Anthropocene • Ecological Ethics & Law

Individual abstracts of 100-200 words to be submitted by 13th May 2016. Abstracts will be jointly considered by ASLEC-ANZ and SEI.

All Abstracts and EOI to be sent as PDF attachments to: sei.info@sydney.edu.au

Enquiries please contact: Marie McKenzie marie.mckenzie@sydney.edu.au Accepted Papers will be announced Friday 24th June 2016

Selected Papers will be published in the peer-reviewed journal AJE – *Australasian Journal of Ecocriticism and Cultural Ecology*.

Round Table for Artists

In addition to formal papers, there will be a roundtable for artists held on the afternoon of Wednesday 23rd, following a keynote by renowned Australian artist John Wolseley. If you would like to participate in this event please contact one of the roundtable leaders:

Dominic Redfern: dominic.redfern@rmit.edu.au or Josh Wodak j.wodak@unsw.edu.au

ECR & Postgraduate Career Workshop

Postgraduate students and Early Career Researchers from any field in the Arts or Social Sciences are invited to participate in a workshop on the topic of developing a career pathway in the Environmental

Humanities. Participants will have the opportunity to raise issues and research problems in discussion with a panel of experienced researchers and practitioners. Please email expressions of interest and enquiries to ecocritical.connections@gmail.com.

Society of Australian Environmental Social Sciences and Humanities (SAESSH)

The Sydney Environment Institute has also proposed a new inter-disciplinary society they would like to discuss at the conference to foster environmental collaborations, analyses and policies. As both an academic and an activist body, the society will work to translate research into practical use for engaging with environmental challenges shared by academics, publics and policy makers alike. Our collaboration with SEI for this conference means that any ASLEC-ANZ members who would like to be affiliated with the new society will have an opportunity to discuss this at the conference. This is a separate endeavor from ASLEC-ANZ, which continues to grow from strength to strength, but it does represent an opportunity to those of the ASLEC-ANZ membership who would like to expand their contacts and projects to a wider disciplinary mix. Since the AGM of ASLEC-ANZ will be held early in the conference, there will be an opportunity to discuss this further before we hear from the SAESSH organisers.