Introduction
Annual reports are used by the Sections Committee to assess the health of a Section, measure the Section’s vitality, and identify processes, programs, or initiatives that could serve as a model for other Sections. In addition, they serve to provide institutional memory, socialize new Section leaders, and promote transparency to Section members.

This annual report covers the period of Section activity from September 2021 to August 2022 and a fiscal year from January 2022 to December 2022. This portion of the report will be shared publicly.

Section Governance
Provide details of your Section’s governance activity during the period between September 2021 and August 2022.

Business Meeting
Copy and paste below (or attach separately) the agenda and draft/approved meeting minutes from the Section business meeting which include a count of members present and summary of decisions made at this meeting. Minutes are not a transcript of proceedings, but a listing of what discussions took place and official actions taken.

Unfortunately we do not have a saved copy of the minutes form the proceedings. No official actions were taken.

Council Meeting
Copy and paste below (or attach separately) the agenda and draft/approved meeting minutes of all council meetings. Minutes must include a list of council members present and a summary of decisions made. Minutes are not a transcript of proceedings, but a listing of what discussions took place and official actions taken.

See Meeting Notes attached to email

Awards
Provide a list of Section awards and awardees conferred in the past year.

Distinguished Article Award: Adilia E. E. James

Distinguished Book Award: Sarah DeYoung and Ashley Farmer

Clifton Bryant Animals and Society Course Award: Brian Mouser
Pets and Working Animals, Indianapolis University
2022 Finances
Provide a narrative on how the 2022 budget matched with actual expenses and income from 2022. Please account for any substantive differences.

Our activities in 2022 aligned well with our projected costs from the year prior, providing ample room to be flexible. We had budgeted $500 for the ASA Annual Meeting Reception. As attendance was down this year, our reception costs was similarly low, ending up closer to $100. With the extra budgeted $400 allocated for ASA’s Annual Meeting, the board voted to award these funds as travel aid for our graduate students. We were able to award four students in our section with $100.

Our other projected budget category was that of a donation to a non-profit organization within the Annual Meeting host city, to be determined by the Distinguished Book and/or Article Award winners. Our winners chose to donate the allocated $200 to PAWS LA.

The Previous Year
Describe Section activities during the period between September 2021 and August 2022.

Provide an overview of the Section’s communications with its members and include explanation of how your communication strategy meets the goals and values of the Section. Include links to the section website, newsletters, and any other electronic media used.

- A monthly emails with news and updates was sent to all section members via the ASA Section Listserve.
- There was a fall and spring newsletter, available here: https://www.asanet.org/communities-sections/sections/current-sections/animals-and-society/newsletters
- We held our Buiness meeting on Zoom for connection with more of our members
- We have a Facebook Page (https://www.facebook.com/AnimalsAndSocietyASA ) and Twitter account

Describe the Section’s diversity, equity, and inclusion goals. What steps were taken this year to achieve those goals?

Human-Animal Studies in general has a problem with diversity. In the previous year, the section’s focus was explicitly on DEI. The leadership coming into this year hoped to implement what we learned, specifically through the April 2021 section workshop: “The Importance of Racial Equity in Animals and Society”, in the coming year. We strove to increase diversity by being more welcoming to a variety of research—extending our invitations of participation in colloquium and for award specifically to those working with community partners and to students.

We have a particular focus on supporting students as we believe this is the best route to supporting all facets of DEI. We know that scholars of color and those wanting to work outside of academia are underrepresented in the ASA membership in general. Our hope is that by
creating a safe, collaborative, and supportive space for our student members we will naturally grow into a more diverse and inclusive section.

Provide an overview of the section’s programming at the annual meeting and include explanation of how this programming meets the goals and values of the section (e.g. intellectual exchange, professional networking, mentoring, inclusion).

At the annual conference we had three events:
- An open paper session
- A dinner/reception at a restaurant
- A networking event at the conference venue
- We also conducted a poll of our membership and learned most were not attending the conference so we had an online Business meeting immediately following the conference

Our selections for the open paper session highlight our commitment to students and DEI. One of the presentations looked specifically at the demographic make up of HAS courses, with a focus on DEI and another paper examined how to teach DEI through the lens of teaching about other animals.

We also highlighted our commitment to accessibility by making conference meetings/networking events available in three ways: at the venue, at a local restaurant, via Zoom for those who could not access the conference in person.

Provide an overview of the Section’s programmatic activities outside of the Annual Meeting (e.g. webinars, networking events, mentoring initiatives, resources for dissemination) and include explanation of this programming meets the goals and values of the Section.

**Animals & Society Colloquium Series**
- Rationale: In the 2022 Business meeting members noted a desire to increase their networking and knowledge of others work in human animal studies. Attendees noted they are often the only one in their programs to work on these issues. Student members in particular noted wanting more support. For that reason this series was started. After our first month we managed to partner with the Animals and Society Institute as a cosponsor to further our members’ connections with other scholars. We made explicit attempts to recruit and include gradate students as presenters and presenters who worked on their projects with community partners to enhance the diversity of our presentations and directly support students.

- Events (with links to the webinars):
  - **Publishing Workshop**  April 2022  Presenter: Dr. Thomas Aiello, Professor of History and Africana Studies, Valdosta State University
  - **“Responsible” Anthropomorphism in Children’s Picture Books?: From Classic Examples to New Proposals**  March 2022  Presenters: Melissa Jacobi, MA, BFA, Artist and Dr. Jenny R. Vermilya, Assistant Professor Clinical Teaching Track, Sociology Department, University of Colorado Denver
**The Meaning of “Wildness” in Artificial Breeding Programs**  
February 2022  
Presenter: Dr. Valerie Berseth, Department of Sociology, University of British Columbia

**Moving From the Muddy Middle: Teaching Pig Production**  
November 2021  
Presenter: Seven Mattes, PhD, Assistant Professor, Center for Integrative Studies, Michigan State University

**Revolutionizing Animal Shelters: Emerging Models of Community, Compassion and Care**  
October 2021  
Presenters: Katja M. Guenther, PhD, Professor of Gender & Sexuality Studies, UC Riverside, author of The Lives and Deaths of Shelter Animals  
Kristen Hassen, MA, Maddie’s® Director of American Pets Alive!

**Student Sponsorship Drive**  
- Rationale: To support students we conducted a drive to get members to identify and sponsor student members by paying their section fee.

**Student Travel Grants**  
- Rationale: To support students we diverted our conference reception allocation to provide grants to students attending the national conference. We provided 4 $100 grants.
Agenda
Welcome!
Introductions
Call for additional items to the agenda
The big stuff
   Awards Committees
 o Book Award
 o Distinguished Article
 o Course Award
   Goals for Council moving forward (Jennifer Schauer)
   ASA conference this year
Membership
The Small Stuff
   Setting up committee meetings
   Newsletter content- Ideas?
   Colloquium Series
Adjourn

Council Present:
Carol Glasser
Jordan Fox Besek
Jenny Vermilya
India Luxton
Mark Suchtya
Seven Mattes
Awards and Selection Committees:

Jane Goodall Award for Graduate Student Scholarship – No submissions

Award for Distinguished Article – four submissions
  Committee: Mark Suchtya, India Luxton, Seven Mattes

Award for Distinguished Book – five submissions
  Committee: Jordan Fox Besek, Jenny Vermilya, Sarah May

The Clifton Bryant Animals & Society Course Award – One submission

Link here for Award Organization:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1oG0uyCUNDz9NiMn-EUohBnM1jh5-5Q-M?usp=sharing

Discussion regarding Awards:

- We selected committee members for the two categories with more than one submission, the Distinguished Article and Distinguished Book.
- Furthermore, we talked about organization best methods for accepting and organizing submissions, which Jordan volunteered to aid with in the future.

- We do not currently have a Distinguished Article for Student Award, only a general Distinguished Article Award. Should we have a student one?
  - Led to discussions about further activity and involvement of Council – what more can we do for the members?
  - Discussion led to the suggestion that we meet more often than two times a year – general agreement by council.

- We did not limit Distinguished book Award to members only, and we only received one member book
  - Should we keep it among members? Should we place the Animals and Society member’s book as best choice, if possible?
  - As it was not noted as requiring membership, it may not be fair to place preference on the member book.

- Should we develop a rubric for the book and article reviews?
  - We likely don't need one for just four article submissions, Mark adds
  - Jenny explains that four years ago, there was no rubric, just back and forth discussion
We may need one to be fair, just general areas like contribution to the field, etc., Carol suggests

- Extra incentive to go to ASA - let winners know they won before they have to decide whether or not to attend.

**ASA Discussion**

- A member submitted an extended abstract that was only half a paragraph - council accepts this paper as the person is legit and we expect them to produce a full paper

- We may not have a roundtable, but we will find out as other sections declines and sends to the “second choice” submissions to us.

  - Discussed possibly contacting Sandy Marquart-Pyatt or the author to see what they prefer, but it might be too late as everything is due in three days.

**Membership Committee**

Jordan Besek, Jenny Vermilya and Mark Suchtya

- Membership - 115 members

  - Should we do a membership drive? How to attract more?

  - Mark summarized the last membership drive - a lot of work of identifying and e-mailing potential graduate students and/or their advisors with few member adds in the end

  - Seven mentions one of the struggles was not being able to justify the cost of the membership based on what they get out of it.

  - Mark notes that we need to give members a reason to sign up even if they're not going to the ASA conference, as the membership fluctuates.

  - Carol discusses the colloquium as part of that goal - reaching members and including them even if they do not attend ASA

  - Jordan mentioned the cost could be adjusted - perhaps have us aid with the costs to get them to check the box.

  - Seven will look into this.

**Reception Planning Committee**

Seven Mattes, Carol Glasser, and India Luxton
• Previous discussions on ASA’s Reception revolved around keeping it low key, outdoors, enjoying LAs lovely weather.

Newsletter

• Searching for someone to do art, activism, and/or advocacy work to add to the newsletter
  o Carol found someone to do art. Looking for art, poetry, etc.
• We could highlight undergrads, grad students, etc.
• India and Mark can be highlighted, and template will be sent.
  o Seven will post these on Social Media, as well
Meeting Agenda
ASA Animals and Society Section
August 26, 2022

Overview of Agenda
1. Introductions
2. Overview of Section Administration
   - Google Drive
   - Committee Selection
3. Funding for Facebook ads
4. Elections
   - Coordinator needed
   - Nominations needed
5. Awards
6. Bylaw Amendments
7. Annual Report
8. Colloquium Series
9. Membership
10. Section Feedback from Business Meeting
11. Set next meeting date

MORE DETAILS
1. Introductions
   Welcome to Ivy Collier and Erin Kidder!

2. Overview of Section Administration
   - Google Drive
   - Committee Selection
     Social Media team
     Loradana Loy and Seven Mattes
     We will need to identify a membership committee (Last year it was Mark, Jenny, Jordan)
     Award committees (Last year it was? would you like to decide now or wait?)
     Reception Committees (Last year it was Carol, Seven and India. Would you like to decide now or wait?)

3. Funding for Facebook ads
   - Loradana has requested funding to push Facebook Posts. Exact amount not specified

4. Elections
   - Coordinator needed (Name past due- Aug 20)
     This is typically the role of the Past Chair. Carol is currently serving as Past chair.
     We need to decide if she will do this, someone else will or if there will be a committee
5. Awards
Is there any objection to keeping our awards and calls the same as in past years?
How can we increase submissions
Can nonmembers submit? (See agenda item #6 below)

6. Bylaw Amendments
● We must submit bylaws amendments by Nov. In the 2020/21 business meeting it was decided that only members could submit for awards. Carol didn’t realize she was supposed to submit that bylaw change after she became chair, so in 2021/22 it was not a rule and council didn’t seem to want it to be one. We decided to formally push off the decision to 2022/23. Let’s revisit and decide.
● Any other bylaw changes needed?

7. Annual Report
Typically done by the Chair. Any volunteers for an editor?

8. Colloquium Series
Updates on what is happening
Any Suggestions for future speakers or talks?

9. Membership
○ Currently we have 113 members
○ Should we look more deeply at our data?
○ Ideas for membership committee on increasing membership?

10. Section Feedback from Business Meeting
○ Develop a mentorship program that is collaborative
○ Partnering for the ASA reception (mixed feedback; if we do it do it earlier)
○ Keep colloquium series
○ Seek more engagement from membership

Meeting Notes – August 26th, 2022
Items for followup highlighted in blue

Introductions
● Members present: Carol Glasser, Mark Suchyta, Erin Kidder, Cameron Whitley, India Luxton, Seven Mattes

Overview of Section Administration
● Animals and Society (42) is where to find details on our section
● Head into Section Administration Material to find guidelines, roles, manual, etc.
● Erin Evans excellent for asking questions, but she will not be in the section this year.
Social Media
- Loredana proposed using $100 Facebook ads - promoting posts
  - Facebook could be more active
- Mark says it might be not be worth it, especially for $100. Twitter is better for this.
  - Seven says Facebook is better for delivering information and Twitter is good at interaction, and that is OK
- Seven will meet with Loredana to discuss Facebook future and options

Election coordinator
- Carol will be the election coordinator
- We will get together to ensure we find people to fill spots and be nominated
  - Will we will have five spots to fill
  - Need at least two candidates for chair

Newsletter
- Carol will take it over this Fall, but it is open for grabs as well.
- Erin Kidder volunteered to help.

Filling Committees
- Need membership committee (Mark volunteered)
- Reception committee (Erin, Cam, Seven volunteered)
- Award committee (India volunteered, and we'll wait until ASA is closer to fill these in full)
- Will inquire via E-mail, as well, as many members are not present

Awards
- We need to work on getting students to submit for the awards
- We need to submit any bylaw changes, if needed
  - In 2021 we wanted to switch it so award applicants must be from our section, but we did not submit the changes to the bylaw. However, Last year we did not want this rule change.
- Question to discuss: Do we submit this rule (only members can enter submission for our awards) or leave it as is?
  - Mark says, on behalf of membership committee, that they must be members
  - Seven agrees – it would ensure animals and society theme of the submission
  - India notes this could be a deterrent for student submissions due to funding
    - We agree that we could exclude students from this rule
  - By when should they become a member?
    - Only members can submit, so they must be members by the submission deadline
- Mark suggests we support award winners with financial aid for presenting their paper – especially students
Members
- Current: 113 members
- Make a pie chart of who our members are
  - Will discuss further with the membership committee

Annual report
- Due in November
  - use template
  - Talk about what we did and will do
- Cam will proofread
- Seven will work on financial aspect

Colloquium Series
- Positive feedback
- Move beyond sociology as we include members from ASI as presenters
- Ivy identified someone already to begin – humanities - Gala Argent
- Cam will present in January
- Job panel – non-academic job panel
  - Molly Tamulevich from HSUS and others from ASPCA
- Encouraged to invite students to attend from Animals and Society themed courses

Section Feedback from Business Meeting
- Reception: Small, as in 2022, or combined with Environmental Sociology, as in previous years?
  - Some prefer small, some big
    ▪ Seven notes that we can do both – Happy Hour for A&S
    ▪ Erin said the Animal and Society section kind of got swallowed up when we mixed with Environment
    ▪ Mark agrees, Env. seems like a networking event, A&S is more like friends
- Need more engagement from members, which membership increase would help
  - Carol suggests the mentorship program would be a good idea

Other
- Cam brought up the pre-conference, like what we did in NY
- We will discuss this in a future meeting

Meeting times
- Finding a time that works for us – Fridays are best for most present
- Next meeting will be in one month
Meeting Agenda
ASA Animals and Society Section
October 7, 2022

Overview of Agenda
1. ASA Connect
   - How will we use it?
   - How can we increase engagement?
2. Upcoming due dates and deadlines
3. Annual meeting
4. Upcoming colloquium
5. Elections
   - Updates on Chair positions
   - Still need council members
6. Logo
   - We are not currently in compliance (Cameron)
7. Any updates from committees?
   - Membership
   - Newsletter (spoiler- no updates ;)
8. Set next meeting date

Present: Mark Suchyta, Sarah May Lindsay, Cam Whitley, India Luxton, Carol Glasser, Erin Kidder, Jenny Vermilya, Seven Mattes

ASA Connect
- Monthly e-mails are good for connecting but we might not be able to do those
- Feelings about ASA Connect
  - Daily emails too much
  - In our section, opening email is hard enough – learning a new platform is a lot
  - They say they’re doing ASA Connect so that it’s easier for anyone in the membership to post and share things
  - How do we use it? Emails and ASA connect? Where do we put job postings?
  - Not everyone is engaged, and not everyone is here as their primary focus
  - Perhaps this is a way to make ASA significant in a post-pandemic era
  - Can we keep doing what we’re doing?
    - We’ll do at least one e-mail to let people know about ASA Connect
    - We can keep going as we’re doing, we are small
  - Create our own introductory zoom session
    - Present how to use it and turn it into networking
    - What can we use ASA Connect for specifically for Animals and Society?
      - Encourage folks- job postings, networking, etc.
• We can include the ASA Webinar as well
• Oct 28th Happy Hour – 12pm Pacific, 3pm Eastern
  • Framed as a networking event with an intro to ASA Connect
  • Theme: Spirits, Animals and Networking (because it is close to Halloween-and also spirits as in happy hour time).

• **Annual ASA Meeting: Updates and Upcoming due dates and deadlines**
  o Will have one roundtable session and one paper session, with a 30 min business meeting
  o As we had trouble getting people last year we can do an invited session, or should we do open sessions?
    ▪ We can invite people to submit (invited session)
    ▪ If we get little engagement, we will have to find people to submit or submit ourselves
  o Do students understand that they are welcome to submit?
    • It can feel like a big, scary thing – we need to encourage them
    • India could send an e-mail encouraging students to do a roundtable and the benefits involved
    • We need to let students know that our small section gives them an advantage – their paper will likely be accepted, it’s non-judgmental and supportive, and less competitive than other subjects
      o Excellent for way for students to get their feet wet
  o Session organizer volunteers – roundtable and paper sessions
    o Can be a discussant, but otherwise just the moderator
      ▪ Make sure you email them, can pronounce their name, etc.
    o Erin Kidder volunteered for the paper session, Seven Mattes volunteered for the roundtable section
  o Possible pre-game session for Animals & Society, as we did in NYC
    ▪ Cam, Seven, and Erin can work together on organizing this
      • Ideas: get together and chat research, volunteer somewhere, mini-conference

• **Elections**
  o We need two people to run for each position – four positions to fill
    ▪ We have two folks running for chair, Jordan and Sarah May
  o We should reach out to past folks to be on the council, even folks who were once chairs
    ▪ You can do back to back council roles, as well
  o We should announce it soon, so we have folks ready to run come time of elections
  o Carol can do an e-mail to the students, specifically, as filling the student representatives might get difficult

• **Colloquium**
  o Next: Fri Oct. 21st
• Ivy is leaving ASI, which might change tone/style
• Job panel has two people
• Cam could present his grant project
• Leave a slot for graduate student so someone could practice a job talk or dissertation defense

• Logo
  • Our logo is not in compliance as it does not have the ASA logo in it
  • Our members must vote on the use of it
  • Ideas: ball with animals around it with ASA logo in the middle, cat playing with ball of string with ASA in it, Seal playing with ball, etc.
    ▪ Can just throw the logo into the current logo
    ▪ Andrew, Seven’s partner, can suggest or design a new logo

• Membership
  • Ebb and flow, based on who signs up for the conference that year
  • Have to be creative to find new members
  • Membership has been steady, so we are legit, if not small

• Newsletter
  • Email publications and activities to be included
  • Possible theme on teaching animals and society