



ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY
2014 CONFERENCE
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

August 9 – 14 <https://abs2014.princeton.edu/>

Overview

The 51st Annual Conference of the Animal Behavior Society will be held in Princeton, NJ from Saturday, August 9th to Thursday, August 14th, 2014, with strong representation from North American, South American and European researchers.

Registration & Accommodation booking and Abstract submission are open.

Late registration and late abstract submission commences 16 May.

- <https://abs2014.princeton.edu/abstracts/>

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#ABS2014

Highlights

- Keynote Address: Iain Couzin, Princeton University
- Conservation Plenary: David Whyte Macdonald, University of Oxford
- Plenary: Sarah Brosnan, Georgia State University
- Closing Address: Tim Clutton-Brock, Cambridge University
- President's Plenary: Dan Rubenstein, Princeton University
- President's Symposium: *How the Evolution of Sociality Shapes the Brain, Behavior, and Cognition*. Organized by Robert Seyfarth, University of Pennsylvania
- Warder Clyde Allee Symposium for best Graduate Student Paper
- Education Workshop: *Vision & Change in Animal Behavior Education*
- Film Workshop: *The Art of Science Storytelling: Practical Skills in Portraying Animal Behavior in Film*
- Workshop: *Quantitative analysis of collective behavior: from the lab to the wild*. Organized by Nicolas Perony, Simon Garnier, Andrew King, Damien Farine & Iain Couzin
- Symposium: *Animal Behavior and One Health*. Organized by Steve Zawistowski and the Applied Animal Behavior Committee
- Symposium: *Why Signal Softly? Function & Evolution of Low-Amplitude Communication Signals*. Organized by Rindy Anderson & Dustin Reichard
- Symposium: *Animal Behavior and Disease Ecology*. Organized by Vanessa Ezenwa & Beth Archie
- ABS Film Festival
- Special section on primate studies in honor of Alison Jolly, chaired by Jeanne Altmann
- Poster Sessions, including Genesis and Presidential Posters



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	Saturday, August 9th	Sunday, August 10th	Monday, August 11th	Tuesday, August 12th	Wednesday, August 13th
7:00am	Arrival Day	Yoga & Meditation Location: TBD	Yoga & Meditation Location: TBD	Yoga & Meditation Location: TBD	Yoga & Meditation Location: TBD ABS Fun Run 5K
8:15am	* Applied Animal Behavior Public Day Frist 302	Welcome & Announcements Dr. Iain Couzin Keynote Address Richardson Auditorium	Behavior & Conservation Keynote Dr. David MacDonald Taylor Auditorium	Plenary Talk 1 Dr. Sarah Brosnan Richardson Auditorium (till 9:45am)	Plenary Talk 2 Dr. Tim Clutton-Brock Richardson Auditorium (till 9:45am)
9:00am	* ABS Executive Committee Meeting				
9:15am	* Education Workshop				
9:30am	* Turner Workshop	Poster Preview Talks 2 slides to intro posters	Poster Preview Talks 2 slides to intro posters		
9:45am Break	* Filmmaker's Workshop for Animal Behaviorists * Animal Behavior Outreach Fair	Coffee Break @ Frick Lobby	Coffee Break @ Frick Lobby	Coffee Break @ Frick Lobby	Coffee Break @ Frick Lobby
10:15am	* Local Natural History Walks & Guided Bird Watching * Afternoon Sports (Soccer, Softball, Etc)	Registration 10 am - 6pm Frick Lobby Vendors & Silent Auction (@ Frick Lobby) Session 1 - Taylor Auditorium Session 2 - McDonnell A01 Session 3 - McDonnell A02 Session 4 - Taplan Auditorium Session 5 - Jadwin Auditorium Contributed Symposium 1A Lewis Thomas 003	Behavior & Conservation Keynote Taylor Auditorium Session 1 - McDonnell A01 Session 2 - McDonnell A02 Session 3 - Taplan Auditorium Session 4 - Lewis Thomas 003 Session 5 - Jadwin ABS General Meeting (Raffle) Richardson Auditorium	Allee Symposium - Taylor Auditorium President's Symposium 1A - McDonnell A01 Session 1 - McDonnell A02 Session 2 - Taplan Auditorium Session 3 - Lewis Thomas 003 Session 4 - Jadwin Vendors & Silent Auction (@ Frick Lobby)	President's Symposium 2A - Taylor Auditorium Session 1 - McDonnell A01 Session 2 - McDonnell A02 Session 3 - Taplan Auditorium Session 4 - Lewis Thomas 003 Session 5 - Jadwin
12:30 - 2pm Lunch Break	Registration 8am - 6pm (at Frist Campus Center)	* Academic Orphans Lunch - (Fine 8th Flr Lounge) * Undergrad Lunch * ABS Conservation Mtg	* NSF Q&A Lunch I * CAAB Meet & Greet (Fine 8th Flr Lounge)	* NSF Q&A Lunch 2 * ABS Education Mtg	Lunch Break
Session 1 - 2:00pm		Vendors & Silent Auction (@ Frick Lobby) Session 1 - Taylor Auditorium Session 2 - McDonnell A01 Session 3 - McDonnell A02 Session 4 - Taplan Auditorium Session 5 - Jadwin Contributed Symposium 1B - Lewis Thomas 003	Contributed Conservation Talks Taylor Auditorium Session 2 - McDonnell A01 Session 3 - McDonnell A02 Session 4 - Taplan Auditorium Session 5 - Jadwin Auditorium Contributed Symposium 2A Lewis Thomas 003	Allee Symposium - Taylor Auditorium President's Symposium 1B - McDonnell A01 Session 1 - McDonnell A02 Session 2 - Taplan Auditorium Session 3 - Lewis Thomas 003 Session 4 - Jadwin	President's Symposium 2A Taylor Auditorium Session 1 - McDonnell A01 Session 2 - McDonnell A02 Session 3 - Taplan Auditorium Session 4 - Lewis Thomas 003 Session 5 - Jadwin
3:15pm		Lightening Talks	Lightening Talks	Lightening Talks	Lightening Talks
3:45 Break		Coffee Break @ Frick Lobby	Coffee Break @ Frick Lobby	Coffee Break @ Frick Lobby	Coffee Break @ Frick Lobby
Session 2 - 4:15pm		Session 1 - Taylor Auditorium Session 2 - McDonnell A01 Session 3 - McDonnell A02 Session 4 - Taplan Auditorium Session 5 - Lewis Thomas 003 Session 6 - Jadwin	Contributed Conservation Talks Taylor Auditorium Session 2 - McDonnell A01 Session 3 - McDonnell A02 Session 4 - Taplan Auditorium Session 5 - Jadwin Contributed Symposium 2B - Lewis Thomas 003	Allee Symposium - Taylor Auditorium Session 1 - McDonnell A01 Session 2 - McDonnell A02 Session 3 - Taplan Auditorium Session 4 - Lewis Thomas 003 Session 4 - Jadwin	President's Plenary Main Auditorium Richardson Auditorium ABS Awards Ceremony Richardson Auditorium
6:00 Break	Reception - 6pm - 8:30pm Location: TBD	Dinner Break Allee Dinner	Dinner Break	Dinner Break	Dinner Break
Evening Activity	Film Festival - 7pm - 10pm Frist Multipurpose A, B, C	Diversity Workshop Location: TBD Latin American Animal Behavior Researchers	Poster Show Frick Gallery Grad Party	Poster Show Frick Gallery NSF Future Directions Workshop Location: TBD	Reception & Banquet Location: Ichan Gallery

Note: Talk Sessions are 20 minutes inclusive of a 15 minute talk and 5 minutes transit time. Lightening Talks 5 minute short talks.



Keynote Speaker

Iain Couzin

Professor, Princeton University

“Collective sensing and decision making in animal groups”

Sunday 10 August

Iain Couzin’s research focuses on collective behavior. Understanding how social influence shapes biological processes is a central challenge, essential for achieving progress in a variety of fields ranging from the organization and evolution of coordinated collective action among animals, or cells, to the dynamics of information exchange in primate societies. Utilizing advanced tracking and imaging technologies his lab investigates the causes and consequences of social behaviors over ecological and evolutionary timescales in order to identify principles that underlie collective behavior across levels of biological organization.



Conservation Plenary Speaker

David Whyte Macdonald

Professor, University of Oxford

“From groundedness to geopolitics in pursuit of conservation”

Monday 11 August

Dr Macdonald is interested in the scientific underpinning of practical and policy solutions to problems in wildlife conservation. Although his background is in the behavioral ecology of mammals, his research currently spans taxa ranging from mammals to moths, and is inter-disciplinary (including teams involving environmental economics and the social sciences). Much of his research is stimulated by conflict between people and wildlife, whether it be through predation, infectious disease or invasive species.



In these contexts his team works on long-term data sets on badgers, lions, mink and Ethiopian wolves. A threat uniting many aspects of their research is the ecological basis of social organization, with particular reference to the impacts of both resource dispersion and perturbation



Day 3 Plenary Speaker

[Sarah Brosnan](#)

Associate Professor, Georgia State University

“Comparative Economics: Decision-making across the primates”

Tuesday 12 August

Dr Brosnan studies decision-making in the context of cooperation, focusing on what decisions individuals make, how their social or ecological environments affect their decisions and interactions, how the context affects decision-making, and under what circumstances they can alter their behaviors contingent upon these inputs. She takes an explicitly comparative approach, investigating New World monkeys, Old World monkeys, and great apes, including humans, as well as other non-primate species, to better understand the distribution of these behaviors across animals and to understand the environmental constraints on cooperation. She collaborates across disciplinary boundaries, and one of her goals is to bring together the accumulated evidence from different fields to form a better understanding of the evolution of cooperative decision making.



Closing Plenary Speaker

[Tim Clutton-Brock FRS](#)

Professor, University of Cambridge

“The Origins of Society”

Wednesday 13 August

Although ecologists have traditionally treated animal populations as if they consisted of random collections of individuals, many vertebrates live in highly structured societies whose characteristics have profound effects on ecological and evolutionary processes. This lecture describes the diversity of mammalian societies; their effects on the characteristics of females and males; and the evolution of cooperation in humans and other animals.

Tim is known for his long-term, individual based studies of mammals, including primates, red deer, Soay sheep and meerkats in the Kalahari Desert, where his work has provided the basis for the first animal docu-soap, Meerkat Manor.





President's Symposium

How the Evolution of Sociality Shapes the Brain, Behavior, and Cognition

Organizer: Robert Seyfarth

Wednesday 13 August

For many animal species, some of the strongest selection pressures acting on the brain and cognition come from the social environment: from the need to distinguish different individuals, remember past interactions, recognize relationships, and predict other animals' behavior. The results of selection acting within the social domain are ubiquitous: many species have brains that are particularly sensitive to their own species' calls; others have brain areas that are specialized for the recognition of faces, voices, gaze direction, and for the assessment of other individuals' intention to perform a particular action. Long-lived animals like hyenas, dolphins, baboons, and chimpanzees also recognize the relationships that exist among others, perhaps because this knowledge is necessary to predict other individuals' behavior. The goal of this symposium is to review what we know about the ways in which evolution, acting within the social environment, has shaped the brain, behavior, and cognition in different species. This two-day symposium will be the basis of a special issue of *Animal Behaviour*.

Jacinta Beehner & Thore Bergman
University of Michigan

"Bridging sociality and cognition: What do animals know about each other?"

Lauren Brent
Duke University

"Social networking: The evolution of behavioral tendencies and friendly relations"

Dorothy Cheney
University of Pennsylvania

"How to win friends and influence fitness: Lessons from female baboons"

Lars Chittka
University of London

"Large societies and small brains: Insects as minimal models of social cognition"

Richard Connor
Univ of Massachusetts, Dartmouth

"Dolphin politics in Shark Bay"

Molly Cummings
University of Texas

"The mate choice mind: Studying mate preference and aversion in the female brain"

Russ Fernald
Stanford University

"How does social status change the brain?"

Kay Holekamp
Michigan State University

"Brains, brawn, and sociality: A hyena's tale"

John Quinn
University of Cork

"The functional significance of personality in a wild bird population"

Michael Platt
Duke University

"The neuroethology of primate social behavior"



Workshop: Vision & Change in Animal Behavior Education

Organizers: The ABS Education Resources Portal Subcommittee: Cynthia Wei, Colleen McLinn, Heather Zimble-DeLorenzo, Laura Sirot, Susan Longest & Ipek Kulahci

Saturday 9 August

This workshop is open and free to all ABS meeting attendees. Please RSVP for the workshop by sending an email to CynthiaAWei@gmail.com.

Workshop Goals:

- Introduce participants to promising practices and resources for teaching animal behavior.
- Engage participants in discussions about improving the teaching of animal behavior.
- Develop a set of recommendations for action by interested ABS members.
- Introduce participants to the ABS Education Resources Portal and encourage use of and submission to the Portal.

PART 1: VISION: INNOVATIONS IN TEACHING

2:00pm Introduction to workshop

2:05pm Presentation: National conversations and directions in science education.

2:15pm Panel Presentations: Innovations in Teaching

Engaging with Citizen Science

- Dr. Rebecca Jordan, Associate Professor of Environmental Education and Citizen Science, Rutgers University
- Integrating Interdisciplinarity into the Classroom
- Dr. Kaci Thompson, Director of Undergraduate Research Programs and Internships, University of Maryland
- Teaching with Databases and Multimedia Resources (panelist TBA)

3:15pm Discussion with panelists

PART 2: CHANGE: ADVANCING ANIMAL BEHAVIOR EDUCATION

4:00pm Update on Progress toward an Animal Behavior Education Resources Portal (and Call for Submissions)

4:10pm Breakout Session:

In groups of 4-6 people, each group will discuss one of the following topics:

- Developing the ABS Teaching Resources Collection. How can we develop a high-quality collection and how can we make it most useful?
- Science is becoming increasingly interdisciplinary. What kinds of interdisciplinary competencies can be taught in animal behavior courses and how?
- What does it mean for students to understand the relationship between science and society in the context of animal behavior? How can we teach this competency?
- How can we improve students' ability to use models and simulations, and quantitative reasoning skills?
- Other emerging discussion topics

Each group will be asked to report on the following:

What are some challenges and opportunities related to accomplishing the teaching goal discussed?

Promising practices, ideas, and/or resources related to the topic in the context of teaching animal behavior.

5:00pm Report out from working groups and next steps

5:30pm Prize Drawing



Warder Clyde Allee Symposium

Organizer: Emilia Martins

Tuesday 12 August

This annual symposium of graduate student research, with an award for the best paper, is a highlight of the ABS meeting. Talks are often an introduction to the most promising young researchers studying animal behavior. Ten graduate student presenters will be selected by the president-elect and a panel of judges from applications received by 1 March 2014. The session honors Dr. Warder Clyde Allee (1885–1955), an animal behavior researcher who was very influential in the development and direction of animal behavior research in the 20th century.

Symposium: Animal Behavior and One Health

Organizer: Steve Zawistowski and the Applied Animal Behavior Committee

Sunday 10 August

Organized by the Applied Animal Behavior Committee. One Health (or One Medicine) originated as an effort to develop relationships and synergy between the fields of human and veterinary medicine. The One Health concept has expanded to include a wider vision of the relationships between humans, animals and the natural world. The purpose of this symposium is to introduce this concept to the ABS membership and highlight the way that the study of animal behavior can contribute to, and benefit from a growing interest in One Health.

Speakers

1. Introduction to One Health
2. Cognition and Well-Being – Irene Pepperberg
3. The Power of Animal Models of Behavior: Social Behavior, Stress, and Reproduction in a Non-human Primate
– Jim Ha
4. Genes and behavioral disorders in man and animals – Alice Moon-Fanelli
5. Benefits of the Human-Animal Bond – James Serpell



Symposium: Why Signal Softly? Function & Evolution of Low-Amplitude Communication Signals

Organized by Rindy Anderson & Dustin Reichard

Monday 11 August

A wealth of research on the function and evolution of animal communication signals has made this topic a model system for understanding how behavior evolves. Research on acoustic communication has long focused on conspicuous high-amplitude signals, which transmit broadly to multiple receivers and serve important functions in territoriality, mate attraction, and alarm signaling. This symposium will focus on recent research showing the surprising role of inconspicuous, low-amplitude (quiet) signals produced by many species during close-proximity interactions associated with courtship, elevated aggression, or group movements and cohesion.

Speakers:

Dustin Reichard (University of California, Davis) & Rindy Anderson (Duke University)

Çağlar Akçay (Cornell University) & Michael Beecher (University of Washington)

Steve Nowicki (Duke University) & William Searcy (University of Miami)

Susan Balenger (University of Minnesota)

Morgan Gustison (University of Michigan)

Simon Townsend (University of Zurich)

Sue Anne Zollinger (Max Planck Institut for Ornithology)



Symposium: Animal Behavior and Disease Ecology

Organizers: Vanessa Ezenwa & Beth Archie

Monday 11 August

Animal behavior plays a key role in the transmission of parasites and pathogens. Likewise, parasites are crucial drivers of animal behavior. Disease ecology is one of the fastest growing sub-disciplines of ecology, and animal behaviorists have played a key role in developing some of the fundamental theories in this field (e.g. Alexander, Hamilton, Zuk). The objective of this symposium will be to discuss historical and current hypotheses linking infectious disease ecology and animal behavior; evaluate the importance of animal behavior for understanding disease ecology and vice versa; and explore how new technologies (e.g. next generation sequencing, proximity collars) are providing behaviorists with novel tools for testing new and old hypotheses at the intersection of these two fields.

Elizabeth Archie (University of Notre Dame)	<i>Social effects on the gut microbiome in wild baboons</i>
Meggan Craft (University of Minnesota)	<i>Infectious disease dynamics on wild animal contact networks</i>
Vanessa Ezenwa (University of Georgia)	<i>Parasite-mediated feedback loops and the maintenance of behavioral variation</i>
Dana Hawley (Virginia Tech)	<i>Social behavior and pathogen transmission in house finches: are the super-spreaders also the super-receivers?</i>
Geoffrey Hill (Auburn University)	<i>Mitochondrial function, innate immunity, and ornament production</i>
Lynn Marty Martin (University of South Florida)	<i>Sources and consequences of individual physiological heterogeneity in avian disease systems</i>
Janice Moore (Colorado State University)	<i>Parasites, Behavior and Umwelt</i>

Poster Sessions & Symposia

Poster sessions provide excellent opportunities for interaction and discussion regarding recent research. Contributed posters will be viewed in two evening poster sessions, accompanied by food and drink. Posters will be grouped according to research categories identified by presenters at the time of submission. **Poster symposia** are clusters of posters curated by the symposium organizer. Any poster presenter with research relevant to a symposium theme can enter their poster for consideration for inclusion in the symposium by selecting the relevant subject category at abstract submission.

Poster Session A: Monday 11 Aug includes:

- **Genesis/Turner Undergraduate Research Poster Symposium**
- **Other contributed posters, groupings TBA**

Poster Session B: Tuesday 12 Aug includes

- **President's Symposium Poster Session**
- **Applied Animal Behavior Poster Symposium**



Filmmaker's Workshop

Organizer: Mike Noonan & Dan Rubenstein

Saturday 9 August

“The Art of Science Storytelling: Practical Skills in Portraying Animal Behavior in Film”

The principal way in which the public learn about animal behavior is via film. If you have ever wondered how good films are made, join us for a practical workshop that will introduce the ways filmmakers progress from raw footage to final product. Using real examples, we will start by recognizing the choices that film makers make, and the impact those choices have on the viewer. Next, we will build practical skills in story board development, managing audio-video files, and organizing work flow. Lastly, participants will learn film editing techniques by actually producing two different short films from the same catalog of raw footage.

Registration fee: \$10

31st Annual ABS Film Festival

Organizer: [Mike Noonan](#)

Saturday evening 9 August

Now in its 31st year, the ABS Film Festival features outstanding films that portray important concepts in animal behavior research and education. Categories include both amateur (non-commercial) and professional (commercial) films produced in the preceding five years. In addition, ABS members are encouraged to bring short video clips of their own to share in an informal film event (<http://animalbehaviorsociety.org/absfilm>).

Special Events

OPENING RECEPTION

Saturday 9 August

Greet old friends, meet new ones, and enjoy some great food and drink.

This is a ticketed event that incurs an additional fee at registration.

UNDERGRADUATE LUNCHEON & RECEPTION

Sunday 10 August

The reception provides a networking platform for undergraduate students attending ABS, and an opportunity for ABS faculty members to introduce their programs to potential graduate school applicants. The event includes lunch for undergraduate attendees. The ABS Diversity Committee has developed this event as part of an on-going effort to broaden participation of under- groups within the field of Animal Behavior, with an emphasis on translating the diverse demographics evident at represented the undergraduate level to the graduate and professional levels in the field.



'ACADEMIC ORPHANS' LUNCH

Sunday 10 August

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE PANEL/WORKSHOP

Saturday 9 August

ABS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & RAFFLE

What is your society doing with your money? How much is spent on graduate student research awards? What advice does the editor of *Animal Behaviour* have about publishing your papers? Hear brief overviews of ABS business, committee accomplishments and budget of the last year, have your say on policy, and enter a raffle to win a cash prize that will cover your registration costs, or a mystery prize (***you can only win if you are there!***).

POST-POSTER SESSION DANCE

Organized by Princeton Grad Students

Following Poster Session A, ABS members are invited to assemble for dancing and socializing with other registrants and the local community. There will be live music & a cash bar charge).

Tuesday August 12th

ABS 5K FUN RUN

Organizer: [Caitlin Gabor](#)

www.bio.txstate.edu/~gabor/gabor.htm



Meeting registrants or accompanying guests are invited to participate in this 6th annual recreational walk/run/sprint. Sign-up will occur at the conference. A nominal registration fee will be charged, proceeds are donated to support ABS Student Research Grants. The run will take place prior to the day's scheduled talks.

Wednesday 13 August

ABS AWARD CEREMONY

Immediately following the last talks of the meeting, join us for a brief ceremony to fête winners of career awards for 2013, and applaud this year's recipients of the Founder and Allee awards.

Wednesday 13 August

ABS CLOSING BANQUET

Join us for an enjoyable closing dinner, where you can touch base with friends, argue about the meetings key presentations, and congratulate award-winners: a fitting way to end this 51st ABS meeting.

This is a ticketed event that carries an additional fee.



Organizers

Local host: Dan Rubenstein

Program Officers: Michael Beecher (Univ of Washington <http://faculty.washington.edu/beecher>)

Mark Hauber (Hunter College, CUNY)



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