



**ICAS Board Meeting Minutes
9AM Eastern USA January 15, 2011**

via Skype(Vocally)

Present: Brian Lowe, Carolyn Drew, Susan Thomas, Sarat Colling, and Anthony J. Nocella II

Agenda:

Update and Overview of ICAS
2011 Goals of ICAS
Five Year Goals of ICAS

1. Update and Overview of ICAS

Anthony introduces ICAS and history of ICAS structure.
Anthony explains current projects of ICAS

A) *Journal for Critical Animal Studies (JCAS).*

Currently the journal is considering getting hard copy for legitimacy and credibility. But there is the problem of giving Routledge or Sage hard copy rights which allows them to dictate the future of the journal and give input. There is concern about losing archives with the current website.

Board members thoughts:

- Carolyn feels that handing over rights is a problem. Many libraries have electronic journals but still retain the high status.
- Brian concurs with Carolyn, stating that many libraries are relying on electronic texts for journals and also books. Moving toward electronic format seems to be a trend, and we should we focus on producing high quality electronic journal.
- Susan concurs
- Sarat concurs
- Anthony concerned that it costs money to get on search engine. Suggested donation of 10 dollars.

ACTIONS

- Anthony will find out more from webmaster and moving journal to high quality in 2011.

➤ Brian will make sure journal utilized by search engines.

B) LibNow.org

Lib Now! gets a lot of traffic. It is a global location on the latest on what it is happening when it comes to college students and activism. We hope to have 3-4 posts/week. Just like Lib Now! has own website, so might the journal with its own website.

C) College Activism

Someone who is interested in college activism needed to run this program which is under “Programs for Critical Animal Studies.” We need someone who has a professional image who can help us promote activism on campus.

ACTIONS

- If anyone knows someone from Europe to US who wants to be involved with college activism, let Anthony Know.
- Susan will ask Victoria who may be interested.

D) Critical Animal Studies Listserve and E-Newsletter.

This is being managed by Jenny Grubbs. Scroll down home page and on right, type in email and click “Join Now.” These are tools to inform the public on what we are doing, e.g., from the journal to conferences.

Brian Lowe will manage the E-Newsletter, which will be sent out via e-mail. Brian will write it up and organize the E-Newsletter for each month, which will be sent out at the beginning of each month. He will also be responsible for inviting, promoting, and gathering more members to the E-Newsletter.

ACTIONS

- Brian will do the E-Newsletter.
- Anthony will give Brian contacts for the E-Newsletter.
- Anthony will send out typical duties this weekend.
- Everyone reports back on specific projects

E) Scholarly Program

This goes to 2 graduate students per year. “Tyke Scholar of the Year” – named after an elephant who was shot down in Hawaii and “Britches Scholar of the Year” – named after a baby monkey tested on for blindness and freed by the Animal Liberation Front. So far these have just been given out in North America. Awards are sent to them wherever they are.

Undergraduate, Graduate awards of the year. Should we send out a call for this year?

ACTIONS

... Sarah is organizing to have the call out for 2011 awards posted on the conference website (and elsewhere).

F) Volunteers and Interns

Concerns about commitment and security. Where can people enjoy their expertise? ICAS had its first official intern this year. A student received credits through the University of Wisconsin. Anthony communicated with Chair of Department and Advisor. They tabled and invited speakers and started an animal rights organization.

G) Book Series

Helena and Vasile head up series with Rodopi Press. They are always looking for more books, proposals, to be sent to them. The Rodopi Press is publishing their books hardback instead of paperback at about, e.g., 125 dollars. This kind of book is for publishing your high theory manuscripts or dissertation. They sell to libraries and wealthy academics.

H) Arrisa Media Group

Arrisa Media Group is a leftist independent press that is growing. They are developing a Critical Animal Studies Book Series with ICAS. Therefore, high theory/dissertation = Rodopi. Activist voice = Arrisa (bookstore friendly). Wes from South Africa and Colin Salter are heading up the book series.

We also discussed concerns regarding the forthcoming book: “Critical Animal Studies: An Introduction” which has not contacted ICAS.

2. Goals of ICAS

Board members share their short and long term goals towards getting critical animal studies out in the public.

2011 Goals

Caroline: Getting a conference happening in Australia. Push the online life of ICAS – that is where all communication is going, facebook, youtube, and search engines... young people are online. ICAS should work to sell ourselves online. We can make it our own by ensuring we push our voices as much as we can but particularly online. She is interested in getting the idea or philosophy of what makes up ICAS into the popular voice. Develop education courses ourselves. Running one day workshop on philosophy and ideas of human/animal divide – 1960’s what feminists did.

Susan: She teaches the animal rights movement reader. She noted that there needs to be a good reader on the history of animal rights. Susan also supports building both book series.

Brian: To promote the *Centre of Academic Excellence*
We need more research, credibility. We want to emphasize our vision of critical theory and draw attention to ICAS as a whole by promoting high quality scholarship. Our research centre is a place where we can come together and do collaborative research.

Entertainment/Humanities Research/ Vegan Studies. Brian may apply to Soros Foundation for a grant for the Centre for Academic Excellence. There is money there for conferences, etc.

Anthony mentions that Melonie Joy is interested in getting involved with the Vegan Studies Committee.

Everyone supports the growth of Donations and Membership. We have to collect all emails of those connected to conference, etc. pushing people to donate 20 dollars for annual fee.

We discuss grants and whether conferences should not be free anymore.

Sarat: Communication with and building memberships. Letterhead and welcoming to ICAS letter.

Third Year Goals

Brian: Help construct some type of module or stratagem to disseminate to animal rights undergraduates to assist them with starting an animal rights organization on campus. Look into what has worked, not, etc. help facilitate the process. Other prong of third year plan among ourselves is create small media or response groups – have people in place to speak for what happens to the animals who are affected by the accident.

Five Year Goals

Brian: Have both journal and book series established. Have people inside and outside academia involved.

Susan: Hiring a staff member we can pay, build our membership, build a budget and pull all these ideas together.

ACTION

- Susan will look into official letterhead and draft a letter to send out. And keep a list and roster of members. Have this done online once we get a webmaster.

We closed the meeting at 10:15AM USA Eastern Time.