

THE IV ISHE SUMMER INSTITUTE IN ANN ARBOR, MI

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The International Society for Human Ethology's 2013 Summer Institute was held 6-9 August at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. ISHE Summer Institutes are designed to be more student friendly than many other scientific conferences, and include generous financial support for student participants. This was the fourth installation, following Summer Institutes held at Andechs, Germany, the University of Maine, and Charles University in Prague. Thomas Alley chaired the Program Committee composed of Louise Barrett, Daniel J. Kruger, Marc Mehu, David Puts, S. Craig Roberts, Gert Stulp, and Carol Weisfeld. ISHE aims at promoting the exchange of knowledge and opinions concerning human ethology with all the other empirical sciences of human behavior. ISHE encourages empirical research in all fields of human behavior using the full range of methods developed in biology and the human behavioral sciences and operating within the conceptual framework provided by evolutionary theory. The academic program reflected this mission.

As fitting for sessions held in a School of Public Health, the conference also had a special theme of evolution and health; many other presentations addressed real world issues and applications. Randolph Nesse, who is now the Founding Director of the Center for Evolution, Medicine, & Public Health at Arizona State University (the first of its kind), gave the opening plenary talk. John Richer of the University of Oxford held a workshop on evolution and mental health, proposing ethological alternatives to the DSM-5 model. Peter LaFreniere, Bobbi S. Low, Kevin MacDonald, and Beverly Strassmann also gave plenary talks. Francine Dolins, Peter LaFreniere, Gregory D. Webster, and Glenn Weisfeld held other workshops. The 2013 Summer Institute also included 21 oral presentations and 37 poster presentations by conference participants, who hailed from universities around the world.

The formal and informal social program provided opportunities to explore the University of Michigan, one of the world's leading research universities with a strong history of evolutionary research on human behavior, as well as the lush college town environment of Ann Arbor. Students were housed in the new North Quadrangle Residential and Academic Complex, the first student housing development build at U of M in over 40 years. Overall, participants thought that the Summer Institute was a great success. Our sole crisis occurred when we lost contact with the kayak and canoe expedition party that was travelling down the Huron River. Fortunately, our intrepid travelers are a hardy lot, and they all successfully made their way back to civilization even without the use of GPS or cell phones. Peter LaFreniere successfully used his knowledge of the local geography, bushwhacking his way back to Ann Arbor in time for the Saturday night banquet. These festivities were held at the Cottage Inn, a campus staple for over 60 years (historic by American standards). We look forward to seeing everyone in Belém for the XXII Biennial Conference and at future ISHE Summer Institutes and conferences.



Wulf Schiefenhövel and Thomas R. Alley: outgoing and incoming ISHE presidents