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April 2017

From the Managing Director

April is here and that means (at least up here in Michigan) April showers. I don't know if it is all the rain, but ASI's programs are in full bloom! Last month we celebrated the 25th anniversary of *Society & Animals*, a peer-reviewed journal that has been starting and informing conversations about human-animal relationships since 1993. This month brings the announcement of our 5th annual Undergraduate Paper Prize and two workshops on the connections between animal abuse, interpersonal violence, and how the two affect children. We also look to the future as we announce the participants who will be attending our Summer Institute in July. Read on for all this and more!

Brackets for Good Update

As many of you know, last month ASI participated in Brackets for Good. BFG is a nonprofit organization that creates a bracket like challenge for nonprofits in a local area. Last year we were knocked out in the first round, but thanks to you this year

we made it all the way to the third round! It was amazing to see so many of you come off the bench to help team ASI, but whether you were on the floor or watching from the stands, when it comes to improving human-animals relationships we're all on the same team. Thanks to everyone for your support!

Human-Animal Studies Corner

Celebrating 25 Years of Exploring the Human-Animal Connection

ASI is pleased to announce that [*Society & Animals: The Journal of Human-Animal Studies*](#) is celebrating its 25th year in 2017. To commemorate this occasion, Kenneth Shapiro, Editor-in-Chief, Robert Mitchell, Managing Editor for Quantitative Social Sciences, Susan McHugh, Managing Editor for Humanities, and Margo DeMello, Associate Editor (covering Qualitative Social Sciences) presented a panel on the history, impact, and future of the journal at the [Living with Animals conference](#), held in March 2017 at Eastern Kentucky University. Following are the PowerPoint presentations from each panelist, to give readers a sense of where we have come from, and where we are headed.

- [Human-Animal Studies: The View from *Society & Animals*](#) by Kenneth Shapiro
- [Society & Animals: 25 Years of Social Science Research](#) by Margo DeMello
- [Society & Animals: 25 Years of Quality Quantitative Research](#) by Robert Mitchell
- [Humanities Trends in *Society & Animals*](#) by Susan McHugh

Call for Submissions: Fifth Annual Undergraduate Paper Prize

The Animals & Society Institute (ASI) and Wesleyan Animal Studies (WAS) invite submissions for the fifth annual undergraduate paper prize competition for undergraduate students pursuing research in Human-Animal Studies. ASI and WAS will award a prize to an outstanding, original theoretical or empirical scholarly work that advances the field of human-animal studies. Papers can come from any undergraduate discipline in the humanities, social sciences or natural sciences, and must be between 4,000-7,000 words long, including abstract and references. The winning paper will be published in *Society & Animals*, an interdisciplinary journal that publishes articles describing and analyzing experiences of and with non-human animals. Topics can include human-animal interactions in various settings (animal cruelty, the therapeutic uses of animals), the applied uses of animals (research, education, medicine and agriculture), the use of animals in culture (e.g. dog-fighting, circus, animal companions, animal research), attitudes toward animals as affected by different socializing agencies and strategies, representations of animals in literature, art, or popular culture, the domestication of animals, the politics of animal welfare, or the constitution of the animal rights movement. The Submission Deadline is August 1, 2017. [Find out more here!](#)

Participants Announced for the 2017 HAS Summer Institute

The Animals & Society Institute and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign are excited to announce the participants for the 2017 ASI-UIUC HAS Summer Institute, to be held this July at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. [Click here to see a list of this year's participants.](#)

Human-Animal Programs Corner

Last Chance to Register for Training in Michigan

There are still a few slots left for Lisa Lunghofer's Animal Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Workshops at the Humane Society of Huron Valley on April 19th. She'll be giving a day-long training on animal abuse, teaching professionals what they need to know to recognize the problem and intervene effectively. The morning will be devoted to a general discussion about the relationship between animal abuse and other antisocial and violent behavior. In the afternoon, she'll focus specifically on animal abuse and children. Using case studies and video vignettes, she will explain why all professionals dealing with children should be aware of animal abuse as a risk factor. She will discuss what professionals should look for and the types of questions that might be asked about animal-related experiences. The workshop will conclude with discussion of the range of intervention resources available. [Click here to sign up!](#)

Meeting with the Future of Compassion



On March 29 Lisa Lunghofer, Director of Human-Animal Programs, met with Kelly Owczarski, Kerry Pullano, and Erin Pels, high school students from Georgetown Visitation in Washington, DC. They reached out to ASI because they were working on a project relating animal cruelty to domestic abuse. As part of the assignment they were looking into advocating the benefits of therapy in

response to animal abuse and wanted to interview someone with experience on the topic. During the meeting, they talked about treatment for animal abuse offenders and the challenges to getting adult perpetrators into mandated counseling. Lisa shared details about ASI's work [educating criminal justice professionals](#) about the importance of taking animal abuse seriously and training mental health providers in the [AniCare approach](#). They also discussed the critical role of prevention and what students can do to advocate in their own schools for more attention to curricula on human-animal relationships.

Volunteer Spotlight

Meet ASI Office Intern Katie Hepfinger

Katie has always had a passion for animals and animal welfare. Previously, she volunteered at Paws for Life in Troy, MI as a videographer and editor for adoptable pets and their PetFinder profiles. She graduated from Oakland University in 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Cinema Studies. She currently works as a substitute teacher in



Livingston County. Katie's long term goal and focus is within the realm of documentary filmmaking. It was a documentary that first inspired her to go vegan and continues to inspire her on her journey through a Vegetarian/Vegan lifestyle. Through engaging cinema, Katie hopes to cultivate a system of dialogue among differing populations and create solidarity through educational rhetoric. In her spare time she enjoys screenwriting, photography, rock climbing, reading, and spending time with her cats, Lola and Mavis.

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