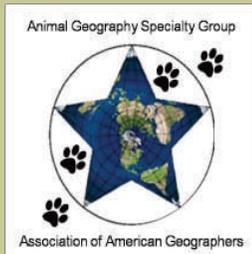


Animal Geography News

The newsletter of the AAG Animal Geography Specialty Group (AnGSG)

Vol. 1, Issue 1

April 2010



2009-2010 Elected AnGSG Board Members

Specialty Group Chair

Monica V. Ogra,
Gettysburg College

Secretary/Treasurer

Julie Urbanik,
University of Missouri, Kan-
sas City

Communications Officer

Sharon Wilcox Adams,
University of Texas, Austin

Graduate Student Officer

Stella Capoccia,
Rutgers University

Supporting Board Members

Jennifer Blecha,
San Francisco State
University

William S. Lynn,
Practical Ethics and
Williams College

Chair's Message: Welcome to the first issue of AGN!

This has been an exciting year for the AnGSG as we celebrate our first anniversary as an official AAG specialty group! I would like to thank all members for continued enthusiasm and support of our group, and especially thank our Communications Officer, Sharon Wilcox Adams for her hard work on the new website (www.animalgeography.org). I encourage everyone to check it out and contribute to the Animal Geography resources we hope to house permanently on the site. Special thanks to Stella Capoccia as well, who has worked closely with me to create this first newsletter. Other members have also been busy, gearing up for our annual meeting and a full slate of AnGSG-sponsored sessions this year (see last page for planning guide).

On a more personal note, I am pleased to see the growing recognition of "animal" issues out there in our classrooms, in the mainstream media, and in society in general. This year's Oscar award winning documentary *The Cove* is just one example! It is my hope that our listserv, website, and newsletter will each continue to provide valuable resources for members' research and teaching in Animal Geography, an increasingly important subfield.

I look forward to seeing you all in DC. Safe travels!

— Monica Ogra



Inside this issue:

Message from the Chair	1
Graduate Student News	1
Member Publications, Awards, and Honors	2
Member news	2
Book reviews	2
AAG Atlas Award: Jane Goodall	3
AAG Field trip to the National Zoo	3
AnGSG Meeting: Call for Board Nomination	3
AAG 2010 Planning Guide	4
Support AnGSG	4

Graduate Student News

This is an exciting time for graduate students! In the very recent years, and with the great help of the Animal Geography Specialty Group, the field of Animal Geography has gained recognition and now enjoys mounting popularity. In response to dedicated scholars including Jody Emel, Jennifer Wolch, Monica Ogra and Julie Urbanik (to name a few), *Animal Geography* is now a recognized

AAG subfield of Geography.

As graduate students, it is now our job to join in the momentum and bring Animal Geography into the future. As budding scholars, we have a priceless opportunity in front of us. The field is wide open. Our work has the potential to serve as the building blocks for the development of this field. Furthermore, the gaining popu-

larity of animals in popular culture is helping to pave the way for our work. As highlighted in our first book review, recent work from authors such as Donna Haraway and Mark Beckoff demonstrate the heightened societal sensitivity to animal issues of which we are all a part.

- Stella Capoccia

AnGSG Member Publications, Awards, and Honors

Publications

Urbanik, J. (2009) Hooters for Neuters: Sexist or Transgressive Animal, Advocacy Campaign? *Humanimalia*, v.1, n.1, pp. 41-67

Ogra, M. (2009) Attitudes Toward Resolution of Human-Wildlife Conflict Among Forest Dependent Agriculturalists Near Rajaji National Park, India. *Human Ecology* 37:161-177

Emel, J. and J. Urbanik. (2010) Animal Geographies: Exploring the Spaces. In *Teaching the Animal: Human-Animal Studies Across the Disciplines*, M. Demello (ed). New York: Lantern.

Awards and Honors

Stella Capoccia received two awards in March 2010 for her work in Animal Geography and as a graduate student instructor. Stella's Dissertation Teaching Award was awarded by the Graduate School at Rutgers University for a course proposal on Animal Geography.

This course is based on her dissertation and independent research and will be taught through the Rutgers Department of Geography in the Spring of 2011. Stella's second award is for Teaching Excellence through the Department of Geography for courses including Conservation and Use of Natural Resources and Politics of Environmental Issues.

Member News: Courses and Kudos



Animal Geography in the Classroom: Kansas City's "K9" officers visit Julie Urbanik's *Animals and Society* course at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (March 2010)

Congratulations to Sharon Wilcox Adams on her recent advancement to Doctoral Candidate!

In the spring of 2009, Shari presented at the *Animals: Past, Present and Future Conference* at Michigan State University. Notably, all of the members of the Social Science Research Group Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship Group in Animal Studies attended, and were accompanied by faculty mentor, Dr. Harriet Ritvo.

An edited volume, *Making Animal Meaning* (University of Michigan Press) was developed from the proceedings of that conference and will be published later this year. Shari contributed a chapter to the volume, "'On the Trail of the Devil Cat: Jaguar Hunting in the U.S. and Mexico."

Book Review: When Species Meet

by Donna Haraway

University of Minnesota Press (ISBN: 978-0-8166-5046-0)

Reviewed by Leslie Patterson, Chicago Public Library

Part memoir and equal parts philosophy, biology, and cultural theory, this book's central story is the growing bond between leading science studies scholar Haraway (*History of Consciousness*, University of California, Santa Cruz; *The Companion Species Manifesto: Dogs, People, and Significant Otherness*) and her canine companion, Cayenne, as they train for and compete in the sport of dog agility.

She also explores a broad range of other relationships, from those among farmers, herding dogs, and sheep to the symbiosis of microscopic organisms, concluding that, far from being separate, companion species are shaping one another as they develop together.

The writing is as varied as the content, ranging from dense and

academic language that could be daunting to general readers to personal emails to her dog-agility friends.

Though she claims that interspecies relations are too complex for absolute judgments and maintains human privilege to use nonhuman animals as workers, research subjects, and a food source, Haraway acknowledges the devastating consequences of our current relationships with them.

Have a great book in mind for this section?

If you would like to submit a book review to a future issue of AGN, or have a title you would like to propose for review, please send it to us!

Contact Stella Capoccia (scapocci@rci.rutgers.edu)

AAG 2010: Washington, DC

Meeting Highlights and Planning Guide

Jane Goodall receives the AAG Atlas Award!

Friday April 16, 6:30-8:00 pm, Marriot Hotel Ballroom

World-renowned primatologist, anthropologist, environmentalist, and humanitarian Dr. Jane Goodall, Ph.D., DBE will be presented with the inaugural AAG Atlas Award. The award presentation will be followed by an address entitled "Gombe and Beyond: The Next 50 Years."

In her lecture, Dr. Goodall will reflect - both personally and professionally - on the meaning of the past five decades, the extraordinary changes the world has seen since 1960, and the impact these changes have had on people, animals and the environment we all share. In addition, she will discuss the role we must all play over the next 50 years to ensure a better future for generations to come.

Dr. Jane Goodall is a leading animal scientists, not only in her study of and compassion for animals in human society, but also in the way she brings to light the indisputable facts that humans are animals, and that in studying non-human animals we may begin to understand ourselves in ways we never imagined.

For more information about Dr. Goodall and her work, please visit <www.janegoodall.org> and <www.rootsandshoots.org>

"The more we learn of the true nature of nonhuman animals, especially those with complex brains and corresponding complex social behavior, the more ethical concerns are raised regarding their use in the service of man - whether this be in entertainment, as "pets," for food, in research laboratories, or any of the other uses to which we subject them. "

~Jane Goodall



Highlighted Field Trip: Friday April 16, 3:30-6:00 pm Visual Culture Tour of the Smithsonian National Zoological Park

This walking tour and guided field trip will explore the multiple histories of the Smithsonian's National Zoo in Rock Creek Park. Strolling through 163 sloping acres, NZP researchers Lisa Uddin and Melissa Songer will share insights about early social, scientific and architectural visions for the grounds, revisit the lives of prominent Zoo residents, and reflect on the shifting aesthetics, biology and politics of animal exhibition more broadly. One of the zoo's newer projects is the Center for Species Survival (CSS). The CSS conducts basic and applied research, especially in the fields of reproductive science and animal management, to understand biological mysteries and to implement practical solutions to help rare species survive. The priority is to avoid extinction while creating methods to sustain viable wildlife populations—for zoos and in the wild. Sites of interest along the way include the Fujifilm Giant Panda Habitat, the Outdoor Flight Cage, the Great Cats exhibit, and the Elephant Trails Exhibit (under construction).

For more information, please contact the organizer, Dawn Bielher (dbielher@umbc.edu)

Organizer: Dawn Biehler, University of Maryland, Baltimore

Trip Capacity: 35

Cost/person: \$15 (inc. speaker honoraria)

BUSINESS MEETING: THURSDAY APRIL 15, 8-9 PM CALL FOR NOMINATION TO THE AnGSG BOARD (STUDENT OFFICER, 2010-2011 term)

Duties include: Encourage and support of graduate student participation in AnGSG in such ways as: recruiting other student members, organizing student paper session at annual meeting, working with AnGSG Chair on newsletter, and contributing to Animal Geography bibliography and other AnGSG website resources. Enthusiasm and commitment essential! This is a one year term. Nominations and voting will take place at the 2010 AnGSG Business Meeting in Washington DC, Thursday April 15, 8-9 pm (Marriot Park Tower 8216, Lobby Level).

Self-nominations are welcome! Please contact the AnGSG Chair, Monica Ogra (mogra@gettysburg.edu) with a brief statement of interest if you cannot attend the meeting but would like to nominate a colleague or yourself.

AAG 2010: ANIMAL GEOGRAPHY PLANNING GUIDE

Session #	Title	Day	Date	Time	Location	Organizers
1272	Animal Geography in the Classroom * AnGSG FEATURED SESSION *	W	14-Apr	10:00-11:40 am	Omni: Senate	J. Urbanik and M. Ogra
1670	Wildlife responses to environmental change	W	14-Apr	4:40-6:20 pm	Omni: Hampton	T. Albright and M. Cunningham
2816	Animal Geography Specialty Group Business Meeting	Th	15-Apr	8:00-9:00 pm	Marriott: Park Tower 8216 (Lobby Level)	AAG
Field Trip # 26	Guided Visual Culture Tour : The Smithsonian National Zoological Park	Fr	16-Apr	3:30-6:00	TBA	D. Biehler
3706	Presentation of AAG Atlas Award to Jane Goodall (with Lecture)	F	16-Apr	6:30-8:00 pm	Marriott: Ballroom Salon 1 (Lobby Level)	AAG
4110	Animal Geographies: Wildlife and Wild Animals	Sa	17-Apr	8:00-9:40 am	Marriott: Maryland Suite C. (Lobby Level)	S. W. Adams and S. Capoccia
4210	Animated Spaces: The Convergence of Human and Animal Lives in North America	Sa	17-Apr	10:00-11:40	Marriott: Maryland Suite C. (Lobby Level)	C. Johnston
4510	Questions of Animal Welfare: On the Farm and in the Lab	Sa	17-Apr	2:40-4:20	Marriott: Maryland Suite C. (Lobby Level)	C. Johnston
4610	The Animal in Capitalism	Sa	17-Apr	4:40-6:20	Marriott: Maryland Suite C. (Lobby Level)	J. Emel

The Animal Geography Specialty Group relies on member support!

Please remember to pay your membership dues (\$1 student, \$5 faculty members). 3 easy ways to do this:

- When registering for the annual meeting or renewing your AAG membership
- In person at our annual business meeting
- By sending payment to AAG directly (see below)

Donations are also appreciated! Please make your check out to AAG, clearly marking it for the "Animal Geography Specialty Group." If sending by mail, include a note to indicate if you are sending dues or making a donation, and mail to: AAG c/o Teri Martin, 1710 16th Street NW, Washington DC, 2009.

Thank you!