

# MEASURING ANIMAL WELFARE AND APPLYING SCIENTIFIC ADVANCES - WHY IS IT STILL SO DIFFICULT?

UFAW International Symposium 27th-29th June 2017  
Royal Holloway, University of London, Surrey, UK



## Biographies of keynote speakers

### Professor Georgia Mason

University of Guelph, Canada

*'Using welfare indicators to make valid inference about animals' subjective states, with a focus on HPA responses and stereotypic behaviour'*

Canada Research Chair and Professor

Department of Animal Biosciences

University of Guelph

50 Stone Road East

Guelph

Ontario, N1G 2W1

Canada



Georgia Mason is a behavioural biologist whose research interests are in the objective assessment of animal welfare, and the chronic effects that captive housing can have on brain, behaviour and well-being. She has a Ph.D. in animal behaviour from Cambridge University, where she also held a Clare College post-doctoral research fellowship. She taught vertebrate evolution and animal behaviour for 10 years in Oxford University's Zoology Dept., where she was also a David Phillips BBSRC fellow. She moved to Canada in 2004 to take up a Canada Research Chair at University of Guelph. Professor Mason has over 150 publications, including papers in *Nature*, *Science* and an edited, co-authored book on stereotypic behaviour.

### Professor Mike Mendl

University of Bristol, UK

*'Animal affect: What is it, what do we know, and what can we know?'*

Professor of Animal Behaviour and Welfare

Division of Animal Health and Husbandry

School of Veterinary Sciences

University of Bristol

Langford House

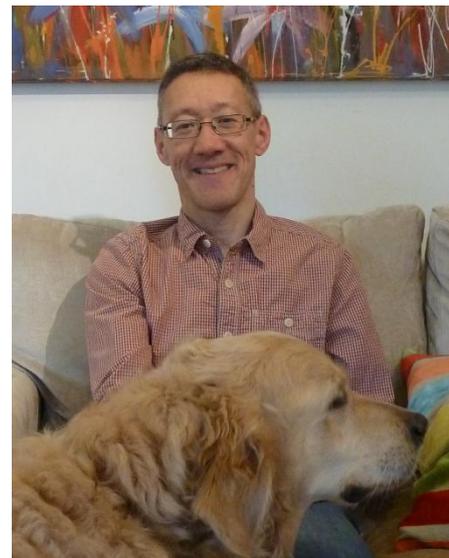
Langford

Bristol

BS40 5DU

UK

Mike obtained a PhD in animal behaviour at Cambridge University in 1986. He then took a Royal Society European Research Fellowship to continue his work on behavioural development at Groningen University in the Netherlands, before returning to work at Cambridge University Vet School where he moved into the field of applied animal behaviour and welfare. He subsequently took up a position as a Behavioural Scientist at the Scottish Agricultural College in Edinburgh, continuing his work on pig behaviour and welfare, and then moved to Bristol University Vet School where he is now Professor of Animal Behaviour and Welfare, and has previously been Head of the Bristol Animal Welfare & Behaviour Group, and Deputy Head of School (Research). His



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current research interests are in the study of cognition, emotion, and social behaviour in domestic animals, with a view to using this information to improve animal welfare. Together with Dr Liz Paul, he developed a novel 'cognitive bias' approach to the assessment of animal emotions which draws on theory and findings from human psychology and cognitive neuroscience. He and Liz received the 2013 inaugural International Society for Applied Ethology Creativity Award, and the Alice Richie Trust Memorial Fund Award for their work in this area. Mike was awarded the UFAW Medal in 2014 for his contributions to animal welfare science, and the RSPCA/BSAS Award for Innovative Developments in Animal Welfare in 2015. Mike also works on more applied animal welfare issues, with current interests in the relationship between housing and husbandry procedures and the health and welfare of farm, laboratory and zoo animals, and chronic pain conditions in domestic dogs.

## Professor Jaak Panksepp

Washington State University, USA

*'The emotional feelings of other minds: From neuroaffective foundations to novel therapeutics (especially depressions)'*

Baily Endowed Chair of Animal Well-Being Science  
Department of Integrative Physiology and Neuroscience  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
Washington State University  
PO Box 646520  
Pullman WA 99164-6520  
USA



Jaak Panksepp holds the Baily Endowed Chair of Animal Well-Being Science in Washington State University's College of Veterinary Medicine and is Emeritus Distinguished Research Professor of the Department of Psychology at Bowling Green State University. His research pioneered the neuroscientific study of primary-process emotions in mammals, with the goal of understanding the evolutionary infrastructure of human emotional feelings. He coined the term "affective neuroscience" as the name for the field that studies the neural mechanisms of emotion, not only from neuro-ethological but also experiential perspectives (i.e., monitoring the rewarding and punishing properties of artificial arousal of basic mammalian emotional action systems). His group generated the first neural (opioid-addictive) model of mother-infant social bonding, and the understanding of various other basic affective processes, especially the nature of playful joy, that have important psychiatric implications, especially for the development of new therapies. Along with Ken Davis, the Affective Neuroscience Personality Scale was developed as a potential bridge between basic preclinical and human research endeavors. He is known in the popular press for his research on laughter in non-human animals, a topic that has led his extended research group to identify several novel treatments of depression. His forthcoming book is the *Archaeology of Mind* (Norton, 2012). He is currently writing a book on the neurobiological sources of personality with Ken Davis.