**ISAE**

Benelux

**Registration form**

Conference 2018

**To register, please fill in the information required in the table and send it to** **benelux.isae@gmail.com** **before the deadline**

Deadlines\*:

Abstract: 5th September 2018

Student motivation letter: 12th September 2018

Registration: 26th September 2018

\* This means e.g. that in case you want to submit an abstract for an oral or poster presentation, you register before 5th September and include your abstract with that registration. If you do not submit an abstract and a motivation letter is not applicable (see below), you can register until the 26th of September.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| First name: |  |
| Last name: |  |
| Organization: |  |
| ISAE membership: | yes / no1 |
| Abstract for presentation2: | yes / no |
| Motivation letter3:  | yes / no |
| Diner4: | yes / no |
| Dietary preferences5: |  |
| Text to introduce yourself6:  |  |
| E-mail: |  |

1 Please delete the one that does not apply to you

2 Guidelines for an example of the abstract can be found below

3 Only applicable for BSc and MSc students

4 Dinner will take place at the same location as the conference, but is not included in the fee (additional fee for dinner: €25)

5 Please indicate e.g. none, vegetarian, vegan, allergic to ….

6 Just as last year, we would like you to provide a few lines of text of max. 60 words about yourself, including your name, affiliation and current research and/or education. This to make networking with other participants more easy. These lines will be placed in the book of abstracts. Please note, we reserve the right to edit these lines if needed. Two examples are provided below.

**Please do not forget to send your abstract and/or motivation letter as well in case you indicated ‘yes’ above.**

## Two examples to introduce yourself

Stephanie Buijs is a post-doc researcher at the Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research (ILVO) in Belgium, studying the effect of group housing on breeding rabbit welfare with an emphasis on predicting and decreasing aggression. Future projects focus on simplification of the Welfare Quality broiler protocol. Previously, she studied the effect of stocking density on chicken and rabbit welfare.

Inonge Reimert is a post-doc researcher at Wageningen University in the Netherlands, working on social interactions and emotions in pigs. Her PhD thesis was about the impact of social interactions on welfare, health and productivity. At present, she is involved in education and busy studying emotional facial expression in pigs.

## Abstract guidelines and example

Guidelines

* Abstracts must be written in English
* The body of the abstract should not exceed 300 words, figures and tables should not be included
* The title should not exceed 120 characters (including spaces)
* Abstracts presenting both theoretical and empirical work will be considered for presentation
* Abstracts must contain a clear statement of the purpose of the work, the methods used, results and conclusions
* Results should be presented in sufficient detail to support the conclusions drawn
* Abstracts on empirical studies must indicate the method(s) of analysis, contain data (means, variation, etc.), and provide information about test statistics (e.g. p levels).
* References are not required in the abstract, however, if provided, they should be placed in the text of the abstract in the following short format: Jones & Swanson, Appl. Anim. Ethol. 14:23, 1980
* The first name of authors, not just initials, should be provided, as well as the affiliated institute and its location (but not the full address)
* Authors may submit multiple abstracts
* All abstracts submitted must comply with the “Guidelines for Ethical Treatment of Animals in Applied Animal Behaviour and Welfare Research” prepared by the ISAE Ethics Committee ([/ethical\_guidelines.html](http://www.applied-ethology.org/ethical_guidelines.html))
* Please prepare your abstract in Word and *name it accordingly*: abstract ISAE Benelux 2016\_first and last name of first author (e.g.: abstract ISAE Benelux 2016\_Sanne Ott)

Layout

* Font: Verdana
* Title: 11 pt, bold
* Authors: 11 pt, italic
* Affiliation: 9 pt
* Presenting author's email address: 9 pt, bold
* Body: 10 pt (maximum 300 words including a clear statement of the purpose of the work, the methods used, results and conclusions)

Example

**Automated measurement of pig behavioural activity at pen level using image processing techniques**

*Ott, Sanne1,2, Moons, Christel P.H.1, Kashiha, Mohammadamin3, Vandermeulen, Joris3, Bahr, Claudia3, Berckmans, Daniel3, Niewold, Theo2 and Tuyttens, Frank A.M.1,4*

1 Laboratory for Ethology, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, Ghent University, Merelbeke, Belgium

2 Division of Livestock-Nutrition-Quality, Faculty of Bioscience Engineering, KU Leuven, Belgium

3 M3-BIORES - Measure, Model & Manage Bioresponses, KU Leuven, Belgium

4 Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research (ILVO), Animal Sciences Unit, Melle, Belgium

**sanne.ott@biw.kuleuven.be**

Image processing techniques show great promise for the automated monitoring of animal behaviour. Such techniques could assist farmers in early detection of welfare and health problems in their livestock. Before applying such technology on-farm, however, the method ought to be well validated. The present study investigated for the first time the correspondence between automated measures of pig activity by image analysis and the behavioural activity as measured by a trained observer in a farm setting. Pigs were housed in 4 pens of 10 pigs and were video recorded by a top-view camera that covered an entire pen floor area. Pig behaviour was recorded during six days. On each of these days, four sessions of 30-min video recordings, two in the morning and two in the afternoon, were used for the comparison between the automated and human labelled data. A trained observer labelled pig activity in each session using 2-min instantaneous scan sampling. At each sampling point, each pig was scored as being behaviourally active when it was in locomotion (walking, running) and/or performing another activity (e.g. feeding, drinking, manipulating pen mate or pen fixtures, interacting socially). The behavioural activity scores of all individuals of a pen were averaged per session (6 days x 4 pens x 4 sessions = 96 data points). Automated pig activity was calculated by the relative number of moving pixels between two consecutive image frames (1 frame/second) and expressed as the average image activity index per session per pen. The automated activity measures were correlated to the human observations of pig behavioural activity. Automated activity measures were strongly correlated to the human observations (N=96, rs = 0.92, P<0.0001). This result seems promising for the use of automated activity measures as a cost-effective tool to measure pig behavioural activity at pen level.