NOTE FROM THE CHAIR — LISA ANNE ZILNEY

Dear Section Members,

My term as Chair is drawing to a close and I want to thank everyone who contributed this year serving on committees, as well as all the members for supporting the work of the Animals & Society section! I was honored to serve as Chair of a section that I consider of vital importance to our discipline! At the annual meeting, Brian Lowe will take over as Chair and I am confident he will do an excellent job!

I encourage everyone to continue to advance this section through the publication of animal-related scholarship as well as through the recruitment of new members. As a relatively small section at the ASA we must work diligently to ensure that our message comes across to the larger association, and this starts with the involvement of more members! So, encourage your colleagues and students to get involved with the Animals & Society section!

As well, human-animal scholarship is vital to advancing our specialty! There have been several excellent books published in the field over the past year, as well as fantastic articles in discipline-specific journals! We also need to be concerned with publication in more mainstream journals in order to attract the attention of the “not-yet-converted.” This is certainly a challenging task, but I strongly encourage you to pursue this option when seeking a publication venue for your scholarship . . . this is the best way to inform others of the importance of human-animal related questions.

We have an excellent program scheduled for Boston and a delicious vegan reception, so I hope to see all of you there collaborating ways to move our important area of scholarship forward!

Take care,

Lisa

Chair, Animals & Society
The 2008 Annual Meeting will be held in Boston from August 1-4th. Please plan on attending the following regular and section sessions:

Regular Session: Human-Animal Interaction
Sunday, August 3, 4:30-6:10 pm, Boston Marriott Copley Place
Session Participants:
- Session Organizer, Leslie Irvine (University of Colorado)
- I’m Just a Volunteer: Animal Rights vs. Animal Welfare in the Purebred Dog Rescue Movement, Jessica Greenebaum (Central Connecticut State University)
- Women and the World of Canine Rescue, Andrei S. Markovitis (University of Michigan), Robin Queen (University of Michigan)
- Gender and Marital Status Differences and the Meaning of Dog Ownership, Krista Marie Clark Cline (University of Missouri-Columbia)
- Presider, Leslie Irvine (University of Colorado)

Section on Animals and Society Paper Section: Treatment of Animals in Institutional Settings, Monday, August 4, 10:30-12:10 pm, Sheraton Boston
Session Participants:
- Session Organizer, David A. Nibert (Wittenberg University)
- Conceptions of the Human-Companion Animal Relationship Constructed and Maintained in Animal Shelter Interactions, Tracey Smith-Harris (Cape Breton University)
- Reproducing Dominion: Emotional Apprenticeship in the 4H Youth Livestock Program, Colter Ellis (University of Colorado) and Leslie Irvine (University of Colorado)
- Animal Cruelty in the State of Rhode Island: A Twenty-five Year Perspective, Ronald Desnoyers
- Presider, David Nibert (Wittenberg University)

Section on Animals and Society Paper Session: Human-Animal Interaction, Monday, August 4, 12:30-2:10 pm, Sheraton Boston
- Session Organizer, Leslie Irvine (University of Colorado)
- A Feminist Analysis of Animal Rights and PETA, Carol Lynn Glasser (University of California, Irvine), Bron J. Tamulis (University of California, Irvine)
- Moral politics and multivocality in the struggle between the animal rights and pro-life movements, Jonathan Zelner (University of Michigan)
- Understanding Moralization: The Case of Animal Advocacy, Brian M. Lowe (State University of New York-Oneonta) and Micah Ilowit (SUNY Oneonta)
- Presider, Elizabeth Cherry (University of Georgia)
The Animals and Society Awards Committee is pleased to announce the 2008 Animals and Society Awards for Distinguished Publication and Distinguished Graduate Student Scholarship:


- Elizabeth Cherry (University of Georgia): Animals and Society Distinguished Graduate Student Scholarship Award: "Deconstructing Symbolic Boundaries: Cultural Strategies of New Social Movements."

Congratulations to these outstanding scholars! They will be recognized at the Animals and Society Reception Sunday evening (3 August 2008) at the 2008 American Sociological Association annual meeting.

The Animals and Society Awards Committee was comprised of Amy Fitzgerald, University of Windsor; Roberta Plante, Ithaca College; and Brian Lowe, SUNY College at Oneonta (Chair).

**Meetings and Reception at Annual Meetings — Plan to Attend**

The Section on Animals and Society will have its Society Council and Business Meetings beginning on Monday, August 4, from 2:30-4:10pm in the Sheraton Boston. The annual reception will be held the night before, Sunday, August 3, at 6:30 pm in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. Please plan to attend both the business meeting and reception. Participating in the business meeting is a great way to help shape the focus of the section and the reception is a great venue to informally connect with others teaching and doing research in the area of human-animal studies.

**Sponsor a Student — Helps Students and Increases Our Section’s Numbers Within the ASA**

A great way to encourage students to become involved in our section and in the ASA is by sponsoring their membership in the section (and ASA if they haven’t already joined).

So, go ahead, sponsor a student (or even more than one!). Students can be either undergraduate or graduate students. All you need to do is pay their dues and have them sign up. Student membership is only $18 for ASA and an additional $5 for our section. Students are also required to subscribe to one ASA journal, most of which cost $25 for students. Your contribution of $48 can go a long way to mentoring a student, promoting our section and encouraging the growth of scholarship on Animals and Society!

If students aren’t already members of ASA, they can join at: [http://www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/join_or_renew/join](http://www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/join_or_renew/join).
The Jane Goodall Fellowship annually recognizes two graduate students working in human-animal studies by providing ASA membership and section dues. Fellows give a brief report of their research or review a book for the section newsletter. The recipients of the 2008 Jane Goodall Fellowship are Elizabeth Cherry (University of Georgia) and Ron Desnoyers (Roger Williams University).

Liz’s research interests focus on culture and social movements. More specifically, she examines how animal rights activists choose their strategies and tactics, and how the cultures in which they work both impede and enable those choices. Her dissertation is a cross-cultural analysis of varying successes in animal rights movements entitled “Cultural Structures and Tactical Repertoires: The Animal Rights Movements in France and the United States.” It analyzes how animal rights activists attempt to deconstruct symbolic boundaries between human and non-human animals, as well as between companion and farm animals. Liz’s previous work has explored identity, commitment, and social networks among vegans. A paper from this research, entitled “Veganism as a Cultural Movement: A Relational Approach,” appeared in Social Movement Studies (and was later reviewed in Contexts). Another chapter, entitled “Meat is Still Murder, Dairy is Still Rape: A Relational Analysis of Veganism in the Punk Subculture,” is forthcoming in an edited volume. You can reach Liz at lcherry@uga.edu.

Ron’s research examines animal cruelty and abuse, animal shelter management, and animals and public policy. He is currently enrolled in Master of Public Administration Program. He also holds Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice, also from Roger Williams University. His MS thesis, entitled “Animal Cruelty in the State of Rhode Island: A Twenty-Five Year Perspective,” assessed the prevalence of animal cruelty and the response of the judicial system within the state by examining all animal cruelty cases adjudicated in Rhode Island Superior Court in violation of the state’s felony animal cruelty statute. This study was the first in the state and only the second in the nation to explore the phenomenon within a specific geographic area. The findings persuaded Rhode Island legislators to refrain from voting in favor of a series of amendments to existing statutes, which were not only impractical but also failed to address several inadequacies uncovered through Ron’s research. Ron worked in New Orleans as a member of the Humane Society of the United States Disaster Animal Response Team in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Contact Ron at rdesnoyers@cox.net.

The Chair-Elect for the Animals and Society Section is Amy Fitzgerald, University of Windsor and the Student Representative is Elizabeth Cherry, University of Georgia. Please help in congratulating both Amy and Elizabeth and in giving a special thank you to all members who were willing to serve on behalf of the section.
A new anthology, *Social Creatures: A Human and Animal Studies Reader*, edited by Clif Flynn, is now available from Lantern Books. It contains 31 journal articles and chapters from the past three decades that have contributed to the development of the field of anthrozoology. Although the focus is on the social sciences (sociology, anthropology, psychology, criminology) there are selections from philosophy, religion, history and other disciplines as well. Some of the entries are authored by members of the Animals & Society section, including David Nibert, Leslie Irvine, Clint Sanders, and Tracey Smith-Harris. In addition, three “Questions for Discussion” follow each selection. To learn more, visit Lantern’s website at [www.lanternbooks.com](http://www.lanternbooks.com), where you will find the book’s Table of Contents and Introduction. You may want to consider using this reader in your animals and society courses for the upcoming school year.

**MEMBER’S NEWS**

Congratulations to Colin Jerolmack who received his Ph.D. from CUNY Graduate Center in May 2008. He has accepted a tenure-track position at New York University, where he will have a joint appointment with Environmental Studies and Sociology, and will teach courses on animals, nature, and society. Before starting at NYU, Colin will spend three semesters at Harvard on a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship. His research will examine zoonotic diseases, with an emphasis on how policy makers make sense of, use, and distort epidemiological findings to produce animal/environment control policies.
The Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, Environment and Technology division, will host a session entitled “The Human-Animal Bond: New Directions in Research” on Friday, August 1, 4:30-6:10 pm.

Session Participants:
- Organizer & Presider, Lisa Anne Zilney (Montclair State University)
- Beyond the Human-Animal Bond: Animals as Community, Elizabeth A. Clancy (Independent Scholar)
- The Feminized World of Dog Rescue: The Case of the State of Michigan, Andrei S. Markovits and Robin Queen (University of Michigan)
- Rabies and the Human-Animal Bond, Diane Levy and G. Robert Weedon (UNC Wilmington)
- Companion Animals' Place in the Non-Human Animal Stratification System, Jennifer Lindmar (Pennsylvania State University Capital College) & Stephen Couch (Pennsylvania State University)

For more information, please contact Lisa Anne Zilney (lisa.zilney@montclair.edu)

“EYE TO EYE”

This picture (entitled “eye to eye”) is courtesy of section member Helene Lawson. It was taken by an 8 year old by the name of Lane who was opening a package when Helene’s cat Max came to see what was going on. Lane grabbed a digital camera, put his face next to Max and snapped this amazing picture. Helene explains that the picture is about technology, young kids and animals and relationships
Animals & Society Section Officers

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Brian Lowe

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