

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

19th Annual Conference of the International Society for Anthrozoology
June 30, 2010 – Stockholm, Sweden

Cross-Cultural Attitudes Toward Animals

The International Society for Anthrozoology (ISAZ) invites submission of both oral (20 mins. total) and poster abstracts for its 19th Annual Conference which will be held in conjunction with the 12th Congress of the International Association of Human-Animal Interaction Organizations (IAHAIO) in Stockholm, Sweden on June 30th, 2010. The Conference will focus on the general theme of cross-cultural attitudes toward animals, although free papers on other relevant topics are also encouraged.

Research abstracts must include: 1. A list of authors (presenting author in **bold**), institutional affiliations, and email address for correspondence; 2. An introduction to the study and its objectives; 3. Methodology – including a description of the participants (both human and animal), such as number (n), type, age, gender, and species, and a description of the study design, data collection, and data analysis; 4. Main results, including, when appropriate, statistical test, significance level and actual test value (e.g., $F(df) = ?$, $p < 0.05$), and 5. Principal conclusions and implications for the field.

Critical review abstracts must include: 1. List of authors (presenting author in **bold**), institutional affiliations, and email address for correspondence; 2. An introduction to the review and its objectives; 3. Key literature references to theory, concepts, evidence or methodology that have been reviewed or re-evaluated; 4. Main findings, and 5. Principal conclusions and implications for the field.

Abstracts must be in English, can be no longer than **300 words**, and should be concise, informative and explicit. All abstracts should be prepared in MS Word format and state clearly whether an oral or poster presentation is preferred. A sample abstract is provided for reference below.

Submissions should be sent by email only to: Dr. James Serpell at:
serpell@vet.upenn.edu.

Deadline for abstract submission: January 31st, 2010.

Further information about ISAZ 2010 will be posted as available on the ISAZ website:
<http://www.isaz.net/conferences.html>

Sample Abstract

Type: Oral Presentation

Title: The value of aerial photography in the study of bat-human interactions.

Authors: Norman H. Pendergast, **Bram L. Stoker** & Joseph A. Sokoloff

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Assessments of bat-human relations have long been hampered by a lack of suitable methods for accurately observing and recording encounters between bats and humans (Watson & Sonar, 2003). This paper describes the development and validation of a novel technique for measuring bat-human interactions using aerial photography.

A sample of 58 Livingstone's Fruit Bats (*Pteropus livingstonii*) living in a large (50 x 30 m.) outdoor flight aviary were observed interacting with zoo visitors using two separate methods. Method 1 involved the use of a tripod-mounted video camera that recorded interactions from a lateral perspective (TMV). Method 2 used a time-lapse digital camera set to record images every 10 secs. while suspended pointing downwards from the roof of the aviary (ADC). The ability of the two methods to accurately record the number, duration and quality of bat-human interactions was compared statistically using SPSS software.

Analysis suggests that ADC detects significantly more bat-human interactions than TMV (Unpaired t test, $t = 8.43$, $p < 0.001$), although it is no more effective at recording the duration and quality of these interactions. While much less time-consuming to analyze than TMV recordings, a drawback with the ADC method was the tendency of bats to roost on the camera, thereby obscuring the lens. Future studies will need to consider ways to overcome this problem.

These findings suggest that aerial time-lapse photography has a valuable role to play in studies of bat-human interactions, especially where the emphasis is on frequency of interactions.

Watson, JB & Sonar, A. 2003. *Bats in My Belfry*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.