

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Animals and Society Institute. Don't forget to add office@animalsandsociety.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



Share this newsletter over social media or via email



See what ASI is all about!



[ABOUT](#)

[JOIN](#)

[SUBSCRIBE](#)

[DONATE](#)

August 2017

Greetings loyal readers! This month we are doing something a little different. We have so much wonderful news to report from our new Summer Institute for Human-Animal Studies that we have decided to dedicate the entire newsletter to covering it! Read on for an overview of the Summer Institute, quotes from the participants, and even a video starring the participants sharing their impressions of the week.

2017 ASI-UIUC Summer Institute

This July, the Animals & Society Institute, in conjunction with our partners at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign's [Center for Advanced Studies](#), put on the first annual Summer Institute for Human-Animal Studies, a one-week intensive program aimed at graduate students and early career professionals working on a dissertation or other writing/research project. For our first year, we had 29 participants working on projects from a range of disciplines - from music to social work to veterinary science - and from around the world. The participants participated in daily workshops led by Institute co-hosts Jane Desmond and Kim Marra, followed by plenary talks given by a list of illustrious HAS

scholars (Agustin Fuentes, Nigel Rothfels, Leesa Fawcett, Leslie Irvine, Una Choudhuri, Chris Green, Deke Weaver, Jamie Jones, and ASI's Ken Shapiro and Margo DeMello). The feedback we received from the participants has been overwhelmingly positive-so much so that we are planning for next year! Keep an eye on our website for updates on the participants and their work!



Photos of Summer Institute Participants by Seven Mattes

A Minute with Margo DeMello, HAS Program Director and Summer Institute Co-Organizer

After spending a week with the participants, I was struck by how important the interdisciplinary aspect of the program was to them. In our field, we talk a lot about inter- and multi-disciplinarity, but this Institute really put these concepts to work. We had participants with interests as diverse as Spanish literature, musicology, speech and hearing sciences, and ecopsychology provide feedback and resources for each other, and everyone benefited from these exchanges. In fact, the only criticism I heard about this was that there were not enough disciplines represented! Next year, we are going to work doubly hard to bring in students from the "hard" sciences like ethology, wildlife sciences, and conservation. The conversation can only be improved by bringing in these additional voices!

A Few Words from some of the Participants

“ I am beyond grateful to have received a scholarship to attend the first annual Animals & Society Summer

Institute. It was an incredible opportunity to learn from and connect with not only leading but emerging scholars in human-animal studies. The week provided structured and thoughtful critiques during workshops as well as informative plenary sessions presented by influential and distinguished speakers . . . My time spent at the Institute was an invaluable experience that I hope I can continue to be a part of for the long-haul!

”

Beth Fields, PhD in Occupational Therapy, Colorado State University: *Riding in The Moment: An Exploratory Mixed Methods Case Study of Activity Situations and the Quality of Life of Institutionalized Adults with Dementia*

“ I left the program feeling more devoted to, and enthusiastic about, my work than ever before and have felt a great sense of support and interest from like minded scholars who are deeply impassioned about animal rights advocacy. The interdisciplinary component of the seminar structure shed new light on the various ways in which animals permeate academic writing and everyday life. Dialogue was rich but also complicated, showing that collaborative thinking is crucial in our current political climate.

”

Miranda Niittynen, PhD Candidate in Women's Studies, University of Western Ontario: *UnDead Animal Art: Ethical Encounters through Rogue Taxidermy Sculpture*

“ ASI's Human-Animal Studies Summer Institute introduced me to the wide multitude of disciplines and theoretical trajectories working within Animal Studies. It fostered connections, future collaborations, and revealed entirely new angles with which to view my own research. This institute has been invaluable to my career. Its myriad contributions will reverberate throughout our individual fields in the years to come -- the "animal turn" is now turning much faster.

”

Seven Mattes, PhD Candidate in Anthropology, Michigan State University: *Animals Left Behind: A Multispecies Ethnography of Japanese Animal Rescue Organizations*

“ I have also taken what I have learned and edited my upcoming fall 2017 syllabus on "Animals in U.S. History in Culture," which is an interdisciplinary freshman course I will teach at Indiana University in Bloomington, to incorporate elements of human-animal interactions that I was exposed to during the Institute, such as the history of American whaling, and I added a final section on "The Future of Human Animal Relations in the Anthropocene.”

Paula Tarankow. PhD Candidate in History, Indiana University: *In Search of Humanity: Animal Protection in the Post Civil War South.*

“ Though much of my academic work has been an attempt to interrogate the human-animal relationship, I am relatively new to the field of human-animal studies (HAS). The Institute helped me get a lay of the land of HAS, start to see where my research is situated within this larger field, and articulate the significance of my study that will satisfy readers coming from HAS as well as readers from my own department of psychology . . . In the wake of reading everyone's work and doing the work we did together, I am leaving the Institute with feelings of gratitude, humility, and awe, a clearer sense of direction, renewed enthusiasm for my project, a long list of pertinent literature, a network of mentors and future colleagues, and a lifelong group of friends. Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of this year's Institute! ”

Michelle Granden. PhD Candidate in Psychology, University of West Georgia: *Rogue Zoo Animals in the News: A Cultural-Discursive Study of the Animal.*

A Video and a Look Ahead

The team here at ASI has put together a video all about the Summer Institute for Human-Animal Studies featuring some of the participants. We hope you enjoy it.



All of us here at ASI could not be more pleased with the first Summer Institute for Human-Animal Studies at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. It was an exhilarating week of interdisciplinary scholarship, mentoring, collaboration, encouragement, etc., and all in the name of furthering the fascinating and impactful work being done in Human-Animal Studies. It was a lot of hard work to make this week a success and we couldn't have done it without you and your support!

Thanks to the generosity of our donors we were able to give scholarships to the Summer Institute to three amazing scholars who would have otherwise not been able to attend, and we hope to be able to provide even more next year. If you agree with us about the importance of programs like the Summer Institute, please click on one of the donate buttons at the top or bottom of this email ([or right here](#)) to help ASI continue to provide programming that creates safer and more compassionate communities for all!

[ABOUT](#)[JOIN](#)[SUBSCRIBE](#)[DONATE](#)

Follow ASI on social media



You are receiving this email because you contacted us, subscribed, donated, were the honoree of a tribute gift, purchased an item from our store or attended one of our events. If you no longer wish to receive these newsletters, please unsubscribe below.

Animals and Society Institute, 2512 Carpenter Road, Suite 202-A, Ann Arbor, MI 48108-1188

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by office@animalsandsociety.org in collaboration with



Try it free today