



Sydney

AASA
2023

We acknowledge the tradition of custodianship & law of the Country on which the University of Sydney campuses stand. We pay our respects to those who have cared & continue to care for Country.

Artist Robert Andrew, descendant of the Yawuru people, acknowledges the Gadigal peoples of this Land. The work displays the word for corroboree or dance - *Garabara*



Welcome!

We proudly welcome you to the 2023 AASA Conference. The conference theme is *animal cultures* because there is so much to learn about other animals, much of it new and more expansive than assumed in the past. Learning about other animals' cultures helps shed light on the different social structures, behaviours and interests of non-human species. This is important not only because it can teach us much about ourselves, but also because it helps to recognise animals' subjectivity beyond how they may be used by humans.

The conference begins with a keynote from (Emerita Professor) Carol Gigliotti from Emily Carr University of Arts and Design, Vancouver, BC. Author of *The Creative Lives of Animals* (NYU Press), she is speaking on *Why knowledge of animal cultures is critical*. Across the two days there are sessions that explore the creative lives of dingoes, kangaroos, cockatoos, whales, dolphins, cows, sheep, lorikeets, pigeons, forest birds, possums, flying foxes, ibis, horses, donkeys, dogs, pigs, rabbits and owls. Virtual representations and games involving animals are also examined.

We talk about other animals in recognition of the fact that humans are also animals, and as such are interconnected with other species and the wider environment. Conservation efforts rely on us having a radically different understanding of the lives of other species, and the effects of human-induced climate change compels us to transform our understanding of other animals and our interactions with them and their habitats. Indigenous knowledges about animals are one source of rich insights about such transformation.

While eating some excellent vegan food (through the conference and at the dinner), participants have the chance to dialogue with each other as we rethink the cultures of other animals. There are many streams to choose from, such as animals in: multispecies domestic households; media; literature (such as fantasy, children's literature); animal labour and exploitation; the treatment of animals declared pests; the impact of settler colony understandings on animal protection law and policy; the influence of meat cultures; and the need for change.

On a final note, I'd like to thank all the AASA members for their involvement, particularly those who have contributed to AASA operations and this conference. A special thanks needs to go to Associate Professor Dinesh Wadiwel (UniSyd), current AASA President who helped inspire this theme, and Peter Chen (UniSyd), current AASA Treasurer and leader of the conference organising committee, both of whom have set a high bar for those of us who follow.



- Associate Professor Heather Fraser, Australasian Animal Studies Association Chair

Sponsor & offers



Little Turtle Restaurant (10-14 Stanmore Rd, Enmore) offers a 15% discount for conference participants during the period of 25th November – 1st December by presenting your conference badge when you pay at the counter.

Funky Pies (Shop 2, 144-148 Glenayr Ave, Bondi) offers \$15.00 pie with side (mash peas and gravy or fresh salad) and a free drink or dessert deal when conference goers visit the cafe.



Animal Politics



Animal Politics provides a forum for critical animal studies scholarship that is grounded in and expands political and critical theory.

Our understanding of “politics” is expansive, embracing work across disciplines and scales, including but also reaching beyond institutional, cultural, and relational dimensions of politics. We are especially interested in the work of critical animal studies scholars that is intersectional in approach, or that puts considerations of animals as political subjects in conversation with critical race and ethnicity studies, anti-colonialism and Indigenous studies, gender and sexuality studies, feminist and queer theory, critical disability and mad studies, labour, and critical poverty studies.

Established in 2013 as Animal Publics, the series title change to Animal Politics in 2023 marks the beginning of a new phase and collective of editors, but continues the commitment to publish pioneering political and theoretical work in critical animal studies. While the focus of the series remains very much on animals, we welcome works that put critical

animal studies in dialogue with critical plant, ecosystem or environmental studies and other approaches to multispecies justice. When we speak of multispecies justice, we refer to the dismantling of structures and logics of oppression that cut across species or typological categories, and to strivings for animal and ecological flourishing. We offer Animal Politics as a venue for cutting edge research across disciplines that engage with the political positioning of animals.

We are particularly interested in monographs and welcome these in standard academic formats and lengths as well as in experimental and creative genres and books of shorter length.

Series Editors

Professor Danielle Celermajor,
University of Sydney
Dr Rick De Vos, Curtin University
Dr Chloë Taylor, University of Alberta
Dr Katie Woolaston, Queensland
University of Technology

Authors are invited to discuss potential titles with the series editors, or Naomi van Groll, naomi.vangroll@sydney.edu.au



sydneyuniversitypress.com.au



Keynote address

Why knowledge of animal cultures is critical.

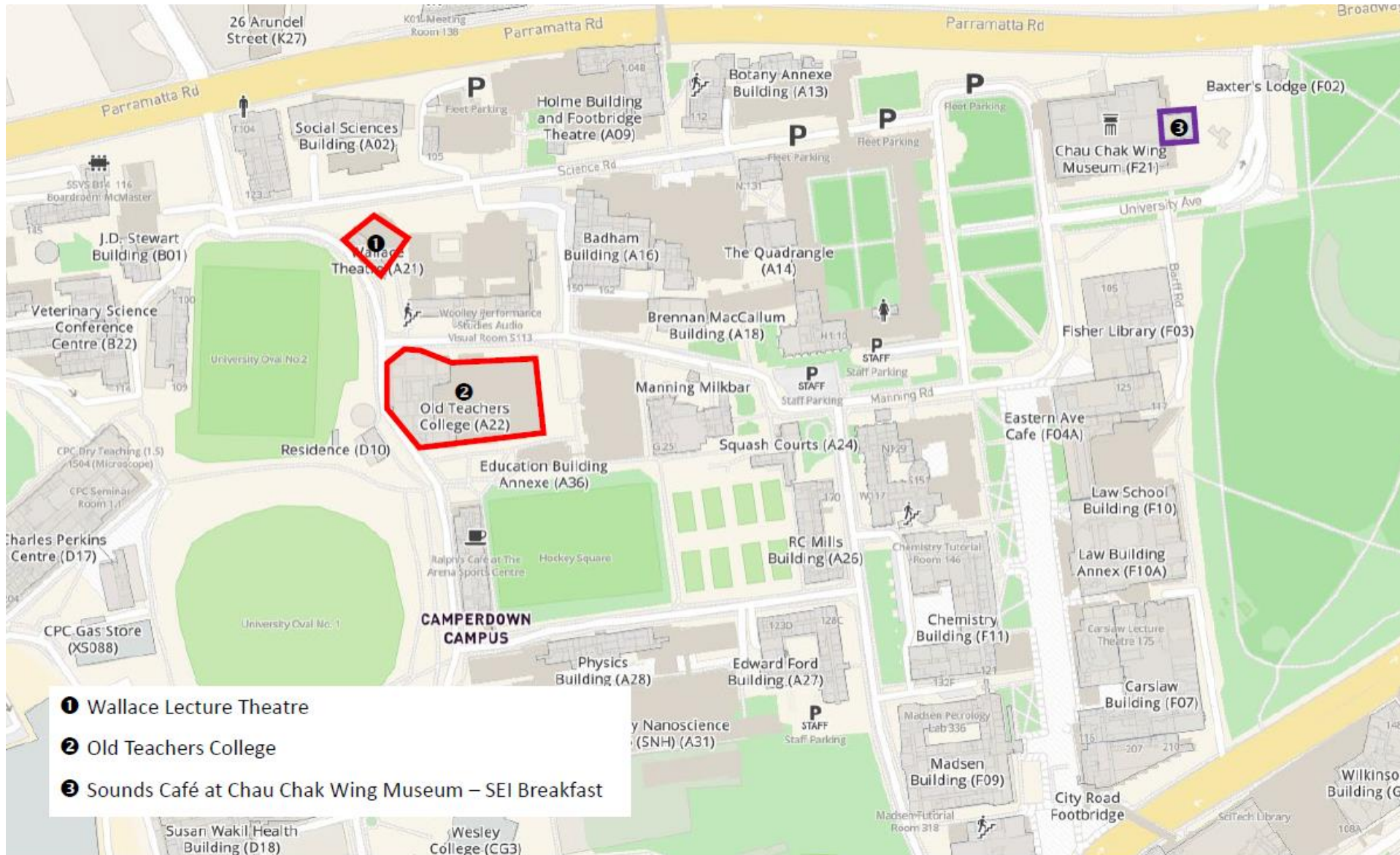
The relatively new acceptance of animal cultures has opened the door to a more complex understanding of the self-aware capabilities of animals to make choices that direct the path of their lives. Many defences of human superiority have shattered under recent research on animal emotions, languages, creativity, play, empathy and morality, building abilities, tool use, sexual agency, personality, grief, and spirituality. All these qualities indicate how individual animals make meaning for themselves, their families, geographic populations, and species. Individual animals construct and contribute to their cultures because of the dynamic play of these qualities, what cetacean biologist, Hal Whitehead, calls “how we do things.”

That animals are individuals, often recognised throughout history, is still one of the most subversive and dangerous ideas in human culture. Human superiority is the central idea of many human cultures. The widespread forms of capitalism and their insistence on the use of animals as human property have intensified their use, even as the resultant devastation of this planet continues. Time is not on the side of animals, or us. How can we not only acknowledge the cultures of all kinds of animals, but also implement this knowledge in attempts to stop those uses and devastation?

- Carol Gigliotti is an author, artist, animal activist, and scholar whose work focuses on the reality of animals’ lives as important contributors to the biodiversity of this planet. She is Professor Emerita of Design and Dynamic Media and Critical and Cultural Studies at the Emily Carr University of Design, Vancouver, Canada. Her new book, *The Creative Lives of Animals*, was published by NYU.



University of Sydney

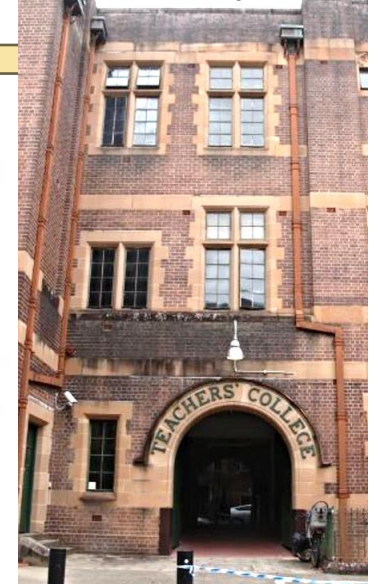
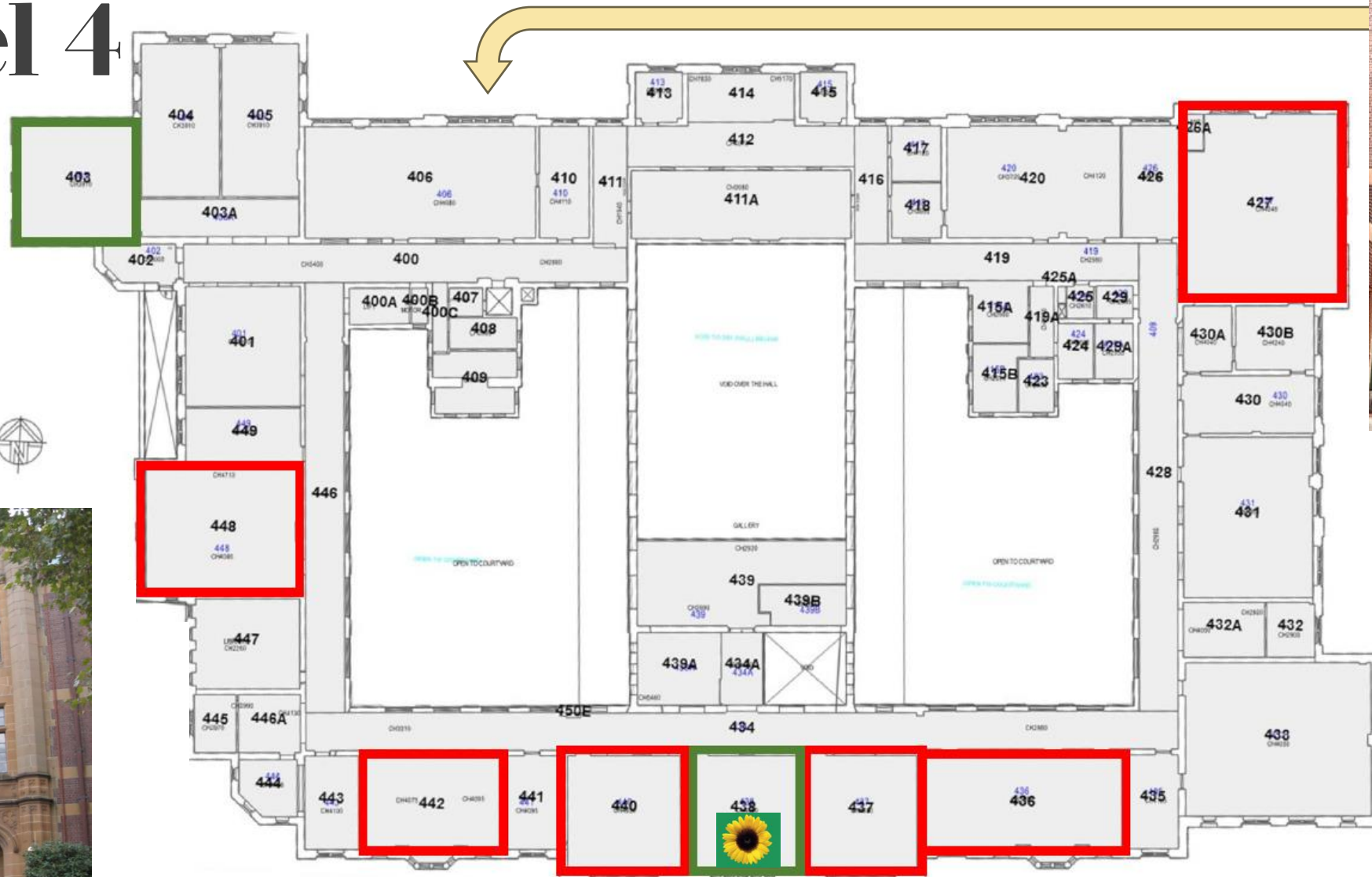


*Find video
walkthroughs
of the campus
here:*



shorturl.at/fkDM3

Old Teachers' College, level 4





The Old Teachers' College building

The Sydney Teachers' College (STC) was established in 1906.

On 1 January 1990 the Sydney Institute of Education was amalgamated with the University of Sydney.

Construction of building was started in 1917, but delayed due to World War One. It was officially opened in 1925 - but had been in use since 1920.

With the campus, it is listed on the NSW Heritage Register due to its exceptional significance to the state.

The building has been recently renovated and repurposed with new studios and workshops for the University's Art School.

Whova conference app

All conference attendees can use the Whova conference app on their computers or mobile devices. Look for the app in your app store and take a minute to install it before you arrive.



Whova's functionality includes:

- An agenda with the session information
- Social networking tools
- Remote viewing options

To learn more, check out the Whova attendee user guide, including a short walkthrough video that will acquaint you with its features:
whova.com/pages/whova-app-user-guide/

How to access Whova

1. Open Web App link for the event on your desktop using the following link: https://whova.com/portal/webapp/congr_202311/ or download the mobile app below
2. Click the Agenda to view the schedule
3. Navigate to the Agenda tab on your screen and filter by tracks to locate "The Australasian Animal Studies Association." Once this track has been selected, you will see the full agenda for AASA '23. You can move through different days by selecting the date you want to view on the calendar at the top of the agenda. Browse or search for sessions on the top bar. Once you find the session you want to access, click on it
4. All participants can view the session zooms through the app (on your phone or computer) and a zoom link is provided for all streamed sessions

We suggest you use the Chrome browser if you are going to join session streaming. Some streaming software may have compatibility issues with other browsers.

You can participate using the Whova App as much or as little as you like. You can simply listen and absorb the presentations, or you can engage with other attendees and speakers who are using the app.

Zine workshop

The workshop involves talks on sociological fiction, the zine medium, and zine making. Talks are followed by a practical workshop, where participants collaboratively experiment with these methods to explore themes of affect, knowledge, and embodiment. We produce a zine on the day, a 'curated sociology' of images, research writing and fiction interventions, to be published by Frances St Press.

Considerations for participants:

1. Our practical session will be inspired by Val Plumwood's essay *Being Prey*: kurungabaa.wordpress.com/2011/01/18/being-prey-by-val-plumwood/
2. Feel free to bring some handwritten or printed notes, art, reactions, thoughts or scribbles on the reading (but nothing too onerous).
3. Inspired by the workshop theme 'affect, embodiment and knowledge' and the reading, we will be doing a 'blackout poetry' exercise. Feel free to bring an animal related poem that inspires you, otherwise there will be plenty of examples available on the day if you choose not to bring your own.

To read the speaker bios and browse through previous volumes of the AKE Zine visit: francesstreetpress.com/ake-zine/

The workshop is running from 2:15-5:45 including afternoon tea from 3:45-4:15.

frances st
press

Affect, Knowledge, and Embodiment Zine Workshop

A critical feminist arts/
research workshop
brought to you by Dr
Ash Watson and Dr
Samantha Trayhurn.



28th November
2:15--5:45pm
Old Teacher's College
Seminar Room 437
University of Sydney

VANDAL Conference dinner



The food at Vandal is not Mexican. Or at least it isn't authentic Mexican. It's more of an homage to the latino food trucks of Los Angeles.

Canapes and Cocktail on arrival

- no fin 'tuna' ceviche, peruvian yellow chilli, chargrilled corn croquetas, green tabasco mayo
- frozen margaritas, Notorious MARG

Sit down dinner

- Guacamole
- Chargrilled corn
- Crisp zucchini flower
- Wild mushroom quesadilla
- smoked chilli & maple chick'n

Desert

- churros, cinnamon sugar, dulce de leche, miso caramel gelato, toasted coconut flakes

Drinks throughout

Catering

Lunch, and morning and afternoon tea will be served in the Assembly Hall located on level 3 of the Old Teachers College.

Morning tea:

- Choc Fudge Brownies, Seasonal Fruit Platter, Pumpkin Risotto Balls

Lunch:

- Mini Subs - Mixed Flavours, Mini Spinach Rolls, Mini Pizza Scrolls

Afternoon tea:

- Our House Made Cookies, Mini cake or lamington Choc chip, White Choc Chip, Apple Pie flavour with Cinnamon Sugar

Drinks:

- English tea bags, Italian Coffee Bags, Decaf Coffee bags, Lemon Ginger Tea bags, Peppermint tea bags, Sugar, Stevia, plant-based and other milks

Catering by Sanga Vegan

Sanga.

Chau Chak Wing Museum

In the heart of the University of Sydney, the Museum was designed to share the University of Sydney's vast collections with the broader community.

The collections began with the Nicholson Collection of antiquities in 1860 and continued to grow to include the Macleay Collections of natural history, ethnography, science and historic photography, and the University Art Collection. The Museum was designed by Johnson Pilton Walker to unite these diverse collections in one multidisciplinary institution.

sydney.edu.au/museum

Opening hours: Weekdays 10am – 5pm; Thursday evenings until 9pm; Weekends 12pm – 4pm



Tin Sheds Gallery

The Gallery provides a platform for public debates about the role of architecture, art, design and urbanism in contemporary society through the production of innovative exhibitions, publications and related activities.

Tin Sheds spurred a pivotal historical movement in Australian art, nurturing cross-disciplinary experimentation and politically orientated practices for several decades.

sydney.edu.au/architecture/about/tin-sheds-gallery.html

148 City Road; Opening hours: Tuesday to Friday: 10am-4pm Saturdays: 12pm-5pm



Information

Accommodation in Sydney

AASA is not organising accommodation as part of the Conference. CHASS has provided access to discount accommodation via this link:
www.conferencenational.com.au/cofhass-2023

In addition, The Women's College provides causal accommodation during the Conference period: (www.thewomenscollege.com.au men and women can stay during this time): approximately 270 rooms are available, please contact Front Office Coordinator Trish Sharp at reception@thewomenscollege.edu.au or +61 2 9517 5000

IT & Presentation Support

The University of Sydney provides access to the Eduroam wifi network and a guest connection to the University wifi. Presenters will be asked to present from the provided computer in their rooms, not from personal devices (such as personal laptops).



Covid management

In addition to the CHASS Covid Policy, AASA '23 will provide masks on request, and we have a supply of RAT tests if you are feeling unwell during the event. A small number of CO2 monitors are available to borrow from the registration desk.

Neurodiversity room



A quiet room is included in the program for the use of people who require it (room 438).

Childcare near the Conference

A “chillout” room is included in the program for the use of parents and families (room 403).

Casual / occasional childcare options:

- Gunyama Park Crèche (Zetland):
gunyamapark.com.au/creche
- Redfern Occasional Child Care:
www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/childrens-services/apply-for-a-place-at-redfern-occasional-child-care
- Lennox House (Newtown, Wednesday only):
australist-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/lennox-house.html
- Balmain Rozelle Occasional Care:
www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/live/community-well-being/children-and-families/early-learning-services/balmain-rozelle-occasional-care

Contact the organisers

0432 845 766

peter.chen@sydney.edu.au

Presenting for the first time?

If you are new to AASA or presenting a paper for the first time it can be a daunting experience, but our conferences tend to be open and inviting because of their size and the nature of the people who work in animal studies.

In general, you will have between 15 (for sessions with four speakers) and 20 (three speakers) minutes to present your paper, most people use a PowerPoint presentation, but its not a requirement. Preparation is key – think about what you want to say, and what you want your audience to engage with.

Either after your presentation, or at the conclusion of the session, the Chair will facilitate questions and comments from the audience. Stick around after to get a chance to continue the discussion.

You may wish to bring copies of your formal paper to distribute, make sure you include contact information on them so people can provide you additional feedback or questions after the event is over.

Sydney's public transport network

Sydney has an extensive public transport network of busses, trains, light rail and ferries.

For adults (non-concessional fares) there is no need to purchase a special card, and the system accepts credit or debit card or device payments. To tap on and tap off use the same card or device (American Express, Mastercard, Visa) to complete a trip. You'll be charged an Adult fare with the following benefits:

- \$2 discount for every transfer between modes as part of one journey
- Half price travel after eight paid journeys in a week
- Fares capped daily, weekly and on weekends
- 30% discount on metro/train, bus and light rail fares outside peak times

The trip planner can be found at:
transportnsw.info/trip

Chairing & facilitating well

Chairs are essential for a good conference.

The key elements for a good session are a welcoming atmosphere, ensuring speakers keep to time, and facilitating questions and responses in a fair manner. Pay particular attention to participants who are new to conferences, such as postgraduate students.

Chairs are encouraged to prepare for their sessions in advance, reading the abstracts and speakers biographies.

Review the way you intend to chair the session with the speakers at the start of the session, and indicate how you will prompt them at the 5 and 1 minute to go points.

At the conclusion of the session, you might want to invite conversation to move to the hallway so that the next session can progress without any delay.

Please ensure speakers use the microphones and questions are reiterated into the microphone.

Our Conference Conduct Code

The purpose of the 2023 AASA Conference is to facilitate positive professional and scholarly interactions in line with the vision and mission of the Association (animalstudies.org.au/about).

All conference participants (staff, attendees, guests, and volunteers) are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and collegial manner with respect to others.

We are committed to providing an environment free of harassment and discrimination for everyone, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, age, appearance, religion, or other group status.

Session Chairs will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the Code of Conduct during conference sessions. Any serious breaches should be reported to a member of the Conference Organising Committee.



CFP: Animal Cultures

Animal Studies Journal is calling for submissions on the theme 'Animal Cultures' for a special edition which will follow the Conference. This edition of the journal will be guest edited by Laura Jean McKay, Alexandra McEwan, and Clare Archer-Lean and published in May/June 2024.

*The Animal Cultures theme encompasses a range of perspectives and considerations of culture in non-human animal communities and extends to culturally informed human views and practices related to non-human animals. Whiten (2021) notes that for a wide array of species, cultural transmission can be understood as traditions that are 'acquired in a community by social learning from other individuals'. These traditions facilitate the acquisition of social and ecological knowledge and behaviours that influence biological and social wellbeing (Brakes et al. 2019). Hence, it is possible to understand animals as cultural beings within non-human communities. Equally, the lives of non-human animals unfold through their relationship with humans and as bearers of cultural signifiers within human cultures. The 'Animal Cultures' special edition of *Animal Studies Journal* explores the affordances and complexities of the concept of 'culture' in settings and dynamics of interest to animal studies as a multidisciplinary pursuit.*

Contributors might explore Animal Cultures from perspectives which include, but are not limited to:

- Indigenous knowledges of animal cultures
- Literary, musical, and visual representations of non-human animals, including those animals participate in or create
- Transmissions of knowledge through space, time, bodies, sound and dance or other modalities
- Culture and the threat of species extinction
- Multispecies cultures and domesticity
- Cultures, politics, and the law
- Cultures of animal exploitation
- Cross cultural and multicultural approaches to animal life
- Non-human animals and environmental protection
- Political organisations
- Symbiotic animal cultures
- The culture of animal studies

The deadline for submissions is 11th December 2023.

More information: ro.uow.edu.au/asj/about.html

Organisers



Teya Brooks
Pribac



Josephine Browne



Emily Major



Alexandra McEwan



Peter John
Chen



Laura Jean
McKay



Clare Archer-
Lean



Davita Coronel



Philip McKibbin



Fernando do
Campo



Ana Paula
Motta



Chantelle Bayes



Heather Fraser



Fiona Probyn-Rapsey



Natalie Lis



Lynley Tulloch

Views on Sydney...

“Victoria Park is a great place to relax if you need a short break.” - Philip

“Use suburban rail to day trip to the Blue Mountains / Gulumada - a must do.” - Peter

“Marrickville is a haven for small bars with live music. Check out Lazy Bones, the Gasoline Pony, and Camelot Lounge. If music’s not your scene, its also home to many great small breweries.” - Fiona

“Newtown is the vegan food capital of Sydney, but Glebe Pt Road offers great options too.” - Heather

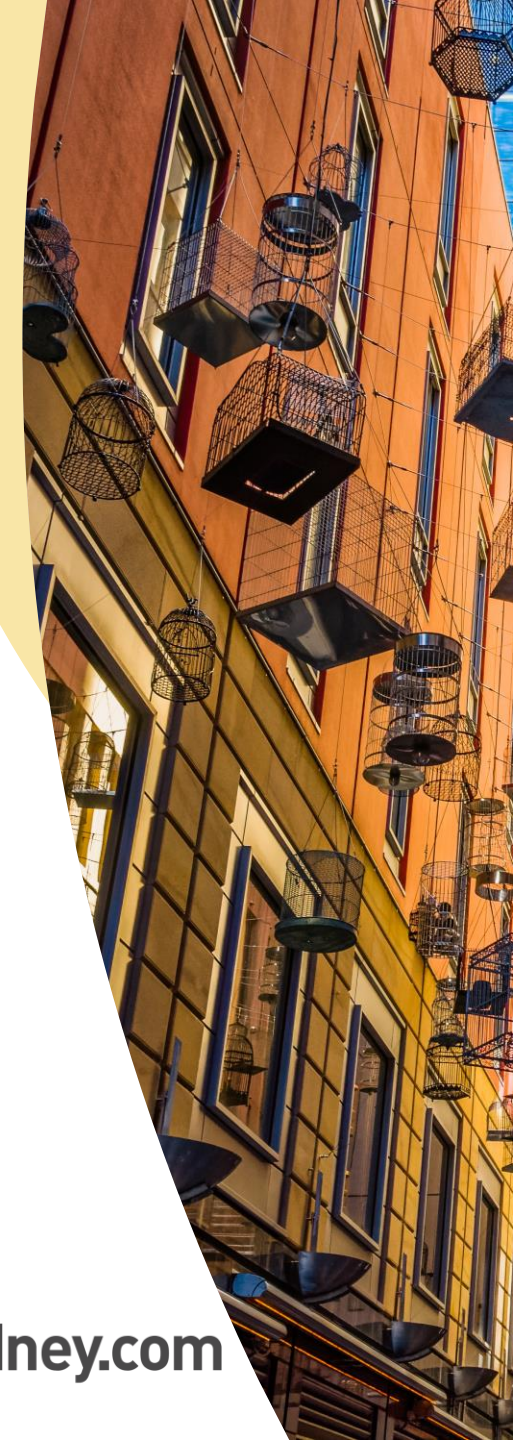
“Spend a day around circular quay, start with the Opera House, then the MCA and finally the crime and justice museum.” - Fer

“The Sydney Rocks Dreaming Tour is an accessible way into local saltwater heritage.” - Laura

“The White Rabbit Gallery is a wonderful place to look at Chinese contemporary art.” - Natalie

“While in the Blue Mountains check out the steepest railway in the world, a terrifying experience.” - Teja

“Do the Coogee to Bondi coastal walk.” - Davita



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animalstudies.org.au