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**Human-Animal Studies Newsletter**

**November, 2017**

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to this issue of the Animals & Society Institute's Human-Animal Studies e-newsletter. I hope that this issue has information that is of use to you. Please let me know what you'd like to see! For future editions of this newsletter, please send submissions to margo@animalsandsociety.org.

**ASI News**

In the fall of 2016 and spring of 2017 students from five human-animal studies classes at two universities in the U.S. (University of Oregon and Redlands University) and two universities in Europe (University College Dublin and University of Innsbruck) completed the Animal Attitude Scale (Herzog, Betchart & Pittman, 1991), a 20-item questionnaire designed to measure pro-animal welfare attitudes. Respondents rated each of 20 statements on a five-point Likert scale, indicating the extent to which they agreed with each statement regarding attitudes toward animals.
Items are scored such that higher scores indicate more favorable attitudes toward animals. The AAS has excellent psychometric properties, including Cronbach's alphas ranging from 0.85 to 0.95 and well-established concurrent and convergent validity. In order to assess the extent to which completion of a human-animal studies course affected attitudes toward animals, students completed the AAS prior to and immediately following course completion. A paired-samples t-test was conducted on the sample of 77 students from the five human-animal studies classes who completed the questionnaire at the two time points. There was a statistically significant difference in AAS scores prior to the HAS course (M=80.07, SD=10.08) and following completion of the HAS course (M=84.48, SD=10.39); t(76)=-4.100, p = .000. These results suggest that human-animal studies classes positively affect students' attitudes toward animals. In other words, students who complete such classes report more pro animal welfare attitudes after completing the class than prior to it.

We would love to have more professors give the survey to their students! Professors are asked to give out the following links to their students; the first should be given out at the very beginning of the course, while the second link should be given out at the end of the course.


We thank you for your help with this exciting project!

In October, ASI Founder Ken Shapiro visited China to present a paper on publishing in animal welfare science at the International Symposium on Farm Animal Welfare & Sustainable Development of Animal Husbandry at the China University of Geosciences in Beijing. Ken tells us:

"The symposium was attended by about 80 people, a mix of faculty and graduate students from the China University of Geosciences and China Agricultural University as well as several members of animal welfare organizations. After a full day of academic presentations, the second day consisted of a visit to an experimental farm (Greeny Free-Range Chicken Farm) dedicated to developing an economically viable production system where chickens are free-ranging. The state of agricultural animal welfare is just taking root in China and is largely framed and constrained by economic considerations such as meat quality and food safety. In recent years, the government has instituted policies that move people from the country to the city. Hence the number of farmers has decreased dramatically while the affluence of urban dwellers has increased. This has led to an increase in intensive farming production and a greater demand for meat. The fact that as late as the early 90s, food was rationed in China may be part of the appeal of being able to afford meat. While the percentage of people in the country who are vegetarian is comparable to
the US (in fact, at 3.8%, a bit higher), the term is not found on restaurant menus, is largely associated with the two minority religions (Taoism and Buddhism), and, judging by the symposia talks, is not a part of discourse on welfare."

It sounds as though progress on welfare issues in China is occurring, albeit very very slowly. We are glad that ASI was able to play even a small role here!

**HAS News**

The Department of Animal Science at Michigan State University is seeking applicants for a 9-month, tenure-track position at the Assistant Professor level (70% Teaching, 25% Research, 5% Service). The successful candidate filling this position will join a diverse group of over 45 faculty dedicated to scholarship through teaching, research, extension and public service, and who support an enthusiastic and dynamic population of over 500 undergraduate students engaged in a wide range of activities. The successful candidate will contribute to the teaching mission of the department by teaching or co-teaching approximately 2 courses per semester including leading an introductory undergraduate course in companion animal biology and management, and instructing and contributing to teaching of other animal science courses as appropriate, such as introductory animal science, behavior and welfare, anatomy and physiology, or nutrition. The successful candidate will conduct and publish research in the scholarship of teaching and learning in STEM disciplines with a focus on the animal sciences, including student learning outcomes and assessment, as well as participate in collaborative research in animal science. Establishment of a competitively funded program to support scholarly work is expected. The candidate will also engage in co-curricular activities including undergraduate research. Advising and mentoring of undergraduate and graduate students is expected, as well as service in the form of outreach and leadership activities within the university, greater community and profession. For questions about the application process, please contact Robbyn Davenport, 517-884-7853, smithro@msu.edu. For questions about the position, please contact Dr. Karen L. Waite, 517-432-0383 kwaite@msu.edu.

Eckerd College is seeking an Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology. Tenure-track position, to start in September, 2018. Ph.D. in psychology required. Teach seven (3-1-3) courses per academic year, including Abnormal Psychology, Statistics/Research Methods, Advanced Statistics, Tests & Measurements, and electives in area of expertise. The Psychology Discipline at Eckerd College is an empirically-focused department that encourages faculty-student research. Participation in an interdisciplinary, values-oriented general education program is required, including a regular rotation in the two-semester freshman program. Eckerd College, the only independent national liberal arts college in Florida, has a tradition of innovative education and teaching/mentoring excellence. Submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae, teaching evaluations,
statement of teaching philosophy, research statement, graduate transcripts, and contact information for three references so that letters of recommendation can be requested. Applications must be complete by December 15. Inquiries may be sent to Dr. Mark Davis, davismh@eckerd.edu.

The Royal Veterinary College is recruiting for Lecturer in Human-Animal Interactions and Ethics to be sited in the RVC Animal Welfare Science and Ethics group. The college is seeking someone with a veterinary qualification registrable with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. The closing date for applications is November 20 with interviews to be held on December 18 at the Hawkshead Campus in Hertfordshire. Further information can be found at this link.

ISAZ is accepting nominations for their Early Career Scholar Award for outstanding scholarly accomplishments in Anthrozoology by an ISAZ member who is early in her/his career. Nominees must be current ISAZ members and must be within ten years of having received their terminal degree (e.g., Ph.D., M.D., D.V.M., or equivalent). Nominations can be made by any member of the society. Self-nominations are allowed. Each individual may be nominated twice. Nominations close January 15, 2018. More information here.

The Equine History Collective has a new blog at EquineHistory.org. Each Sunday the editors will run a short book review, and are seeking submissions. More information can be found here. Suggestions or requests for information can be directed to EquineHistory@gmail.com The talks given at 'Working with Animals', the British Animal Studies Network meeting held at Southampton this month, are now available to listen to here.

The 2018 MDPI-Animals Travel Award sponsored by Animals has been established for postdoctoral researchers and PhD students to attend an international conference related to animal science in 2018. One awardee will be selected to receive 800 Swiss Francs. Nominations for this award are currently being accepted (until January 31, 2018). Please find the details on candidates' requirements and other criteria at this link and email your application to animals@mdpi.com.

New Books

Following are some of the books coming out that we are excited about!

novels in which animal agents play a significant role. At the same time, the volume's international team of contributors show how the distinctive structures and affordances of graphic narratives foreground key questions about trans-species entanglements in a more-than-human world. The writers/artists covered in the book include: Nick Abadzis, Adolfo Avril, Jeffrey Brown, Sue Coe, Matt Dembicki, Olivier Deprez, J. J. Grandville, George Herriman, Adam Hines, William Hogarth, Grant Morrison, Osamu Tezuka, Frank Quitely, Yu Sasuga, Charles M. Schultz, Art Spiegelman, Fiona Staples, Ken'ichi Tachibana, Brian K. Vaughan, and others.

LaRubia-Prado, Francisco. *The Horse in Literature and Film: Uncovering a Transcultural Paradigm*. Lexington Books, 2017. Horses serve as central characters in great literary works that span ages and cultures. But why? In The Horse in Literature and Film: Uncovering a Transcultural Paradigm, Francisco LaRubia-Prado, Ph.D. explores the deep symbolic meaning, cultural significance, and projective power that these magnificent animals carry in literature, film, and the human psyche. Examining iconic texts and films from the Middle Ages to the present-and from Western and Eastern cultural traditions-this book reveals how horses, as timeless symbols of nature, bring harmony to unbalanced situations. Regardless of how disrupted human lives become, whether through the suffering caused by the atrocities of war, or the wrestling of individuals and society with issues of authenticity, horses offer an antidote firmly rooted in nature. The Horse in Literature and Film is a book for our time. After an introduction to the field of animal studies, it analyzes celebrated works by authors and film directors such as Leo Tolstoy, Heinrich von Kleist, D.H. Lawrence, Akira Kurosawa, John Huston, Girish Karnad, Michael Morpurgo, and Benedikt Erlingsson. Exploring issues such as power, the boundaries between justice and the law, the meaning of love and home, the significance of cultural belonging, and the consequences of misguided nationalism, this book demonstrates the far-reaching consequences of human disconnection from nature, and the role of the horse in individual and societal healing.

Mazzeno, LW and RD Morrison, eds. (2017). *Animals in Victorian Literature and Culture: Contexts for Criticism*. Palgrave. This collection includes twelve provocative essays from a diverse group of international scholars, who utilize a range of interdisciplinary approaches to analyze "real" and "representational" animals that stand out as culturally significant to Victorian literature and culture. Essays focus on a wide range of canonical and non-canonical Victorian writers, including Charles Dickens, Anthony Trollope, Anna Sewell, Emily Bronte, James Thomson, Christina Rossetti, and Richard Marsh, and they focus on a diverse array of forms: fiction, poetry, journalism, and letters. These essays consider a wide range of cultural attitudes and literary treatments of animals in the Victorian Age, including the development of the animal protection movement, the importation of animals from the expanding Empire, the acclimatization of British animals in other countries, and the problems associated with increasing pet ownership. The collection also includes an Introduction co-written by the editors and Suggestions for
Further Study, and will prove of interest to scholars and students across the multiple disciplines which comprise Animal Studies.

Mills, B. (2017). *Animals on Television: The cultural making of the non-human.* Palgrave Macmillan, London. This book is the first in-depth study of the representation of animals on television. It explores the variety of ways animals are represented in audio-visual media, including wildlife documentaries and children's animated series, and the consequences these representations have for those species. Brett Mills discusses key ideas and approaches essential for thinking about animals drawing on relevant debates in philosophy, politics, gender studies, humanism and posthumanism, and ethics. The chapters examine different animal representations, focusing on zoos, pets, wildlife and meat. They present case studies, including discussions of Peppa Pig, The Hunt and The Dog Whisperer. This book will be of interest to readers exploring media studies, contemporary television, animal studies, and debates about representation.

Moore, B. L. (2017). *Ecological Literature and the Critique of Anthropocentrism.* Springer. This book is an analysis of literary texts that question, critique, or subvert anthropocentrism, the notion that the universe and everything in it exists for humans. Bryan Moore examines ancient Greek and Roman texts; medieval to twentieth-century European texts; eighteenth-century French philosophy; early to contemporary American texts and poetry; and science fiction to demonstrate a historical basis for the questioning of anthropocentrism and contemplation of responsible environmental stewardship in the twenty-first century and beyond. Ecological Literature and the Critique of Anthropocentrism is essential reading for ecocritics and ecofeminists. It will also be useful for researchers interested in the relationship between science and literature, environmental philosophy, and literature in general.

Morillo, J. (2017). The *Rise of Animals and Descent of Man, 1660-1800: Toward Posthumanism in British Literature between Descartes and Darwin.* Rowman & Littlefield. The Rise of Animals and the Descent of Man illuminates compelling historical connections between a current fascination with animal life and the promotion of the moral status of non-human animals as ethical subjects deserving our attention and respect, and a deep interest in the animal as agent in eighteenth-century literate culture. It explores how writers, including well-known poets, important authors who mixed art and science, and largely forgotten writers of sermons and children's stories all offered innovative alternatives to conventional narratives about the meaning of animals in early modern Europe. They question Descartes' claim that animals are essentially soulless machines incapable of thought or feelings. British writers from 1660-1800 remain informed by Cartesianism, but often counter it by recognizing that feelings are as important as reason when it comes to defining animal life and its relation to human life. This British line of thought deviates from Descartes by focusing on fine feeling as a register of moral life empowered by sensibility and sympathy, but this very stance is complicated by cultural fears that too much kindness to
animals can entail too much kinship with them—fears made famous in the later reaction to Darwinian evolution. The Rise of Animals uncovers ideological tensions between sympathy for animals and a need to defend the special status of humans from the rapidly developing Darwinian perspective. The writers it examines engage in complex negotiations with sensibility and a wide range of philosophical and theological traditions. Their work anticipates posthumanist thought and the challenges it poses to traditional humanist values within the humanities and beyond. The Rise of Animals is a sophisticated intellectual history of the origins of our changing attitudes about animals that at the same time illuminates major currents of eighteenth-century British literary culture.

Price, J. D. (2017). *Animals and Desire in South African Fiction: Biopolitics and the Resistance to Colonization*. Palgrave. This book considers the political potential of affective experiences of desire as reflected in contemporary South African literature. Jason Price argues that definitions of desire deployed by capitalist and colonial culture maintain social inequality by managing relations to ensure a steady flow of capital and pleasure for the dominant classes, whereas affective encounters with animals reveal the nonhuman nature of desire, a biopower that, in its unpredictability, can frustrate regimes of management and control. Price wonders how animals' different desires might enable new modes of thought to positively transform and resist the status quo. This book contends that South African literary works employ nonhuman desire and certain indigenous notions of desire to imagine a South Africa that can be markedly different from the past.

Röcklinsberg, H., Gjerris, M., & Olsson, I. A. S. (2017). *Animal Ethics in Animal Research*. Cambridge University Press. The use of animals in research has always been surrounded by ethical controversy. This book provides an overview of the central ethical issues focusing on the interconnectedness of science, law and ethics. It aims to make theoretical ethical reasoning understandable to non-ethicists and provide tools to improve ethical decision making on animal research. It focuses on good scientific practice, the 3Rs (replacement, reduction and refinement), ethical theories applied to specific cases and an overview of regulatory issues. The book is co-authored by experts in animal research, animal welfare, social sciences, law and ethics, and provides both animal researchers and members of animal ethics committees with knowledge that can facilitate their work and communication with stakeholders and the public. The book is written to provide knowledge, not to argue a certain position, and is intended to be used in training that aims to fulfil EU Directive 2010/63/EU.

Swan, H. (2017). *Where Honeybees Thrive: Stories from the Field* (Vol. 10). Penn State Press. Colony Collapse Disorder, ubiquitous pesticide use, industrial agriculture, habitat reduction—these are just a few of the issues causing unprecedented trauma in honeybee populations worldwide. In this artfully illustrated book, Heather Swan embarks on a narrative voyage to discover solutions to—and understand the sources of—the plight of honeybees. Through a lyrical combination of creative nonfiction and
visual imagery, Where Honeybees Thrive tells the stories of the beekeepers, farmers, artists, entomologists, ecologists, and other advocates working to stem the damage and reverse course for this critical pollinator. Using her own quest for understanding as a starting point, Swan highlights the innovative projects and strategies these groups employ. Her mosaic approach to engaging with the environment not only reveals the incredibly complex political ecology in which bees live—which includes human and nonhuman actors alike—but also suggests ways of comprehending and tackling a host of other conflicts between postindustrial society and the natural world. Each chapter closes with an illustrative full-color gallery of bee-related artwork. A luminous journey from the worlds of honey producers, urban farmers, and mead makers of the United States to those of beekeepers of Sichuan, China, and researchers in southern Africa, Where Honeybees Thrive traces the global web of efforts to secure a sustainable future for honeybees—and ourselves.

Villanueva, Gonzalo. *A Transnational History of the Australian Animal Movement, 1970-2015*. Springer, 2017. This book offers the first transnational historical study of the creation, contention and consequences of the Australian animal movement. Largely inspired by Peter Singer and his 1975 book *Animal Liberation*, a new wave of animal activism emerged in Australia and across the world. In an effort to draw public and media attention to the plight of animals, such as the rearing of pigs and poultry in factory farms and the export of live animals to the Middle East and South East Asia, Australian activists were often innovative and provocative in how they made their claims. Through lobbying, disruptive methods, and vegan activism, the animal movement consistently contested the politics and culture of how animals were used and exploited. Australians not only observed and learnt from people and events overseas, but also played significant international roles. This book examines the complex and conflicting consequences of the animal movement for Australian politics, as well as its influence on broader social change.

Deane-Drummond, C. (2017). *A Primer in Ecotheology: Theology for a Fragile Earth*. Wipf and Stock Publishers. This book serves as an introduction to the burgeoning field of ecothology, illustrating both its variety and its commonality across different Christian theological divides. Some of the questions addressed in this short book include the following: How can the Bible still make sense in the context of climate change and biodiversity loss? Who on earth is Jesus Christ, and what does he mean for us in today's world? How can Christians be faithful to their traditions while responding to pressing calls to be engaged in environmental activism? What is the relationship between theory and practice, and local as well as global demands, and how is this relationship expressed in different ecclesial settings? How can we encourage each other to develop a sense of the earth as divine gift? Written in clear, accessible style, this book walks readers through difficult concepts and shows the way different sources in Christian theology have responded to one of the most significant cultural issues of our time.
New Research

Following are some of the latest research articles in the field of human-animal studies:


Hediger, K., & Hund-Georgiadis, M. Animal-assisted therapy in the view of staff members before and after implementation in a rehabilitation clinic.


Maran, T., Tønnessen, M., Tüür, K., Magnus, R., Rattasepp, S., & Mäekivi, N. Methodology of zoosemiotics: concepts, categorisations, models.


• Tamioso, P. R., Guimarães, P. R. B., & Molento, C. F. M. (2017). Attitudes of South Brazilian sheep farmers to animal welfare and sentience. Ciência Rural, 47(12).

**Journals**

The editors are seeking papers on the theme of "Animals with (or without) Borders" for the summer 2018 issue of the semi-annual scholarly journal, *Pakistan Journal of Historical Studies* (PJHS), published by the Indiana University Press (Bloomington, USA). This guest-edited issue explores the interaction between human boundaries and animal lives. As a historical phenomenon, such interaction would include the imposition of borders on existing trade routes and seasonal migration of pastoral societies, and attempts to politically corral animals to fit human boundaries. Socially, it might address problems such as the difference in animal production or welfare on two sides of a border. Politically, it would extend to veterinary, epidemic and tax controls on the movement of animals or animal products, and the role of infrastructure and development capital in the regional development of breeding and production chains. China historian Thomas David DuBois and the journal's regular editorial team will collaborate to edit this issue. For more information or to propose an idea, please email to pjhs@khalduinia.org (cc to thomas_dubois@yahoo.com; hak@khalduinia.org) Deadline for submitting articles will be **December 15**. Manuscripts should be submitted through the Indiana University Press website, via this [link](#). Length of an article should be between 8,000 and 12,000 words. For style-sheet, visit [this link](#).

*Configurations*, the journal of SLSA (The Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts) is seeking submissions for a special issue on Science Studies and the Blue Humanities, edited by Stacy Alaimo. The editors are interested in essays, position papers, provocations, and artist statements that explore the significance of science studies for the development of the
blue humanities. As oceans and bodies of fresh water increasingly become sites for environmentally-oriented arts and humanities scholarship, how can the emerging blue humanities best engage with the theories, questions, paradigms, and methods of science studies? How do questions of scale, temporality, materiality, and mediation emerge in aquatic zones and modes? How can literature, art, data visualization, and digital media best respond to the rapidly developing sciences of ocean acidification and climate change as well as the less publicized concerns such as the effect of military sonar on cetaceans? Work on postcolonial/decolonial science studies, Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), indigenous sciences, and citizen science especially welcome. Please submit 5,000-7,000 word essays; 3,000 word position papers or provocations; or 2,000 word artist statements (with one or two illustrations or a link to a digital work); to Stacy Alaimo, alaimo@uta.edu, by February 1, 2018, for consideration. All essays will be peer-reviewed, following the standard editorial procedures of Configurations.

The latest issue of Animal Studies journal, focusing on animal sanctuaries and guest edited by Elan Abrell, is out, and you can read it here.

The British Journal of the History of Science has just published a series of articles on animal agency which you can read here.

Anthrozoös Volume 30(4) is now available online. You can access the table of contents and the abstracts directly here. An upcoming special issue of the Journal of Intercultural Studies, "Animal nationalisms: Multispecies cultural politics, race, and nation un/building narratives." has two mandates. One, the editors ask why and how animals are foundational to cultures of nationalism and racial demarcation. Postcolonial critical animal studies scholars have drawn attention to the ways in which racialization (as a process frequently foundational to projects of nation-building) is intimately entangled with what Maneesha Deckha calls a kind of "species thinking" wherein categories of human, subhuman, and nonhuman operate to create a violatable Other (Deckha 2010; Kim 2015; Ko and Ko 2017). The editors are interested in how animals themselves are used to reproduce and sustain animality and its role in nationalistic practices of exclusion, violence, and supremacy. Two, they aim to re-imagine how animals may feature in more 'inclusive nationalisms' or 'just nationalisms' that attend to difference within and across species. Variations of environmentalism and eco-citizenship are interwoven with nation-building narratives, and are beginning to variously unsettle and reframe the nation-state (Yeh 2009, Goldman 2005). The Constitution of India directs its citizens to 'have compassion for living creatures' since its inception in 1950. In 2015, New Zealand recognized animals as 'sentient' beings. However, such mandates are yet to manifest meaningfully worldwide, in ways that protects animals from human exploitation and there remains a question of whether legal reforms can even substantially represent the interests of nonhuman animals when law itself is an anthropocentric institution (Deckha 2013). The editors invite abstracts of 150-200 words from scholars studying animals in different regions, nations, cultures and
religions across the Global South and North. Please send to y.narayanan@deakin.edu.au and kathryn.a.gillespie@gmail.com by December 15.

**Upcoming Meetings**

Animals Conference. December 6-8, Universiteit van Amsterdam.


2018 Association of Professional Humane Educators (APHE) annual humane education conference. March 7-9, 2018, Orlando, Florida.


NEW PERSPECTIVES IN ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY: A Northeast Regional Conference. April 14, 2018, Yale University.


Being Well Together: human-animal collaboration, companionship and the promotion of health and wellbeing. September 19-21, 2018, Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine (CHSTM), University of Manchester (UK).

**Calls for Papers: Conferences**

**Animals in the Humanities: Relations, Representations, and Ethical Implications**. March 23-24, 2018, Roanoke College, Virginia.

Does the presence of animals in culture call the very nature of the humanities into question? The human condition has always been defined in relation to the animal, from the ancients to contemporary "post-humanist" thinkers. Yet our relationships with animals have always been ambivalent and ambiguous. Pampered as pets, raised and killed in horrendous conditions as food, we idolize, exploit, and overlook them. Patriarchal culture has often linked animality with women (and the indigenous) and rationality with men (and civilization). To challenge some of these traditional practices and categories, recent studies of animals in culture have raised important theoretical questions about what constitutes the humanities. For example, why has there been an "animal turn" in the humanities? Why are so many intellectuals challenging the human-animal binary? Are animals no longer the "absolute other"? How
did the representation of animals change after Descartes, Darwin, Derrida, and Harroway? How has the recent interest in animal cognition altered animals' ethical status? This conference welcomes submissions exploring ANY QUESTION concerning animals in the humanities. For further information, please contact Marwood Larson-Harris (mdharris@roanoke.edu). Page-long proposals are due by February 5, 2018.

**Yale Environmental History** invites paper proposals from graduate students at northeastern universities for a one-day conference on environmental history to be held at Yale University on April 14, 2018. Paper proposals from any region or time period are welcome. The conference seeks to showcase new projects in environmental history and to encourage vigorous dialogue among graduate students and faculty. The convenors invite papers that address environmental history in its broadest sense, whether dealing with political economy, society and culture, intellectual debates, science and technology, microorganisms and disease, or policy and planning. Conference organizers are particularly eager to include comparative and non-U.S. perspectives on environmental history. The conference will consist of three moderated panel sessions featuring graduate student papers. A faculty panel will conclude the day. Presentations will be based on papers circulated in advance to panel commentators and conference attendees. Abstract submissions should be in the form of a SINGLE document in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format, and must include the following: (1) your name, institutional affiliation, and contact information; (2) a 300-word abstract; (3) a one-page C.V. Submissions must be emailed to environmentalhistory@yale.edu by December 8. Please include your name and paper title in the filename of your submission. Please do not submit panel proposals--individual papers will be grouped into panels by the conference organizers. Accepted presenters will be notified by December 15, 2017, and asked to submit their paper for circulation to attendees and commentators by March 24, 2017.

The **British Animal Studies Network** seeks papers for its first 2018 meeting, to be held at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, on the theme of *Sex.* Please submit your title with an abstract of no more than 200 words and a brief biography (also of no more than 200 words) to Erica Fudge at erica.fudge@strath.ac.uk. These should be included within your email - i.e. not as attachments. The deadline for abstracts is January 12, 2018. Presentations will be 20 minutes long, and we hope to include work by individuals at different career stages. Sadly we have no money to support travel, accommodation or attendance costs. We would welcome papers that deal with such issues in contemporary and historical settings, and would especially like to see papers that address these issues from contexts outside the UK, including the Global South. Papers are welcomed from across animal studies, including disciplines such as (but not limited to) geography, anthropology, sociology, literary studies, art history, history, science and technology studies, ethology, psychology, behavioural sciences and ecology.
27th Annual ISAZ conference: Animals in Our Lives: Multidisciplinary Approaches to the Study of Human-Animal Interactions. July 2-5, 2018, Sydney, Australia. Abstracts for the ISAZ 2018 Conference are due January 18, 2018. Some of the topics the convenors are interested in hearing about include, in no particular order:

- Human-wildlife conflict/interactions
- Animals in human health, development and therapy (children, adults, older)
- Attitudes toward animals and animal issues
- Animal personality research
- Grief studies
- Historical aspects of our interactions with other animals
- Cruelty to animals/animal abuse
- The ethics of animal use
- Strategies to keep animals out of shelters and improve rehoming rates
- Cultural and cross-cultural studies (e.g., indigenous people's relationships with animals)
- Animals in zoos - visitor studies; attitudes toward zoos
- Animals in farming: effects of stockpersons on; attitudes toward
- Representations of human-animal interaction - e.g., art, literature, media - and their influence on human-animal interactions
- Interactions with invertebrate animals
- Free papers - topic outside those listed

To submit an abstract, click here.

(UN)COMMON WORLDS: CONTESTING THE LIMITS OF HUMAN-ANIMAL COMMUNITIES: Human-Animal Studies Conference. August 7-9, 2018, Turku, Finland. Humans and other animals share spaces and create communities together. They touch each other in various symbolic and material ways, constantly crossing and redrawing communal, ethical and very practical boundaries. As of late, this multifarious renegotiation of human-animal relations has sparked intense debates both in the public arena and in academia. For instance, Bruno Latour argues that the anthropocene (marking the massive human impact on ecosystems) creates a new territory in which traditional subject/object separations are no longer useful. What is called for is the transgressing or dissolving of these limits in order to "distribute agency as far and in as differentiated a way as possible" (Latour 2014, 16). Various inclusive, more-than-human notions, such as 'cosmopolitics' (Stengers 2010) or 'common worlds' (Latour 2004) are brought forward to this end. These discussions highlight what is becoming a core challenge for various disciplines and fields of study: how to live together in complex places, spaces and societies, with intersecting and overlapping borders and traces of cultures, histories and politics. Furthermore, the discussions bring forth the question of how to work against the premises of exclusive human agency and interest in order to explore and imagine multispecies futures. However, the various conceptualisations of inclusive, common
worlds entail a risk of disregarding or devaluing that which is not shared: the aspects of multispecies lives that cannot be or become common but that nevertheless matter for shared existences. There is also the issue of becoming "common" - of territorialisations and inclusions of some beings to the exclusion of others. What will remain the "uncommon" (i.e. unconventional) in common worlds? Moreover, are common worlds envisaged as free of political struggles and borders? What are the politics of becoming common and remaining uncommon? With this Call we invite you to discuss and develop ideas about human-animal worlds both common and uncommon. We invite presentations from the fields including but not limited to social sciences, arts and humanities, natural and environmental sciences and law. Prospective speakers are invited to submit an abstract by February 28, 2018 (max. 250 words) to uncommonworlds2018@gmail.com (preferably as a word document or a pdf file). Please include in your submission the title of your presentation, your name, affiliation, and contact information. The organizers also invite artists to present their work. If you are interested in this option, please contact the organizers to discuss your ideas.

Please Support our Human-Animal Studies Efforts

As you can see, there is a tremendous amount of activity and progress going on today in the field of human-animal studies, and we always invite your input and participation.

Your donation to the Animals & Society Institute will enable us to continue to expand the field in many more ways and work in conjunction with others around the world who share these goals.

Thank you for supporting our Human-Animal Studies efforts!

Margo DeMello
Human-Animal Studies Program Director
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