

2023 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for Animals and Society

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 2022 to August 2023 and a fiscal year from January 2023 to December 2023. This portion of the report will be shared publicly.

Section Governance

Provide details of your Section's governance activity during the period between September 2022 and August 2023.

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.

See Attached:

- [20230818 Business Meeting Minutes](#)

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 attached:

- [20221007 Council Meeting Minutes](#)
- [20230303 Council Meeting Minutes](#)
- [20230504 Meeting Minutes](#)

Awards

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

Distinguished Article Award

Winner: [Natasha Quadlin](#)

For the article: [Quadlin, Natasha and Bradley Montgomery. 2022. "When a Name Gives You Pause: Racialized Names and Time to Adoption in a County Dog Shelter." Social Psychology Quarterly, 85 \(2\): 210–235.](#)

Runner Up: [Jordan Fox Wischerath](#)

For the article: Besek, Jordan Fox. 2021. "On the Interactive Nature of Place-Making: Modifying Growth Machine Theory to Capture the Spatial and Temporal Connections that Spawned the Asian Carp Invasion." *The Sociological Quarterly* 62(1): 121-142.

Jane Goodall Graduate Student Article Award

Winner: Nicolo P. Pinchak

For the article: Pinchak, Nicolo P., Christopher R. Browning, Bethany Boettner, Catherine A. Calder, and Jake Tarrence. 2022 (online first). "Paws on the Street: Neighborhood-level Concentration of Households with Dogs and Urban Crime." *Social Forces* (online first).

Clifton Bryant Animals & Society Course Award

Winner: Seven Mattes.

For the course "Animals, Culture, and Power" at Michigan State University

Distinguished Book Award

Winner: Andrea Laurent-Simpson

For the book: Laurent-Simpson, Andrea. 2021. *Just Like Family: How Companion Animals Joined the Household*. New York, NY: New York University Press.

2023 Finances

Provide a narrative on how the 2023 budget matched with actual expenses and income from 2023. Please account for any substantive differences.

Our activities in 2023 exceeded our expectations from the year prior. We had budgeted \$500 for the ASA Annual Meeting Reception. We opted to hold a self-paying dinner with our members and hold the budgeted funds for the following year in expectation of collaborating with another section.

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 Chenoa Manor.

Our ending balance is \$1,858. These funds will be allocated to the ASA Reception in 2024, as well as towards an awardee selected donation in our host city of Montreal.

The Previous Year

Describe Section activities during the period between September 2022 and August 2023.

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.

The section uses ASA Connect as well as emails to communicate with membership. We attempted to use ASA Connect exclusively, but even after several reminders to members to sign up we did not have any engagement. The chair then used the section roster to retrieve members emails and emailed all members that way.

Our communications involved at least monthly emails to keep members aware of relevant job postings, conferences, and calls for papers and proposals, and to alert members of upcoming Animals and Society Colloquium events.

We had a Fall and winter newsletter available here: <https://www.asanet.org/communities-and-sections/sections/current-sections/newsletters-10/>

Online we have theASA Site (https://www.asanet.org/asa_sections/animals-and-society/) a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/AnimalsAndSocietyASA>) and a Twitter account (https://twitter.com/Animals_Society)

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

We have a particular focus on supporting students as we believe this is the best route to supporting all facets of DEI. 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. We also know that scholars of color and those wanting to work outside of academia are underrepresented in the ASA membership in general and we want to speak to/work with these groups as well. To include these groups (students, those outside of academia, those who cannot afford ASA membership) we have:

- Changed our students award criteria such that student authors do not need to be members since we know ASA membership cost is a barrier.
- Included a new award for service/achievement that broadly recognizes work that is not necessarily academic in nature.
- Collaborated with Animals and Society Institute on our Colloquium Series to open attendance and participation to a more diverse audience

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).

August 18

2:00-3:00 PM Animals & Society Roundtable Pennsylvania Convention Center 103B

3:00-3:30 PM Business Meeting Pennsylvania Convention Center 103B

4:00-5:30 PM Animals & Society Open Paper Session Pennsylvania Convention Center 104A

6:30 PM Animals & Society Social Event & Awards ceremony Monster Vegan 1229 Spruce St

The paper and roundtable events at the conference allowed for intellectual exchange and networking. We also included an off-site casual event at a restaurant. We made efforts to encourage people to bring family and invited both section and non-section members to promote professional support, mentoring, and build community.

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.

Mentoring network: We set up a program to connect professional sociologist with graduate students.

Student membership drive: We hosted a drive to have professional members support section fees for students.

Animals and Society Colloquium Series: In partnership with the Animals and Society Institute (ASI) we ran a monthly online colloquium series through the academic year. These events are well attended (around 50-100 attendees), generally have an international audience, often feature our section members as presenters and are recorded for the membership. The following talks were held between Sept. 22-Aug 23

October 2022

Dr. Gala Argent, Human-Animal Studies Program Director, Animals & Society Institute; Faculty in Animal Studies at Eastern Kentucky University & Dr. Jeannette Vaught, Lecturer at California State University, Los Angeles

The Relational Horse: Including Animal Others' Perspectives in Our Relationships and Studies

February 2023

Dr. Sarah May Lindsay, Department of Sociology, McMaster University
Service, Support, or Companion?: Species, Ability, and Care in Intimate Partner Violence Shelters

March 2023

Lindsay Palmer, PhD

Kicking the Dog: The endorsement of hegemonic masculinity predicts the endorsement of aversive training methods

April 2023

Issy Clarke

Animal Cultures: A paradigm for determining what matters to animals

May 2023

Dr. Irina Frasin, "Gh. Zane" Institute of Social and Economic Research, Romanian Academy, Iasi Branch

Co-existence with community cats

Business Meeting - August 18, 2023 - 3pm

Members Present: 9- Carol Glasser, Amy Fitzgerald, Seven Mattes, Michael Briscoe, Tom Dietz, Jordan Fox, Andrea Laurent-Simpson, Erin Kidder, Nadia (student)

(Many council members are not present at ASA)

Will be changing awards:

Graduate student award will be switched to all students and no need for it to be published

Add a new award for distinguished service - open to practitioners, non-academic

Logo - Animal changes by chair, ASA logo added

Everyone preferred balanced design with ASA logo at the bottom

Seven will ask partner graphic design ideas about chosen design

Membership - membership dipped and then came back around when the annual meeting returned.

Ideas for membership: Undergrads - program for ASA to support them, Grad student support - faculty sponsorships (but only one had offered and none asked).

ASA might penalize our smallness - they forgave during Covid smallness

Communication - should we have our own listserv? This way we could share job announcements, etc. Discuss with council at next meeting for decision

Propose open organized sessions - propose speakers and bring in a package, or a theme and open call for speakers - we could do more than one proposal and it will show that there is buzz on this issue

Potential pre-conference - pair with McGill?

This year - donating to Shenolah Animal Sanctuary - \$200

Colloquium - Need speakers for Nov, De. Stephen Vrla? Amy Fitzgerald? Can be workshops, etc. Can be grad students practicing.

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**
 - Will have one roundtable session and one paper session, with a 30 min business meeting
 - 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
 - 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
 - Excellent for way for students to get their feet wet
 - Session organizer volunteers – roundtable and paper sessions
 - Can be a discussant, but otherwise just the moderator
 - Make sure you email them, can pronounce their name, etc.
 - Erin Kidder volunteered for the paper session, Seven Mattes volunteered for the roundtable section
 - 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**
 - We need two people to run for each position – four positions to fill
 - We have two folks running for chair, Jordan and Sarah May
 - 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
 - We should announce it soon, so we have folks ready to run come time of elections
 - Carol can do an e-mail to the students, specifically, as filling the student representatives might get difficult
- **Colloquium**
 - 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

Meeting Agenda

ASA Animals and Society Section

March 3rd, 2023

Overview of Agenda

Awards

- Committee assignments
- Awards deadlines
- Bylaws amendments

Logo update

Please be sure you are a member

Colloquium series

- Approval of partnership
- Should we continue?
- Next Colloquium

Annual meeting

- Session updates
- Remote option updates
- Event committee

Improving communication and participation

Looking ahead

MEETING NOTES

Present: Carol Glasser, India Luxton, Seven Mattes, Jordan Besek, Mark Suchtya

Not present: Jenny V, Sarah May L, Ivy C., Cameron W.

Action items for Current chair in pink.

Action items for discussion with membership or for incoming chair in yellow.

Action items for next committee meeting in blue

Awards

Committee assignments

- § Article: Jenny, Cameron, India, Carol (only three are needed- Carol will reach out)
 - Five articles
 - One submission is not a section member. Carol will reach out to them and let them know they need to be members by the time the award is announced.

§ Course: Jenny, Jordan, Sarah May

§ Grad Student: Only one submission. Someone from the article committee can write up a paragraph for this, as they also submitted it to the article award category.

- Student should be first author – should make an amendment to update the grad award guidelines so the submitter has to be lead author or co-author.

§ Book: Sarah May, Seven, Mark

- Three book submissions

§ Award Decision deadlines

- May for all except for Books, given the workload.
 - Reach out to nominees to let them know of the extended time frame
- Book Award nomination will be due in June.

§ We received more submissions than years prior

§ Note – we will discuss after this award session how we feel about non-members and how the process went

§ How do we get more grad students to submit? Grad students might not feel like their paper is good enough. We need to make it obvious the paper does not need to be published.

- It is expensive for graduate students to join ASA – they would not want to pay just to submit.

§ Maybe we can have members submit papers for their students – allowing students to have their papers submitted without paying for membership.

- We will discuss this at the national meeting.
- There may be limits to how many awards we can have- Carol will look into this

- Should we open it up to undergraduate students?

Bylaws amendments

§ See above – will add amendment regarding grad student award – submitter must be primary author or co-author.

§ Need to vote on only permitting members to submit to awards

Logo update

From Mark Fernando: “Here are no policies or guidelines regarding Section logos. ASA Communications Director Preeti Vasishtha can assist should the Section have any questions. We do suggest that the new logo incorporate ASA either in the design or tagline.”

§ The future section will decide on what to do with the logo

- We can add ASA into the logo, if needed

Please be sure you are a member

Colloquium series

- Approval of partnership

Partnerships Policy

Sections may seek to develop a partnership to work together with another organization on a particular initiative such as co-sponsoring a conference. While ASA seeks to support these partnerships, sections must seek approval from the Executive Director who will authorize the partnership or determine whether additional input is needed from the President, Secretary-Treasurer, or Council. In evaluating requests, ASA will evaluate both the activity under consideration and the potential partner. For example, we will consider whether the potential partner has shared values with ASA, and ASA may not partner with any organization that is partisan or that engages in discriminatory practices. Evidence must be given that the activity aligns with our mission, will be mutually beneficial, and will not lead to excessive financial burden or liability risk for the Association.

- Should we continue?
 - People have said they are appreciated – ASI is with us but Carol is doing much of the organizing

- One of the volunteers at ASI is now doing the flyers and the next few speakers have been recruited from ASI
 - All ASI members are coming, but not us
 - Should we keep doing this? We're doing the leg work but ASI is the audience
 - They are very open to talks that are useful for us
 - It is a great way to get work out there – it is a great opportunity to talk to a broader audience.
 - Not a conference presentation, but a colloquium
 - Worth it as it is nice to show to ASA that we have this great partnership
 - Both entities bring something to the table
- Next Colloquium

The Animals & Society
COLLOQUIUM SERIES
presents:

Kicking the dog: The endorsement of hegemonic masculinity predicts the endorsement of aversive training methods

Dr. Lindsay Palmer's study examines the relationship between attitudes toward animals, adherence to dog-training methods, and gender ideologies.

Register here: <https://rebrand.ly/DrPalmer> / Or with the QR Code:

DATE
March 24, 2023

TIME
9am PT / 12pm ET

Sponsored by the Animals & Society Institute and the ASA Animals & Society Section

Annual meeting

- Session updates
 - Not many submissions
 - Can bump up Roundtable people
- Remote option updates
- Event committee: Cameron, Jordan, Seven

Improving communication and participation

Looking ahead
