



ANIMALS & SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL TEAM

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Sarah May Lindsay

McMaster University

Section Chair

Carol Glasser

MNSU

Social Media Team

Loredana Loy

Cornell University

Steven Vrla

Michigan State University

Seven Mattes

Michigan State University

A Message from our Chair

Hello Section Members!

I am privileged that you selected me to serve as Chair of the Animals and Society Section of the ASA this year. This section has been an important landing pad for me throughout my graduate and professional career. So often, those of us in the field of human-animal studies are one of the only academics in our organization or department. Having a group of similarly motivated scholars to share work with and learn from has helped me feel grounded, connected, and inspired throughout the years. I hope that the section can be that for you as well.



This fall's newsletter will help connect you to some of the activities we have going on this year, provide you updates on some of our regular activities, and introduce you personally to some of our inspiring graduate student members.

If you have any ideas for the section or want to get more involved, please reach out to me! You can find me at carol.glasser@mnsu.edu.

Peace and Solidarity,

Carol L. Glasser, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Sociology



Photograph: Loredana Loy

SECTION ACTION

IAVS 2021 Meeting

Carol Glasser and two graduate student members of our section, **Victoria Brockett** and **Miri Eliyahu**, presented their research at the International Association of Vegan Sociologist Annual Meeting, *The Promise of Vegan Sociology: Vegan Sociology as a Conduit for Human and Nonhuman Emancipation*, this past October.

The conference included and reached scholars and activists from around the world, and the presentations from our Section members were exceptional. Our Section's diverse, path-breaking, and topical work was a highlight of the Meeting.

Congratulations!

2021 Section Award Winners

If you were not at the section events for the 2021 Annual Conference, you might have missed the announcement of our annual award recipients. We would like to take a moment to recognize them here.

Jane Goodall Award for Graduate Student Scholarship

Luisa Reis Castro

"Becoming Without: Making Transgenic Mosquitoes and Disease Control in Brazil"

Distinguished Article Award

Cameron Whitley, Linda Kalof, and Tim Flach

"Using Animal Portraiture to Activate Emotional Affect," *Environment and Behavior*, 00(0): 1-27.

Distinguished Book Award

Katja Guenther

The Lives and Deaths of Shelter Animals, Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA

Clifton Bryant Animals & Society Course Award

Carol Glasser

Congratulations to all of our award winners!



Photograph: Loredana Loy

ANIMALS AND SOCIETY ANNUAL SECTION AWARDS

Now Accepting Nominations

We are now accepting nominations for our annual section awards! The deadline to submit the requested materials (see below) is **February 21st, 2022**. Please submit nomination materials as PDF attachments to Carol Glasser at carol.glasser@mnsu.edu with the subject title: "ASA 2022 Nomination."

Jane Goodall Award for Graduate Student Scholarship

The Animals & Society section announces its call for nominations for the Jane Goodall Award for Graduate Student Scholarship. Papers may be empirical or theoretical, and they may address any aspect of animals and society. To be eligible, a paper must be authored by a current graduate student (or students). Unpublished and published papers, as well as those which have been presented at a professional meeting, are eligible. There is no page limit. The article must have been published within the calendar years of 2020 or 2021. In addition to a PDF of your paper, please include a brief letter from your adviser certifying your graduate student status. Self-nominations are permitted; please include full contact information for yourself and the nominee.

Award for Distinguished Article

The Animals & Society section announces its call for nominations for the Distinguished Article Award. The award will be given for distinguished scholarship in the form of an article to an author(s) whose work makes a significant empirical or theoretical contribution to the sociological understanding of animals and society. The article must have been published within the calendar years of 2020 or 2021. To nominate an article, please provide a PDF of the article, full citation information, and a letter outlining why you believe this work makes a substantial contribution to the field. Self-nominations are permitted; please include full contact information for yourself and the nominee.

Award for Distinguished Book

The Animals & Society section announces its call for nominations for the Distinguished Book Award. The award will be given for distinguished scholarship in the form of a book to an author(s) whose work makes a significant empirical or theoretical contribution to the sociological understanding of animals and society. The book must have been published within the calendar years of 2020 or 2021. To nominate a book, please provide a PDF of the book, full citation information, and a letter outlining why you believe this work makes a substantial contribution to the field. Self-nominations are permitted; please include full contact information for yourself and the nominee.

The Clifton Bryant Animals & Society Course Award

The ASA Section on Animals & Society seeks nominations for the Award for Outstanding Course on Animals & Society. To nominate someone, please send a letter to the Awards Committee indicating their name, their current curriculum vitae, a copy of the course syllabus, and a discussion of the nominee's distinguished contributions to undergraduate and/or graduate understandings of animals and society. Self-nominations are permitted; please include full contact information for yourself and the nominee.



Photo by: Loredana Loy

A Call for Creative Contributions to the Newsletter

Do you use alternative forms of expression or research methods to work with/for animals?

We wish to recognize and promote these important contributions by our section members. Please reach out to our Newsletter Editor, Sarah May Lindsay at lindsays@mcmaster.ca to discuss your work and its inclusion in upcoming Section newsletters.

SECTION ACTION

Introducing: The Animals and Society Colloquium Series

This year we have introduced a monthly Animals and Society colloquium series to provide a forum for section members to share their research and work with others in the section and get feedback from colleagues. We will be hosting this colloquium series along with the Animals and Society Institute (ASI). As our co-host, ASI will open the colloquium to their members as well, providing a broader range of academic and applied perspectives in human-animal studies.

The goal of the colloquiums is two-fold. First, to give the presenter a forum for constructive feedback. Second, to provide the section opportunities to stay abreast of research and projects in the field. Many of us are one of the few (or only!) people in our programs, departments, or jobs who are focused on human-animal studies, so we hope that this will be a forum many of you can benefit from.

Our first two Animals and Society Colloquiums were fabulous events!

For our inaugural event, section member Dr. Katja Gunther presented with her community partner, Kristen Hassen. Guenther is author of *The Lives and Deaths of Shelter Animals*, and Hassen is Maddie's® Director of American Pets Alive!. Relying on their combined experience from extensive research and working in the animal sheltering world, they presented a new vision of sheltering unhoused cats and dogs and supporting those who need assistance keeping companion animals in their homes. The colloquium was so well attended, there were more attendees than we have section members!

This was followed by another powerful presentation by section member Dr. Seven Mattes. Dr. Mattes introduced a unique experiential learning class she co-teaches at Michigan State University. A smaller audience allowed deep introspection and dialogue between Dr. Mattes and the audience on what it entails to work successfully with those “across the aisle” and who do not share the perspective of human-animal studies scholars.

Q & A: Participating in the Colloquium Series

Who can present? All members of our section and ASI—students, professors, and those working outside of academia—are encouraged to present and attend. Section members can also present with their students, community partners, and research partners who may not be section members.

What can I present? Pretty much anything related to your work in human-animal studies! The colloquiums can be used as a forum: to present completed research projects, practice presentations, and practice job talks, to get feedback on new study designs or works in progress, or share public/advocacy initiatives stemming from your work.

Who can attend? All section members are encouraged to attend! Section members and presenters can also invite non section members who might be interested in a specific presentation.

When are the colloquiums? The colloquiums will generally be held each month of the academic year. We will take breaks over winter and summer recesses. The days and times will vary depending on presenter availability and in hopes that a variety of days/times will allow all members some colloquium times they can attend.

Please contact Carol Glasser (carol.glasser@mnsu.edu) if you are interested in participating at any point this year. It is okay if you don't have a project that is at a stage that is ready to present right now—we can find a time later in the year that works for you.



Photograph by: Loredana Loy

GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Victoria Brockett



Biography

Education: BA Sociology, Indiana University Northwest; MA, Sociology, Loyola University Chicago; Ph.D. (in progress) University of Illinois at Chicago

Research Interests: veganism, animal rights, racial justice, environmental sustainability, organizations, and the economy

Dissertation: "Veganism: A Lifestyle Movement for Whom?"

Profile: <https://soc.uic.edu/profiles/brockett-victoria/>

Even though calls have been made to align non-human animal and human liberation, empirical research testing the efficacy of racial justice as a primary motivation for adopting a plant-based diet, particularly among people who do not already identify as vegan, is lacking. Inspired by critical animal studies as well as the scholarship and activism of vegans of color, I aim to bring racial justice to the center of empirical analyses of veganism as a lifestyle movement. (thesis excerpt)

Dear Members,

I am Victoria Brockett, and it is a pleasure to introduce myself. I am new to the study of animals and society. My path here has been long and winding, and I am so glad to have finally found you!

My initial interest in sociology stemmed from my desire to uproot racial inequality. I wanted to understand how racial inequality could be challenged, particularly during the present era of color-blindness. For my master's thesis, I partnered with a national racial justice organization and did a case study, showing how they linked structural theories about the creation and maintenance of racial inequality to racial justice practice.

After completing my terminal master's program and returning to work, I was grateful to have stumbled upon a humane education program that opened my eyes to the interconnected and compounding effects of social inequality, environmental degradation, and animal exploitation. With an expanded circle of compassion, I could not wait to return to graduate school. Presently, I hope to understand how veganism might present structural solutions to food production practices that negatively impact people, the environment, and non-human animals.

A mentor once told me that "finding my people" would be a clear sign that I am on the right path in life. As I continue to learn more about the relationship between animals and society, it has become clear that I have found my place to belong and contribute. Thank you for inspiring me!

Gratefully yours,

Victoria

GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Miri Eliyahu

Education: BA in Sociology/Anthropology and Women and Gender Studies, MA in Sociology and Anthropology, Tel Aviv University; MA in Sociology, PhD Student (ABD), Sociology, Northwestern University

In her own words...

Research Interests: Economic sociology, social movements, and organizations. **My main research focus is on the emergence of moral spaces in the economy and within organizations; the vegan food market is the center of my dissertation, as it is my case study for a moral market.** I also study moral investing as a form of collective action among retail investors.

Dissertation: **My dissertation research explores how the vegan food market developed and expanded over the last 40 years in the US and UK. I study the involvement of the animal rights movement and their role in creation, regulation, and expansion, as well as the impact of the current market expansion on animal rights organizations, vegan producers, and the meat and dairy industry.** My core theoretical contributions involve: how moral markets expand; the different effects of post and premarket regulation on market formation; the organizational challenges of social movements as regulators and industry service providers; how collective action movements can create lifestyle movements. In all of these, I utilize the vegan food market as my main case study, with a shadow case of the cruelty-free cosmetics category. **I was recently awarded the "Emerging Scholar" award by the international food studies network for my dissertation: "Making Markets Moral? The Case of Vegan Foods in the US and UK".** I will be defending my dissertation this upcoming spring.

Work and Activism: In addition to my academic work, I volunteered with For the Animals, an Israeli animal rights organization that was the originator of the Challenge 22+, an online international intervention challenge that provides a pathway to veganism. I was one of their first mentors in the English language challenge, and later retired from that role to design and conduct an efficacy study to learn the short- and long-term effects of the intervention on participants.



Currently, I use the knowledge that I gained and formulated during my research to assist plant-based and other alternative meat and dairy start ups to thrive in the food industry, thus promoting more companies that aim to reduce animal harm in our food system, as well as advise to sustainability and accountability governance organizations in our global supply chain.

I am a problem-solving sociologist, which is why I hope to use my academic skills to try and solve the problems I encountered in my research in the next phase of my career. In addition to problem solving, I am a devoted instructor having taught a variety of courses at the undergraduate level on economic sociology and organizations. I believe that teaching is another way we as academics can problem solve for the future, by encouraging passion and interest in research and theory. Outside of my professional life, I am an advocate for animal rights, sustainability, and the fight against climate change. I am passionate about using knowledge to promote change and hope to connect with likeminded individuals from the section.

I invite you all to connect with me on LinkedIn:
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/miri-eliyahu/>



Photographs by: Loredana Loy

Call: Annual Meeting Section Sessions

The [2022 Annual Meeting portal](#) is open for submissions. **The deadline to submit is February 9, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern.** This year the Animals and Society section has two sessions you can submit to: an open paper session, and a round table. All topics and themes related to Animals and Society are welcome. Please submit your work!



Section Action

Our Section's past Chair, **Dr. Corey Wrenn**, was recently interviewed by Dr. Mark Bekoff in *Psychology Today*, where they discussed her latest book *Animals in Irish Society: Interspecies Oppression and Vegan Liberation in Britain's First Colony*.

You can read the fabulous interview here: [Dr. Corey Wrenn—Psychology Today Interview](#)

CREATIVE SPOTLIGHT

Loredana Loy



Our own Social Media Coordinator, **Loredana Loy**, is also a gifted photographer. Her work is featured above, and throughout this newsletter.



Loredana Loy is a PhD Candidate in Sociology at Cornell University. Her dissertation research is focused on the evolution of climate discourse in the United States. Along with a collaborator from Brown University, she is also working on a project exploring the backlash against efforts towards the transition to a plant-based food system as a proposed solution to the climate and ecological crisis. Loredana manages the section's social media presence on Twitter, coordinates the section's Facebook volunteers, and has served as the section newsletter editor.

About her photography, Loredana says:

“As a vegan for the animals and a species justice advocate, I experience a lot of conflict and alienation stemming from the ubiquitous exploitation of other species and the disregard for their lives that characterizes our society. Photography helps me claim a space of respect and reverie for nature and express my love for animals in a positive and immersive way.”

Photographs by: Loredana Loy

