

9th Annual North American Conference for Critical Animal Studies

Hosted by the **Institute for Critical Animal Studies (ICAS)**

Program Theme: *Abolition, Liberation and the Intersections of Social Justice*

Saturday April 10, 2010

SUNY Cortland, New York, USA

Presenters' Biographies

Appleton, Sarah

Sarah Appleton is majoring in Inclusive Special Education at the State University of New York College at Cortland.

Arrigoni, Alex

In 1997 Alex Arrigoni graduated in Philosophy at Siena University with a paper on animal rights philosophy, published in 1998 (and 2004) as *Animal rights. Toward a civilisation without blood* (Edizioni Cosmopolis publisher, Turin). In May 2006, Arrigoni finished Ph.D. course (4 years, without government grant) in Methodologies of Ethno-Anthropological Research at Siena University. Cultural anthropology and methodologies applied to a theoretical-practical research in anthrozoology (in Italy known as zooanthropology), concerned about humans-dogs partnership, with an ethnography of the "beach for dogs accompanied by people" of Rome (summer 2003). In these years he worked on many projects, articles and websites, translations of books into Italian (in 1998 Andrew Linzey's *Animal Theology*, in 2005 Tom Regan's *The Struggle for Animal Rights*). In 2003, Arrigoni conceived and co-realized the video "Flashes of Flesh – Sounds and Images of Human Speciesism" concerned about the reality of factory farming and industrial slaughtering of animals.

Asimakopoulos, John

Dr. John Asimakopoulos is Executive Director of the scholar-activist Transformative Studies Institute (TSI) and works with a highly underprivileged student population at the Bronx campus of the City University of New York as an Assistant Professor of Sociology. He also edits *Theory in Action*, an interdisciplinary peer-reviewed journal. His work focuses on labor, globalization, and sociological theory. His publications include articles and books focusing on the history of social movements and how they can inform a new global working class movement for the ushering of epochal change toward a just society. His works champion the formation of a counter-ideology, independent working class media and educational institutions, and direct action toward this end. He is currently working with his colleagues at TSI to establish a new free and progressive university operated by scholar-activists. John's interest in the working-class stems from his parents who obtained only third grade educations. They worked as landless farmers in Greece and later as immigrant factory workers in the United States. Early on in life, John observed that his parents' hard work was never rewarded pushing him to think of

social justice. Ever since, he has dedicated his life to promoting equality and social justice for all peoples.

Bell, Aaron

Aaron Bell is a PhD student in the Social, Political, Ethical, and Legal (SPEL) philosophy department at SUNY Binghamton. Currently in his second year of the program, Aaron is working on first generation critical theory, and other contemporary strands of continental philosophy and the possible connections that can be made between these fields and the problem of human\non-human relations. He feels strongly about the issue and has been vegan for nearly three years now, but is unsatisfied with most of the contemporary articulations of “animal rights” and the Anglo-American treatment of environmental ethics.

Ben-Moshe, Liat

Liat Ben-Moshe is a doctoral candidate and instructor in Sociology, Disability Studies and Women’s Studies at Syracuse University, NY. Her dissertation ‘Genealogies of resistance to incarceration: prison abolition and de-institutionalization activism in the US’, looks at demands to close down repressive institutions that house those labeled as criminals, developmentally disabled and mentally ill. Her academic interests are in radical activism and the politics of abolition, coalition building and intersectionality, Critical Disability Studies, representations of dis/ability, inclusive pedagogy and more. Liat has presented her work in dozens of conferences as well as activist and academic venues such as Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual conference, Association of American Geographers, Canadian Disability Studies Association, Canadian Socialist Studies, Feminism & War conference and Renewing the Anarchist Tradition to name a few. She is also one of the founding members of the Israeli Disability Studies Network and is currently on the board of SDS (Society for Disability Studies).

Bentley, Judy K. C.

Dr. Judy K. C. Bentley is an assistant professor in the Department of Foundations and Social Advocacy at the State University of New York College at Cortland, and Editor-In-Chief of *Social Advocacy and Systems Change*, a peer-reviewed social justice journal. Her research interests include Symbolic Inclusion of individuals with disabilities, and the wisdom and competence of children with disabilities as architects of their own education.

Blankfield, Bryan B.

Bryan Blankfield is completing his MA in Rhetoric at the Pennsylvania State University. Brian’s primary research and teaching interests include rhetorical theory and rhetorical criticism. In particular, he is interested in the rhetoric of animal-rights activism. Insofar as nonhuman animals cannot speak for themselves, their defense is inherently a rhetorical enterprise for activists. Specifically, animal-rights activists must employ the available means of persuasion to convince others that nonhuman animals are beings who deserve rights and consideration. In short, he investigates the ways in which animal-rights activists accomplish these goals rhetorically.

Brigantino, Catherine

Catherine Brigantino is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Critical Sociology at Brock University. With Brock's progressive support of Critical Animal Studies, Catherine's research interests surround issues of representation of other animals in advocacy work and the myth of “humane” meat as an ethical alternative.

Burke, Adrienne

Adrienne Burke is the Liberation Project Coordinator for peta2--the youth outreach. She graduated in 2008 from Christopher Newport University, located in Newport News, Virginia with a Bachelors of Arts Communication Studies, with minors in Leadership Studies and Philosophy and Religious Studies. Before working for PETA Adrienne did a variety of work for a statewide, grassroots, social justice organization The Virginia Organizing Project.

Calabrese, Jenna

Jenna Calabrese is a vegan, feminist, animal- and human-rights activist from New York, USA. She is a founding member of Living Opposed to Violence and Exploitation [LOVE], an anti-oppression collective that seeks to educate people about speciesist oppression and end the subjugation of non-human animals. When not writing blogs or coordinating LOVE's Vegan Buddies program, Jenna also teaches in New York City public schools, works toward providing health care for every community, rides her bike, reads voraciously, and bakes root vegetables.

Capoccia, Stella

Stella Capoccia is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Geography at Rutgers University. She is the Graduate Representative for the Animal Geography, a specialty group with the American Association of Geographers. Stella is heavily invested in the study of human-animal relationships and animal geography. Her research examines how international priorities unfold in wildlife conservation and management in Kenya. Prior to her doctoral research, Stella served as the Director of the Montana Wildlife Center, a wildlife biologist in Arizona, a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer in Kenya, and the Wildlife Specialist for the Museum of Natural History in Cleveland.

Cooney, Nick

Nick Cooney is the founder and Director of The Humane League, a regional animal protection organization that advocates on behalf of farmed animals. Nick has written for publications including The Philadelphia Inquirer and Z Magazine, and his work for animals has been featured in hundreds of media outlets including Time Magazine, the Wall Street Journal, and National Public Radio. Nick holds a degree in Non-Violence Studies from Hofstra University. In addition to his work with the Humane League, Nick is also works with the Books Through Bars prisoner education program sending free reading material to inmates.

Corman, Lauren

Lauren Corman teaches Critical Animal Studies in the Department of Sociology at Brock University. Her interdisciplinary scholarship draws on animal rights/liberation, posthumanist, feminist, critical race, labour and environmental theories and practices.

Much of her graduate work focused on an analysis of Canadian and US slaughterhouses, with emphasis on the industrialized exploitation of pigs. Her Ph.D. dissertation analyses voice and its relationship to nonhuman animal subjectivities. This project was inspired in part through her many years as a host and producer of the weekly animal issues radio program/podcast, Animal Voices, on CIUT 89. FM in Toronto.

Culbertson, Tucker B.

Tucker Bolt Culbertson is from Gray Court, South Carolina. He is presently Assistant Professor of Law at Syracuse University, where he is also on faculty with the LGBT Studies Program and the Institute on National Security and Counterterrorism. Previously, Tucker was a Fellow with the Center for the Study of Law and Culture at Columbia University, and was a Lecturer in political theory at UC-Berkeley and San Francisco State University. Tucker earned his J.D. at UC-Berkeley, where he received the American Jurisprudence Award for Feminist Jurisprudence. He earned his A.B. (magna cum laude) from Princeton University, where he studied literary theory and theater. Tucker is presently completing his Ph.D. in the Jurisprudence and Social Program at UC-Berkeley. His writing primarily engages legal doctrine, history, and philosophy concerning equality and liberty as they relate to war, family, and the nonhuman world.

crews, chris

chris crews is a PhD student in the Department of Politics at the New School for Social Research (NSSR) in New York City. His dissertation work is focusing on the relationship between animist spiritual practices, the visual politics of Japanese anime and questions of response and performance within posthumanist and critical animal studies. He has been an organizer and media activist for over a decade. He received his MA in political theory from Ohio University, focusing on discourse analysis, metaphor framing and Mexican immigration in the media. He currently lives in Brooklyn, NY.

Duncan, Janet

Dr. Janet Duncan is the Director of the SUNY Cortland Institute for Disability Studies. Her research interests include international human rights for persons with disabilities in the context of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. She is currently co-authoring a book on the life of self-advocate Michael Kennedy.

Dutkowsky, Sandy

Sandy Dutkowsky teaches at Ithaca College and at Northern Arizona University.

Firesmith, Em

Em Firesmith is a full time activist in The Canadian Animal Liberation Movement (CALMaction.org). As part of the struggle for Animal, Earth, and Human Liberation, Em has worked on feminist, environmentalist, and anti-capitalist campaigns. He has particular strengths in radical outreach, mentoring young activists, and campaign strategizing. He is one of the organizers for the summer internships with CALM and helps radicalize promising young activists through mentoring. His efforts on Intensive Outreach Initiatives have brought him to dozens of cities across Canada. As a campaign

strategist he organizes activists and their efforts to end exploitative industries.

Fitz-Gibbon, Andrew

Dr. Andrew Fitz-Gibbon is a philosopher-theologian with academic interests in social ethics, religion and society, nonviolence, animal rights, mysticism and inter-religious dialogue and practice.

Glasser, Carol

Carol Glasser is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology at the University of California, Irvine. Her current research focuses on the animal rights movements, examining how social movement organizations and the state interact, intra-organizational cohesion in the animal rights movement over the past 25 years and the role of illegal direct action in the animal rights movement.

Grubbs, Jenny

Jenny Grubbs is a first year doctoral student in Anthropology at American University. She has presented on the mythological construction of African American women, the relationship between masculinity and flesh consumption, and the intersections between speciesism, racism, sexism, and heterosexism. Her current research uses neocolonial feminisms to interrogate the relationship between famine outside the “West” and capitalist overproduction/consumption *in* the “West”. Jenny has Masters degrees in Communication and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies from the University of Cincinnati.

Haines, Jeni

Jeni Haines is a student in the fields of Gender & Women’s and Peace & Conflict Studies at UC Berkeley. With her academic endeavors, Jeni seeks to create dialogue about nonhuman animal issues in these fields. As a student and as president for the Berkeley Organization for Animal Advocacy, she seeks to bridge the gap between academia and activism.

Jones, Andrew W.

Andrew W. Jones is Assistant Professor of Sociology at St. Lawrence University. He is interested in organic integrity in social and ecological systems and the way that inequality (class, race, gender, sexuality and the domination of other animals) disrupts that integrity. He is currently researching the cultural and structural roots of the ecological crisis, and is interested in environmental and animal rights movements. His article, “Caring Labor and Class Consciousness” won both the Szymanski and the Braverman Awards. He has published in *American Sociological Review*, *Social Forces*, *Sociological Forum*, and *Mobilization*.

Kaltefleiter, Caroline

Caroline Kaltefleiter is Coordinator of Women's Studies and Associate Professor of Communication Studies at the State University of New York College at Cortland and recent Director of the Sacco and Vanzetti Foundation. She has over twenty years of broadcast activism experience as a news anchor and producer for public and community

radio stations in Texas, Georgia, Ohio and New York. She served as producer and director of the documentary "Burn Out in the Heartland," a 60-minute piece that investigates the crystal methamphetamine culture among teens in Iowa and Nebraska. She continues to work on radio documentaries for National Public Radio and anchors a radio program titled *The Digital Divide on Public Radio station WSUC-FM*. She received her PhD from Ohio University in Communication and Women's Studies. She holds an MA from Miami University and participated in the Center for Cultural Studies where she began her research on youth subcultures and activism including work on Youth Culture Capitalism, Post-Feminism, and Popular Culture. Her forthcoming text (Garland Press) *Revolution Girl Style Now: Trebled Reflexivity and the Riot Grrrl Network*, examines the Girl feminist movement and its use of alternative media forums such as 'zines, websites, and mp3 musical recordings. Her current research project articulates cyberfeminism within a discourse of new media studies. The project examines the construction, manipulation and re-definition of women's lives within contemporary technoscientific cultures.

Kim, Claire Jean

Claire Jean Kim is an Associate Professor in the Departments of Political Science and Asian American Studies at the University of California, Irvine. She is the author of numerous articles on race, multiculturalism, minority politics, and human-animal relations in the U.S. Her book, *Bitter Fruit: The Politics of Black-Korean Conflict in New York City* (2000), won the American Political Science Association's Ralph Bunche Award for the Best Book on Cultural and Ethnic Pluralism. Kim is working on a book project that examines current controversies over the ways in which certain marginalized human groups—racialized minorities, immigrants of color, native peoples—use animals in their cultural practices.

Lambon, David

Lambon is a longtime student activist, who first attended Hegins Pigeon Shoot demonstrations in the mid-1990's. He worked with the Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade in Philadelphia from 1997 to 2001, and during that time also served on the board of a vegan outreach/humane education organization, CARE (Compassion for Animals Respect for the Environment). In 2001 he started an organization in Philadelphia whose mission was to convince businesses to refrain from dealing with Huntington Life Sciences. In 2005, the group Hugs for Puppies was incorporated and expanded its focus to include factory farming and other animal issues. Today it is known as the Humane League of Philadelphia. He is still active with the Humane League and considers vivisection to be an important issue due to its violent and gruesome nature.

Lewis, Noah

Noah Lewis is a transgender rights attorney and a long time practitioner of veganism. Noah has taught intersectional animal rights courses and co-facilitated study groups on transgender issues and racial justice for white folks. In 1997, he first published the Why Honey is Not Vegan site at Vegetus.org. A native Pittsburgher, Noah holds a BS in chemistry and a BA in the history and philosophy of science from the University of Pittsburgh. He is also a graduate of Harvard Law School.

Lovitz, Dara

Dara Lovitz, Esquire, is an Adjunct Professor of Animal Law at both Temple University Beasley School of Law and Drexel University Earle Mack School of Law. She received the designation of “Rising Star” by the Super Lawyers Magazine. She earned her B.A., *magna cum laude*, from the University of Pennsylvania and her J.D. from Temple University Beasley School of Law, at which she was the recipient of both the Law Faculty Scholarship and the Barrister Award. She was selected by her classmates to be the class speaker at Temple's graduation ceremony. Lovitz was appointed Special Prosecutor by the Lancaster County District Attorney to prosecute the pivotal Pennsylvania case, *Commonwealth v. Esbenshade*, in which the Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania district court determined the criminal liability of a battery-cage egg production facility owner and supervisor under Pennsylvania's animal cruelty statute. Lovitz focuses her pro-bono practice in advising and serving as counsel for various non-profit animal advocacy organizations. Lovitz is a board member of Four Feet Forward, an organization that helps grass-roots animal advocacy organizations with their legal and media campaigns by offering professional services at no cost. In addition to serving as counsel for animal advocacy organizations, she is also an active member, organizing several fund-raising endeavors and participating in various anti-circus and anti-horse-carriage demonstrations in the Philadelphia area.

Lowe, Brian M.

Brian M. Lowe is an associate professor of Sociology at SUNY College at Oneonta. He is the author of *Emerging Moral Vocabularies: The Creation and Establishment of New Forms of Moral and Ethical Meanings* (Lexington Books, 2006) and is the past chair of the Animals and Society section of the American Sociological Society. His research interests include social movements, the sociology of morality, and the creations of spectacles by claimsmakers.

Mongiello, Matthew

Matthew Mongiello is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania. His work focuses on social movements, American political development, public policy, political theory, and animal rights. His dissertation looks at the ways in which social movements exercise power in—and are constrained by—the American political system. He holds an MA from the University of Chicago and a BA from Vanderbilt University. He previously worked as a Research Associate for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, specializing in animal research issues.

Morrón, Ana Paulina

Ana Paulina Morrón, or “Pacho” as her father prefers to call her, is a first-year Masters student at Yale Divinity School in New Haven, Connecticut. She graduated in 2009 from Williams College, majoring in both Religion and English. Currently, she is a copy editor for “La Fuerza,” Yale's Latino Student News Magazine, as well as a research assistant conducting a comprehensive survey of all New Haven congregations. She is primarily

interested in animal rights and free speech issues. Her faith is ecumenical and deeply influenced by her vegetarian practices.

Nagel, Mechthild

Mechthild Nagel is a Professor of Philosophy and Director of Center for Gender and Intercultural Studies at SUNY Cortland. She is the author/editor of 5 books and interest in prison/justice studies, feminist theory, as well as editor of *Wagadu: A Journal of Transnational Women's and Gender Studies*.

Nocella, II, Anthony J.

Anthony J. Nocella, II, is a professor in Sociology and Criminology at SUNY Cortland and Le Moyne College. He is the co-founder of the Institute for Critical Animal Studies and the Anarchist Studies Initiative and is a board member of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). He has published more than twenty-five scholarly articles and is working on his eleventh book, co-edited with Richard Kahn, *Greening the Academy: Environmental Studies in the Liberal Arts* (Syracuse University Press, forthcoming). For more information about Nocella visit: www.anthonynocella.org

Oakley, Jan

Jan Oakley is a PhD student in the Educational Studies program at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada. Her research focuses on animal dissection and humane alternatives to dissection, the ways in which students respond to dissection, and the behind-the-scenes “procurement” of animals bound for the dissection trade.

Phelps, Norm

An animal rights activist for 25 years, Norm Phelps is the author of *The Dominion of Love: Animal Rights According to the Bible*, *The Great Compassion: Buddhism and Animal Rights*, and *The Longest Struggle: Animal Advocacy from Pythagoras to PETA*. A frequent speaker at animal rights conferences, he has contributed two articles to the *Journal for Critical Animal Studies*, a chapter in the forthcoming *Call to Compassion*, and an entry in *The Encyclopedia of Animal Rights and Animal Welfare*. His primary areas of interest are animal rights and religion, the moral foundations of animal rights, and the strategy of the animal rights movement.

Phruksachart, Melissa

Melissa Phruksachart is an English doctoral student at the City University of New York.

Powell, Dylan

Dylan Powell, 25, is a History graduate from Brock University an animal activist living in St. Catharines, Ontario. He splits his time between organizing fundraisers, rescuing and fostering animals, volunteering for local Animal Rights organizations and co hosting the radio show *The Vegan Police*. Coming from a background in the skilled trades, and heavily influenced by diy/punk/hardcore music, he is interested in bringing a positive, workpersonlike approach to the vegan/animal rights community. <http://theveganpolice.com>

Rice, Matt

Matt Rice works as Mercy for Animals' New York Campaign Coordinator, organizing events and campaigns, and coordinating volunteers throughout New York City and the state. Matt has more than six years of experience in the animal protection movement managing successful international corporate campaigns, developing educational materials and websites, and organizing public outreach and fundraising events. Coordinating cutting-edge and thought-provoking demonstrations in cities around the world, Matt has conducted interviews with local, national and international media outlets reaching millions of people on a wide range of animal rights issues.

Sanbonmatsu, John

John Sanbonmatsu is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts. He is the editor of the forthcoming book, "On the Animal Question: Essays in Critical Theory and Animal Liberation" (Rowman and Littlefield), and author of "The Postmodern Prince: Critical Theory, Left Strategy, and the Making of a New Political Subject" (2004). His articles have appeared in *Social Theory and Practice*, *The American Journal of Economics and Sociology*, *Socialist Register*, and *The New York Times* (among others).

Shannon, Deric

Deric is a PhD. candidate in sociology at the University of Connecticut, where he studies prefigurative politics in the context of Food Not Bombs activism. He is a long time anarchist militant with roots in groups like Anti-Racist Action and Food Not Bombs. He is a co-editor of *Contemporary Anarchist Studies: An Introductory Reader of Anarchy in the Academy* and cohosts the feminist radio show, *The F-Files*, where he has had the honor of talking with fellow radicals like Noam Chomsky, Catharine MacKinnon, and Martha Ackelsberg. He is a proud member of ARRGH! (the Area Radical Reading Group of Hartford) and Hartford Food Not Bombs and runs the independent record label, *Wooden Man Records*.

Shields, Laura

Laura Shields earned a B.A. from Willamette University in History and Spanish and is currently a doctoral student in American Studies at Saint Louis University. Her academic interests include: human-animal interactions in culture, gender and sexuality, environmental history and prison studies. She has presented at several conferences including the International "Gender, Animals and Society" conference at Uppsala University in Sweden. She holds a certificate in University Teaching Skills and teaches a Middle Eastern dance class to young women in a St. Louis detention center. Laura lives in St. Louis city with her feline friends, Emmett and Ota, and her human partner, Matt.

Singer, Jasmin

Jasmin blogs daily and podcasts weekly for *Our Hen House*, a clearinghouse for ideas on how individuals can make change for animals. She also leads monthly activist meetings in NYC and speaks at conferences nationwide. Jasmin is a contributor to *VegNews*

Magazine, has contributed to *Satya Magazine* (“Coming Out for Animal Rights”), as well as blogs such as Crazy Sexy Life and VegDaily. She is the NY Animal Rights Examiner. From 2007-2010, she was the campaigns manager for Farm Sanctuary. In 2009, VegNews named her one of 20 activists to look out for.

Skinner, Erin

Erin Skinner completed her PhD at the University of Waterloo where she currently works as a lecturer and academic advisor. As an activist, Erin fights for total animal liberation - a world in which no animal is oppressed, exploited, or victimized. A major focus of her work is to show that the struggle against sexism, racism, classism, and hierarchy is a part of animal liberation. She currently works with the North American Animal Liberation Press Office, Feminists for Animal Rights, and the Canadian Animal Liberation Movement where she helps radicalize activists and their fight for freedom.

Stanescu, James K.

James K. Stanescu is a doctoral student in Philosophy, Interpretation, and Culture at Binghamton University (SUNY). He is working on a dissertation entitled *The Abattoir of Humanity: The Birth of the Factory Farm*. He maintains the blog, *Critical Animal*, at <http://criticalanimal.blogspot.com>.

Weisberg, Zipporah

Zipporah Weisberg is a doctoral student in the Humanities program at York University in Toronto. Her areas of specialization are Critical Animal Studies and Critical Theory. In 2006 she received a Master’s Degree in Religious Studies (Jainism). Zipporah recently published an article in the *Journal for Critical Animal Studies* entitled, “The Broken Promises of Monsters: Haraway, Animals, and the Humanist Legacy” (vol. 7, issue 2, 2009). She has also contributed to the encyclopedia entries (“PETA” and “ALF”) in the *Encyclopedia of Vegetarianism* (Greenwood Press, forthcoming). Before embarking on graduate studies in 2005, Zipporah was the Campaign and Education Coordinator for Global Action Network, an animal liberation organization in Montreal.

Wilkins, Odette

Odette Wilkins is Executive Director of the Equal Justice Alliance (EJA) (www.EqualJusticeAlliance.org), a coalition of organizations that she co-founded in 2006 to repeal the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act (AETA). As a moderator, she chaired an AETA symposium at the New York City Bar Association, and has chaired several AETA forums at the Animal Rights National Conference. She is a member of the Issues Pertaining to Animals Committee of the New York City Bar Association. She has been a featured speaker on AETA at the Minnesota Bar Association’s Continuing Legal Education program, at the Animal Law Committee of the Connecticut Bar Association, at the 2008 Connecticut Bar Association Annual Meeting, and at Vermont Law School, Rutgers Law School and New York Law School. Project Censored honored her with an award in 2007 for co-authoring an editorial published in the Vermont Journal of Environmental Law entitled, “The Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act is Invidiously Detrimental to the Animal Rights Movement (and Unconstitutional as Well).”

Willis, Abbey

Abbey is an organizer and writer in Hartford, Connecticut. She is a proud member of Queers Without Borders, the Workers Solidarity Alliance, and the Hog River Collective. Currently she is organizing around reproductive freedom and radical queer issues locally and writing on non-monogamy, queer theory, and smashing the soul-crushing wage system that we call “capitalism”. Abbey loves graphic novels more than most things, and she would love to become a midwife, eventually.

Yarbrough, Anastasia

Yarbrough earned a BS from the University of Vermont, where she studied animal behavior & ecology and human-wildlife relationships. During her undergraduate career, she devoted much of her time to social justice. She served on the President’s Committee for Racial Diversity and the Rubenstein School’s Diversity Task Force. She also served as secretary for the Black Student Union, and helped coordinate social events with Queer People of Color. As a result of her passion to promote animal liberation and justice, she founded Students for True Animal Rights, an SGA organization at the University of Vermont, and she also interned at Farm Sanctuary. She is currently planning to pursue a master’s degree in critical animal geographies and human-wildlife conflicts.

Zaihd, Ali

Ali Shehzad Zaidi is the Director of Publications at the Transformative Studies Institute. Zaidi is also the Vice President of the Southeast European Studies Association (2009-2013): www.seesa.info. He currently teaches as an assistant professor of humanities at the State University of New York at Canton. Zaidi holds a masters degree in English literature from the University of Peshawar (Pakistan), a masters degree in Spanish literature from Queens College (City University of New York) and a doctorate in comparative literature from the University of Rochester. Zaidi has published comparative studies on Shakespeare and Calderón in *Studies in Philology*, *Hispanófila*, *Bulletin of the Comediantes*, and *The Grove*. His essays on the fantastic fiction of Mircea Eliade have appeared in *Balkanistica*, *Neohelicon*, *Interlitteraria*, and *International Journal on Humanistic Ideology*. Zaidi has written extensively on higher education in New York, publishing in *Against The Current*, *Z*, *New Politics*, *Monthly Review*, *Covert Action Quarterly*, *Dollars and Sense*, *Political Affairs*, and *New Politics*. In 2000, his investigative reporting on medical experimentation at the University of Rochester won an honorable mention from Project Censored.