

Advancing Animal Welfare Science 2022

UFAW International Conference, Edinburgh UK

28-29th June 2022

www.ufaw.org.uk/rcp22



Biographies of keynote speakers

Professor Melissa Bateson (*University of Newcastle, UK*)

Use and misuse of measures of welfare

I am an ethologist---meaning that I take a biological approach to the study of behaviour--with a strong track record in theoretically motivated empirical research on the behaviour of both human and non-human animals. My current research is focused on understanding how stressful lifetime experiences, and specifically early-life adversity, alter behaviour, cognition and biomarkers of health and well-being in a range of species including European starlings, rhesus macaques and humans. I am committed to generating evidence-based improvements in the welfare of captive animals and, more generally, to increasing openness and transparency in behavioural science.



Since arriving at Newcastle University Melissa has been an applicant on 21 successful external research grants, 14 as Principal Investigator (PI).

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Professor Bas Rodenburg (*University of Utrecht, The Netherlands*)

Meeting the demands of a growing human population, while also achieving good welfare

Bas Rodenburg is Professor in Animal Welfare at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Utrecht University in The Netherlands, where he coordinates research and education in animal welfare. He is also Special Professor at the Adaptation Physiology Group of Wageningen University. The research of Bas Rodenburg aims at improving the methodology for assessment of animal welfare. He mainly focuses on behavioural indicators and methods where the animals themselves are 'asked' how they experience their living conditions. A second important area is the study of behaviour and welfare of individual animals housed in social groups, using sensor technology. Bas Rodenburg obtained his PhD on feather pecking in laying hens in Wageningen in 2003 and since then he has been mainly involved in farm animal behaviour and welfare. In his current position, his research is broadening out and also focusing on more general concepts in animal behaviour and welfare.



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Professor Hanno Würbel (*University of Bern, Switzerland*)

How to improve the quality of animal welfare science

Hanno Würbel studied Biology at the University of Bern in Switzerland and obtained his PhD in Animal Sciences at the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zürich. Supported by a Swiss National Science Foundation Fellowship he moved to the University of Bristol (UK), before returning to the ETH Zürich. In 2002, he was appointed Professor of Animal Welfare and Ethology at the University of Giessen (Germany), and since 2011, he is Professor of Animal Welfare at his Alma Mater, the University of Bern. Besides, he serves as the president of the Ethics Committee for Animal Experimentation of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences and as the 3Rs coordinator of the University of Bern. His main line of research focuses on phenotypic plasticity and its implications for animal welfare, scientific validity and reproducibility of animal research.



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Professor Cathy Dwyer (*University of Edinburgh, UK*)

The role of evidence in policy making

Cathy Dwyer is Professor of Animal Behaviour and Welfare at Scotland's Rural College and sits as a scientific advisor on various international animal welfare bodies, including the EU Animal Welfare Platform, the Global Animal Partnership, and Dogs Trust. She was appointed Chair of Scotland's first independent Animal Welfare Commission in 2021.

Cathy has a long-standing research interest in maternal behaviour, mother-offspring interactions and offspring development, which has involved research in a variety of large and small animal models (sheep, pigs, horses, cattle, mice and guinea pigs).

Current research areas include the impact of early life events on behavioural development and stress responsiveness in sheep, the potential to select animals for improved lamb vigour and survival, and the consequences of a difficult birth for subsequent health and welfare in cattle and sheep.



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