



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The legacy of Cláudia Sousa: bridging disciplines towards an integrated anthropology

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Cláudia Sousa (1975-2014) was a talented scientist who devoted her life to pioneering research in Biological Anthropology. Cláudia was the first Portuguese Primatologist to examine chimpanzee behaviour and cognition in both captive and wild populations, with her research taking her from the Primate Research Institute of Kyoto University in Japan to the tropical forests of Guinea (Bossou Reserve) and Guinea-Bissau (Cantanhez and Cufada National Parks).

Her students remember her kind nature, her unwavering support for their career development, and her tenacious drive and thirst for scientific knowledge. She was an inspiration for many of her peers within the Department of Anthropology at the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences, New University of Lisbon (FCSH/NOVA), where she gained a permanent lectureship position, as well as the Centre for Research in Anthropology (CRIA) and the University of

Coimbra, where she obtained her Undergraduate and Masters' degrees and where she taught as a guest lecturer. Cláudia also inspired students through her involvement in the Portuguese Primatology Association (APP), of which she was a founding member and active associate, and in the Portuguese Ethology Society (SPE).

Cláudia's contribution to the field of Anthropology at a Portuguese and International level is not restricted to her own areas of expertise. Always curious and attentive she knew how to embrace human aspects of fieldwork in Africa, understanding that biodiversity conservation requires working with local people and maintaining consideration of their perspectives.

In recognition of the inspiration that Cláudia Sousa gave to everyone around her, a one-day conference ***Chimpanzees, Humans and Nature: The Legacy of Cláudia Sousa (Chimpazés, Humanos e Natureza: O Legado de Cláudia Sousa)*** was held on the 9th October 2015 at the National Museum of Ethnology in Lisbon (Portugal). This conference not only honoured her memory, but also highlighted her immense contribution to Anthropology and Primatology through bringing together a group of distinguished academics who collaborated with Cláudia throughout her career. Many of her former students and colleagues also attended the conference, and alongside Cláudia's mother and father, listened to and participated in discussions on research topics that Cláudia exhibited a particular passion for, including ape cognition and behaviour, human-primate interactions, human evolution and primate conservation.

A large photographic display in the lobby of the museum provided a visual journey through Cláudia's research career, from her early days working with captive primates in Japan up to more recent research on primate conservation in Guinea-Bissau.

The conference commenced with welcoming speeches from João Costa (Dean of FCSH), Antónia Pedroso de Lima (President of CRIA), and Maria Filomena Silvano (Head of Anthropology, FCSH) who recalled the huge contribution that Cláudia made to University life as a well-liked and highly valued colleague, and through her teaching, mentoring, and pioneering research. The first session of the conference "Cognition, Behaviour and Human Evolution" was opened by João Leal (FCSH/NOVA and CRIA), who introduced the first speaker Tetsuro Matsuzawa from the Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University, Japan. As Cláudia's PhD supervisor, he presented an overview of Cláudia's research in both laboratory and fieldwork settings, from the use of tokens by captive chimpanzees to acquire food to the use of tools by wild chimpanzees to access resources. He used previously unshared footage to detail Cláudia's story allowing us to fully realise the novelty and diversity of her work. The video archive can be accessed by following the link: <http://langint.pri.kyoto-u.ac.jp/ai/en/claudia/?1007>.

This was followed by a presentation by Dora Biro (Department of Zoology, University of Oxford, UK) who interwove wonderful stories of her and Cláudia's long-term friendship with their pioneering research on how wild chimpanzees at Bossou learn to use tools for nut-cracking and leaf-folding to

drink water. Following this, a former student of Cláudia's, Susana Carvalho (Department of Anthropology, University of Oxford, UK), described how Cláudia gave her the opportunity and support to pursue her lifelong dream to study wild chimpanzees, thereby laying the foundations for the new research field of Primate Archaeology and cementing Portugal's position at the forefront of contemporary Primatology. This was followed by a presentation on social intelligence in chimpanzees and the origin of the human mind by Satoshi Hirata (Wildlife Research Center, Kyoto University, Japan) who linked his and Cláudia's collaborative experiments that explored questions on chimpanzee cognition with more recent work on chimpanzees and bonobos at the Kumomoto Sanctuary in Japan. Eugénia Cunha (CENCIFOR, University of Coimbra, Portugal), who was Cláudia's master's supervisor, close colleague and friend, followed with a video presentation on compassion and aggression in human evolution. To finish off the first session, António Bracinha Vieira (CFC, University of Lisbon, Portugal), who met Cláudia during her master's degree in Coimbra and was a member of the panel who selected her to join FCSH, gave a video presentation about the origins and evolution of language, an area that Cláudia always had a special interest in.

The afternoon session "Conservation and Human-Primate Interactions" was opened by Margarida Fernandes (FCSH/NOVA and CRIA), a close friend and colleague of Cláudia's at FCSH, with a few warmly spoken words about Cláudia. She invited the first speaker

Kimberley Hockings (CRIA and FCSH/NOVA) to talk about her and Cláudia's recent work on human-chimpanzee interactions at Cantanhez National Park in Guinea-Bissau. Cláudia's dedication to understand the behaviour of these previously unstudied chimpanzees coupled with her passion to conserve these endangered apes was unmistakable, as was the fact that her research and conservation vision in Guinea-Bissau will continue through her friends, colleagues and students. Spartaco Gippolitti (Safari Ravenna Zoological Park, Italy) who first completed a primate census in Guinea-Bissau in 1994 and who spent time with Cláudia on the first of her many trips to Guinea-Bissau gave a thought-provoking talk on the issue of biased conservation efforts, discussing some of the challenges we have in conserving wildlife in the 21st Century. Catherine Hill (Department of Social Sciences, Oxford Brookes University, UK) who co-established with Cláudia an ERASMUS programme between the New University of Lisbon and Oxford Brookes University, as well as collaborating in research projects, then discussed the role of primatologists as social actors and their influence on village life, politics, and conservation. As someone who enthusiastically embraced more social aspects of fieldwork, Cláudia would have identified with the ethical concerns of primatological field work discussed during this talk. Amélia Frazão-Moreira (FCSH/NOVA and CRIA) gave the last presentation of the day, laying emphasis on Cláudia's genuine ability to conduct cross-disciplinary research that bridged the social and biological sciences at the forefront of Anthropology. She guided us through Cláudia's impressive record of

past research projects, detailing their varied and long-term collaborative work in Guinea-Bissau.

The conference ended with closing remarks by Tetsuro Matsuzawa and Amélia Frazão-Moreira, with touching accounts of

Cláudia's life and achievements, and how she will be sorely missed but never forgotten. Those of us who are fortunate enough to have known Cláudia Sousa and to witness her enthusiasm for research know that she would have humbly appreciated this initiative.