Defining the Human and the Animal
Knight Library
Browsing Room
University of Oregon
May 2-3, 2013

Presented by the Department of German & Scandinavian, co-sponsored by the College of Arts & Sciences, the Department of Comparative Literature, the Department of Philosophy, the Journal of Comparative Literature, the Oregon Humanities Center, the German Studies Committee, and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

For more information please contact:
Alexander Mathäs, mathaes@uoregon.edu
Thursday, May 2
8:45-9:00 Coffee
9:00-9:10 Welcoming Remarks: Judith Baskin, Associate Dean of Humanities, College of Arts & Sciences
9:10-9:15 Opening Remarks: Alexander Mathäs, German, University of Oregon

Session One: “The Unfortunate Hybrid between Animal and Angel”: Historical and Literary Perspectives (Idealism)
Moderator: Alexander Mathäs, University of Oregon
9:15-10:15 Fritz Breithaupt, German and Comparative Literature, Indiana University, “Man, the Moral Animal?”
10:15-11:15 Christine Lehleiter, German, University of Toronto, “Human and Animal in Light of Eighteenth-Century Breeding Experiments”
11:30-12:30 Gail Hart, German, University of California, Irvine, “The Humanity of Children from Sandmann to Struwwelpeter: A Tale of Two Hoffmanns”
12:30-2:00 Lunch Break

Moderator: Jeffrey Librett, German, University of Oregon
2:00-3:00 David Alexander Craig, Philosophy, University of Oregon, "The Dialectic of Animality and Rationality in Kant's Theory of Human Nature"
3:15-4:15 Kenneth Calhoon, German and Comparative Literature, University of Oregon, “Of Non-Vital Interest: Art, Mimicry, and the Phenomenon of Life”
4:15-4:30 Coffee Break
4:30-5:30 Ted Toadvine, Philosophy, University of Oregon, "The Time of Animal Voices”
5:30-6:30 Reception

Friday, May 3
8:45-9:00 Coffee

Session Three: Reactions to Idealist Humanism: Historical Perspectives
Moderator: Michael Stern, German & Scandinavian, University of Oregon
9:00-10:00 Joseph Fracchia, History (Honors College), University of Oregon, "Organisms and Objectifications: A Historical-Materialist Inquiry into Defining the Human and the Animal.”
10:15-11:15 Sander Gliboff, History and Philosophy of Science, Indiana University, "Ascent, Descent, and Divergence: Darwin and Haeckel on the Human Family Tree"
11:30-12:30 Alexander Mathäs, German, University of Oregon, “From Anti-Humanism to Post-Humanism and the Role of the Animal: Hermann Hesse’s Steppenwolf”
12:30-2:00 Lunch Break

Session Four Animal, Nature and the (Post)human: Literary and Philosophical Perspectives
Moderator: Susan Anderson, German, University of Oregon
2:00-3:00 Todd Kontje, German and Comparative Literature, University of California, San Diego, "Kafka’s Ape and Thomas Mann’s Dog: Writing on the Threshold between Animal and Human”
4:30-5:00 Closing discussion
6:30 p.m. Participants' dinner