

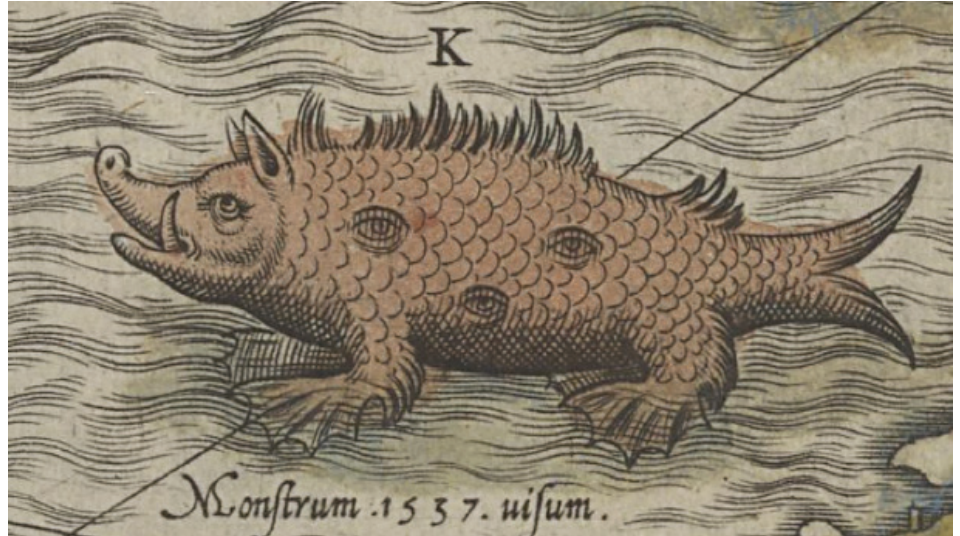


Animal Geography News

Research, Conference, Publication

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Mythical creatures possessing human qualities adorned many Medieval maps. Heretics, said to live like swine for distorting the truth, were likened to the sea pig featured above. Image: *Carta Marina*, 1539, Olaus Magnus. Public Domain.

Letter from the Chair

Welcome to our sixth Animal Geography Specialty Group newsletter! I would like to start off by thanking our board members for their work on behalf of the group – and especially Anita Hagy Ferguson for taking the lead on this newsletter.

I am pleased to announce the winner of our graduate student paper competition: Lauren Van Patter from the University of Guelph. Please find an abstract for her paper and contact information inside! We did not receive any qualifying entries for the undergraduate paper competition, so I'd like to remind all faculty that this is a great opportunity for both undergraduates and graduate students to get some recognition for the work they are doing.

The upcoming AAG meeting in Chicago will have another strong showing of animal geography

sessions and we have included the full schedule inside to help those attending plan their days.

Our business meeting is scheduled for the lunch hour (11:50-1:10) on Thursday, April 23rd, in Randolph, Hyatt, East Tower, Ped Path. We will be electing new members to the board and we will be discussing the switch from Refworks to Zotero for the bibliography. I invite all of you to attend and to participate in shaping the future of animal geography.

For those going to the AAG meeting in Chicago I hope you enjoy the conference and take time to rub elbows with fellow animal geographers! Safe travels! For those of you unable to attend the AAGs this year, we thank you for your support and we hope to see you soon!

~ Julie Urbanik, AnGSG Chair

Connect with AnGSG

AnGSG Facebook



AnGSG Google Group

Have your messages sent by email via angsg@googlegroups.com and/or log in directly to the Google Group and click "New Topic" to send a message



Mariner's compass. John Davis 1670. Public Domain.

AnGSG Board

We have a number of AnGSG board positions open this year and we did not get any nominations during our electronic voting period so we will be deciding on the board at our business meeting.

We can state, however, that Anita Hagy Ferguson will continue as a Graduate Student Officer and Shari Wilcox will continue as Communications Officer (Thank You!).

The positions we did not receive nominations for include: Chair, Secretary/Treasurer, 1 Graduate Student Officer, and 3 General Board Members.

Please see our [bylaws](#) to review duties of board members:

If anyone is unable to attend the meeting but decides they would like to join the board in some capacity please send Julie Urbanik an email privately (Julie.urbanik@gmail.com) with a short paragraph about who you are and why you would like to run for the position. Julie will be sure to bring your information to the meeting floor.

Recent Member Publications

New paper on dogs & humans in the built environment

Gaunet, F., Pari-Perrin, E & Bernardin, G. (2014). Description of dogs and owners in outdoor built-up areas and their more-than-human issues. *Environmental Management*, 54(3) 383-401
Click [HERE](#) for paper

* * *

Several AnGSG members combine efforts in new Animal Geographies edited book

Released in January, *Critical Animal Geographies: Politics, Intersections and Hierarchies in a Multispecies World* brings together top animal geographers and their original research on topics ranging from foie gras production to coyotes in the city.

Edited by Kathryn Gillespie and Rosemary Collard, the book kicks off Routledge's new Human-Animal Studies series, edited by Henry Buller.

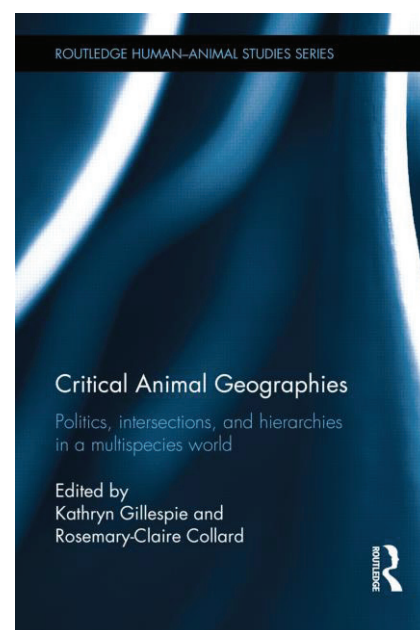
As a whole, *Critical Animal Geographies* works toward a more radical politics and theory directed at the shifting boundary between human and animal. The authors' perspectives are diverse: feminist, political-economic, post-humanist, anarchist, post-colonial, and critical race. Central to all the chapters is a commitment to grappling with the stakes – violence, death, life, autonomy – of human-animal encounters.

Session 2263 Critical Interventions in a Multi-Species World

Ogden, Hyatt W Tower

Silver Level

Wed 4/22, 10:00-11:40 AM



Click [HERE](#) for the book's complete description, contents, and ordering information (and to make a request to your library)

Authors include: Shelley Alexander, Gwendolyn Blue, Irus Braverman, Rosemary Collard, Jody Emel, Kathryn Gillespie, Eva Giraud, Connie Johnston, John Joyce, Karen Morin, Heidi Nast, Joseph Nevins, Claire Rasmussen, Jill Schneiderman, Elisabeth Stoddard, Richard White, and Anastasia Yarbrough.

The editors have also organized an AAG panel, Critical Interventions in a Multispecies World, featuring several of the book's authors, among others, to spark conversation around questions the book raises.

Notes on Animal Geography Bibliography

A few years ago our board worked extensively to develop an animal geography bibliography as a service to our field. We did that through RefWorks and it has been a good system; however, it does not easily allow group members to add their own citations.

We have opened a Zotero group account. Zotero is a free, online bibliography service that allows you to integrate your Endnote (and other) libraries and allows group members to add their own entries. We ask the group to review this option and to provide feedback as to whether this is what we should move to. Please take a moment and check out the system:

[Animal Geography Specialty Group Bibliography.](#)

The only catch is that you have to request to be added through the administrator (currently the Chair, Julie Urbanik) – but once that is done and you accept the invitation you are free to add as many references as you like. If you only want to browse you can do that at any time!

We will be finalizing our decision at the Business Meeting so please let us know what you think! (you can email Julie Urbanik at julie.urbanik@gmail.com)

Lauren Van Patter



Congratulations to the graduate student paper competition winner!

Lauren Van Patter of University of Guelph wins the graduate student paper contest with ***'Of place' or 'of people': Exploring the spatial dimensions of human-feral cat relations in southern Ontario***

Lauren is currently completing her MA in Geography at the University of Guelph, working with Dr. Alice Hovorka. After finishing a BSc, she decided to pursue her passion for animals by exploring human-feral cat relations. She lives in Guelph with her partner Nick and two feline companions, Finnigan and Jasper. vanpattl@uoguelph.ca

Abstract:

Feral cats are contentious and transgressive, with conflicts surrounding their classification as abandoned pets, wild animals, or invasive species. Concerns about their welfare often conflict with fears that they are impacting native species. This paper presents the results of a case study of human-feral cat relations that took place

in southern Ontario, Canada in 2014. This study investigates the social construction of feral cats and the discursive understandings of their 'animal places' using semi-structured interviews. Additionally, following recent calls in animal geography to move beyond human representations of animals and better integrate "animals' geographies", this study also sought to address the material lives of feral cats. In attending to non-human agency and subjectivities, the 'bestly places' of feral cats were investigated using direct observation and secondary anecdotal evidence from colony caretakers. Through this investigation, feral cat health, the diversity of free-living contexts, and the tenuousness of their safety and spaces was emphasized. This paper concludes with a discussion of non-human place-making, considering the possibility of feral cat colonies as homes, and their consequent claims to these spaces.

Lauren Van Patter

presents at AAG

Session 1230 Animal-Human
Entanglements 2

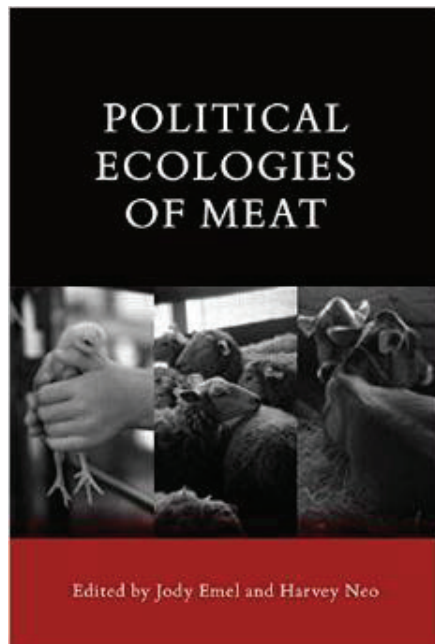
Tu 4/21, 10:00-11:40 AM

Member News

Awards, Advancements and New Developments

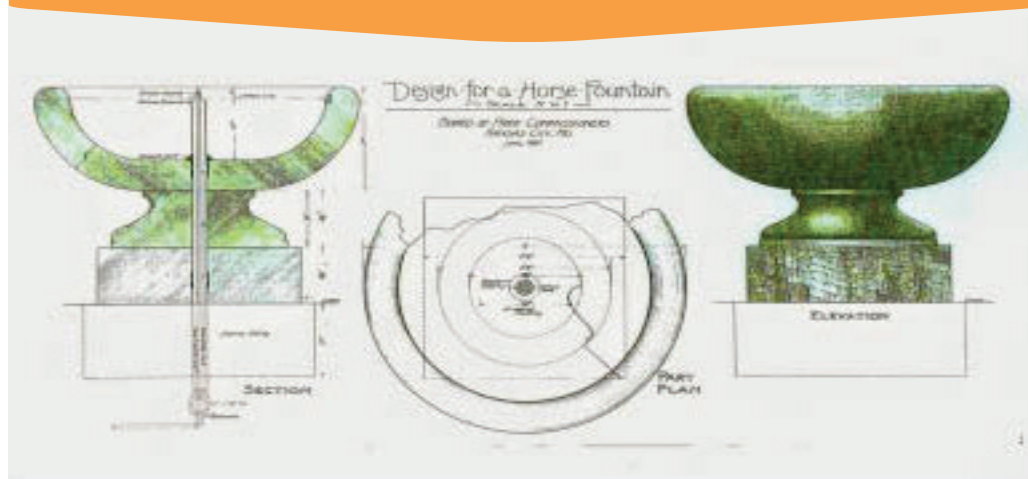
Julie Urbanik received a grant from the Missouri Humanities Council to develop a storymap about the cultural animal landscape of Kansas City. Please click [HERE](#) see the project.

Connie Johnston has been named a finalist for the AAG's J. Warren Nystrom Award for the following paper from her dissertation: "The political science of farm animal welfare in the US and EU". This paper will be presented at the Nystrom Award Session II on Friday April 24. The paper is also a chapter in the forthcoming *Political Ecology of Meat* (Earthscan), edited by Jody Emel and Harvey Neo.



Political Ecologies of Meat, edited by Jody Emel and Harvey Neo is published by Earthscan, and is part of the Routledge Studies in Political Ecology book series. Available June 2015.

Design for a horse fountain from 1907. Courtesy of Kansas City Parks and Recreation Dept.



Political Ecologies of Meat

An Interview with Harvey Neo

Harvey Neo responds to AnGSG about *Political Ecologies of Meat*, a new book he co-edited with Jody Emel.

AnGSG: Why this book and why is it important now?

Neo: As we all know, meat consumption has grown exponentially in the past decades and is not showing any signs of slowing down. This edited volume explores the multiple implications of such a growth, including the drivers behind it. The book draws from case studies across the globe, including Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas.

AnGSG: What does the book contribute to the field of animal studies, in particular animal geography?

Neo: The production/consumption of food animals is arguably less researched than other aspects of animal geography. Perhaps more than other forms of human-animal relationships, eating animals engenders a complex matrix of politics, economics, science and morality. It is a topic that is broad in scope and complex in nature.

AnGSG: What did you learn in the process of writing this book?

Neo: Through the insightful chapters by our contributors (18 chapters in total), I have learned much more about the whole production and consumption chain of food animals and how they are highly variable, through time and space.

AnGSG: Why a collaboration between you and Jody Emel?

Neo: I have known Jody for 13 years now and she has been a wonderful mentor and friend. Our mutual interests intersect in food animals, and I feel privileged to work with her on this project. Indeed, I must emphasize that she did the bulk of the work for this edited volume and I am happy just to learn about the process of editing a book from her.

AnGSG: What do you want to see change as a result of the book?

Neo: I think my modest hope is for people to realize that there is nothing "natural" about the way food animals are being produced, marketed and consumed now. So, this simple awareness that something is wrong with the food animal system would already make me happy.

ANGSG Sponsored Events

Day	Time	Title	Location	Chair	Organizers
Tuesday 4/21/15	8:00 -9:40 AM	1130 Carnivore-Human Entanglements 1	Soldier Field Hyatt W Tower Bronze Level	Kalli F. Doubleday	Kalli F. Doubleday Sharon Wilcox
Tuesday 4/21/15	10:00-11:40 AM	1230 Animal-Human Entanglements 2	Soldier Field Hyatt W Tower Bronze Level	Kalli F. Doubleday	Kalli F. Doubleday Sharon Wilcox
Wednesday 4/22/15	8:00 09:40 AM	2137 Coastal and Marine Issues and Science	Wrigley Hyatt W Tower Bronze Level	Jennifer L. Rahn	Jennifer L. Rahn
Wednesday 4/22/15	10:00-11:40 AM	2263 Critical interventions in a multispecies world	Ogden Hyatt W Tower Silver Level	Kathryn Gillespie	Rosemary-Claire Collard Kathryn Gillespie
Wednesday 4/22/15	1:20-3:00 PM	2467 Technologies for understanding the animate non/more/other-than-human world	Michigan C Hyatt E Tower, Ped Path	Connie Johnston	Connie Johnston Julie Urbanik
Wednesday 4/22/15	3:20-5:00 PM	2529 Authors-meet-critics double bill: Irus Braverman's Wild Life: The Institution of Nature & Jamie Lorimer's Wildlife in the Anthropocene	Plaza B Hyatt E Tower Green Level	Kathryn Yusoff	Rosemary-Claire Collard Kathryn Yusoff
Wednesday 4/22/15	5:20-7:00 PM	2629 What is a wild life?	Plaza B Hyatt, E Tower Green Level	Jamie Lorimer	Rosemary-Claire Collard Stephanie Rutherford
Thursday 4/23/15	8:00-9:40 AM	3166 Grieving witnesses: The politics of grief in the field (I)	Michigan B Hyatt E Tower Ped Path	Kathryn Gillespie	Kathryn Gillespie Patricia J. Lopez
Thursday 4/23/15	10:00-11:40 AM	3269 Green Violence 1: Interrogating New Conflicts over Nature and Conservation	Randolph Hyatt E Tower Ped Path	Elizabeth Lunstrum	Elizabeth Lunstrum Bram Büscher Maano Ramutsindela
Thursday 4/23/15	10:00-11:40 AM	3266 Grieving witnesses: The politics of grief in the field (II)	Michigan B Hyatt, E Tower Ped Path	Patricia J. Lopez	Kathryn Gillespie Patricia J. Lopez
Thursday 4/23/15	11:50-1:10 PM	3369 ANGSB Business Meeting	Randolph Hyatt East Tower Ped Path	Julie Urbanik	ANGSG
Thursday 4/23/15	1:20-3:00 PM	3469 Green Violence 2: Interrogating New Conflicts over Nature and Conservation	Randolph Hyatt E Tower Ped Path	Maano Ramutsindela	Elizabeth Lunstrum Bram Büscher Maano Ramutsindela
Thursday 4/23/15	3:20-5:00 PM	3569 Green Violence 3: Interrogating New Conflicts over Nature and Conservation	Randolph Hyatt E Tower Ped Path	Bram Büscher	Elizabeth Lunstrum Bram Büscher Maano Ramutsindela
Thursday 4/23/15	3:20-5:00 PM	3533 Historical Animal Geographies I: Uncovering Nonhuman Lives of the Past	Gold Coast Hyatt W Tower Bronze Level	Sharon E. Wilcox	Sharon E. Wilcox Stephanie Rutherford
Thursday 4/23/15	5:20-7:00 PM	3680 Animal Minds	Gindelwald Swissôtel Lucerne Level	Henry Buller	Henry Buller
Thursday 4/23/15	5:20-7:00 PM	3633 Historical Animal Geographies II: Uncovering Nonhuman Lives of the Past	Gold Coast Hyatt W Tower Bronze Level	Stephanie Rutherford	Sharon E. Wilcox Stephanie Rutherford
Friday 4/24/15	1:20-3:00 PM	4462 Remote Control: Conservation Surveillance and Technologies of Power	McCormick Hyatt W Tower Silver Level	Richard A, Schroeder	Richard A, Schroeder Jenny Isaacs
Saturday 4/25/15	8:00 -9:40 AM	5167 Care Ethics and Social Movements (I): Multi-species Interdependency, Intersectionality, and Radical Social Change	Michigan C Hyatt E Tower Ped Path	Kristy Copeland	Kathryn Gillespie Amy Piedadue Patricia J. Lopez
Saturday 4/25/15	10:00-11:40 AM	5267 Care Ethics and Social Movements (II): Multi-species Interdependency, Intersectionality, and Radical Social Change	Michigan C Hyatt E Tower Ped Path	Patricia J. Lopez	Amy Piedadue Kristy Copeland, Kathryn Gillespie