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March 2016

From the Managing Director

An Early Spring?

Even though the vernal equinox is still almost two weeks away, the weather certainly feels like we're having an early spring. ASI is having an early spring too, in the metaphorical sense, with all of the new growth in our programming. From the launch of our new Three-Tier Diversion Program and Summer Institute to the addition of a new university to our International Development Project, this is an active and exciting time for ASI!

Speaking of excitement, what could be more exciting than ASI advancing to the second round of Brackets for Good? Champ, the BFG mascot certainly looks excited. A big THANK YOU to everyone who donated to help us win our first round match-up! We are now one step closer to winning the \$10,000 grand prize, but we can't do it without you. The second round ends Friday, March 10th at 7:59 pm EST. Right now we are in the lead but that could change at any



moment. Please consider donating to ASI via Brackets for Good to help us to move on to the third round. All of the donations that we receive via Brackets for Good this year will go towards maintaining, improving, and expanding our Violence Diversion programming, including the new Three-Tier Diversion program that launched earlier this month - scroll down to read all about it. Thank you for all your support and we'll see you in the next round!

Human-Animal Studies Corner

Tata Institute of India Wins International Development Award

We are extremely pleased to announce that the [Tata Institute of Social Sciences](#), located in Mumbai, India, has been awarded the 2017 [International Development Project Award](#) from the Animals & Society Institute (ASI) and The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). Their award will include financial and consultative support leading to the creation of an HAS program at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, which includes the creation of a credited course for Master's students, a fieldwork placement with an animal protection organization, a seminar series, and an end-of-year workshop that brings together students, scholars and practitioners from across India. The goal of this program is to build a foundation for a long-term research and teaching program in HAS at the Tata Institute.



New HAS Summer Institute Coming This July

We are also very excited to see the applications come in for the first annual [Human-Animal Studies Summer Institute program](#) for advanced graduate students and early career scholars, held in partnership with the [University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign](#). The Summer Institute will take place from July 9-16, 2017 and we will be announcing the 2017 Summer Institute participants soon!

5th Annual Undergraduate Paper Prize Now Accepting Submissions

The Animals & Society Institute (ASI) and [Wesleyan Animal Studies](#) (WAS) invite submissions for the [fifth annual undergraduate 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

Human-Animal Programs Corner

ASI's Diversion Program Launches in Central New York

The Animals & Society Institute (ASI) continues to provide critical resources to make communities safer and more compassionate for people and animals alike. Last fall we launched a brand new diversion program for people who have committed misdemeanor animal abuse. Sadly, most people who have abused or neglected animals receive nothing more than a small fine. Courts simply don't have viable alternatives to increase accountability and reduce the likelihood that offenders will repeat the behavior. ASI is working to change that. Recognizing the need for interventions that are tailored to the circumstance of the abuse, we have created a [three-tier program](#). We have already received inquiries from several jurisdictions in the U.S. as well as from Spain and Australia. For the past year, we have been working with the Central New York Animal Cruelty Task Force and are thrilled that Syracuse NY, will be the first pilot site. Lisa Lunghofer held a training for program providers on March 3, 2017, be sure to check back next month for an update on how the training went!

Training in Michigan

On April 19, 2017 Animals & Society Institute's Lisa Lunghofer will be at the [Humane Society of Huron Valley](#) 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, we'll focus specifically on animal abuse and children. Using case studies and video vignettes, we will explain why all professionals dealing with children should be aware of animal abuse as a risk factor. We 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.

Reaching out to Child Welfare Advocates

On April 1, 2017 Animals & Society Institute's Lisa Lunghofer will be presenting at the

[Maryland Court Appointed Special Advocates \(CASA\) annual conference](#) in Annapolis, MD, the theme of which is Standing Strong for Children and Youth. The conference is attended by CASA volunteers and staff who are working to promote the best interests of children in the child welfare system. Lisa will be discussing the ways in which animal abuse affects children and family systems; ways in which animals may serve as protective factors for children; key factors to consider in assessing animal abuse and approaches to exploring a child's relationships with animals; and trauma-focused strategies for intervening with children who have abused animals or witnessed abuse. The registration deadline is March 17.

Volunteer Spotlight

Meet ASI Office Intern Sara Maiale



Sara is attending Eastern Michigan University studying Public Health with a minor in Nonprofit Administration. This semester she has been interning at ASI to learn about the nonprofit world. At EMU she is a Co-President of her organization VegPlanet. VegPlanet's mission is to embrace and celebrate the happiness that comes with practicing a compassionate lifestyle. She has been a vegetarian for two years and is coming up on her one year anniversary of being vegan. She

joined us here at ASI to learn the ins and outs of nonprofits. Her dream is to start her own nonprofit promoting vegan lifestyles and compassion for all beings. Sara believes all beings deserve our love and respect and is dedicated to be an advocate for this. During the summer time she volunteers at a local farm animal sanctuary that she has grown to love. In her off time she loves kayaking, camping, hiking, reading, and yoga.

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