



2019 ANZALS Conference Themed Session

Exploring Animal Leisure(s)

ANZALS has a strong tradition of animal encompassing sessions at the biennial conference, a focus that aligns leisure and tourism studies with the animal turn across a diverse range of other academic and research fields. Previous conference sessions have explored the inclusion of animals in human leisure, the implications of this for animal welfare and wellbeing, and animal rights to leisure. This session aims to push understandings into the explorations of animal leisure(s) specifically, divesting human-centricity as much as possible with the aim of developing *animal-centric* insights.

Recognising animals as sentient other beings, with diverse and distinct needs. We wish to explore questions including: What is animal leisure? How can humans understand animals' experiences of leisure? What are the implications for animals of not understanding animal leisure(s)? How might humans develop better abilities to understand animals' experiences of leisure? We welcome alternate and innovative ideas and approaches to this session.

We aim for a session that is inclusive of both academic diversity, and the diversity of animal lives. Submissions from the diversity of scholars exploring animal lives (ie – veterinary, animal sciences, social studies, health, geography, humanities, politics, religion, tourism and leisure studies) are welcomed. We would like to match this with papers that encompass the diversity of animal lives, from wild, to captive/domestic wild (caged non-domesticated animals), to the animals who live with humans in domestic lives (commonly known as pets), to domestic/caged animals in factory farms, or bred for human entertainments such as racing, fighting, or showing (see Young and Carr 2018).

The following is an indicative rather than exhaustive list of 4 topics that this session may encompass:

- Animal leisure's – diverse animals, diverse needs?
- Leisure needs and opportunities for assistance / therapy animals
- The needs of animals for therapeutic leisure
- Is "enrichment" the same as "leisure" in the lives of captive animals?
- Leisure and farmed animals
- Animal needs for a spectrum of leisure > labour
- Animal needs for meaningful leisure
- Applications of (human) leisure frameworks to animal lives
- When animal leisure's collide

Papers will be in the traditional format of a 20 minute presentation followed by 5-10 minutes for questions and discussion; where possible and if agreed by session participants we may consolidate the discussion to the end of the presentations to facilitate comparison and collective development of ideas.

Session Chairs:

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