

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

GAIL TULLOCH

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

It is wonderful to see you all here for what I'm sure will be a very exciting conference. Welcome to Brisbane, for those of you who are from elsewhere, and to Griffith and to the Eco-Centre. *Humane Education: a compassion ethic for animals* arose out of a Voiceless grant to Carole de Fraga and myself. I received a grant from Voiceless for a project last year, *Education of Compassion: Learning to Care*; Joy Verrinder was the field researcher on that project and she will present the findings. Carole received a grant from Voiceless for a project developing curriculum materials about the welfare of farm animals. Both of us are interested in developing educational resources and raising awareness of and encouraging compassion.

Cynthia Burnett of Animals Australia was the third member of the organising committee. She has an annotated bibliography of resources that would be of interest, particularly to teachers.

And Voiceless, of course, is providing the seeding funds for so many valuable projects in this area. Many of us met through Voiceless. Carole and I certainly did. They are fostering great initiatives and valuable networks.

It is now my great pleasure to introduce Elizabeth Usher from Voiceless, the fund for animals.
