

**061-S**

**SOCIAL NETWORK THEORY AND ANALYSIS: APPLICATIONS TO THE STUDY OF PRIMATE SOCIALITY**

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Recent computational advances have placed social network theory and its accompanying analytical techniques at the forefront of animal behaviour research. While novel and exciting results have been produced by the application of this approach to studies of some taxa, studies of nonhuman primates have lagged slightly behind in its adoption. This is surprising, given the large number of potential applications of social network theory and analysis to the study of primate social systems. As primatologists begin to apply a social network-based approach, this timely symposium will provide an excellent opportunity to bring together individuals at the forefront of this movement to discuss their current and future research. Speakers will outline how they have used social network theory and analysis to shed new light on the patterning and expression of social behaviours in human and nonhuman primates. Emphasis will be placed on the problems faced in primatology that could benefit from a network approach as well as methodological issues, such as comparing global network measures, which should be considered. In addition, social network experts from outside of the primatological community will help primatologists to grasp the full potential of this powerful approach and to develop ideas for future research.

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