## Communicating About SocioScientific Issues

Issue 1, May 2015

# **CASSIS Newsletter**

## Toulouse workshop, July 2014

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The second CASSIS workshop took place in July 2014 and was hosted by Professors Laurence Simonneaux, Jean Simonneaux and their research team at the Ecole Nationale de Formation Agronomique, France. During this week-long workshop each group presented their progress to date, focused on



developing further our theoretical framework including the exploration of ethical frameworks and building cartographies for exploring controversial issues and finally, we learnt more about the issue of 'wolves as pest animals' in France through our colleagues presentations and field trips. Field trips that took place during this time allowed us to see at first-hand how sheep and cow grazing is managed in Florac and the Pyrennes, and saw Pyrennean Mountain dogs guarding flocks of sheep against wolves.

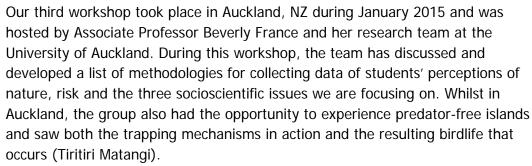
This workshop provided the opportunity to the Auckland team (Bev France & Sally Birdsall) to present and publish papers with their French colleagues (Laurence Simonneaux, Jean Simonneaux, Amélie Lipp and Michel Vidal) whilst in Toulouse. You can find these publications in In L. Simonneaux, J. Simonneaux, A. Legardez (eds), *Revue Francophone du Developpement Durable* (4), Octobre 2014.







# Auckland workshop, January 2015



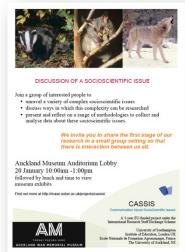
What is significant is both during our Toulouse workshop, and whilst at New Zealand, that the junior researchers within the team have been mentored by the more experienced members especially in the development of their PhD projects. A strength of this project is that all of the doctoral and masters' projects are allied to the focus of identifying opinions about mammalian pest control in each country's ecosystems and these parallel research projects amplify the impact that this project will make.



#### Presenting CASSIS at the Auckland War Memorial Museum

The Auckland meeting provided our group with the opportunity to present the rationale, aims and initial research of the CASSIS project to the Auckland research community at the Auckland War Memorial Museum.







# CASSIS Symposium accepted at ESERA 2015

Our team has had four presentations accepted as part of a symposium at the next European Science Education Research Association (ESERA) conference, which is taking place at Helsinki (31.08-4.09. 2015).

#### Building a cartography about an SSI/SAQ

- 1. Theorising the building of a cartography of SocioScientific Issues (SSIs) /Socially Acute Questions (SAQs) by Beverly France, Sally Birdsall & Laurence Simonneaux
- 2. Mapping controversies: pre-service teachers' mapping of a controversial socio-scientific issue by Joanne Nicholl, Andri Christodoulou, Paul Davies, Marcus Grace & Ralph Levinson
- 3. Does the analysis of local press allow the building of a map of the controversy about the re-appearance of the Wolf in Lozere? by Michel Vidal, Laurence Simonneau & Jean Simonneaux
- 4. Unravelling the SSI/SAQ of 1080 possum control using Actor-Network-Theory (ANT) by Sally Birdsall, Beverley France & Kathryn Garthwaite

Showcasing CASSIS at UCL Institute of Education's Alumni event

The UCL IoE Science PGCE Alumni event was held at the Institute of Education on the 19th March 2015. Students from the last 5 years of completing their PGCE were invited back to share their experiences and reconnect with the Institute of Education. During this event, CASSIS was showcased as one of the International Projects that staff members are involved (Ralph Levinson, Paul Davies, Joanne Nicholl). There was interest from the teachers in being involved in the research and the overall event was a success both in terms of raising the profile of the CASSIS project and making connections with Secondary schools for future research.

