

Animal Geography Specialty Group (AnGSG) Annual Report 2011

1) Mission Statement

The Animal Geography Specialty Group strives to enhance geographic research and scholarship on matters relating to human-animal studies by: (a) encouraging the exchange of ideas among geographers studying biological, cultural, ecological, economic, political, and technical aspects of the myriad ways humans co-exist with other animal species, (b) promoting research in these areas, (c) facilitating collaboration between existing AAG specialty groups and committees to promote common interests and develop intra-disciplinary and interdisciplinary projects. The overall aim of AnGSG is to support discussion of human-animal issues by geographers as a legitimate and active part of the discipline.

2) Dues Information

As of October 10, 2011, we have \$500.65 in our AAG account. This includes dues and additional donations. Our annual dues are \$5.00 for faculty and \$1.00 for students.

3) Chair/ Board of Directors / Officers Listing / Newsletter Editor / etc.

Our current executive committee (8 members) is composed as follows:

1. Monica V. Ogra, Chair and Newsletter Editor: Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Studies & Globalization Studies Program, Gettysburg College (3 year term)
2. Julie Urbanik, Secretary/Treasurer: Assistant Teaching Professor, Department of Geoscience, University of Missouri-Kansas City (3 year term)
3. Sharon W. Adams, Communications Officer: Graduate Candidate, Department of Geography & the Environment, University of Texas at Austin (1 year term)
4. Gabrielle Collins, Graduate Student Officer: Doctoral Candidate, Department of Geography, University of Nebraska at Omaha (1 year term)
5. Suzi Weisman, Graduate Student Officer: Doctoral Candidate, Department of Geography, University of Texas (1 year term)
6. Harvey Neo, General Board Member: Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, National University of Singapore (3 year term)
7. Mona Seymour, General Board Member: Assistant Professor, Department of Urban Studies and Geography, Loyola Marymount University (3 year term)
8. Stella Capoccia, General Board Member: Doctoral Student, Department of Geography, Rutgers (3 year term)

4) Accomplishments:

- Published second newsletter in April 2011.
- Awarded first graduate student paper competition at the 2011 AAG meeting.
- Sponsored the following paper and panel sessions at the AAG meeting in 2011:
 1. A Dog is Always More than a Dog: Canine Issues, East-West
 2. Panel: Animal Geographies: Emerging Perspectives
 3. Animal Geography: Human influence on wildlife and wild animals
 4. Animated Representations: Animals, Media and Place I
 5. Animated Representations: Animals, Media, and Place II
 6. Animated Representations: Animals, Media, and Place III
 7. Author Meets Critics: Robert Wilson's "Seeking Refuge: Birds and Landscapes of the Pacific Flyway"
 8. Coastal & Marine and Animal Geography Illustrated Paper Session
 9. Direct Experience in Situated Human-Animal Encounters: Critical Perspectives and Educational Practices
 10. The Animal Body in the Capitalist Labor Process
 11. The Politics of Meat Production and Consumption I
 12. The Politics of Meat Production and Consumption II
 13. Wildlife Conservation and Management

Activities Scheduled: multiple events sponsored at the 2012 AAG meeting.

Future Plans and Directions:

1. Continue to develop website.
2. Compile a comprehensive animal geography bibliography.
3. To develop an Animal Geography peer-reviewed journal.

Business Meeting at the AAG Conference in Seattle.

We had 21 attendees at the meeting. Our main item of business was to amend the bylaws to clarify the role of graduate student officers with respect to the newsletter and to enable electronic voting. We also awarded the first graduate student paper award to Shari Wilcox Adams and formed a committee to develop an undergraduate student paper competition.

Student Paper Awards: Have been finalized for the 2012 meeting.

Shari Wilcox Adams was awarded the first graduate student paper at the AAG meeting in 2011.

Graduate Student Paper Award

The Animal Geography Specialty Group (AnGSG) of the AAG invites submissions for its annual Graduate Student Paper Award competition. Eligible papers must be presented at the Annual Meeting of the AAG (New York, February 2012) and based on original empirical or theoretical research in the field of Animal Geography; literature reviews will not be considered. Papers submitted to other AAG paper competitions are not eligible. The student must be a member of the AnGSG at the time of submission and the sole author of the paper.

Manuscripts should not exceed 8000 words, and should be accompanied by a cover letter that includes the title of the paper, brief abstract (maximum 250 words), name of the author, academic affiliation, mailing address, email address and phone numbers. Papers will be evaluated by a subcommittee of AnGSG members. One \$200 cash prize will be awarded to the winner, whose name will be announced at the AnGSG business meeting in New York. The name of the winner will also be announced in both the AAG and AnGSG newsletters.

Submissions must be received by **January 20, 2012**. Please send the paper in electronic form (.doc, .docx, or .pdf) to the AnGSG Secretary-Treasurer, [Julie Urbanik](mailto:urbanikj@umkc.edu) (urbanikj@umkc.edu). Please put "AnGSG paper submission" in the subject line of the email. Questions about the paper award may be directed to Julie Urbanik.

General Guidelines: Eligible papers must be presented at the Annual Meeting of the AAG (New York, February 24-28, 2012) and based on original empirical or theoretical research in the field of Animal Geography; literature reviews will not be considered. Papers submitted to other AAG paper competitions are not eligible. The student must be a member of the AnGSG at the time of submission and the sole author of the paper.

Undergraduate Student Paper Award

The Animal Geography Specialty Group (AnGSG) is sponsoring an undergraduate student paper competition for the 2012 AAG meeting to recognize emerging scholars in the subfield of animal geography. Research papers on any topic related to animal geography are welcome. Papers should be based on original research (literature reviews are not eligible). Student papers may not be co-authored with a faculty member. Papers written between January 2011 and January 2012 are eligible for this competition.

Students are not required to present their paper at the 2012 AAG meeting in order to be considered in the competition. Students who do elect to present their paper at the meeting will be considered for the award based on their paper only, and not on their presentation. Students need not be current members of the AAG and the AnGSG at the time of submission.

Paper submissions should include a title page with the student's name, institution, course title, term and year for which the paper was written. So that the judges may read the papers anonymously, do not include the author's name anywhere on the inside pages of the paper. Papers should be double-spaced, in 12-point font, and 2,500-4,000 words in length (excluding references, figures, and tables). Email a copy of your paper (as a .doc or .pdf file) to Dr. Mona Seymour at mona.seymour@lmu.edu by January 20th, 2012. The undergraduate student paper competition winner will be awarded \$50. The winner will be announced at the 2012 AnGSG business meeting, and will be notified via email if not present at the meeting.

Newsletter information: We published our second newsletter in April of 2011. A PDF file is available for download on our website (www.animalgeography.org).

2012 Annual Meeting Plans for NYC

The AnGSG will be sponsoring multiple sessions at the meeting and holding the second graduate student paper competition and the first undergraduate student paper competition.

5) Membership and Participation:

We currently have 113 group members.

6) Financial Report (If your funds are being managed by AAG and you need your statements, please contact Teri Martin at tmartin@aag.org directly).

<i>8/31/2010</i>	<i>Balance forward</i>		\$ 400.75
09/21/10	Sharon Wilcox-Adams	(107.88)	292.87
09/30/10	Dues collected for September 2010	8.00	300.87
10/28/10	Urbanik - Donation to group	25.00	325.87
10/31/10	Dues collected for October 2010	66.00	391.87
11/19/10	Emel - Donation	125.00	516.87
11/19/10	Wolch - Donation	125.00	641.87
11/30/10	Dues collected for November 2010	24.00	665.87
12/31/10	Dues collected for December 2010	13.00	678.87
01/31/11	Dues collected for January 2011	32.00	710.87
02/28/11	Dues collected for February 2011	20.00	730.87
3/31/11	Dues collected for March 2011	13.00	743.87
4/12/11	Wilcox Adams - Graduate Student Paper Award	(250.00)	493.87
4/30/11	Dues collected for April 2011	21.00	514.87
5/24/11	Ogra - Donation	63.00	577.87
5/31/11	Dues collected for May 2011	21.00	598.87
6/30/11	Dues collected for June 2011	2.00	600.87
7/12/11	Wilcox Adams - website maintenance	(138.22)	462.65
7/31/11	Dues collected for July 2011	32.00	494.65
8/31/11	Dues collected for August 2011	6.00	500.65
8/31/11	Balance		<u><u>\$500.65</u></u>