



Universiteit Utrecht



Conference Newsletter

**First Conference Newsletter
November 2010**

Welcome to the first edition of the Minding Animals Conference 2012 Newsletter. We look forward to regularly updating you on conference progress and important dates to place in your diary.

The Minding Animals Conferences are major international conferences about the human animal relationship. The Minding Animals Conference 2012 is proud to follow up on the inaugural internationally celebrated Minding Animals Conference (Newcastle, Australia, July 2009). The conference will take place in the first week of July 2012 in Utrecht, in The Netherlands.

Pre-conference events

Turn to page 3 for themes, dates and places of the pre-conference events that have already been planned.

Website online

The Minding Animals 2012 Conference Website is now online and will soon be updated.

Log on to mindinganimals.com and click on the link: ***Visit the Utrecht 2012 website here!*** to find more information about the conference.

Call for papers

The call for papers will occur in early 2011.





Aim of the conference

The aim of the conference is to bring together theorists and scientists from a broad range of academic disciplines with government officials, animal advocacy and protection groups, corporate bodies and the community for the purpose of open discussion and critical reflection on animals and the human-animal relationship.

Cultural program

An accompanying cultural program will reflect the rich variety of representations of animals and the human-animal relationship in film, literature and the visual arts.

Intercultural

The conference also endeavors to involve academics, politicians and nongovernmental organisations from China, India and the developing countries.

Vegan and climate neutral

The lunches and conference dinner will be organic and vegan. The conference strives to be a climate-neutral and GM-free event.





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Events

The conference will consist of the following events:

- ❁ Plenary Sessions with Keynote Lectures: experts in the respective fields introduce important discussions on the main topics of the conference.
- ❁ Parallel Sessions: each session has a specific theme (see below), and consists of presentations (based on a call for papers), workshops and forum discussions.
- ❁ Protecting the Animal Seminar Series: offers animal advocacy and protection groups the chance to present their work.
- ❁ Round Table Discussions: informal gatherings with open discussions on topics that have been suggested by the participants of the Minding Animals Study Circles (see the Minding Animals website for membership of the Study Circles).
- ❁ Cultural Events: films, book presentations, visual art.

Pre-conference events

Pre-conference lectures, workshops and seminars are being organised for several cities prior to Utrecht 2012. So far, the following cities will be hosting events: Utrecht (November 2010 and May 2011), Sydney (December 2010 and February 2011), Brisbane (February and July 2011), Wollongong (July 2011), with several events in October 2011 including New York, Rennes, Oslo, Uppsala, London (twice) and Christchurch, and finally again in Utrecht (pre-cursor to main conference). Keep a close watch on the Minding Animals website and further Newsletters for details of these and other events. The next Bulletin will be out around Christmas 2010.





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Topics and Themes

The topics and themes of the conference will include:

- 🌿 Animal ethics,
- 🌿 Animal science,
- 🌿 Animals in law, philosophy, sociology and history,
- 🌿 Transdisciplinary considerations,
- 🌿 Animals in modern culture.

More details about those topics and themes will follow soon.

Stay informed!

If you've been forwarded this newsletter and you would like to receive further newsletters and information about the Utrecht conference, please email mindinganimals@uu.nl

If you would like more information about Minding Animals International or about any of the Pre-conference Events please email mindinganimals@gmail.com

