

Invited symposium "Cross-species Perspectives on Differential and Personality Research" at the 15th European Conference on Personality (ECP15) in Brno, Czech Republic, July 20-24, 2010



25 January, 2009

We are pleased to announce the invited symposium:

"Cross-species Perspectives on Differential and Personality Research"

Differential and personality research in nonhuman species is a rapidly growing field that made significant advances over the last decade—largely unnoticed by psychologists, however. The symposium aims to highlight the potentials of cross-species perspectives that arise from the greater opportunities for naturalistic behaviour observation and experimental control in nonhuman species, from their more diverse neurological, behavioural, psychological, and social systems, and their greater variety in ecological adaptations and phylogenetic histories. Distinguished speakers present their work on a 40-year breeding experiment for single behavioural traits in farm foxes, ambulatory monitoring of individual differences in physiological and hormonal responses to different situations in geese, factorial analyses of temperamental differences in mice studied in batteries of behavioural tests, trait ratings and breed-typical behaviour in dogs, evolutionary patterns in primate personality differences, and meta-theoretical and methodological approaches to species-comprehensive differential and personality research. These studies illustrate the potential of comparative research approaches for systematic explorations of fundamental psychobiological mechanisms and evolutionary principles that contribute to personality differences in human and nonhuman species. The particularities of nonhuman species also necessitate new meta-theoretical and methodological developments that can help to critically re-evaluate, and to extend methods and approaches of traditional differential and personality psychology.

Our invited speakers are:

- Genetics of social interspecific behavior (fox-human interaction) in the silver fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)
Lyudmilla Trut & Anna Kukekova (*Institute of Cytology and Genetics of Russian Academy of Sciences, Novosibirsk, Russia, & Center for Canine Genetics and Reproduction, James A. Baker Institute for Animal Health, Cornell University, U.S.*)
- Temperamental traits in mice (*Mus musculus*)
Jorge Moya-Higueras, Manuel I. Ibáñez, & Generós Ortet (*Department of Basic and Clinical Psychology and Psychobiology, Universitat Jaume I, Castelló de la Plana, Spain*)
- Personality differences in Greylag geese (*Anser anser*) – species-specific or vertebrate universal?
Simona Kralj-Fišer & Kurt Kotrschal (*Jovan Hadži Institute of Biology Scientific Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Art, Ljubljana, Slovenia & Department of Behavioural Biology, University of Vienna, Konrad Lorenz Research Station, Austria*)
- Personalities in dogs (*Canis familiaris*): Methods and results
Björn Forkman (*Division Ethology, Department of Large Animal Sciences, University of Copenhagen, Denmark*)
- Building blocks of primate personality: Evolutionary patterns of phenotypic integration
Mark James Adams (*Department of Psychology, Differential and Health Psychology, The University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom*)
- Methodological approaches in differential and personality research: New insights from a cross-species comparative perspective
Jana Uher (*Department of Psychology, Differential and Personality Psychology, Diagnostics and Intervention, Free University Berlin, Germany*)

We are looking forward to meeting you in Brno,
Jana Uher & Mark James Adams.
(Symposium convenors)

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