



Animal Research Unbound

A conference co-organized by the Organisms and Us project of the Australian Research Council and the Animal Nexus project of the Wellcome Trust

**University of Exeter
15-16 July, 2019**

Much social scientific, philosophical and historical work on animal research has followed the enclosures around research communities and the relatively closed nature of animal research to highlight the construction of boundaries around animal research. This includes the ethical boundary work used to justify the use of animals in research, the human-animal and species boundaries constructed through research practices, the regulatory boundaries shaping responsibilities for animal use and care, through the spatial and material infrastructures that separate the animal house and laboratory. Even work tracing the accelerating mobilities and movements of research using animals often starts from consideration of how these might overcome boundaries between previously closed species and spaces of animal research.

This workshop seeks to explore an alternative starting point, by considering how animal research is and might be unbound, and exploring the consequences for issues around: knowledge production and its relation to regulatory institutions; ethics and welfare; care and the relation between human and non-human; the nature of epistemic cultures and silos in communities around research organisms; and the conceptualization of animal behavior and sentience. We want to trace the extensive experimental spaces in which animal research takes place and the diverse communities which animal research now actively encounters. We seek to explore insights from the unexpected species, outside of traditional organism communities, increasingly featuring in animal research. We are interested in exploring both the lives of animals within research, and the attitudes and perceptions linked to the use of animals across many different domains. We are interested in the how a wide variety of scientific practices and work might be doing new work to 'unbound' animal research.

Location: Bateman Theatre (Building One, Business School) for the sessions; Henderson Lecture Theatre for the public lecture.

Organisers: Sabina Leonelli, University of Exeter; Rachel Ankeny, University of Adelaide; Gail Davies, University of Exeter; Robert Kirk, University of Manchester

*Participation to the conference as a whole is by **registration only** (first come first served, registration costs generously covered by the Australian Research Council). To register, please send an email to Chee Wong at Egenis using this address: egenis@exeter.ac.uk*

Conference Programme

MONDAY 15 JULY

8:30-9:00 Coffee & registrations

9:00-9:30 **Introduction:** Sabina Leonelli (University of Exeter), Rachel Ankeny (University of Adelaide), Gail Davies (University of Exeter), Robert Kirk (University of Manchester)

[Throughout the day, the Annex team animal timeline will be available for viewing outside Bateman Lecture Theatre]

9:30-11:00 **Session 1: Engagements and encounters.** Chair: Pru Hobson-West (University of Nottingham)

- Robert Kirk (University of Manchester) and Edmund Ramsden (Queen's Mary) "A home in the laboratory: dogs and the health of the American nation, 1940-1966"
- Yvette Wijnandts (Maastricht University) "Thinking animals, thinking humans: how we encounter ourselves in our encounters with non-human animals"
- Gail Davies and Rich Gorman (University of Exeter) "'From networks to fretworks: Patient involvement and animal research'"

11:00-11:30 *Coffee*

11:30-13:00 **Session 2: Research communities.** Beth Greenhough (University of Oxford)

- Michael Dietrich (University of Pittsburgh) and Nathaniel Crowe (UNC Wilmington) "Mapping the Organismal Landscape in Developmental Biology"
- Simon Lohse (University of Hannover) "Institutional and socio-epistemic barriers for alternative methods to animal experimentation"
- Sara Green, Mie Seest Dam and Mette Nordahl Svendsen (University of Copenhagen) "Mouse avatars in personalized medicine"

13:00-14:00 *Lunch*

14:00-15:30 **Session 3: Ethics, alternatives and regulatory practices.** Chair: Gail Davies (University of Exeter)

- Dmitriy Myelnikov (University of Manchester) and Rob Kirk "A fragile consensus: Controversy, lobbying, and the origins of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986."
- Beth Greenhough, Reuben Message and Ally Palmer (University of Oxford) "Made for mice? ASPA at the boundaries of laboratory animal research"
- Karina Burns (University of Adelaide) "Keeping Animal Research Practices in Australia Honest: A Discussion of Transparency, Translation and Replacement in Animal Research"

15:30-16:00 *Coffee*

16:00-17:00 **Session 4: Translations, relations and animal care.** Chair: Paul Brassley (University of Exeter)

- Jim Lowe (University of Edinburgh) "Humanising and dehumanising pigs in genomic research"
- Nicole Nelson (University of Wisconsin) "Good science and good welfare, hand in hand? Alignments and misalignments between experimental rigor and animal care"

17:30-19:00 **Public Keynote: Lesley Sharp** (Barnard College, Columbia University)
"Animal Research Unbound: The Messiness of the Moral"
Chair: Sabina Leonelli (University of Exeter)
Henderson Lecture Theatre

TUESDAY 16

9:00-10:30 **Session 5: Circulations and agency.** Chair: Rich Gorman (University of Exeter)

- Sabina Leonelli (University of Exeter) and Rachel Ankeny (University of Adelaide): "Repertoires and animal movements in and out of research"
- Raf de Bont (University of Maastricht): "Hamster Numbers: On pest controls, reintroductions and animal agency"
- Emma Roe, Sara Peres and Tess Skidmore (University of Southampton) "Colony management and the economies of lab mice"

10:30-11:00 *Coffee*

11:00-12:30 **Session 6: Beyond Research Communities.** Chair: Michael Dietrich (University of Pittsburgh)

- Rachel Ankeny (University of Adelaide): "Animal Research Beyond Traditional Lab-Field Boundaries: Adapting and Evolving Norms in the Wild in Australia"
- Angela Cassidy (University of Exeter): "Care as a driver of controversy: researching and contesting badger/bovine TB in the UK"
- Mette Nordahl Svendsen (University of Copenhagen): "Carrying across Bovine Colostrum from the Farm to the Clinic: Cows, Pigs, and Humans in Interspecies Kinship"

12:30-13:30 *Lunch*

13:30-15:00 **Session 7: Animal and Societal Sentience.** Chair: Robert Kirk (University of Manchester)

- Pru Hobson-West and Renelle McGlacken (University of Nottingham) "Sentience, Societal Sentience and Animal Research"
- Brad Bolman (Harvard University) "Dognitive Impairment: Alzheimer's and Destructive Plasticity Unbounded"
- Julien Dugnoille (University of Exeter) "Pleasure on the farm: Enhancing the sexual welfare of cattle through the promotion of a non-normative lens on scientific theory and practice about animal sexuality"

15:00-15:30 *Coffee*

15:30-16:30 **Final panel discussion: Carrie Friese** (London School of Economics), **Henry Buller** (University of Exeter), **Astrid Schrader** (University of Exeter), **John Dupré** (University of Exeter).
Chair: Rachel Ankeny (University of Adelaide)

16:30-16:45 **Discussion of possible outputs and closing of conference**