

The AzI's goals are as follows:-

*To conduct research into the interactions of animals with humans, both individually and collectively. All research programmes are to be conducted in a way that is compatible with the welfare of the animals being studied. Only non-invasive methods are to be used.*

*To publish the results of such research, subject to the approval of the sponsors of each subject.*

*To undertake collaborative research with other universities which have complementary interests, particularly overseas.*

Current and future research areas include welfare of companion animals, eg the behaviour of cats in animal shelters; behavioural basis for the pet-owner relationship which looks into human-directed behaviour of both the dog and the cat, and attitudes to animals, for example investigation of cultural differences in attitudes to cats. The first work to be published under the auspices of the AzI, 'Dyadic interactions between domestic dogs' (Bradshaw & Lea 1992) appears in *Anthrozoös* 5: 245-253.

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#### **Commercialization of new life-forms**

There is a considerable current debate going on as to the ethical, environmental, socio-biological and economic implications of man's use of biotechnology. A particular conflict revolves around the possible patenting of genetically engineered life-forms. It is as difficult, sometimes, for biologists to grasp the socio-legal arguments over these matters as it is for lawyers and philosophers to understand the underlying science and technology. The biologists' problems will be lessened by a study of the proceedings of a conference jointly convened by the Intellectual and Industrial Property Society and the Monash University Centre for Human Bioethics, held in Melbourne, Australia in October 1990. Selected papers from this conference were printed in 1991 in *Intellectual Property Forum: Journal of the Intellectual and Industrial Property Society*. The eleven published papers, which mainly cover the ethical, social and legal arguments over the patenting and commercialization of new life-forms, are a most useful source of opinion and information in this difficult but most important technological area.

***Ethics and intellectual property: should we create and commercialise new life-forms?*** *Proceedings of a conference jointly convened by the Intellectual and Industrial Property Society and the Monash University Centre for Human Bioethics, Melbourne 19 October 1990 in Intellectual Property forum: Journal of The Intellectual and Industrial Property Society Inc. Issue 14 - May 1991* Edited by Michael McDonald (1991). Intellectual Property Forum: Melbourne. 67pp. Paperback. Obtainable from The Resources Officer, Centre for Human Bioethics, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria 3168, Australia (ISSN 0815 2098) Price A\$12 plus A\$8 airmail postage.