



Minding Animals

Minding Animals International Bulletin No.10

Minding Animals International (MAI) welcomes you to Bulletin No.10. It has been a very short three years since Newcastle and we hope to see everyone that participated in Newcastle back at Minding Animals 2 in Utrecht. We especially welcome those speakers and delegates that have participated in all the many pre-conference and partner events over the past three years, and to new participants not familiar with the Minding Animals phenomenon.

REGISTER NOW FOR MINDING ANIMALS 2

Nominations for Minding Animals Board and Advisory Committee

MAI would like to receive nominations for Ordinary Member positions on the Minding Animals Board of Directors, for positions of Secretary and Treasurer, and for members of the Academic Advisory Committee. Participants will serve for a period of three years up to MA3 in 2015.

Board members, including National representatives, are expected to be active participants in the decision-making of MAI and be prepared to attend occasional face-to-face Board meetings held in conjunction with pre-conference and partner events held around the globe.

If you are interested in serving on either committee, please fill out the Nomination Form at the end of this Bulletin and either email back to mindinganimals@gmail.com, or hand to either Rod Bennison or Kim Stallwood at the Utrecht Conference.

Special Announcement: ICAS Event at Minding Animals 2

MAI would like to announce that the Institute for Critical Animal Studies will be holding a special Critical Animal Studies roundtable between 2:30pm and 5:30pm on 3 July in Utrecht before the Opening Reception to Minding Animals 2. A lunchtime roundtable will also follow during the main conference.

Places are strictly limited to 100 people, so you **MUST** register your attendance - first come, first served. If you would like to register for this event, please send an email to mindinganimals@gmail.com. Venue details and an agenda for this Special Event will be sent to all registrants before the Utrecht conference.



Minding Animals 2: Statement Regarding Abstract Review

With the Minding Animals Conference just three months away, we look forward to meeting everyone and learning more from each other about Animal Studies, and of course from other animal advocates from the various animal protection movements and from fellow academics from other fields examining the interrelationships humans have with other animals.

By now, everyone who submitted an abstract should have received a response from the conference organisers at the University of Utrecht. The Utrecht Organising Committee received around an amazing 650 abstracts for a possible 370 speaking places and 100 poster places. It was decided by that committee that a blind review had to be conducted for all abstracts.

Minding Animals 2 is like other conferences in that there were a finite number of places available for speakers. Unfortunately, the budget and other logistical considerations limited the number of oral presentation spots available. We understand, therefore, that a few of you who submitted abstracts will be naturally disappointed to have missed out on a speaking position.

Nevertheless, we encourage you to attend the conference in Utrecht as it is an excellent opportunity to network and be among the very best scholars in the field. The transdisciplinary comradery established at the first conference in Newcastle, Australia, will undoubtedly be rekindled.

This is the second international Minding Animals Conference and we are carefully noting how this event unfolds so that we can improve on this and the first conference - for all future events. There will be feedback forms available at the conference, but we also invite you to write to us directly with any feedback or concerns at mindinganimals@gmail.com

Any feedback received will be taken on board post-Utrecht and will be helpful for us in planning future events.

Rod Bennison, CEO MAI
and
Kim Stallwood, Deputy CEO MAI

Minding Animals 3 in 2015 – deadline extended to 25 June

MAI has received some exciting proposals from the US, Canada and India, for hosting the third Minding Animals conference in 2015. Nevertheless, we would still like to receive Expressions of Interest from other institutions interested in hosting Minding Animals 3 in July 2015.

If you are interested, please contact mindinganimals@gmail.com to receive a copy of the 2015 guidelines.

Minding Animals Study Circle Roundtables at Utrecht

Please be advised that 14 of the 23 Study Circles have been selected as part of the Minding Animals Conference in Utrecht. The conference programme that is currently being developed, will indicate the following schedule (sorry, but absolutely no changes can be made to this schedule due to the content of the broader conference programme):

Lunchtime Roundtable, Wednesday, 4 July

- * Minding Marine Mammals (Co-convenors: Véronique Servais and Fabienne Delfour; Scribe to be announced)
- * Animals and Philosophy (Convenor: John Hadley; Scribe: Morten Tønnessen)
- * Animals and the Queer Communities (Convenor: Greg Murrie; Scribe to be announced)
- * a combined Compassionate Conservation, and Animals and Science (Convenor: Chris Draper; Scribe to be announced)

Lunchtime Roundtable, Thursday, 5 July

- * Minding Great Apes (Convenor: Judith Benz-Schwartzberg; Scribe to be announced)
- * Animals and Religion (Convenor: Arabella Unger; Scribe to be announced)
- * Meat (Co-convenors: Carrie Packwood Freeman and Jan Deckers; Scribe: Iris Bergmann)
- * Animals, Politics and the Law (Convenor: Celeste Black; Scribe to be announced)

Lunchtime Roundtable, Friday, 6 July

- * Minding Equines (Convenor: Karen Dalke; Scribe: Kristen Armstrong Oma)
- * Animals and Sentience (Convenor: James Giordano; Scribe: Helen Proctor)
- * Animals and Feminism (Convenor: Lynda Birke; Scribe to be announced)
- * a combined Extinction, and Animals and Climate Change (Convenor: Linda Williams; Scribe: Thom van Dooren)

Convenors have been appointed for the Study Circles that will conduct lunch-time roundtables in Utrecht. Convenors will preside over the discussion at Utrecht, lead debate on the Study Circle following Utrecht and in the run-up to MA3 in 2015, and coordinate with the Minding Animals Board the publication of articles in the ISEE (as mentioned in my previous post). Also, Scribes will collect a roll of participants at the roundtables and will take a short set of minutes detailing decisions made at their respective roundtable, and subsequently distribute them to the Study Circle.

Some Scribes are still needed. If you would like to nominate for being a Study Circle Scribe in Utrecht, please make contact before 25 June at: mindinganimals@gmail.com

Upcoming Minding Animals Events and Partner Conferences

27 April, 2012: Sydney, Australia

Host: School of Humaities, University of New South Wales

Event title: *Animal Ethics and Cognitive Science*

Venue: Morven Brown Room 310 (level 3)

Time and Date: 3pm to 6 pm, 27 April, 2012

Guest speakers: Jeffrey Bussolini and Sascha Benjamin Fink

Organiser and contact: Thom van Dooren, thom.van.dooren@gmail.com

The event will be completely free, and open to the public.

See the flyer at the end of the Bulletin

4 May, 2012: Geneva, Switzerland

Host: SHARRE (Society for Human-Animal Relationship Research & Education)

Event title: *Mon chien (...) ce héros ! / My dog (...) what a hero!*

Venue: Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève, Auditoire Marcel Jenny, Rue Gabrielle-Perret-Gentil, Geneva, Switzerland

Time and Date: 8am to 6:15pm, 4 May, 2012

Confirmed speakers: Àdàm Miklòsi, Jòzsef Topàl, Giuliana Galli Carminati & others

Organiser and contact: Rachel Lehotkay and Erika Lorincz at info@sharre.ch

The event will be conducted in French and English

Conference details, including program, event fees and registration, will be available on the SHARRE website shortly at <http://www.sharre.ch/>

See the flyer at the end of the Bulletin

12 to 13 May, 2012: Genoa, Italy

Host: SDF and MAnITa (Minding Animals Italy)

Event title: *The Emotional Lives of Animals*

Time: 9am to 7pm both days

Venue 12 May: Aula Magna - Facoltà di SDF, Corso A. Podestà 2

Venue 13 May: Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Via Brigata Liguria 9

Keynote speaker: Professor Marc Bekoff

Organiser and contact: Alma Massaro, almamassaro@gmail.com

The event will be conducted in Italian and English

See the flyer at the end of the Bulletin

14 to 16 May, 2012: Aarhus, Denmark

Host: The Centre for Bioethics and Nanoethics at Aarhus University and in collaboration with AnimalConcepts

Event title: *Animal Welfare: Ethical & Behavioural Questions*

Venue: Auditorium 2, Building 1441, Aarhus University, Tåsingevej 3, 8000 Aarhus C, Denmark

Speakers: Prof Bernard Rollin, Prof Donald M. Broom, Aage Kristian Olsen Alstrup, Mickey Gjerris, Lene Munksgaard, Jes Harfeld, Judith Benz-Schwarzburg and Sabrina Brando

Time and Date: 14 to 16 May, 2012

Organiser and Contact: Jes Harfeld JEH@teo.au.dk and Sabrina Brando sbrando@animalconcepts.eu

Registration: see website

Website: <http://conferences.au.dk/animalwelfare/>

See the flyer at the end of the Bulletin

12 to 13 June, 2012: Sydney, Australia

Host: HARN - Human Animal Research Network, University of Sydney

Event title: *Animal Death*

Venue: Woolley Common Room, Building A20, University of Sydney (Camperdown Campus)

Keynote speakers: Prof Deborah Bird Rose and Associate Prof Annie Potts

Convenors: Dr Fiona Probyn-Rapsey (fiona.probyn-rapsey@sydney.edu.au) and Dr Jay Johnston (jay.johnston@sydney.edu.au)

This symposium will bring together cross-disciplinary voices on the topic of Animal Death. Papers will explore how animal and human death are conceptualised, diverge, differ and also connect in profound ways. Papers will explore issues of sacrifice, 'necessary' expendability, utility, species extinction, human survival, climate change and conservation. We are particularly interested in human and animal relationships around the nature of death, including (but not limited to) issues of grief (for the dead companion animal), euthanasia, rituals of slaughter, vivisection, cultures of denial, the issue of who and who isn't attributed a 'soul', and post-death belief systems.

For registrations, see the conference website: <http://sydney.edu.au/arts/research/harn/>

Post-Utrecht Minding Animals Events and Partner Conferences

ADVANCED NOTICES – WATCH FOR UPDATES IN FUTURE BULLETINS

5 to 7 September, 2012: Manchester, United Kingdom

Host: Manchester Centre for Political Theory (MANCEPT) Workshops in Political Theory, University of Manchester

Event title: *Workshop on Animals in Political Theory* [Forms part of the MANCEPT Workshops]

Venue: University of Manchester

Convenor: Steve Cooke stephen.cooke@manchester.ac.uk

Abstracts are invited for a workshop on Animal in Political Theory at the MANCEPT Workshops in Political Theory. Contributions are welcome from the fields of political theory/philosophy, history of philosophy, and ethics. Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Animal Rights
- Animals and Global Justice
- Animals and Democratic Theory
- Animal Liberation
- Liberalism and Animals
- Animals and Political Thought

If you would like to present a paper at this workshop, please send a 500-word abstract (or a full paper) to Steve Cooke by 15 May, 2012.

Conference website: <http://manceptworkshops2012.wordpress.com/>

21 to 22 September, 2012: Oslo, Norway

Host: Council for Animal Ethics, University of Oslo Centre for Development and Environment, and Minding Animals Norway

Event title: *Dyreetikkonferansen 2012: the animal behind the food and the human behind the consumer*

Venue: Veterinærinstituttet (Veterinary Institute), Ullevålsveien, 68, Oslo

Time: to be advised

Conference contact: Morten Tønnessen, mortentoennessen@gmail.com

Conference details at:

<http://www.mindinganimals.no/index.php/33-forside-hovednyhet/63-dyreetikkonferansen>

Dyreetikkonferansen will create a yearly meeting place for dissemination, exchange and debate for those interested in animal ethics and animal welfare in Norway. Animal husbandry in agriculture is the key theme for 2012, but future conferences shall also examine wild animals, as well as the role of animals in community life.

March, 2013: Vienna, Austria

Host: Vienna Conference of Animal Ethics and Law (VCAEL), Forschungsstelle für Ethik und Wissenschaft im Dialog, Institut für Philosophie, Universität Wien

Event title: *The Case for Animal Rights – 30 Years Later*

Venue: to be announced mid 2012

Time and Date: to be announced mid 2012

Guest speakers (so far): Professors Tom Regan, Tom Beauchamp and David Favre

Organiser and contact: Erwin Lengauer and Andrea Yehudit Richter, contact@veaw.at

Conference details will be made available soon at:

<http://veaw.univie.ac.at/lectures/the-case-for-animal-rights-30-years-later/>

Occasional Paper

Rewilding Our Hearts: maintaining hope and faith in trying times

Some practical ideas for a new personal social movement

Published on December 19, 2011 by Marc Bekoff in *Animal Emotions*

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We're running out of world and wildness

Humans are a force in nature. "Tell me something I don't know", I hear you lament. We're all over the place, big-brained, big-footed, arrogant, invasive, menacing, and marauding mammals. No need to look for mythical Bigfoot: we're here! We leave huge footprints all over the place and have been rather unsuccessful at solving urgent problems. Robert Berry fears we're simply "running out of world" (2003, *God's book of works*, Continuum, London). Perhaps we've already "run out of world" including wildness. Some go as far to argue we've created a world that's so technologically and socially complex we can't control it.

I'm always looking for ways to remain positive and hopeful in challenging times. And I know how difficult it can be when it seems that so many things are going wrong. Mass media constantly begins with horror stories about death and destruction and then at the end of a TV show, for example, we hear about the good people who are working to make the world a better place for all beings. They sometimes get a minute or two after almost 30 minutes of negativity. I've often suggested that TV and radio news shows should begin with a two positive stories, talk about other news, and then end with at least two positive messages.

There's Always Jasper

We can learn a lot about being positive from other animals and there's always Jasper, a recovered Asiatic moon bear, to think about for hope and inspiration. After years of horrific suffering Jasper has become the spokes-bear for forgiveness, peace, trust, and hope. I can't thank Jasper enough for sharing his journey and his dreams. Jasper, like the dogs, cats, and many other nonhuman animals ("animals") who also need us, make us more humane and thus more human. The true spirit of humans, our inborn nature, is to help rather than to harm.

Rewilding as a personal journey: Reconnecting with (M)other Nature

For a book I'm writing called *Rewilding Our Hearts* I've been thinking of ways to keep that loving feeling in times when many people are suffering and can't seem to see the light. Because of what I do for a living I look to the animals for guidance. And I found just what I was looking for when I began to read about what are called rewilding projects.

The word "rewilding" became an essential part of talk among conservationists in the late 1990s when two well-known conservation biologists, Michael Soulé and Reed Noss, wrote a now classic paper called "Rewilding and biodiversity: Complimentary goals for continental conservation" that appeared in the magazine *Wild Earth* (Fall 1998, 18-28. 15).

In her book *Rewilding the World* conservationist Caroline Fraser noted that rewilding basically could be boiled down to three words: Cores, Corridors, and Carnivores. Dave Foreman, director of the Rewilding Institute in Albuquerque, New Mexico, a true visionary, sees rewilding as a conservation strategy based on three premises: "(1) healthy ecosystems need large carnivores, (2) large carnivores need bug, wild roadless areas, and (3) most roadless areas are small and thus need to be linked."

Conservation biologists and others who write about rewilding or work on rewilding projects see it as a large-scale process involving projects of different sizes that go beyond carnivores, such as the ambitious, courageous, and forward-looking Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative, well known as the Y2Y project. Of course, rewilding goes beyond carnivores, as it must.

The core words associated with large-scale rewilding projects are connection and connectivity, the establishment of links among geographical areas so that animals can roam as freely as possible with few if any disruptions to their movements. For this to happen ecosystems must be connected so that their integrity and wholeness are maintained or reestablished.

Regardless of scale, ranging from huge areas encompassing a wide variety of habitats that need to be reconnected or that need to be protected to personal interactions with animals and habitats, the need to rewild and reconnect and to build or maintain links centers on the fact that there has been extensive isolation and fragmentation "out there" in nature, between ourselves and (M)other nature, and within ourselves. Many, perhaps most, human animals, are isolated and fragmented internally concerning their relationships with nonhuman animals, so much that we're alienated from them. We don't connect with other animals, including other humans, because we can't or don't empathize with them. The same goes for our lack of connection with various landscapes. We don't understand they're alive, vibrant, dynamic, magical, and magnificent. Alienation often results in different forms of domination and destruction, but domination is not what it means "to be human." Power does not mean license to do whatever we want to do because we can.

Rewilding projects often involve building wildlife bridges and underpasses so that animals can freely move about. These corridors, as they're called, can also be more personalized. I see rewilding our heart as a dynamic process that will not only foster the development of corridors of coexistence and compassion for wild animals but also facilitate the formation of corridors in our bodies that connect our heart and brain. In turn, these connections, or reconnections, will result in feelings that will facilitate heartfelt actions to make the lives of animals better. These are the sorts of processes that will help the new field of compassionate conservation further develop. When I think about what can be done to help others a warm feeling engulfs me and I'm sure it's part of that feeling of being rewilded. To want to help others in need is natural so that glow is to be expected.

Reasons for hope and inspiration: There's no going back to the way things were

Erle Ellis, who works in the Department of Geography and Environmental Systems at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, notes that while it's true that we've transformed Earth beyond recovery, rather than looking back in despair we should look ahead to what we can achieve. He writes, "There will be no returning to our comfortable cradle. The global patterns of the Holocene have receded and their return is no longer possible, sustainable, or even desirable. It is no longer Mother Nature who will care for us, but us who must care for her. This raises an important but often neglected question: can we create a good Anthropocene? In the future will we be able to look back with pride? ...

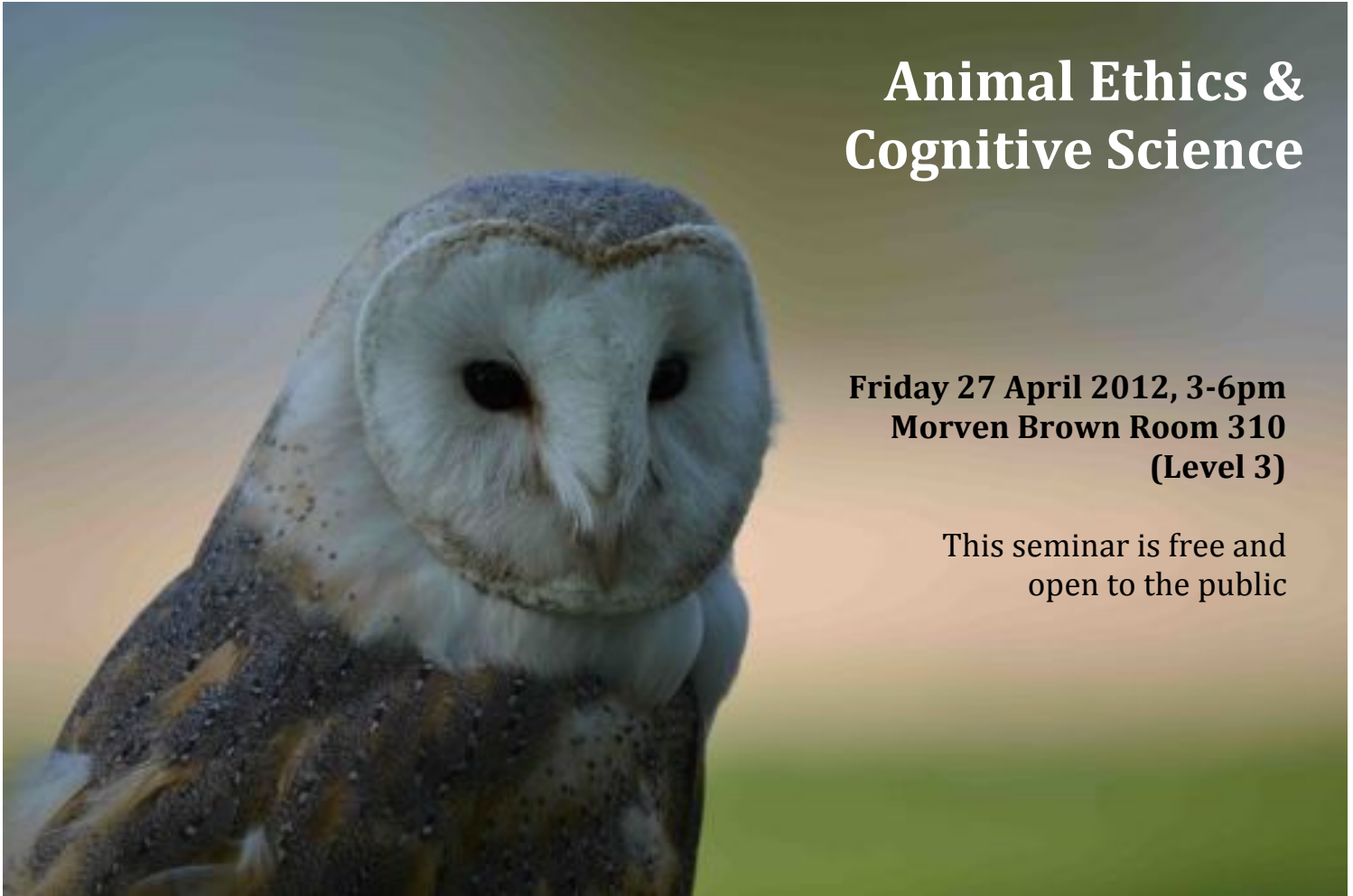
Clearly it is possible to look at all we have created and see only what we have destroyed. But that, in my view, would be our mistake. We most certainly can create a better Anthropocene. We have really only just begun, and our knowledge and power have never been greater. We will need to work together with each other and the planet in novel ways. The first step will be in our own minds. The Holocene is gone. In the Anthropocene we are the creators, engineers and permanent global stewards of a sustainable human nature."

End....

Animal Ethics & Cognitive Science

Friday 27 April 2012, 3-6pm
Morven Brown Room 310
(Level 3)

This seminar is free and
open to the public



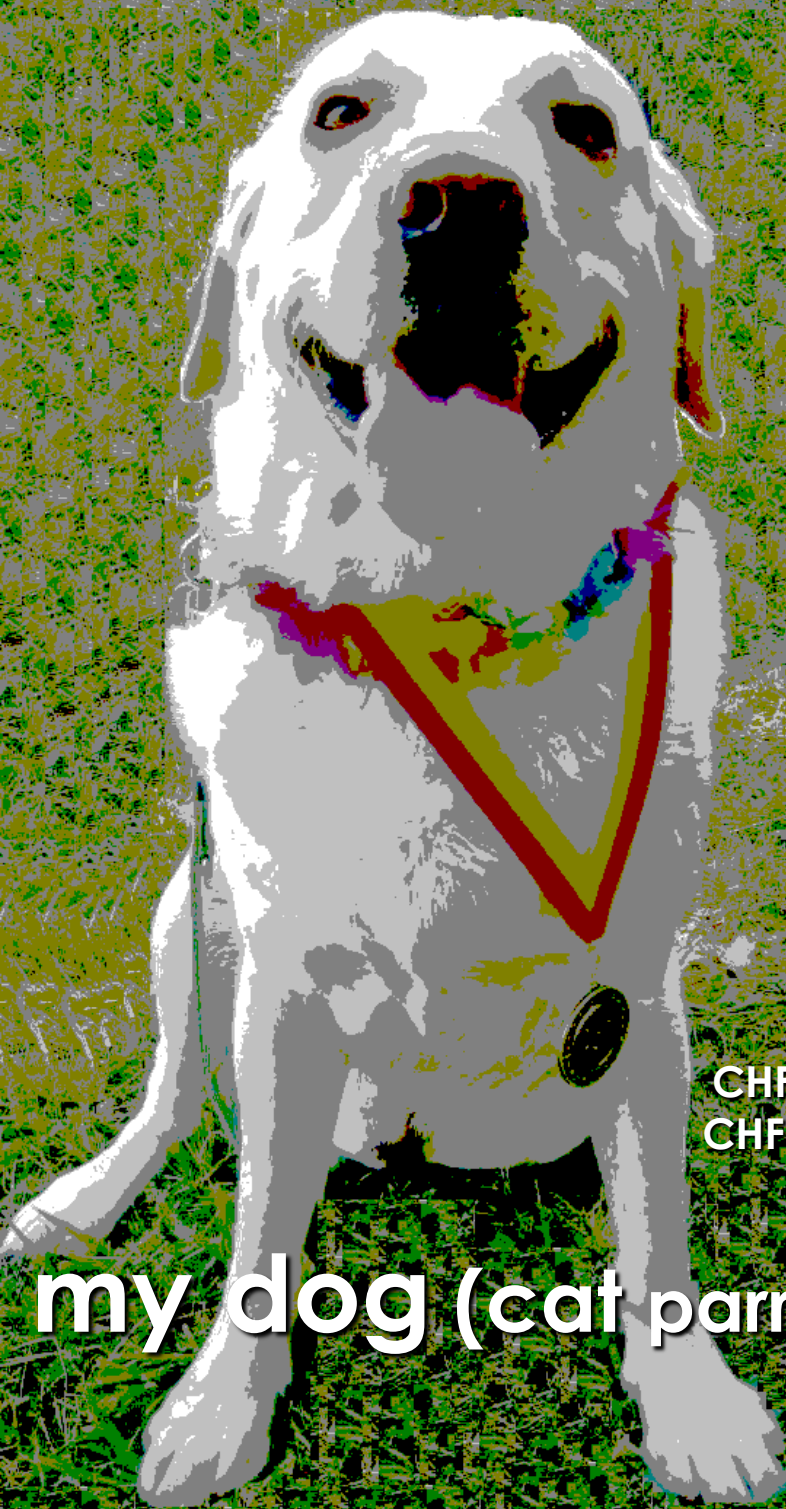
Jeffrey Bussolini: “French and Italian Research in Cognitive Science of Animals: Dominique Lestel and Roberto Marchesini”

Bussolini is Associate Professor at City University of New York and Co-Director of the Center for Feline Studies. His research concerns feline-feline and feline-human interactions that bridge the traditions of ethnography and ethology, and he translates Italian and French research concerning animals and the philosophy of science.

Sascha Benjamin Fink: “The Cognitive Dividing Line: The Scientific Approach to the Question which Animals Deserve Immediate Moral Concern”

Fink is a PhD candidate at the Institute for Cognitive Science at the University of Osnabrück (Germany), currently visiting the Centre for Conscious at ANU. He is specialising in issues concerning the neuroscientific research on phenomenal consciousness and is interested in its influence on moral issues. He is a member of the Interdisciplinary Program on Suffering and Pain (Université du Luxembourg), a member of the MINDGroup (Frankfurt Institute for Advanced Studies), and a proud member of Minding Animals Germany.

SHARRE Conference 2012



Friday May 4th 2012

8h00-18h15

HUG-Auditorium Marcel Jenny

Rue Gabrielle-Perret-Gentil

1205 Geneva

Infos & registration

info@sharre.ch

www.sharre.ch

Tel. : +41 76 540 86 53

Registration fees

CHF 100.-/80.- student, AVS, AI, ASZ

CHF 150.-/100.- from March 31st or on the spot

my dog (cat parrot rat rabbit canary ferret piton...)

what a hero!





Minding Animals Italy

www.mindinganimals.com



The emotional lives of animals

Genova · Italy · May 12-13 · 2012

Saturday, May 12 · 9AM to 7PM · Aula Magna · Facoltà di SdF · Corso Podestà 2

Sunday, May 13 · 9AM to 7PM · Museo di Storia Naturale · Via Brigata Liguria 9



Minding Animals Italy Conference

The Emotional Lives of Animals

12-13 May 2012

Genoa, Italy

A Minding Animals pre-conference event

12 May – Saturday – 09:00-19:00

Aula Magna - Facoltà di SdF, Corso A. Podestà 2

13 May – Sunday – 09:00-19:00

Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Via Brigata Liguria 9

Participant speakers: Marc Bekoff, Vilma Baricalla, Luisella Battaglia, Carla Bernasconi, Pierluigi Castelli, Marco Celentano, Rosagemma Ciliberti, Margherita d'Amico, Paolo De Benedetti, Barbara de Mori, Irene De Vitti, Silvana Diverio, Bruno Fedi, Matteo Gasparin, Gianluca Felicetti, Arianna Ferrari, Ilaria Ferri, Paola Fossati, Angelo Gazzano, Luigi Lombardi-Vallauri, Anna Mannucci, Franco Manti, Annamaria Manzoni, Paola Marchei, Roberto Marchesini, Luisa Marnati, Mara Miele, Graziana Moretti, Gianfranco Nicora, Giuseppe Pallante, Susanna Penco, Valerio Pocar, Paola Sobbrío, Kim Stallwood, Massimo Terrile, Sabrina Tonutti, Luciano Valle, Augusto Vitale.

MANIta Organising Committee: Matteo Andreozzi, Leonardo Caffo, Arianna Ferrari, Alma Massaro, Gianfranco Nicora, Paola Sobbrío, Adele Tiengo, Sabrina Tonutti.

Sponsored by:



Animal Welfare: Ethical and Behavioural Questions



Conference at Aarhus University - May 14th - 16th, 2012

The seminar aims to provide a forum for interdisciplinary discourse and information sharing between animal care staff, philosophers, animal scientists, students, and others interested in animal welfare studies.

The seminar topics will be thematically wide-ranging and include a variety of species as well as several aspects of human-animal interactions such as zoos, laboratories, agriculture, wild animals and pets.

Speakers

Professor Bernard Rollin – Colorado State University, USA

Professor Donald M. Broom – University of Cambridge, UK

DVM Aage Kristian Olsen Alstrup PhD – Aarhus University, Denmark

Dr. Mickey Gjerris – University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Dr. Lene Munksgaard – Aarhus University, Denmark

Dr. Jes Harfeld – Aarhus University, Denmark

Dr. des. Judith Benz-Schwarzburg – Vetmed Vienna / University of Vienna, Austria

Sabrina Brando – AnimalConcepts, The Netherlands

Conference organizers

The conference is a collaboration between the Dutch animal welfare advisory company AnimalConcepts and the Centre for Bioethics and Nanoethics at Aarhus University, Denmark.

Additional information and registration at: <http://conferences.au.dk/animalwelfare/>



MINDING ANIMALS INTERNATIONAL NOMINATION FORM

Name: _____

Email: _____

Institution/Independent Scholar: _____

I would like to serve on the (please tick one):

- Minding Animals International Board of Directors Ordinary Member
- Minding Animals International Secretary
- Minding Animals International Treasurer
- Minding Animals Academic Advisory Committee

[Please note that Board and Committee members serve a three year term. The Board makes decisions for MAI regarding communications, conferences and funding, whilst the Academic Advisory Committee provides occasional advice to the Board on academic matters]

What can you contribute as an active Minding Animals participant?

You must attach a short statement to this nomination form as to how you would advance the objectives and work of Minding Animals (objectives available on the Minding Animals website).

Forms should be scanned and emailed to: mindinganimals@gmail.com before 3pm (Sydney time) on 25 June, 2012, or handed with your supporting statement to either Rod Bennison or Kim Stallwood at Minding Animals 2 in Utrecht before 5pm on 6 July.