Research Activity Report

Supported by "Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science"

(Please be sure to submit this report after the trip that supported by PWS.)

	2016. 08. 04
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/D2
Name	Duncan Wilson

1. Country/location of visit

Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom

2. Research project

50th Congress of the International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE 2016)

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2016. 07. 12 - 2016. 07. 15 (4 days)

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Dr. Marie Haskell and Prof. Cathy Dwyer (University of Edinburgh and Scotland's Rural College)

5. Progress and results of your research/activity (You can attach extra pages if needed)

Please insert one or more pictures (to be publicly released). Below each picture, please provide a brief description.

In 1966 the first meeting of the Society for Veterinary Ethology was held at the University of Edinburgh. 50 years later (2016) the 50th Congress of the International Society for Applied Ethology was held. I studied for an MSc in Applied Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare at the University of Edinburgh (2012-2013). Many of my MSc course lecturers helped to organise the Congress, so it was an excellent opportunity to meet them again and update them on my research progress.

Before the main conference, I attended a workshop on 'Measuring Animal Emotion', which was closely related to my current research theme: Exploring attentional bias to assess emotional states in chimpanzees. Speakers discussed the various measures currently available, including; glucocorticoid release, facial expressions, implantable transmitters, play, judgement bias, qualitative behavioural assessment, expression and perception, anhedonia (inability to experience pleasure from activities usually found enjoyable), curiosity and exploration, and near-infrared spectroscopy. This was followed by an interesting panel discussion, which made me realise how complex the task of measuring animal emotion is.

During the main conference, there were also many talks on animal emotion, which I found very interesting (see photos). The key points I took away are that animal emotion is made up of several components; behavioural, physiological, cognitive, and possibly subjective experience (although this cannot be directly measured). The methods for measuring each of these components have advantages and disadvantages. Therefore, it important to combine measurements, to gain a more complete picture of affective states and well-being in animals. The scientific investigation of animal emotion is a relatively new field, and many novel techniques are being developed, with exciting possibilities for future research.

I also attended an event called 'Meet the Professor Lunch'. I chose to meet Dr. Elizabeth Paul (University of Bristol, UK), one of the most well-known scientists investigating cognitive bias as an indicator of affective valence in animals. It was a great opportunity to discuss my research interests and learn more about different aspects of measuring attentional biases in animals.

Overall, I really enjoyed the conference and the opportunity to meet leaders in the field of animal emotion and welfare, as well as students with similar interests to mine. Although my chosen area of research is complex and challenging, attending the conference has encouraged me to keep pursuing my interests in assessing chimpanzee emotion and wellbeing. This was my first international conference, so I was very pleased to learn that I won second place (out of 80 poster entries) in the student poster competition. I am very grateful to Professor. Tetsuro Matsuzawa (PWS Coordinator) for financially supporting my attendance.

6. Others: Photographs

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Opening ceremony The largest ISAE Congress ever



Measuring Animal Emotion Workshop Panel Discussion



Marian Stamp Dawkins

(Famous animal welfare scientist)



Lucille Bellegarde: Face-based perception of emotions in dairy goats using 2-D images

A Comparative Science of Ernotion Interactive Interactive Enotion Interactive Interactive

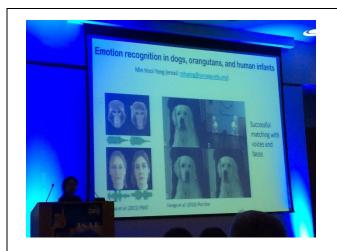
Elizabeth Paul (and Mike Mendl)

(Animal cognitive bias and emotion researchers)



Lucille Bellegarde: Face-based perception of emotions in dairy goats using 2-D images

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Min Hooi Yong: Emotion recognition in dogs, orangutans and human infants



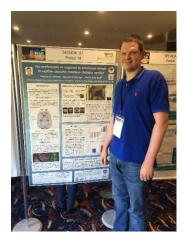
Kris Descovich: Pain in primates: Using behaviour and facial expression as a welfare tool



Caroline Lee: Attention bias: a practical measure of affective states in animals



Closing ceremony Announcement of my poster award



My poster: 'Eye preferences in response to emotional stimuli in captive capuchin monkeys'



Poster Award certificate Second Place (out of 80 poster entries)