CALL FOR PAPERS for the 2nd Biennial Conference on Living with Animals: Interconnections

“Living with Animals 2” is a reprise of the first “Living with Animals” conference that took place at Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) in 2013. EKU, located in Richmond, Kentucky, just south of Lexington, “The Horse Capital of the World”, began offering the first undergraduate degree in Animal Studies in 2010. As our conference title suggests, we are planning to offer a Living with Animals conference every 2 years.

The conference is over three days: March 19-21, 2015, with an optional excursion to the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington on March 22. It will be held in the Crabbe Library at EKU.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS:
Drs. Robert Mitchell, Radhika Makecha, and Michał Pręgowski
Email contact: livingwithanimals@eku.edu

PROSPECTUS:
In this second time around, we are hoping to retain the strong arts and humanities perspectives we enjoyed so much in the first conference, as well as including some more scientific and applied perspectives for general audiences. Consistent with the conference theme, we are looking for interconnections: not only between and across diverse humans and diverse animals, but also between and across disciplines and nations. The 2015 Living with Animals will be a truly international event, with scholars coming from Poland, the Netherlands, Canada, and Denmark. Of course any topic related to animals or human-animal interaction is welcome!

Here are some of the highlights planned:
- There will be continuity with the first Living with Animals conference. Artist and art historian Julia Schlosser, 2013’s co-organizer, will display her photographic work on pet-human interaction, and will also provide a keynote address about her work.
- Dr. Gala Argent, also from the first conference, will again organize a (half-day) Horse session at the first conference.
- Dr. Marie-José Enders-Slegers, Professor of Anthrozoology in the Faculty of Psychology at the Open University in Heerlen, the Netherlands, will speak on her work on human-animal interactions in educational and therapeutic contexts, examining issues for both humans and animals.
- Dr. Ian Duncan, Emeritus Chair in Animal Welfare, Department of Animal and Poultry Science at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada, will discuss his work on making life better for animals.
- Louisville artist Peter Sherman will display his ceramic artwork with its focus on animals and animal-related themes.
- Co-organizer Dr. Radhika Makecha, assistant Professor of Psychology and Animal Studies at EKU, is organizing sessions around conservation, human-animal conflict, and elephants.
- Co-organizer Dr. Michał Pręgowski, an Animal Studies and Sociology scholar from Poland’s Warsaw University of Technology and currently a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence at EKU, is organizing sessions around dogs and dog-human interaction, including topics such as training, memorials, and shelter work.
We also plan to devote time (breakout sessions and talks) on Friday to issues surrounding teaching Animal Studies, Human-Animal Studies, and Anthrozoology. Although most teaching topics will depend on the abstracts about teaching we receive, we plan to have a panel discussion about standardized curricula for Animal Studies/Anthrozoology programs—an offshoot of the International Society for Anthrozoology (ISAZ) conference in Vienna this summer.

**ABSTRACTS:**
Abstracts of 200 to (approximately) 400 words should be sent to livingwithanimals@eku.edu. The first line of the abstract should be the title of the talk, and the next line(s) should be the authors’ names, positions, affiliations, and email addresses. Following this should be a blank line, followed by the text of the abstract. All should be single spaced. Reference to existing bodies of work might be made.
Please also indicate if you would like your presentation to be a **talk** or a **poster**, or if you are offering a **panel**. (We are open to other forms of presentations.) Posters are an excellent way to present some scientific and artistic works, and allow the presenter to engage closely with conference attendees who are most interested by their work. Posters will be available during the buffet lunch on Saturday, 21 March.
In addition, provide a one-page CV of your most relevant work and experience.

Individual paper presentation time will be 20 minutes, including time for questions. Panels (usually 3 people; maximum time, 1 hour) are welcome. All presentations and panels will be reviewed by the organizers and/or chairs.

**TIMETABLE:**
Abstract submission deadline: December 12, 2014
(abstracts received after this date will be reviewed and, if accepted, put in the program if space allows.)
Author notification: around December 22, 2014
Conference begins: March 19, 2015
Conference ends: March 21, 2015
Optional excursion: March 22, 2015

We recommend that participants arrive on March 18, and depart no earlier than the evening of March 22, to enjoy the conference fully.

**CONFERENCES WEBPAGE:** The conference website is [http://livingwithanimals.eku.edu](http://livingwithanimals.eku.edu). The website contains information about registration, hotels, excursions, dinners, food issues, and more information about the keynote speakers and artists.

**CONFERENCE LOCATION:** Eastern Kentucky University is located in historic Richmond, Kentucky, including many areas of historic and scenic interest. Fort Boonesborough State Park, birthplace of Kentucky, is located 12 miles to the north, and Civil War and many other historical sites are nearby. The university is located just south of Kentucky’s famed Bluegrass Region, internationally recognized for its horse culture. See [http://www.eku.edu/about](http://www.eku.edu/about) for more information. We plan to have a dinner (with vegan option) at Boone Tavern Restaurant in Berea, as this dinner was so successful last time. And guess what—they now have a liquor license, so you can purchase wine with your meal.