

Trip report

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To: SFECA 2025 conference, Paris Nanterre University, Nanterre, France

Dates: June 10, 2025 – June 13, 2025

The first half day of the conference (June 10) was dedicated to discussing ethics in ethology. This event was organized by a committee of French young researchers studying animal behaviour. These discussions with various experts have significantly contributed to my personal reflexion about the place of women in science, animal welfare, and the impact of scientific research on the environment. It also motivated me to join similar groups of young researchers sharing the same values and interests. We also had discussions about the future of animal behaviour research, and how to get fundings to support our work.



The conference itself explored a lot of topics and animal species (e.g., marine mammals, birds, great apes, horses). Researchers presented their results focusing on animal cognition, behaviour, emotion processing etc., which perfectly complemented the content of the required courses for my PhD. I also enjoyed Dr. Liévin-Bazin's presentation on how to share scientific findings with a lay audience, which encouraged me to get more involved in citizen science and popular science communication.

I presented my poster during the poster session planned on June 11. I had the opportunity to present my work to several fellow students from French universities. These poster sessions and coffee breaks also enabled me to meet experts and more advanced researchers with whom I had already had contacts, such as Dr. C. De Mouzon and B. Ract-Madoux. I also talked with other presenters studying companion animals and human ethology, e.g. Dr Toutain and her work on the perception of pets by autistic children. I really hope that these encounters last over time and

potentially develop into collaborative projects, e.g., exploring the well-being of companion animals.

Participating in social events organised after the official talk sessions was also a great opportunity to connect with other students, post-docs and senior researchers in a more relaxed atmosphere.

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