



BROOKS McCORMICK JR
ANIMAL LAW &
POLICY PROGRAM
HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

PROGRAM YEAR IN REVIEW

2023-2024



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission	3
Introductions and Executive Summary	4
Meet Our Team	11
Visiting Fellows and Researchers	12
Program Work and Achievements	19
Policy and Practice	20
Major Reports and Publications	24
Academic Courses	33
Press and Media Coverage	37
Program Events	44
ALPP Workshop Series	47
Students, Advising, and Placement	50
Scholarly Work, Publications, and Presentations	52
Looking Forward to Next Year	65
Future Courses	66
New Fellows and Their Projects	68
Contact	71



We are on the cusp of changing the legal relationship between nonhuman animals and humans. The time is now to push even harder. As hard as we can. And keep pushing until we win.



— *Steven M. Wise*



OUR MISSION

The Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program at Harvard Law School is committed to analyzing and improving the treatment of animals through the legal system. The Program engages with academics, students, practitioners, and decision-makers to foster discourse, facilitate scholarship, develop strategic solutions, and build innovative bridges between theory and practice in the rapidly evolving area of animal law and policy.



Jo-Anne McArthur / We Animals for The Guardian

INTRODUCTION AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

by Kristen Stilt

As we reflect upon our accomplishments over our ten years of existence as a research program, and as we strategically plan for the future, we would like to express our profound gratitude to everyone who has supported our work.

Our mission to analyze and improve the treatment of animals through the legal system has never been more urgent, and our tangible progress increases in leaps and bounds year by year. Our community of scholars, advocates, practicing lawyers, professionals, and students is more committed than ever to bringing all our capabilities and resources to real problems that require real solutions in real time.

We have felt that sense of urgency in everything we have done this year, and with it has come an energy that you can feel when you step into our offices. The volume and quantity of activity has been remarkable, and we are pleased to be able to share with you a glimpse of that energy and urgency in this year in review.

The amazing cohort of Visiting Fellows we hosted this year contributed significantly to that energy. They came from all over the world to focus on their own research, writing, and publication projects in our rigorous and supportive community, and they quickly became integral members. Their work has culminated in groundbreaking

publications in major scientific publications such as *Nature*; in multiple law reviews; and publications in top literary magazines. Two of our Visiting Fellows aimed to write books for a mainstream audience and are well on their way with agents and book proposals. These impactful projects would not have happened without our Visiting Fellow program, the only program of its kind in the U.S.

We also introduced hundreds of students to Animal Law through classes, reading groups, writing groups, and events. You will read in this report many of these students expressing their new-found career aspirations in the field of Animal Law.

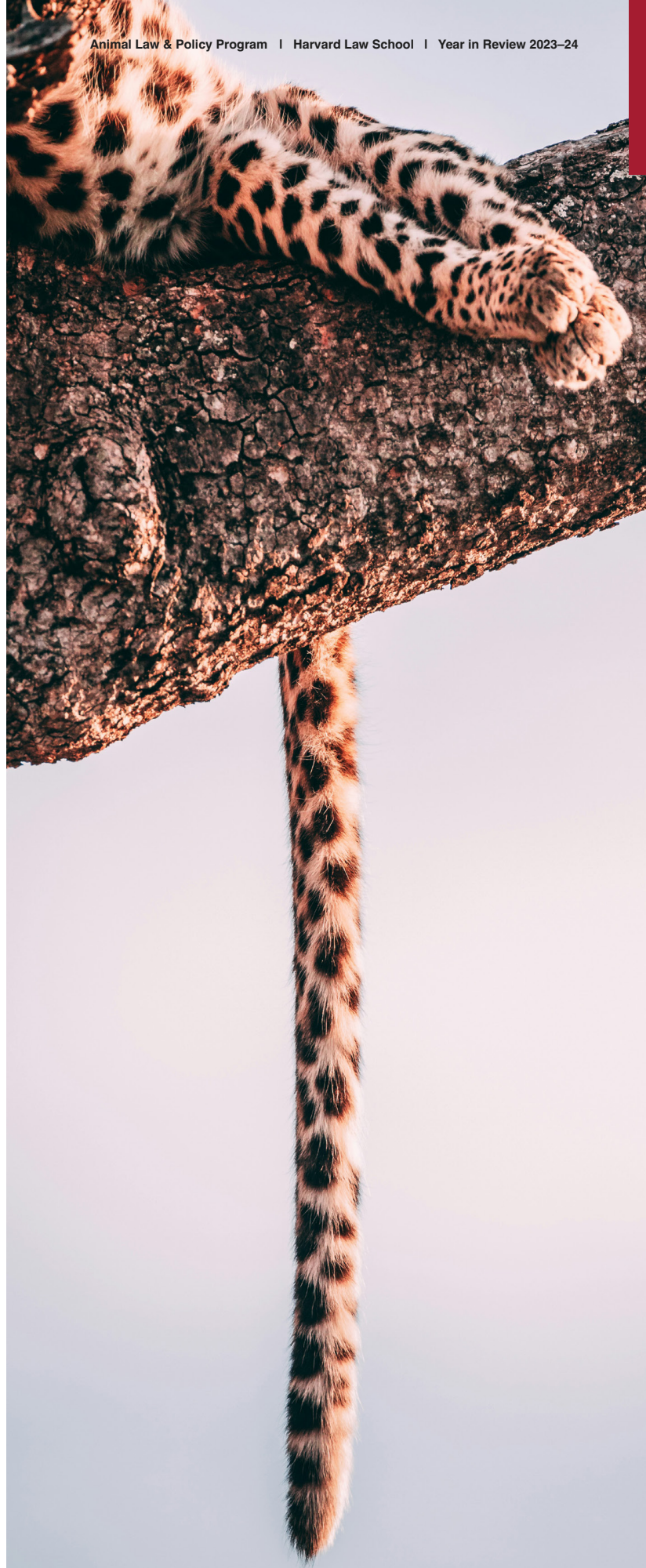
Among the many impactful projects described here, we want to highlight the completion of our multi-year, internationally collaborative Live Animal Markets Project, led by Ann Linder, Associate Director of Research and Policy. The report, *Animal Markets and Zoonotic Disease Risk: A Global Synthesis of a 15 Country Study*, is one of the most comprehensive assessments to date of zoonotic risk, offering an in-depth analysis of potential risks posed by an-

imal markets and their supply chains across 15 countries and six continents, incorporating scientific findings, field observations, data, interviews, local and regional regulatory analysis, and other research to describe and analyze what is known about the zoonotic risks posed by animal markets and other related forms of animal industries. Beginning in 2020, the report was researched and written in collaboration with [NYU's Center for Environmental and Animal Protection](#). The U.S. case study was independently published in July of 2023 and exclusively featured in *The New York Times*; the global report was published in June of 2024 and exclusively featured in *USA Today*. Both continue to be cited and reported widely in the media around the world.

The pages that follow show what we have proudly accomplished this year. Our successes and impact have been made possible by all of you—you come to our events, you share our publications and reports, and you support us financially. We hope you recognize your own contributions to our work as you engage with these pages. As we share our achievements here, we also affirm that there is so much more that we want to do, that we *must* do, and that with your support, we *will* do. Thank you, in particular, to the Brooks Institute for Animal Rights Law & Policy, the Hadley Family Foundation, the Humane America Animal Foundation, Vegan Grants, and Virginia Coleman.

ALPP Arrivals and Departures

After eight exceptional years, Chris Green embarked upon a new leadership role as Executive Director of the Animal Legal Defense Fund beginning in September 2023. As ALPP's first Executive Director, Chris helped to grow the Program in important and exciting ways, including faculty, staff, fellows, and visiting scholars. His profound contributions will help carry the Program's work forward for years to come.



We welcome Nirva Kapasi Patel as the new Executive Director. Nirva brings a wealth of experience and dedication to animal protection. Her background includes serving as a Global Policy Fellow at ALPP, where she focused her work on live animal markets and animal legal education in India. Nirva has also been an executive producer of documentaries such as *Meat Me Halfway*, *The End of Medicine*, and *The Game Changers*—one of the most watched documentaries on Netflix. She also spent five years serving on the board of Farm Sanctuary, most recently as its Chair.

We also welcome Mary Hollingsworth as Director of the Animal Law & Policy Clinic and a Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor of Law. Prior to joining the Harvard Law School faculty, she served as a Senior Trial Attorney in the Wildlife & Marine Resources Section of the Environment & Natural Resources Division at the Department of Justice. For over a decade, she litigated cases arising under the Endangered Species Act in federal courts around the country. Please see our Clinic Year-in-Review for more of Mary's background and her focus as Clinic Director.



In Memoriam

We had to say goodbye to a very dear friend this year. On February 15, 2024, the extraordinary champion of animal rights Steven (Steve) Wise passed away. We will always remember Steve for his relentless career seeking rights for nonhuman animals and inspiring so many to join his pursuit. Steve taught the first ever Animal Law course at Harvard Law School, which in his characteristic way he called Animal Rights Law. It is with both sadness and awe that we honor his remarkable life. So many of us have had the great privilege to know and learn from Steve, whose singular dedication to the rights of animals is as groundbreaking as it is inspiring.

Many will rightly celebrate Steve's concerted focus on using habeas corpus for animals. But he was curious about and supportive of many other approaches, too. In 2017, it was commonplace to find lawyers condemning open rescue as antithetical to efforts to see the movement progress. But not Steve. Steve made a point of introducing and lauding the work of activists who were engaged in open rescue. Likewise, when Steve heard about new academic work that took issue with settled aspects of Animal Law – such as the decision to lean heavily on criminal prosecutions of individuals – he sought out opportunities to publicize and celebrate these disagreements. He was not just a Quixotic lawyer, he was someone who welcomed debate, disagreement, and the evolution of our thinking.

And just as Steve bucked conventions in other ways, he would not defer to the longstanding experts in the field when it came to what was achievable or what amounted to good ideas. Our field is stronger because of Steve's willingness to imagine that a better world for animals is possible.


Steve was a man of gratitude and a person of sincerity, who was genuinely grateful for opportunities to engage,

be hosted, or join a project. And Steve loved sharing his knowledge, whether long-held beliefs or new discoveries. He loved having a microphone and being in front of people. Part of the reason that his legacy is so profound is because of the way he touched people through simple kindness and respect. Steve loved his work, there is no doubt about that. He also impressed upon us how important it is to keep a healthy work and family balance. Steve adored his family. To be in Steve's company was to see how central his family was in his life. He spoke fondly

about running a "dad camp" for his children in the summer when they were younger. He was so kind to Kristen's eight-year-old daughter, talking to her about school and the formation of her own ideas about life.

What we know from our friend, teacher, colleague, and mentor Steve Wise is that we must take what is best and clearest in our hearts, articulate it on the page, and bring it to life in the world through our words and deeds. Thank you, Steve. May your memory be a blessing.





Visiting Fellow Carlos Contreras Lopez, one of Steve Wise's many students, revisited Wise's transformative impact in the May 2024 issue of *Derecho Animal* (Animal Legal and Policy Studies). In exploring how Steve's work has reshaped the legal discourse on nonhuman animal rights, challenging their traditional legal categorization as property and advocating for their recognition as legal persons, Contreras Lopez writes:

According to Wise, the enduring classification of nonhuman animals as 'things' rather than 'persons' is the reason why the legal system denies them basic rights and protections despite mounting evidence of their cognitive and emotional capacities...

For Steve Wise, nonhuman animals must be recognized as persons to have actual legal rights rather than symbolic declarations. Established scientific findings about the self-awareness and autonomy of nonhuman animals support the legal arguments for their personhood. Steve thought it was incredibly wrong to deprive self-aware, autonomous, nonhuman animals of their liberty.

We would also like to pay tribute to the late Bob Barker, a sincere friend to animals, who passed away on August 23, 2023. Bob Barker’s impact on Animal Law was tremendous and lives on through the very work we do at HLS today. In 2000, Harvard had become one of the first schools ever to offer a course in Animal Rights Law, taught by Steve Wise—a move then considered so progressive it was reported on the front page of the *New York Times*. It was this media attention that inspired Bob Barker to make his first Animal Law endowment gift, establishing the Bob Barker Endowment for the Study of Animal Rights at Harvard Law School in 2001. He subsequently established endowments at seven other top law schools for the teaching of animal law.

The impact Bob Barker’s endowments had on the then-nascent field of Animal Law cannot be overstated. At the time, Harvard was only the fourth school to teach a class in Animal Law, but now just two decades later, over 167 US law

schools have offered courses on the subject. By ensuring the perpetual presence of Animal Law at these top institutions, prompting many other law schools to follow suit, Barker truly jumpstarted Animal Law as a valid and unique academic discipline in its own right. And around his 95th birthday, reflecting on the contributions, Bob Barker told us: “Giving those grants to the law schools was the single best idea I ever had.”

Bob also gave both his name and tens of millions of dollars to a broad spectrum of other animal protection causes, ranging from companion animal spay-neuter programs, opposing whaling and the use of fur, and even paying to safely transport two rescued elephants from a Canadian zoo to a California sanctuary.

We are grateful for all of Bob Barker’s generous support. He was a compassionate pioneer who will be deeply missed.



A Glimpse Ahead

There is more detail in the pages ahead on events to come, but we would like to highlight that 2023 marked the 50th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act, and we are co-hosting a conference, *The Endangered Species Act: The Next 50 Years*, on November 16, 2024. Our panelists will explore the Act’s successes and challenges over the past 50 years and its future directions. The

event will be unique in what we believe is a critical way: it will bring together scholars, policymakers, and conservationists collaborating to assess lessons learned and to propose innovative strategies for the next 50 years, focusing on adaptive management, climate resilience, and community engagement. The conference aims to foster interdisciplinary dialogue, shape future conservation ef-

forts, and ensure the ESA continues to protect biodiversity in a changing world. For additional information, please visit the event website.

I am so grateful for your continuing support and interest in ALPP and, indeed, in animals, their rights, and our human imperatives to fundamentally change the way we view the

place of animals in the world and fundamentally change how we treat and interact with them.

Gratefully,



Kristen Stilt



MEET OUR TEAM

Animal Law & Policy Program Faculty and Staff



Kristen Stilt
Faculty Director

The Animal Law & Policy Program is led by Harvard Law School Professor Kristen Stilt, who founded the Program in 2014. She also directs Harvard's Program on Law and Society in the Muslim World.



Nirva Patel
Executive Director

Nirva Patel is responsible for the overall management and leadership of the Program, ensuring that it achieves its strategic goals from a programmatic and financial perspective.



Ceallaigh Reddy
Program Administrator

Program Administrator Ceallaigh Reddy manages all administrative and organizational needs.



Sarah Pickering
Communications Director

Sarah Pickering oversees the Program and Clinic's media efforts as Communications Director.



Ann Linder
Associate Director of Policy and Research

Ann Linder serves as Associate Director of Policy and Research, as she continued managing and completed our live animal markets project.



Kelley McGill
Legislative Policy Fellow

Kelley McGill serves as our program's Legislative Policy Fellow, focusing on issues related to cellular agriculture and fighting efforts to unravel the Supreme Court's *National Pork Producers Council* decision.



Carney Anne Nasser
Program Research Fellow

Carney Anne Nasser serves as Research Fellow, helping to produce our Animal Law Digest.



Bonnie Nadzam
Writer and Editor

Bonnie Nadzam serves as Research Fellow this year, assisting Ann Linder and working one on one with several Visiting Fellows on their writing projects.

VISITING FELLOWS AND RESEARCHERS

In addition to our core team, each year the Animal Law & Policy Program hosts Visiting Fellows and Visiting Researchers. These visiting appointments provide opportunities for outstanding scholars and advocates from a range of work backgrounds and academic disciplines to spend a semester or academic year in residence at HLS working on their own research, writing, and scholarly engagement on projects in the field of animal law and policy. During their stay they make use of the research facilities of the Law School and the University, participate in the intellectual life of the community, and present their scholarship in academic workshops. This past year we hosted eight Visiting Fellows, and two Visiting Scholars (who come with fiscal sponsorship from outside the Program). The work of the Visiting Fellows and Researchers garnered significant media coverage over the past year, drawing public attention to animal law and policy issues.



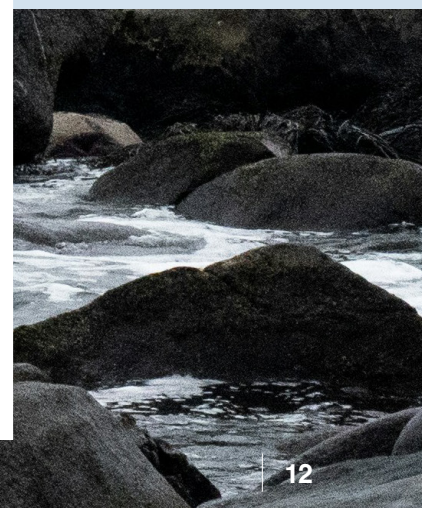
While at Harvard, Alex researched and wrote about dynamics and intersections of labor unionization and industrial hog production. Alex Blanchette is Associate Professor of Anthropology and Environmental Studies at Tufts University. His ethnographic research explores the politics of labor in altered environments. He is the author of *Porkopolis: American Animality, Standardized Life, and the Factory Farm (2020)*, which argues that human labor and animal life are becoming increasingly intertwined as agribusiness corporations remake the pig species to enable unending industrial growth. He also co-edited *How Nature Works: Rethinking Labor on a Troubled Planet (2019)*, a book that analyzes how non-human beings are enlisted into capitalist work regimens. He has published widely on the state of rural American work, nature, and health in venues such as *Cultural Anthropology*, *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, and *The Guardian*.

During his fellowship in the Animal Law & Policy Program, Alex began writing a new book on the politics of quitting meatpacking. While American slaughterhouses have long had notoriously high turnover rates, there is little focused research on why or how diverse people manage to refuse work in these sites. Rooted in ethnographic interviews with ex-workers from across the country, this book project explores how quitters could emerge as a force for transforming industrial meat – and perhaps even serve as inspirations for letting go of many other inheritances and attachments to outdated 20th century institutions and ways of living.



Alex Blanchette

Visiting Fellow





**Macarena Montes
Franceschini**

*Visiting Fellow
Rights of Nature Fellow*

This year at Harvard, Macarena worked writing a legal article about Rights of Nature, analyzing the potential for meaningful collaboration between Rights of Nature and Animal Rights advocates. Macarena Montes Franceschini is an attorney with a Ph.D. in Law from Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona). She has been a visiting researcher at Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Heidelberg and a Rights Research Fellow at the Brooks McCormick Jr Animal Law & Policy Program at Harvard Law School, where she is currently a Visiting Fellow. She is also a board member of the UPF-Centre for Animal Ethics, editor of the journal *Law, Ethics and Philosophy* (LEAP), a member of the Editorial Committee of the *Chilean Journal of Animal Law*, and the Treasurer of the Great Ape Project – Spain. She has written several articles on nonhuman animal personhood, animal rights, and animal law and a book titled *Animal Law in Chile*.

While at Harvard this year, Pam researched and began writing about the ethics and law of using animals when creating works in the visual and performing arts. Pamela Frasch, Professor of Law and the Brooks McCormick, Jr. Scholar of Animal Law & Policy at Lewis & Clark Law School, has been a pioneer in the field of Animal Law for over 30 years. In 2008, Pamela founded the Center for Animal Law Studies (CALs) at Lewis & Clark, the first-ever academic center for Animal Law. At CALs, students have access to several degree offerings, more than 20 specialized courses in Animal Law, conferences and symposia, experiential options, and other opportunities in the field. Pamela has taught survey and advanced Animal Law courses since 1997 and held the initial Deanship in Animal Law (at Lewis & Clark) for 10 years (2009-2019). She developed and launched the first LL.M. degree program specializing in Animal Law in the world.



Pamela Frasch

Visiting Fellow

Pamela is co-author of *Animal Law, Cases and Materials* (Carolina Academic Press, 6th edition 2019, 7th edition forthcoming in 2024), *Animal Law in a Nutshell* (Thomson West, 3rd edition 2020), as well as numerous articles and book chapters on a broad array of animal law topics. Pamela's current research interests include exploring the constitutional limits of using animals in art, and strategies for the integration of animal welfare principles into the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development goals.

Pamela served as the first General Counsel for the Animal Legal Defense Fund. In this role, she was responsible for overseeing all three of the organization's substantive programs, including Litigation, Education, and the Criminal Justice Program, which she created in 1996. Pamela is a frequent speaker and guest lecturer in the US and abroad on animal law and protection issues. Among other honors, she is the inaugural recipient of the American Association of Law School's "Excellence in Animal Law: Scholarship-Teaching-Service" award.

At Harvard this year, Amanda worked on a book-length manuscript detailing her years of experience representing whistleblowers working in US food systems, such as industrial poultry and dairy production. Amanda Hitt is a Visiting Fellow with the Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program. She has been a champion and visionary for protecting and empowering food system whistleblowers for over a decade, and prior to her fellowship with ALPP was the founder and director of the Food Integrity Campaign of the Government Accountability Project. Hitt's clients have included USDA food safety inspectors in ultra-high-speed slaughterhouses, contract poultry farmers faced with exploitative contracts and company retaliation, and animal researchers privy to taxpayer-funded waste and cruelty. In addition to litigating whistleblowers' cases, Hitt and her team work to draw public attention to these whistleblowers' stories and to turn their revelations into food system and legal reforms. Hitt's clients come from varied economic sectors and backgrounds – from factory workers to CEOs. Through assisting her clients, Hitt has learned first-hand the importance of bringing diverse voices together to create meaningful change

While at Harvard this year, Yi continued his work on a documentary film exploring contemporary China's consumption and use of the twelve animals of the Chinese Zodiac. Yi Jian is an independent filmmaker and food activist. He was a Post-Masters Fellow at the Ash Center of the Harvard Kennedy School (2022-23), a Gleitsman Leadership Fellow at the Harvard Center for Public Leadership (2021), a Yale World Fellow (2009), an India-China Fellow (2008), an Asia 21 Young Leader (2010), an Asian Cultural Council grantee (2008), and a Cambridge University visiting fellow (2007). He co-chaired the Harvard Behavior Insights Student Group (BISG) between 2022 and 2023.

Jian is the founder and president of Good Food Fund, a leading initiative in China's food systems transformation, whose Mama's Kitchen project was named one of the ten global Top Visionaries by the Rockefeller Foundation's 2050 Food Systems Prize. In 2021, Jian served on the Core Leadership Team of Action Track 2 of the United Nations Food Systems Summit and led its work-stream on Food Environments. He founded the China Vegan Society in 2021 and is at the forefront of the nation's plant-based movement.

Since 2007, Jian's films have won awards in international film festivals and have been shown across the globe, including at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. In 2008, he co-founded IFChina, a civic-engagement organization focusing on documenting social memories, and lived in a Buddhist monastery for two full years between 2012 and 2014. Jian earned an MC/MPA degree from the Harvard Kennedy School (2022), an MA in Journalism from the Communication University of China (1999) and an MA in Peace Studies from the University of Notre Dame (1998), where he earned a Distinguished Alumni Award (2015).



Amanda Hitt
Visiting Fellow



Yi Jian
Visiting Scholar



Peter J. Li
Visiting Fellow

At Harvard, Peter researched, wrote, and published on the legal and political quagmire of China’s Dog Meat Trade. Peter Li is an Associate Professor of East Asian Politics and Animal Policy and Law at the University of Houston-downtown. His research focuses on animal policy of the People’s Republic of China. *Animal Welfare in China: Politics, Culture and Crisis* (Sydney University Press, 2021) is Peter’s recent book, a comprehensive overview of China’s animal welfare crisis at a time of breathtaking economic growth in the last four decades. Peter’s peer-reviewed articles address different aspects of the policy issues concerning wildlife trade, animal law enforcement, animal cruelty and public opinion, food security and animal agriculture. These articles are published in China studies, legal, and inter-disciplinary outlets such as *China Information*, *Society & Animals*, *Northwest Law Review* (China), *Biannual Review of Animal Laws* (France), *International Policy & Law*, *Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics* and others.

Peter’s current research includes a critical examination of China’s food security strategy, a study of the conservation implications of the “panda diplomacy,” and a comprehensive review of China’s regulatory failure in companion animal management.

As one of the few scholars studying China’s animal policy issues, Peter and his opinion pieces have appeared in media outlets across the world such as CNN, BBC, FoxNews, CGTN (China), *South China Morning Post*, *Newsweek*, *Foreign Affairs*, *ChinaFile* (*Foreign Policy*), MSNBC and others. In the last 15 years, Dr. Li has worked as China Policy Advisor for Humane Society International (HSI), the global arm of the Humane Society of the United States. While helping supervise HSI’s China program, Peter launched the China Animal Law Forum and participated in campaigns that, for example, resulted in the stop of American rodeo shows in Beijing, the blocking of Canadian seal meat export to China, and the banning of China’s domestic ivory trade.

“This ALPP fellowship has been essential in providing the resources, support, and space to carry out and share this work, both in academia as well as in practical contexts, such as drafting amicus briefs for various legal procedures internationally. Indeed, it is hard to imagine how I could have contributed so much of my time and attention, or to have so intensely deepened my professional experience and reach, without this fellowship.”

— **Macarena Montes Franceschini**
Visiting Fellow

While at Harvard this year, Carlos worked on a book-length manuscript about his path from the boyhood in the Colombian countryside to his ongoing work on a major legal case involving animals in a pharmaceutical laboratory in Spain. Carlos A. Contreras López holds a degree in law from the Pontifical Xaverian University (Bogotá, Colombia, 2007) and from the University of the Basque Country (San Sebastián, Spain, 2008). He wrote a Ph.D. dissertation titled “The Legal Framework of Animals in Chile, Colombia, and Argentina,” which was the first animal law Ph.D. thesis written in a law school in Spain and was published as a book in 2016. During that time, he was teaching Roman Law and Animal Law courses and coordinating six cohorts of the Master’s in Animal Law (both online and on-site modalities) at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB). Since then, he has published several articles and book chapters on Animal Law in Spain and Latin America. He also translated Steven Wise’s book “Rattling the Cage” into Spanish.

Carlos is a licensed attorney with the Barcelona Bar Association (ICAB) since 2010. In 2016, he created a law firm specializing in Animal Law. He is the current President of the Barcelona Bar Association’s Commission for the Protection of Animal Rights. In 2022, he won the Lush Public Awareness Prize and the Andalusian Advocacy Award for his legal work against the Vivotecnia laboratory for animal cruelty in Spain.

At Harvard this year, Silvina Pezzetta completed a book-length academic exploration of legal, philosophical obstacles to rights-based recognition and innovation in the areas of animal law and animal ethics. Silvina Pezzetta is an Argentinean CONICET researcher in Animal Law and Ethics. She has been working on animal rights legal theory and animal ethics for the last ten years while also participating as Amicus curiae in relevant national and international court cases. She has taught Animal Ethics at the Buenos Aires University Law School (Argentina) and has been invited to deliver talks around Latin America. In 2020 she won the Culture & Animals Foundation Award and the Tiny Beam Foundation Fellowship in 2021. She was a visiting scholar at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Law and International Public Law (Heidelberg, Germany) in 2019 and 2023. She does pro bono legal advice for animal NGOs and does dissemination work through social media and public speaking.



**Carlos Andreas
Contreras Lopez**
Visiting Fellow



Silvina Pezzetta
Visiting Fellow

“Bonnie is not just great at what she does, she’s also amazing at lifting people up. She’s more than just an editor or a researcher...She has a remarkable talent for spotting the hidden gems in even the densest of drafts, bringing out their beauty and brilliance.”

— **Carlos Andreas Contreras Lopez**
Visiting Fellow



Cleo Verkuijl
Visiting Fellow

While at Harvard, Cleo researched, collaborated and wrote several papers related to the legal basis, precedents, and principles behind a global ban on factory farming by 2050. Cleo Verkuijl is a Scientist at the Stockholm Environment Institute, where her research focuses on legal and political dimensions of UN sustainable development policy. She researched the interlinkages between animal welfare and sustainable development, including issues related to climate change, biodiversity, and One Health, and how animal welfare can be better reflected in international governance.

Cleo has published extensively on climate change law and policy. She was a coordinating lead author of the first two UN Production Gap Reports, which helped draw international attention to the discrepancy between Paris Agreement targets and countries' plans and projections for fossil fuel extraction. She is also co-leading a UN report on the implications of alternative protein for sustainable development.

A Team Leader and Writer for the Earth Negotiations Bulletin since 2015, Cleo has reported on dozens of UN negotiating sessions including on climate change, ozone, and the Sustainable Development Goals. She has taught environmental law and policy as Adjunct Professor at Johns Hopkins University in Bologna, and as a tutor for the University of Edinburgh. She has worked for the UN Environment Programme in Brussels and was a policy officer with the NGO network Climate Action Network International during the Paris climate negotiations. Cleo holds an LL.M. in Global Environment and Climate Law (Distinction) from the University of Edinburgh.



Dinesh Wadiwel
Visiting Fellow

While at Harvard, Dinesh researched, wrote, and revised a long-form academic article on animal rights and the concept of the rule of law. Dinesh Wadiwel is an Associate Professor in Human Rights and Socio-Legal Studies in the School of Social and Political Sciences, The University of Sydney. He has a background in social and political theory, and is an expert in human animal studies, and disability rights. Prior to joining the University of Sydney, Dinesh had a career within social justice civil society organizations focused on anti-poverty and disability rights.

Dinesh is author of *The War against Animals* (Brill, 2015), *Animals and Capital* (Edinburgh UP, 2023) and co-editor, with Matthew Chrulew, of *Foucault and Animals* (Brill, 2016). Dinesh has recently co-authored, with Linda Steele and Claire Spivakovsky, two reports for the Australian Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability: *Complaint Mechanisms: Reporting Pathways for Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation* (2022) and *Restrictive Practices: A Pathway to Elimination* (2023).

“ I am energized and animated by the ALPP environment and am more committed than ever to reciprocating in the field in both the near and long term. ”

In my time with Harvard’s ALPP, I have been afforded critical opportunities to discuss my research on animal personhood, animal rights and rights of nature with US and international scholars, promoting discussion of these topics in widening circles of legal scholarship. I have also been able to share and solicit meaningful feedback on my research with other ALPP fellows and scholars, and with students from US and foreign law schools at conferences and workshops. I am especially grateful for the opportunity to interact with students and to hear their own evolving views on these topics. Finally, I have been very fortunate to work with Kristen Stilt on a shared rights of nature and animal rights project, which has been an enormously enriching experience. She is an inspiring mentor and gifted teacher who promotes creativity and thinking outside the box—both of which can be rare in legal circles, but which are essential in Animal Law.

— *Macarena Montes Franceschini*
Visiting Fellow



PROGRAM WORK AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Animal Law & Policy Program had an impactful year of scholarly research and writing, public events, teaching and student mentorship, and partnership with the Animal Law & Policy Clinic. Here we highlight many of these accomplishments.





POLICY AND PRACTICE

The Animal Law & Policy Program collaborates with many individuals and organizations to share expertise on matters of law and policy. Our faculty and staff engage with law firms, academics, authors, animal rights practitioners, government agencies, international organizations, and the media to provide answers and assistance.

During the 2023-2024 academic year, Professor Kristen Stilt submitted an amicus brief in two significant cases involving animal rescue—one in California and one in Wisconsin.

In August 2023, Professor Stilt submitted an amicus brief in a California criminal case asserting that animals are “someone” under the law of the necessity defense. The brief also argues that ordinary citizens therefore have the right to raise the necessity defense when they are charged in connection with animal rescue, even when the rescue is from industrial factory farms.

The brief was put forth in a felony criminal case in Sonoma County, California, where three animal rights activists were facing years in prison for organizing a peaceful demonstration in May 2018 in which dozens of sick and injured animals were removed from a “humane certified” egg-supplier to Whole Foods.

Professor Stilt’s brief argues that “The necessity defense, as set forth in CALCRIM Sec. 3403, should be interpreted to apply when an individual is acting to prevent significant bodily harm or evil to an animal, including an agricultural animal, because animals are sentient beings who can feel pain and suffer bodily harm.” Interpreting CALCRIM Sec. 3403 to apply only when an individual acts to aid a human would conflict with significant areas of California law and would be inconsistent with California’s clear expressions of public policy, Stilt explained in the brief.

Professor Stilt offered her expert opinion that the necessity defense, which protects citizens when they act to prevent “significant bodily harm” to “someone” who is facing an emergency, should apply in the case of animal rescue. The brief cites legislation in California that aims to aid animals in distress, including the California Health and Safety Code, which provides civil immunity to any individual who provides first aid to a pet or any domesticated animal in

an emergency. The brief also cites California Penal Code 597e, which deals with the situation in which an animal rescuer provides an animal who is confined on someone else's property with necessary food and water. Penal Code 597e provides the rescuer "immunity for what would otherwise be a trespass." The brief argues that California public policy makes clear that animals are sentient beings deserving of recognition and protection under the law.

"This amicus brief will go down as one of the landmark

moments when the history of this litigation is written. It provides rigorous legal support for the commonsense intuition of the average person. In fact, based on interviews with jurors from the prior trials, we know that these ordinary persons understood that a rescue was necessary and legal, even without a formal jury instruction on the necessity defense," said Civil Rights Attorney and Law Professor Justin Marceau. "It's time the courts officially acknowledge what the law already makes clear, that animals are someone."





Later in the year, Professor Stilt sent a similar amicus to Dane County Circuit Court, arguing that animals can be rescued under the necessity defense. 3L Jonathan Smith contributed significantly to the research and writing of it. Three members of an animal rescue coalition were facing criminal charges for a 2017 rescue of three beagles from Ridglan Farms, a factory farm breeding animals for research. The brief argued that the defendants who rescued three beagles from the farm were...

...entitled to the defenses of coercion, necessity, and defense of others because those defenses should be interpreted to apply to actions taken to prevent great bodily harm to, and unlawful interference with, nonhuman animals. Animals are not mere property but are rather sentient beings who can feel pain and suffer great bodily harm. The strong public policy of the State of Wisconsin is to aid animals in distress, even when doing so necessitates taking actions that might otherwise be considered criminal. This policy is exemplified in Wisconsin's adoption of the emergency aid exception to the Fourth Amendment, which is part of a vast body of similar case law throughout the country holding that animals can be victims of crimes and that danger of imminent bodily harm or other unlawful interference to animals can trump certain rights of human beings, including even constitutional rights. Because preventing bodily harm to an animal is highly valued in other areas of Wisconsin law, it would be an absurd and irrational result to reject the interpretation that preventing bodily harm or unlawful interference to an animal can serve as a basis for the defenses of coercion, necessity, and defense of others. Finally, even if reasonable doubt exists as to the proper construction of terms such as "another," the Wisconsin and Federal Constitution compel a resolution in the defendant's favor.

Eventually, 10 days before the trial was to begin, the State of Wisconsin dropped all charges against Eva Hamer, Paul Darwin Picklesimer, and Wayne Hsiung, for the rescue of three beagles from Ridglan Farms.

After the charges were dropped, the former defendants petitioned the Dane County Circuit Court in Wisconsin to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate Ridgland Farms' alleged abuse of beagles at its beagle breeding and research facility. Following the submission of the petition, Professor Kristen Stilt sent an letter to the Honorable Rhonda Lanford, the judge hearing the coalition's

arguments. Her letter notes that corporations like Ridgland Farms can be prosecuted for violating state animal cruelty laws and states that such corporations should not be permitted to shirk liability for criminal conduct. The petition alleges that Ridgland Farms committed criminal animal abuse involving thousands of beagles in its facility for over a decade in violation of Wisconsin state law.





Kelly Guerin / We Animals

MAJOR REPORTS & PUBLICATIONS

Live Animal Markets and Zoonotic Disease Reports

In the past year, we published both a US report on live animal markets and zoonotic disease in July 2023, as well as the comprehensive global report, in June 2024, which included 14 additional case studies and a global analysis. This project was undertaken in collaboration with NYU's Center for Environmental and Animal Protection (CEAP).

The U.S. Report

The U.S. report, exclusively featured in the *New York Times*, shows that animal industries in the United States pose serious risk of future pandemics and that the U.S. government lacks a comprehensive strategy to address these threats. The analysis calls for tightening existing regulations and implementing new ones in order to prevent zoonotic-driven outbreaks. It is the first report to comprehensively map networks of animal commerce that fuel

zoonotic disease risk in the U.S. It analyzes 36 different animal industries, including fur-farming, the exotic pet trade, hunting and trapping, industrial animal agriculture, backyard chicken production, roadside zoos, and more, to assess the risks each poses of generating a large-scale disease outbreak. The report states, far from being a problem that only exists elsewhere, many high-risk interactions between humans and

“This comprehensive in-depth report was one of the most challenging and important research projects I’ve ever worked on. The mentorship, support, and resources behind the work were both critical and instrumental. We at ALPP and our colleagues around the globe are all tremendously proud of the impact this work is already having, in great part because it points with such clarity and urgency at how much more there is that needs to be done.”

Ann Linder
Associate Director

animals that happen routinely and customarily inside the U.S. could spark future pandemics. All of the animal industries the report examines are far less regulated than they should be and far less than the public believes they currently are. Today, wide regulatory gaps exist through which pathogens can spillover and spread, leaving the public constantly vulnerable to zoonotic disease.

The report finds that the immense and increasing scale of animal use in the U.S. makes the country uniquely vulnerable to zoonotic outbreaks. Many industries that generate risk are loosely regulated or not regulated at all. Policy change is often reactive, happening only after outbreaks occur. Rarely do agencies take proactive steps to address zoonotic risk, even when they are aware of the danger to the public. For many U.S. industries, the government lacks even basic data and has no system to screen animals for disease or to identify zoonotic threats proactively. In some industries, government action actually drives zoonotic risk and increases human exposure to pathogens.

The report's many findings are both fascinating and deeply troubling, and present myriad opportunities for further research. The research was made possible by the generous support of the Brooks Institute for Animal Rights Law & Policy through the Brooks Animal Studies Academic Network (BASAN. BASAN member institutions that also provided resources and research assistance are the University of Denver's Animal Law Program, Lewis & Clark Law School's Center for Animal Law Studies, University of Toronto Faculty of Law, University of Victoria's Animals & Society Research Initiative, and Yale Law School's Law, Ethics & Animals Program. We are particularly grateful for the collaboration and ongoing support from NYU's CEAP. This project is a product of both universities and their dedicated researchers coming together—weekly, and for years—to begin to map out what we know, don't know, and need to investigate further regarding zoonotic disease and global animal markets.



The Global Report

“Animal Markets and Zoonotic Disease Risk: A Global Synthesis of a 15 Country Study” brings forward new examples and images from across six continents to describe the landscape of zoonotic risk from a global perspective, detailing some of the most common pathways through which diseases move from animals into humans. The report assesses risk from animal markets and the major sources that supply these markets, including the wildlife trade, livestock production, and the wildlife farming industry. It analyzes how regulation of these industries falls short of protecting public health, increasing the risk of future pandemics and leaving the public vulnerable. Further, the research addresses how misinformation and misconceptions about zoonotic risks can undermine public health efforts. The report demonstrates that zoonotic disease outbreaks often follow predictable patterns and challenges the idea that little can be done to prevent zoonotic outbreaks, making a strong case that better regulation of animal industries is needed to prevent pandemics and safeguard global health security; however, it further finds that many nations are ignoring these risks or doing little to address them.



Shatabdi Chakrabarti / FIAPO / We Animals

The team’s research offers a sobering, detailed look at practices that drive animal-human disease transmission and what can be done to disrupt these cycles of disease emergence. Among the report’s key findings:

- *Animal industries drive zoonotic risk and present serious threats to global health security.*
- *Current regulation is not proportional to risk, as many high-risk human-animal interactions are underregulated or entirely unregulated.*
- *At present, across much of the world, regulators lack even basic information about many forms of animal industries or the risks they pose.*
- *Zoonotic risks are not random but occur in predictable patterns.*
- *Many zoonotic outbreaks are preventable, and the risk of disease spillover could be radically reduced through better regulation.*
- *Too often policymakers act indifferently or recklessly with respect to zoonotic risks, leaving the public vulnerable to disease outbreaks.*

The report goes on to extensively analyze policy implications and recommendations. This research, carried out along with the Center for Environmental and Animal Protection at NYU, provides a comprehensive global view of zoonotic risks and the regulatory landscape that governs them to inform policymakers about how to protect the public from these threats. This critical information can provide a roadmap for designing interventions to reduce risk and disrupt the dangerous patterns of disease spillover documented in our report.



Jo-Anne McArthur / We Animals

EATS Act Report

In July 2023, we released a [new report](#) analyzing the “Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression Act” (“EATS Act”) and its potential widespread consequences.

Our 50-page report reveals that the likely negative impacts of the EATS Act could range far more widely than its sponsors envision, threatening states’ rights, consumer safety, and farmers’ livelihoods. Our report also raises several questions about the constitutionality of the EATS Act itself. This research builds upon Harvard’s 2018 report on the Protect Interstate Commerce Act by outlining the EATS Act’s legislative history and legal background, providing a section-by-section legal analysis of the bill, and identifying a range of regulatory areas the EATS Act could disrupt. The report additionally provides a 100-page state-by-state index listing over 1,000 state laws and regulations that potentially could be challenged and invalidated if the EATS Act becomes law.

The EATS Act is the most recent incarnation of legislation initiated by former Iowa Representative Steve King to counter state animal protection laws. Senator Roger Marshall and Representative Ashley Hinson indeed stated that they introduced the latest EATS Act (S.2019/H.R.4417) in direct response to the U.S. Supreme Court’s May 2023 decision in *National Pork Producers Council v. Ross* to uphold California’s farmed animal confinement law, Proposition 12 (“Prop 12”). While the language of the legislation has evolved throughout its progression from the King Amendment to its current form, the central aim of the EATS Act remains the same: to federally overrule Prop 12 and similar state and local health, safety, and welfare laws.

As our report details, if enacted either on its own or as part of the U.S. Farm Bill, the EATS Act could create a regulatory race to the bottom by substantially curtailing the ability of state and local governments to regulate the production and sale of agricultural products – potentially nullifying over a thousand state laws and likely many more.

Our report outlines several specific concerns with the EATS Act. One is that key terms such as “standard,” “condition,” and “preharvest production” are not defined anywhere in the bill – while other terms such as “agricultural products” are defined so broadly as to potentially include vaccines, vitamins, and even narcotics. The EATS Act’s Rule of Construction also attempts to freeze future legislative progress by preventing any further regulation of agricultural products where none currently exists. Last, the EATS Act tries to create a citizen suit provision that essentially would permit anyone to legally challenge any regulation of any agricultural product sold in interstate commerce. This private right of action also would invert longstanding burdens of proof by placing the onus on states to prove they likely would prevail at trial and suffer irreparable harm in order to prevent their laws from being enjoined.

“The language of the EATS Act leaves open significant questions, and each of these unresolved questions has the potential to disrupt entire industries and billions of dollars of investment,” says Kelley McGill, Regulatory Policy Fellow with the Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program, and author of the new report. “If enacted, the legislation would spawn substantial litigation through its citizen suit provision, likely subjecting state and local governments to countless costly lawsuits. It could be years before courts are able to provide a functional understanding of the EATS Act. Even for producers who initially might benefit from the EATS Act, this uncertainty and disruption could be extensive.”

For some agricultural products, the EATS Act threatens to create regulatory voids or regulatory ceilings where none existed before, leaving entire sections of industries unregulated. A number of laws the EATS Act could obstruct were drafted for the benefit of consumers, so without these protections, product quality, transparency, and safety may suffer.

The report concludes that while some agricultural producers may face less oversight as a result of the EATS Act, those same producers could suffer negative consequences from the federal legislation. A significant portion of the laws and regulations the EATS Act potentially could prohibit indeed were enacted to safeguard agricultural production itself. Such regulations related to the importation and inspection of livestock and plants into states exist to protect producers from costly diseases and pests such as highly pathogenic avian influenza, African swine fever,

“ALPP plays a pivotal role in providing deep and timely analysis of key animal policy issues. For example, our report on the EATS Act reached thousands of people, including Members of Congress and their staffers, advocates, producers, consumers, and journalists. Our work on other pressing issues affecting animals, such as the regulation of cultivated meat, has led to meaningful government action in response. I am so grateful for the opportunity to contribute to these significant projects and for all of the profound support that enables ALPP to continue its impactful work on these issues, without which none of these efforts would have been possible.”

— **Kelley McGill**
Legislative Policy Fellow

and the emerald ash borer. The potential invalidation of these regulations by the EATS Act could jeopardize entire sectors of the agricultural economy and threaten the livelihoods of local producers. If the EATS Act were adopted, producers who already have made significant investments in updating infrastructure in response to state measures such as Prop 12 also could see the economic value of those investments plummet, without receiving compensation for their losses.

The EATS Act could tip the balance of states' rights and circumvent decades of settled constitutional jurisprudence by federally overriding the expressed will of U.S. voters – shifting agricultural oversight away from states and localities toward federal administrative agencies and the federal judiciary. The stakes are very high, and our report brings an informed perspective to the conversation around such legislation and identifies a range of very real unintended consequences that could result from the EATS Act's passage or inclusion in the U.S. Farm Bill.





Jo-Anne McArthur / We Animals

Paris Compliant Livestock Report

By 2036, global emissions from livestock must drop by 61% to align with the goals of the Paris Agreement. **This first of its kind report** from researchers at Harvard University, New York University, Leiden University, and Oregon State University, sets out a new understanding of livestock within the context of climate change goals, and new expectations for climate policy, providing the first set of GHG emissions trajectories for the global livestock sector in high, middle, and low-income countries.

Dr. Helen Harwatt, who led the research as Food & Climate Policy Fellow with the Brooks McCormick Jr Animal Law & Policy Program, considers this to be a vital piece of the picture needed to move forward with climate plans: “The research findings provide much needed clarity on a key question – what role should the livestock sector play in meeting the Paris Agreement? The experts surveyed suggest it’s a major and critical role that should begin immediately.”

The 210 survey respondents are highly experienced climate scientists and food/agriculture experts based in 48 countries – and 60% have authored Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports. The latest report from the IPCC, the 6th assessment, states that emissions must fall by around 61% by 2035 to limit warming to 1.5°C.

Survey responses to 19 questions contained in the survey reveal differences in how each country should respond. Emissions from livestock must peak before 2025 in high-income countries, middle-income countries and globally, but not until after 2030 in low-income countries. Following the peak, livestock emissions should fall rapidly in HICs and MICs. All countries should have a GHG reduction target for livestock production, in alignment with an overall global reduction target of 61% by 2036.

“The emissions trajectories for livestock outlined by the experts recognize key differences in how countries should act on this issue – there isn’t a blanket approach or a one size fits all countries – and the results reflect that. High producing and consuming countries must do the most the soonest, and have the most ability and potential to achieve this. The results speak to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities – which has been part of international environmental law since 1992 in that action is required from all countries, but that all countries are not equally responsible. What is also clear is that high consuming nations must reduce consumption – experts state that global emissions must peak by 2025 and so must the number of farmed animals – this doesn’t allow for high consuming nations to continue their ways by increasing imports from other countries while reducing their own farming emissions.”

According to the experts, reducing the production and consumption of livestock products has potential to make very large contributions to this target. Additionally, achieving emissions reductions should not come at the cost of animal welfare and should not result in an increased number of farmed animals – ruling out measures that further confine animals for example, or options that raise the farmed animal population such as shifting beef to chicken meat.

Globally, diets would generally need to be more plant-based, with the most substantial shifts occurring among consumers in HICs. In support of achieving the emissions targets and trajectories, a number of policy priorities were identified for climate, agriculture and food purchasing – including the provision of financial assistance for farmers to convert their practices away from livestock production where required.

“The report essentially provides the first articulation of a Paris-compliant livestock sector. The reduction targets for livestock suggested by the survey results are in line with what the IPCC show is needed globally for all emissions and sectors, so it appears that the experts are suggesting a reasonable pathway for the livestock sector. Much of the political focus has been on the energy transition; however, a food transition is also needed – especially for highly emitting animal products. How much and when livestock reduction should contribute to climate goals has until now been unclear – but these findings provide some clarity for policymakers grappling with these issues, and can help with the formation of plans to tackle climate change. We’re way behind schedule on this, and technological solutions alone are inadequate. Difficult decisions are inevitable – and well-designed policy, communicated effectively, is essential.”

— **Helen Harwatt, Food & Climate Policy Fellow**



Brooks Animal Law Digest

This past year, Clinical Research Fellow Carney Anne Nasser continued to research the latest developments in animal law and policy. She gathered this information to create weekly summaries encompassing federal and state case law updates, ongoing legislative efforts, regulatory actions, scholarly publications, and international news. The resulting Brooks Animal Law Digest, compiled by the Brooks Institute for Animal Rights Law and Policy, is freely distributed to benefit the wider animal welfare community, including practitioners, academic clinics, programs, and scholars. These regular updates integrate a broad spectrum of topics that significantly influence the lives of nonhuman animals. They cover various areas such as the regulation of animal testing and research, advertising and sale of animal products, breed-specific limitations, establishment of trusts for companion animal care, treatment of companion animals in cases of domestic violence, conditions in animal breeding and slaughter facilities, cultivated meat products, hunting, pollution, and the welfare of captive wildlife. The digest also follows litigation, legislation, and regulation under key animal law statutes and other statutes often utilized in the field, such as the Animal Welfare Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Marine Mammal Protection Act, the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, the Freedom of Information Act, and the Administrative Procedure Act. These updates also cover a wide variety of types of animals, including aquatic animals, companion animals, animals used for food and fiber, and captive wild animals. The Brooks Animal Law Digest is a valuable resource for anyone seeking to keep up to date on the latest developments in animal law and policy. Anyone interested can subscribe to the Brooks Animal Law Digest via its website.

In addition, this year, Kelley McGill, Bonnie Nadzam, and Kristen Stilt helped to distill and develop a curated, comprehensive review of developments in US animal law and policy covered in the digest over the course of the year. In February, Kristen discussed the highlights of the year in a conversation with Professor Angela Fernandez of the University of Toronto Law School, which produces the Canadian digest. The U.S. and Canadian compendiums are available here, on the Brooks website.



ACADEMIC COURSES

Animal Law

A goal of the Animal Law & Policy Program is to provide students with the opportunity to take multiple animal law-related courses during their time at Harvard Law School.

Each spring, Professor Kristen Stilt teaches the introductory Animal Law course, which includes attention to comparative and international law as well as religious and cultural issues. The course introduces students to the broad range of laws that affect non-human animals (“animals”), including companion animals, farm animals (with a particular focus on factory farms), animals used in the context of entertainment (such as zoos and aquaria), animals used in scientific experimentation, and wild animals. The course focuses mainly on the U.S. but also includes significant attention to the laws of other countries and to international law. The course also engages fundamental questions about animals and the law, such as: Are some animals more deserving of protection than others, and if so, on what basis? What role do culture and belief play in animal law—why are dogs considered pets in the U.S. and food in some parts of the world, for example? Does the status of animals as property pose an insurmountable barrier to increasing protections for animals? What are the advantages and disadvantages of the concepts of

*“Professor Stilt’s Animal Law course changed the way I view the law. It was a fascinating and complex case study in creative and novel applications of existing legal doctrines to protect interests that the state often overlooks or dismisses. More broadly, the course pushed me to reevaluate the relationships between people and the animals with whom we share this planet. I know I will think back often on Professor Stilt’s course as formative, early exposure to ways in which the black letter law we study can be leveraged to create positive change. Professor Stilt, moreover, was engaging, passionate, and incredibly kind.” — Abigail Simone
HLS Class of 2026*

“ Professor Stilt’s Animal Law class...brought me to a whole different level— both academically in the field of animal law, and personally in terms of my commitment to it. ”

I appreciate and have seen, especially in an environment as rigorous as Harvard, that it can be challenging to create a safe environment in which to share thoughts and opinions that are still developing—especially when it is counter to the norm or different from the professor’s. But class in and class out, Professor Stilt facilitated tough discussions around complex and morally charged animal issues, such that real, thorough discourse was not only allowed but encouraged. She successfully solicited our diverse opinions and perspectives, and we all understood so much more as a result. Between Professor Stilt’s dynamic teaching style and from the example of experienced guest speakers she invited to campus, I gained a whole new level of practical understanding of the law as it relates to animals—I was able to start running on day one of my summer internship, which has been focused solely on animal law litigation and legislative reform.

After taking Professor Stilt’s Animal Law class, I know that going to law school, and specifically coming to HLS with the resources that the school and ALPP are developing for students, is the best decision I could have made related to my resolve to make our world a better place for animals.

— Valerie McCarthy
HLS Class of 2026



READING GROUPS

Rights of Nature Reading Group

Can nature have rights? Should nature have rights? What should these rights entail, and can granting or recognizing rights of nature help to stop the planetary degradation that characterizes our current era, the Anthropocene? The idea of Rights of Nature may seem farfetched, but it is already a reality in many jurisdictions around the world, including in the U.S. The growing prominence of Rights of Nature can be seen as a response to our ongoing destruction of nature, combining liberal rights with assertions by Indigenous peoples of their right to live in harmony with nature. The leading Rights of Nature example is Ecuador, where the constitution (2008) specifically provides for Rights of Nature in Article 71: “Nature, or Pacha Mama, where life is reproduced and occurs, has the right to integral respect for its existence and for the maintenance and regeneration of its life cycles, structure, functions and evolutionary processes.” In a series of decisions, the Constitutional Court of Ecuador has elaborated on Article 71, granting rights to a river, a forest, and, most recently, a woolly monkey named Estrellita. In this Reading Group, Professor Stilt led students through Rights of Nature in the U.S., Bangladesh, New Zealand, Ecuador, Brazil, and other jurisdictions where efforts to establish Rights of Nature are ongoing. The class sought to understand Rights of Nature conceptually and to assess its viability as an advocacy and litigation strategy.

“I was inspired to join Kristen Stilt’s Rights of Nature reading group after realizing this is the first time this groundbreaking topic is being taught in an American law school, and thinking I couldn’t let such an opportunity slip by. I found the discussions incredibly enriching, incorporating interdisciplinary perspectives from the sciences, Indigenous worldviews, and policy. I was also thrilled that it was led by a scholar with expertise in nonhuman rights, renowned by her innovative research on the topic, as well as her kindness, remarkable sensitivity, and engagement with students. Engaging in these discussions deepened my understanding of our relationship with the natural world and motivated me to continue writing and researching this subject from a Latin American perspective. This experience has once again ignited my commitment to advocate for the rights of animals, nature, and the communities that coexist with them.”

— **Ricardo Diaz Alarcon**
HLS LLM Class of 2023



WRITING GROUPS

Law and the Anthropocene Writing Group

In Spring 2024, Professor Stilt offered a writing group for students working on writing projects that related to law and the impact that humans have on the planet. Student topics ranged from forestation projects in South Korea to comparisons between legal treatment of AI and animals. Writing groups provide an opportunity for students to complete a writing project within a workshop environment, and with an instructor and a small group of peers to offer feedback on each other's projects. This allows students guidance structuring their research and writing, providing students opportunities to workshop outlines, drafts, etc. Students—some of them for the first time—learn the important art of peer review, delivering and responding to criticism.





PRESS & MEDIA COVERAGE

The work of ALPP faculty, staff and visiting fellows received enormous coverage in the media this year, including journalism in the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Forbes*, *The Guardian*, *Vox*, *Sentient Media*, and many other news outlets. The list below is not exhaustive (our Live Animal Markets project and a *Science* editorial, for example, generated scores of news articles across the media, and continue to do so), but represents some of the impact and reach of our research this year.

The New York Times

U.S. Animal Industries Pose Disease Risks to People, Report Says

The United States is home to an enormous array of animal industries — including industrial agriculture, fur farming and the exotic pet trade — that pose a significant risk of creating infectious disease outbreaks in humans, according to a new report by experts at Harvard Law School and New York University.

Vox

The Next Big Climate Deadline is for Meat and Dairy

“We need to see major changes in livestock production and consumption — really deep and rapid changes over the next decade,” said Helen Harwatt, an environmental social scientist and lead author of the survey report, which was published last week by Harvard’s animal law and policy program.

Reuters

US Pork Firms Split Over Congress Bill to Overturn California Animal Welfare Law

The bill could also void over a thousand state and local public health and safety regulations because it is broadly written, according to a report by Harvard Law School’s Animal Law & Policy Program.

USA Today

The Next Pandemic Could Spring From the US Meat Supply

“There really is this false sense of security and unfounded belief that zoonotic disease is something that happens elsewhere,” said Ann Linder, one of the report’s lead authors and associate director of policy and research with the Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program at Harvard Law School. “In fact, I think we’re more vulnerable than ever in many ways.”

The New York Times

Could the Next Pandemic Start at a County Fair?

“I think there’s this real feeling here in the U.S. that disease is something that comes from elsewhere,” said Ann Linder, an associate director at the animal law and policy program at Harvard Law School.

CBS News

Report: Zoonotic Diseases Pose ‘Staggering’ Risk to American Population

A new report by experts at Harvard and New York University indicates the risk of zoonotic diseases is ‘staggering.’

Harvard Law Today

COVID May Not Be the Last Zoonotic Pandemic

In an interview with Harvard Law Today, Ann Linder outlined the report’s key findings, shared what most surprised her, and offered a grim assessment of what may happen if the country doesn’t take action. “It’s dangerous,” she says. “I think there’s very good reason to be proactive in trying to take these risks seriously and stop them at the source.”

The Humane Society of the United States

Experts Gather on Capitol Hill to Condemn Dangerous EATS Act

Together, we made the case that if passed into law, the EATS Act could strip all states of their traditional authority to enact standards for the in-state production and sale of any agricultural products; such standards address food safety, public health, animal welfare and a host of other concerns.

Beyond Pesticides

Congress Asked to Help Stop Ecosystem Collapse in the Farm Bill by Preserving Local Authority to Restrict Pesticides

An analysis of the King amendment by the Harvard Law School Animal Law & Policy Program produced a long, but not exhaustive, list of laws in every state that could be repealed by the EATS Act.

Sentient Media

These IBM Researchers Want To Test AI, Not Lab Animals

Veterinarian and visiting fellow at the Harvard Animal Law & Policy Program, Larry Carbone, says the new model has promise. “[It looks] exciting in that it builds on three kinds of data,” existing animal findings, in vitro lab tests and human clinical data.

7 NEWS Boston

Handled With Care? Live Baby Chickens Shipped in the Mail

“They’re not being treated as the living animals that they are,” said Professor Kristen A. Stilt, faculty director of the Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law and Policy Program at Harvard Law School.

Forbes

The Eats Act Jeopardizes Animal Welfare and Human Health

“The EATS Act could have a devastating effect on farms by eliminating infectious disease safeguards for livestock entering states like Iowa,” said Chris Green, Executive Director of the Animal Law & Policy Program at Harvard University.

The New York Times

Bird Flu Has Already Appeared in New York’s Animal Markets. What’s Next?

“We use and consume animals here at higher levels than almost any other country on Earth,” [Harvard’s Ann Linder said]. Yet there is little awareness of the dangers these markets may pose, even among federal officials, she added. Ms. Linder and her colleagues recently analyzed live animal markets in 15 countries, including the United States. Their study concluded that the markets posed “a serious and pressing threat to global health security” and that the regulations in place were “not proportional to risk.”

Sentient Media

200+ Members of Congress Now Oppose the EATS Act

Critics also point out the language of the bill, which is characterized as vague and far-reaching. Harvard Animal Law Executive Director Chris Green says the bill’s language is far too broad: “you’ve got three really key terms [that are] completely undefined. And then you have the fourth really key term defined so broadly as to include everything under the sun.”

Our Hen House

The EATS Act Is a “Race to the Bottom”

Do you try to keep up with animal-related legislation but sometimes find yourself wondering what it all means? This week we get some answers regarding the hugely important EATS Act and the effort to eradicate state animal welfare laws from Chris Green, Executive Director of the Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program at Harvard Law.

Harvard Gazette

Covid-19 Came From Animals. Why Aren’t We Working to Prevent New Scourge?

The Gazette spoke with the report’s lead author, Ann Linder, associate director of policy and research. Linder discussed the hidden dangers in the U.S. animal trade and what can be done to shore up the regulatory system.

Food Tank

Harvard and NYU Report Reveals Risk for Zoonotic Disease in U.S. Animal Markets

Harvard Law School and New York University recently released a report on Animal Markets and Zoonotic Disease in the United States.

NOTUS

The Biden Administration Promises It's Working Together on the Bird Flu

The systems to track spread in the U.S. are not robust across all animals, according to Ann Linder, a researcher at Harvard's animal law and policy program who has interviewed farmers and officials about disease tracking.

Sentient Media

Plans to Curb Meat and Dairy Emissions Have a Deadline, and It's Sooner Than You Think

According to Harvard's Animal Law Program, the report is the first of its kind to show a clear consensus among experts that reducing the production and consumption of meat must be a key element of any climate change strategy moving forward.

Food Processing

30 Law Professors Urge Congress To Oppose the EATS Act

"If Congress adopts the EATS Act or anything remotely like it—even if its proponents claim that they have significantly narrowed it in response to criticism—legislative and judicial chaos will ensue across the 50 states," said Kristen Stilt, professor of law at Harvard University's Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program. "The short text of the EATS Act belies the fact that it could strike thousands of pages of state laws that protect the health and welfare of the citizenry."

The Guardian

'Bewildering' to Omit Meat-Eating Reduction from UN Climate Plan

"It's very striking: the FAO doesn't include one of the clearest interventions that would help meet both environmental and health targets," said Cleo Verkuijl of the Stockholm Environment Institute US and a visiting fellow with the Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program at Harvard Law School.

Route Fifty

A GOP Bill Would Ban California's Pig Measure and Others Like It

Laws intended to prevent the spread of infectious diseases like avian influenza, or bird flu, "could be one of the most significant casualties," wrote the report's author, Kelley McGill, regulatory policy fellow with the Animal Law & Policy Program.

Nature Food

FAO's 1.5 Degree Roadmap for Food Systems Falls Short

The first installment of the FAO food systems roadmap is a key step in identifying pathways to achieve zero hunger without breaching the 1.5 °C climate change threshold. But future installments should be more methodologically transparent, emphasize the need to reduce animal-sourced food consumption and align with a holistic One Health approach, says Visiting Fellow Cleo Verkuijl.

The New York Times

Farm Animals Are Hauled All Over the Country. So Are Their Pathogens.

“But that’s only getting at a very small fraction of the problem,” said Ann Linder, an associate director at the Animal Law & Policy Program at Harvard Law School.

NOTUS

Mistrust Between Farmers and the Government is Jeopardizing Bird Flu Response

“Scientists and government officials critically need this data, and it’s important for broader public health. But all of those reasons may be less compelling to them now than they were four years ago when you’re talking about folks who’ve lost faith in those goals or institutions,” said Ann Linder, a researcher at Harvard’s animal law and policy program who has interviewed farmers and officials about disease tracking.

US News & World Report

U.S. Livestock, Pet Industries Pose Disease Threat to People

American industry engages in some of the same high-risk practices as other countries in keeping and selling commercial animals that have the potential for triggering outbreaks of disease among humans, a new report shows.

Devex

Is it Time for Rich Countries to Reduce Meat Consumption?

But the greenhouse gas emissions from the global food system alone make it impossible to prevent a 1.5 C rise, according to an alarming new report from the Animal Law & Policy Program at Harvard Law School.

FoodBev Media

Emissions from Livestock Sector Must Decline by 50% this Decade, Experts Warn

Helen Harwatt, who led the research as food and climate policy fellow at Harvard Law School, said that the results show that the livestock industry’s role in reducing emissions is “major and critical” and “should begin immediately,” adding that there is no “blanket approach or a one-size-fits-all countries.”

Food Manufacture

Livestock Emissions Must Decline 61% by 2036, Researchers Claim

Global emissions from livestock must fall 61% by 2036 in order for the goals of the Paris Agreement to be met, a new study has claimed.

USA Today

In Pandemic’s Shadow, Risk of Animal to Human Disease Spread Still High

A new report from Harvard Law School and New York University finds we’re not doing enough to prevent another animal-borne virus from becoming the next global pandemic. Researchers argued that simple policy changes could dramatically reduce the risk of such disease crossover.

India Times

The Next Covid-Like Pandemic Could Spring From The US Meat Supply, New Report Finds

While Americans often think “it couldn’t happen here,” regulations are so loose and interactions so frequent, researchers found that a virus or another contagious bug could easily jump from animals to people in the U.S., sparking a deadly outbreak, similar to that of COVID-19.

The Messenger

US Animal Trade Poses Significant Disease Risk for Humans, Report Says

A new report finds plenty of opportunity for animal diseases to leap to humans as a result of the US wildlife trade.

Phys.org

Zoonotic Disease Threats in the US Uncovered in Comprehensive New Report

The report states, far from being a problem that only exists elsewhere, many high-risk interactions between humans and animals that happen routinely and customarily inside the U.S. could spark future pandemics. All of the animal industries the report examines are far less regulated than they should be and far less than the public believes they currently are.

Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News

Eliminating Blind Spots in Pandemic Preparedness

“What is needed now is a fundamental restructuring of the regulatory regime and a strategy that can bring together the diverse and competing agencies that govern animal, human, and environmental health and break down the silos that divide them,” Linder says.

MedicalXpress

U.S. Livestock, Pet Industries Pose Disease Threat to People

Among the facts they unearthed were that the U.S. produces more than 10 billion land animals for food annually. Americans also raise more pigs and poultry than nearly any other country, Linder said.

Mint

Another Covid-like Pandemic in US? What Report Reveals

Ann Linder, one of the report’s lead authors said, “There really is this false sense of security and unfounded belief that zoonotic disease is something that happens elsewhere. In fact, I think we’re more vulnerable than ever in many ways.”

Hindustan Times

Covid-style Pandemic Could Easily Start in US from Meat Supply: Report

The report...highlighted several areas of vulnerability, including commercial farms where millions of livestock come into close contact with each other and their handlers.

Utah Public Radio

UnDisciplined: The US is Not Prepared for the Dangers of Zoonotic Diseases

Diseases that spread from animals to humans account for about 75% of new and emerging infectious illnesses. And industrial agriculture is where a lot of this happens. But there is no national strategy, let alone a global one to mitigate the dangers.

Physicians Weekly

U.S. Livestock, Pet Industries Pose Disease Threat to People

The United States also “has no comprehensive strategy” to mitigate the dangers, and these practices often happen out of view and without regulation, the report said. About 60 percent of infectious diseases are zoonotic.





PROGRAM EVENTS

Each year the Animal Law & Policy Program hosts a series of lectures, discussions, and other events exploring critical and emerging questions relevant to the field of Animal Law. These events bring experts to HLS and draw large audiences of students, faculty, staff, and members of the Cambridge and Boston communities. Given the career paths of our students, we know that our events are providing future leaders of the world important and inspiring talks and lessons.

October 5, 2023

Tom Regan Memorial Lecture

“The Philosophy of Animal Rights: A Way of Life or Religion?” was this year’s Annual Tom Regan Memorial Lecture, given by University of Nevada Philosophy Professor Cheryl Abbate. The respondent was Dale Jamieson, New York University’s Professor Emeritus of Environmental Studies; Director, **Center for Environmental and Animal Protection**; Affiliated Professor of Law, Medical Ethics, and Bioethics; Founding Director of Environmental Studies Program; and former Chair of the Environmental Studies Department, and Professor of Philosophy. The talk, open to the general public and Harvard affiliates, was followed by a Q&A and vegan lunch. The Annual Tom Regan Memorial Lecture celebrates the life and thought of philosopher, animal advocate, and **Culture & Animals Foundation** (CAF) co-founder **Tom Regan**, who died in February 2017.

March 25-29, 2024***Animal Law Week***

- **Monday, March 25, 2024** – *Labor Rights and Animal Ag*, presented by Magaly Licolli, Executive Director and Co-founder of Venceremos. Moderated by ALPP Visiting Fellow Amanda Hitt. This event was co-sponsored by the Labor Employment Action Project.
- **Tuesday, March 26, 2024** – *Winning for Farmed Animals in the Corporate World*, presented by Josh Balk, Co-founder and CEO of The Accountability Project, and Jayasimha Nuggehalli, Co-founder and COO of Global Food Partners. Moderated by Nirva Patel, Executive Director of the Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program at HLS.
- **Wednesday, March 27, 2024** – *Careers in Animal Law*, presented by Mary Hollingsworth, Director of the Animal Law & Policy Clinic, HLS; Nirva Patel, Executive Director of the Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program, HLS; and Alicia Rodriguez (HLS '15), Adjunct Professor of Law, Brooklyn Law School. Moderated by Professor Kristen Stilt, Faculty Director of the Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law and Policy Program at HLS.
- **Thursday, March 28, 2024** – *Introduction to Veganism, Speciesism and Collective Liberation*, presented by Christopher “Soul” Eubanks, Founder of APEX Advocacy. Moderated by HLS student Lla Anderson.
- **Friday March 29, 2024** – *How the Endangered Species Act Remains Our Most Powerful Tool for Wild Animal Protection – A Practitioner’s Perspective*, presented by Elizabeth Forsyth (HLS '11), Senior Attorney at Earthjustice. Moderated by HLS student Shashank Vura.

May 10, 2024***Lunch Event with Philosopher Paula Casal***

ALPP hosted a lunch event with philosopher Paula Casal, where she discussed nonhuman animal persons and their rights. Is a person a kind of animal? How have the features associated with personhood evolved in very different species? How do these features alter the moral rights an individual or group may have? Paula Casal is an ICREA Professor at the Law Department of Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona). She was previously a Lecturer and a Reader in Moral and Political Philosophy at Reading University (2004-08), and a Lecturer at Keele University (1996-2004). She was also a Fellow in Ethics at Harvard University (1999-2000), Keele Junior Research Fellow, also at Harvard (2000-01), Hoover Fellow at Université Catholique de Louvain (2001-02), and Leverhulme Research Fellow at Oxford University (2002-04). Her work has appeared in journals such as *Ethics, Economics and Philosophy, Journal of Moral Philosophy, Journal of Political Philosophy, Political Studies, and Utilitas*. She is also the President of the Great Ape Project-Spain and Co-Director of the UPF Centre for Animal Ethics.

April 15, 2024

Tom Regan Memorial Lecture

2024's Annual Tom Regan Memorial Lecture was given by ALPP Visiting Fellow Dinesh Wadiwel. The respondent was Lori Gruen, William Griffin Professor of Philosophy at Wesleyan University, and the talk, open to the general public and Harvard affiliates, was followed by a Q&A and vegan lunch. Wadiwel's lecture addressed Tom Regan's important articulation of animal rights expressed the inherent value of all beings who are "subjects-of-a-life" (1983). Wadiwel argues this ethical commitment is completely at odds with capitalism as an economic system, where use values and exchange values replace every other form of value. "Capitalism's quest for the overproduction of commodities in order to generate profits has had horrifying consequences for animal life on the planet. The animal rights movements have sought solutions to this contradiction by seeking legal protections for animals and encouraging consumers to make decisions that recognize the inherent value of animal life." In his lecture, Wadiwel argues that these strategies do not go far enough in dealing with the structural causes of mass exploitation of animals, and that we need a broader conception of animal rights that encompasses economic and social rights that are able to imagine the kind of societies that might enable flourishing for both human and nonhuman life. He highlights an important trajectory of the animal rights project, one that was arguably envisaged by Regan, for societal transformation.



ANIMAL LAW & POLICY WORKSHOP SERIES

During the academic year, the Program held Animal Law & Policy Workshops in which up to two dozen academic colleagues convened both in person and via Zoom to review and critique drafts of our faculty and fellows' scholarship in progress. Experts in the subject matter of each topic participated along with the Program's faculty, staff, visiting affiliates, HLS SJD and LLM students, and Harvard University graduate students. We also welcomed the JD Student Board of the Harvard Animal Law Society to participate, along with others from outside the immediate Harvard community.

The authors and topics covered in this year's Workshop Series included:

September 12, 2023

Daina Bray & Thomas Poston (Yale)

"The Methane Majors: Climate Change and Animal Agriculture in U.S. Courts"

September 26, 2023

M.H. Tse

"Predation: A Legal Architecture of Human Systems of Violence"

October 10, 2023

Bonnie Nadzam

"Ethics in the Anthropocene: Delusion, Loss, and Immeasurable Joy"

October 24, 2023

Rebecca Shen

"Sanctuary State: California's Cowscape in Transition"

November 28, 2023

Cleo Verkuijl

"Animal Welfare and UN Sustainable Development Policy"

December 8, 2023

Visa Kurki (Helsinki Animal Law Centre)

“What is Dignity in Animal Law?”

February 7, 2024

Kristen Stilt & Macarena Montes

“Right of Nature”

February 28, 2024

Silvina Pezzetta

“Barking up the Wrong Tree: What If We Were Not Paying Attention to the Real Obstacle to Animal Rights Recognition”

March 6, 2024

Amanda Hitt

“Working with Whistleblowers: The Truth about Troubling Trouble”

March 20, 2024

Cleo Verkuil

“Towards a Global Ban on Factory Farming by 2050: Legal Basis, Precedents and Principles for Ending Industrial Agriculture”

April 3, 2024

Pamela Frasch

“Animals and the Artist: The Ethics and Law of Using Animals When Creating Works in the Visual and Performing Arts”

April 17, 2024

Peter Li

“China’s Dog Meat Trade: Zeroing in on a Legal and Political Quagmire”

April 24, 2024

Dinesh Wadiwel

“Animals and the Concept of the Rule of Law”

May 1, 2024

Alex Blanchette

“The Biology of Dignity: Connecting Labor Unionization and American Hog Life”

May 8, 2024

Carlos Contreras Lopez

“The Whistleblower”

May 15, 2024

Amanda Hitt

“Working with Whistleblowers”

“ The ALPP workshop is the kind of hub for open, generous, creative, and rigorous debates that every scholar dreams about. ”

My work continues to benefit from the conversations and criticisms hashed out around the ALPP workshop table and from being part of the incredibly diverse community of ALPP researchers, practitioners, and scholars that the ALPP attracts from around the world. From this environment and during my program, I authored a chapter, *Animals as Property*, for the *Oxford Handbook of Global Animal Law* and an essay on human domestic predation for the *Alaska Quarterly Review*, both of which will be published in 2024. From my first visit to Professor Stilt’s Animal Law class as a prospective student to the day of my graduation and after, I have felt truly supported and enriched by the staff, fellows, and faculty of the ALPP at Harvard Law School. My engagement with the ALPP has been crucial to my development as a scholar.

— **M.H. Tse**

Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Toronto





STUDENTS, ADVISING, AND PLACEMENT

ALPP plays a role in the lives of HLS students in many ways, from offering courses to providing hands-on teaching and guidance in the clinic, to career advising. We offer career advice and mentorship to our students who seek to work in the area of animal law and policy, whether full time or on a pro bono basis from a position in a law firm. Season after season, there are more Harvard graduates doing just that, and every year we offer advice and support to launch them in the field.

“I have been fortunate enough to be selected as a 2024-2026 Equal Justice Works Fellow, sponsored by California ChangeLawyers and an anonymous sponsor. I will be carrying out my fellowship at Legal Impact for Chickens, an organization founded by 2016 Harvard Law School graduate Alene Anello to advocate for animal welfare through the use of strategic civil litigation. My Equal Justice Works fellowship involves researching and exploring litigation opportunities at the intersection of workers’ rights and animal rights. I likely would not have found myself gravitating towards the urgent issue area of factory farming if not for the entire Harvard Animal Law & Policy Program (ALPP) and clinic community, which nurtured me as a developing lawyer and scholar and provided a robust animal law curriculum and clinical experience, as well as invaluable opportunities for friendship and social support.”

— **Isabella Nilsson**
HLS Class of 2024

“ALPP’s resources, mentorship, and curriculum are the future of the movement.”

My time in the Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program – and the Animal Law & Policy Clinic – were the very best experiences I had in law school. What I love the most about the program is how interdisciplinary and intersectional the work is. Animal Law—as a relatively new standalone area of the law – is inherently intersectional and multidisciplinary. Not only do you have to consider ecosystems as with environmental law, but animal law also asks questions about nonhuman animals’ inherent worth and dignity. Animal Law brings in so many different areas of the law through a lens of compassion and reverence for the natural world. The result is fascinating legal work, enriching and complex course material, and a community of people dedicated to changing the status quo. I was pushed to think outside the four corners of the law and imagine what the law could be or even ought to be.

Each of my experiences in the program enhanced my understanding of the law and the world around me. Through the clinic I helped draft comments to support nondiscriminatory cultivated meat labeling, wrote comprehensive memos on complex issues of constitutional law, and lobbied Congress to include cephalopods within the definition of “animal” for laboratory research. As the Co-President of the Animal Law Society, I was able to host numerous panels and events dedicated to incorporating questions of Animal Law into seemingly unrelated areas of the law.

The mentorship and guidance I received through ALPP reshaped my personal and professional goals. I have never felt a calling so strongly. While I began my career in BigLaw, I very quickly pivoted back into Animal Law and have just joined the Center for Food Safety as an Associate.

— *Asha Ramakumar*
HLS Class of 2023





Jo-Anne McArthur / We Animals

SCHOLARLY WORK, PUBLICATIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

Beyond facilitating the scholarship of others in the ANIMAL Law and policy community, the Animal Law & Policy Program’s faculty, staff, Visiting Fellows, and Visiting Researchers further conducted academic research, produced published scholarship, and presented publicly on a wide variety of ANIMAL Law and policy topics. Highlights from that work are summarized below.

Alex Blanchette

Works in Progress

- “Understanding the Roles of Economy and Society in Relative Risks of Zoonotic Emergence,” co-authored with Steve Hinchcliffe and others. (Under review at *Royal Society Open Science*).
- “Off-Animals, Sweated Life, and the Growth of Social Orders in the Industrial Pig” (a book chapter, under review with University of Helsinki Press).
- “Aesthetic Fencing: Rethinking Biosecurity from Chicago’s Bubbly Creek” (book chapter, under review with University of Helsinki Press).
- “Labor and Care for the ‘Objects’ of Production” (encyclopedia entry, under review with *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia in Food Studies, 1st Edition*).

Papers, Presentations, Panels

- Panel discussion of “The Smell of Money,” Tufts Friedman School of Nutrition, March 2024.
- “The Biology of Dignity,” Keynote for American Empire, Extraction, and the Environment Conference, The University of Chicago, April 2024.
- “The Biology of Dignity,” Presentation for the Sheffield Animal Studies Research Center, April 2024.
- “Industrial Animal Agriculture in the Polycrisis Era,” Keynote Discussion with Christina Hicks, Critical Research on Industrial Livestock Systems Conference, Royal Veterinary College London, April 2024.
- Lead Organizer for “Data and the Work Economy,” the 2024 joint meeting of the Society for Economy Anthropology and Society for the Anthropology of Work, Tufts University, April 2024.

- “Off-Animals, Sweated Life, and the Growth of Social Orders in the Industrial Pig,” Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program Workshop, May 2024.
- “Off-Animals, Sweated Life, and the Growth of Social Orders in the Industrial Pig,” STS-Food and Agriculture Network workshop, May 2024.
- “Animals and Capital,” a conversation with Dinesh Wadiwel for the Marxist Education Project, May 2024.
- “The Biology of Dignity,” Oxford University Anthropology Colloquium, May 2024.

Guest Lectures

- Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, University of Ottawa, February 2024.
- Capitalism and Nature, University of California Davis, February 2024.
- Environment, Capital, and Labor, Central European University, March 2024.
- Masters in Animals & Public Policy Animals & Society Course, April 2024.

Grants & Awards

- “Social Implications of Cellular Meat on the Beef Sector,” Research Grant for the USDA-AFRI Program.
- “The University in the Environmental Commons,” Programming Grant for the Mellon Foundation Higher Learning Program (under final review).

Che Gossett

Book Chapters

- Gossett, Che. “The Art(s) of Ecstasy: Black Trans Art in the Afterlife of Slavery,” *Trans Philosophy*. eds. Perry Zurn, Andrea J. Pitts, Talia Mae Bettcher, and PJ DiPietro, University of Minnesota Press, 2024.

Articles

- Gossett, Che. “The Dark Sublime: Abolition and Aesthetics at the End of the World.” *Transition* 135.1 (2023): 200-214.

Works in Progress

- Co-editing with Yale University Professor Tavia Nyong’o, special issue of *Social Text* journal, on Sylvia Wynter, culture and technics, forthcoming in 2025.

Pamela Frasch

Works in Progress

- “Compassion and Justice: The Global Imperative of Animal Law Education,” *The Oxford Handbook on Global Animal Law*, eds. Anne Peters, Kristen Stilt, and Saskia Stucki. Forthcoming Oxford University Press.
- With Sonia Waisman, Bruce Wagman and Ann Linder. *Animal Law, Cases and Materials 7th Edition*, Carolina Academic Press, 2025.
- “Art, Life, and Art That Mirrors Human Destruction of Life” (article in progress).

Papers, Presentations, Panels

- “Animals at the United Nations: Sustainable Development and Climate Goals,” with Daina Bray, 31st Annual Animal Law Conference in Los Angeles, California October 22, 2023.
- “Animal Law Education: Building a Sustainable Infrastructure,” Birmingham City University, Animal Law Conference, May 29, 2024.
- “A Cruel Canvas: Exploring the Ethical Implications of Animal Exploitation in the Arts,” University of Helsinki, June 5, 2024.
- “The Art of Compassion: William Hogarth’s Satirical Crusade for Animal Kindness,” Oxford Animal Ethics Summer School, August 2024.

Guest Lectures

- “Fundamentals of Animal Law and Why Legal Protection of Nonhuman Animals is Essential For a Modern Society,” guest lecture in Professor Peter Li’s Political Science and Public Policy Seminar at the University of Houston, October 4, 2023.
- “Animal Protection Implications of the US Supreme Court case *US v. Stevens*,” guest lecture in the Animal Law Reading Course at Yale Law School, February 5, 2024.

Teaching

- “On the History, Law, and Policies of Humane Education in the United States,” Co-led with Professor David Dockterman (HGSE), three discussions at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, February 2024.
- “Animal Law Seminar,” full semester course at New York University Law School, Spring 2024.
- “Animal Law Fundamentals,” two 13-week full semester online courses for LLM students at Lewis & Clark Law School, Fall 2023 and Spring 2024.

Rebecca Garverman

Works in Progress

- “Case Note: *National Pork Producers Council v. Ross*,” *The Oxford Handbook on Global Animal Law*, eds. Anne Peters, Kristen Stilt, and Saskia Stucki. Forthcoming Oxford University Press.

Papers, Presentations, Panels

- *Gescheidt v. Haaland*, Case No. 23-15580, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals oral argument, April 1, 2024.
- “Oh Deer! The Case of the Trapped Tomales Point Tule Elk,” Harvard Law School Association Animal Law & Policy Network and the Harvard Alumni in Animal Health, April 24, 2024.

Amanda Hitt

Works in Progress

- Book Project “Fools and Horses”

Papers, Presentations, Panels

- Panel: Career Connections: Competition and Antitrust in Agricultural Law, November 1, 2023.
- Panel: Animal Welfare and Climate Change: Greenwashing and Humanewashing. Northwestern School of Law, March 29, 2024.
- Panel: Animal Law Week: Labor Rights and Animal Ag, Harvard Law School, March 25, 2024.

Guest Lectures

- Animal and Food Law Policy, Northwestern School of Law, October 25, 2023.
- Animal Law Clinic, Harvard Law School, November 15, 2023.



“I’m grateful for the time and space afforded by the ALPP fellowship to explore the many ways that international governance can be enhanced to better account for animal welfare and One Health.” — Cleo Verkuijl, Visiting Fellow

Peter J. Li

Publications

- Lauber, Kathrin, Viveca Morris, Matthew Hayek, Jennifer Jacquet, Peter Li, Ina Moller, Silvia Secchi, Alex Wijeratna. “The Animal Agriculture Industry’s Role in Obstructing Climate Action,” *First Global Assessment of Climate Obstruction*, Oxford University Press, 2025.
- “Dog and Cat Meat Trade,” *Elgar Concise Encyclopedias in Law*, (2024).

Op-Ed Pieces

- Peter Li. “In Africa, China needs donkey diplomacy,” *South China Morning Post*, February 29, 2024.

Works in Progress

- Peter Li and Dinah Cohen-Vernik, “Rethinking China’s Wildlife Consumption Drivers: Survey-based Analysis and Policy Implications,” *Society & Animals* (under review).
- Peter Li and Sun Jiang, “Dog Meat Trade, Social Conflicts and Legal Solutions: The Case of Korea’s Dog Meat Sales Ban,” *New Security* (China) (under review).
- “Is Meat Consumption Indispensable for Food Security?” (article in progress)
- “Animal law and food production in China,” *Research Handbook on Animal Law and Animal Rights*, Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.
- Panda Diplomacy and China’s Soft Power Construction (a book project)
- “Dogs and Dog Meat Sales: The Legality of a Controversial Trade in China” (article in progress)

Papers, Presentations, Panels, Media Interviews

- “The ‘Korean traditional food’ claim and ‘legal’ dog slaughter in Jilin of China?” panel on the “Local Slaughter Regulation under the Law of Legislation” co-hosted by the Legal Scholars Forum and Central China University of Finance, Economics and Law, March 26, 2024.
- “Denying Graduate School Admission to a Cat Torturer,” *Global Insights of Hong Kong’s Phoenix TV*, April 10, 2024.
- Personal Interview on a Chinese zoo reportedly displaying “panda dogs” and the legal implications, *BBC News*, May 11, 2024.

Guest Lectures

- “Animal Law in China: Challenges & Opportunities,” University of Texas at Austin, School of Law, March 7, 2024.
- “China, Wildlife and Politics,” Choate Rosemary Hall High School, New York City, May 21, 2024.

Ann Linder

Publications

- Ann Linder and Bonnie Nadzam. “A Dangerous Game of Chicken,” *Orion Magazine*, September 6, 2023.
- Ann Linder. “The Pandemic Potential of U.S. Animal Markets,” *MedPage Today*, August 12, 2023.
- Ann Linder. “Foreword,” *International Chamber of Commerce Report on Public Health Threats (with support from London Politica)*, December 12, 2023.
- “Regrets of a Snake Wrangler,” essay, forthcoming in *Alaska Quarterly Review*, Fall 2024.

Articles

- Ann Linder, Caio Graco Zeppelini, Ianei Carneiro de Oliveira, Poliana Mascarenhas de Abreu, Romulo Romeu Nóbrega Alves, and Federico Costa. “Wildlife as Food and Medicine in Brazil: A Neglected Zoonotic Risk?” *Pathogens* 13, no. 3(2024): 222.

Reports

- Ann Linder, Valerie McCarthy, Bonnie Nadzam, Kristen Stilt, Dale Jamieson, and Chris Green. “Animal Mar-

kets and Zoonotic Disease in the United States,” Harvard Law School’s Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program, July 2023.

- Ann Linder, Bonnie Nadzam, Dale Jamieson, Kristen Stilt, and Valerie McCarthy. “Animal Markets, Their Sources, and Zoonotic Disease Risk: Global Synthesis Report of a 15 Country Study,” Harvard Law School’s Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program, July 2024.

Works in Progress

- “Science and Animal Law,” *The Oxford Handbook on Global Animal Law*, eds. Anne Peters, Kristen Stilt, and Saskia Stucki. Forthcoming Oxford University Press.
- “Leveraging Viruses for the Treatment of Viral Diseases and Cancer: Improving Host Fitness with Combinations of Virus and Host Genes,” book chapter, Elsevier Publishing, forthcoming winter 2024.

Papers, Presentations, Panels

- “Animal Markets and Zoonotic Disease in the United States,” Yale Law School, November 16, 2023.
- “Congressional Response: The EATS Act and Other Efforts to Negate State-level Progress for Farmed Animals,” Animal Legal Defense Fund’s Animal Law Symposium, April 6, 2024.
- “Animal Industries and Zoonotic Disease Risk in the United States,” New York Bar Association, March 26, 2024.
- “The Black Man’s Dog: A Discussion about the Social Context of Breed Specific Legislation,” University of Missouri Kansas City, April 18, 2024.
- “CAFOs and Zoonotic Disease Threats,” Stanford Law School, April 16, 2024.

Guest Lectures and Podcasts

- Guest lecture at Oklahoma City University School of Law, September 19, 2023.
- “Hidden Health Hazards: How U.S. Animal Industries Could Spark the Next Pandemic,” Solpods Podcasts, Earth Heroes, January 19, 2024.
- “The US is Not Prepared for the Dangers of Zoonotic Diseases,” Undisciplined Podcast Utah Public Radio, July 27, 2023.
- “Unveiling Hidden Health Threats : Zoonotic Diseases and the US Food Supply,” Podcasts- HealthCall Live, August 26, 2023.

Teaching

- Co-Course Director, Animal Law Course, Tufts University Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, Fall 2023.

Carlos Andrés Contreras López

Book Chapters

- Carlos Andrés Contreras López. “Perspectives on the Recognition of Animal Sentience in Spain,” in *The Legal Recognition of Animal Sentience: Principles, Approaches and Applications*, ed. Jane Kotzmann, M B Rodriguez Ferrere, New York: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2024.

Articles

- Carlos Andrés Contreras López. “Beyond the Cage: A Journey through Translation, Connection, and the Impact of Steve Wise’s Rattling the Cage,” *DALPS Derecho Animal-Animal Legal and Policy Studies* 1, 2024.

Works in Progress

- “The New Animal Welfare Law” article forthcoming in *Métode Science Studies Journal*, January 2025, co-authored with Macarena Montes Franceschini.
- “The Whistleblower,” nonfiction book manuscript.
- Carlos Andrés Contreras López and Macarena Montes Franceschini. “Case Note: Habeas Corpus for the great apes Sandra and Cecilia (Argentina),” *The Oxford Handbook on Global Animal Law*, eds. Anne Peters, Kristen Stilt, and Saskia Stucki. Forthcoming Oxford University Press.

Papers, Presentations, Panels

- Respondent to Maneesha Deckha’s “Animalization and Dehumanization Concerns: Another Psychological Barrier to Animal Law Reform,” Barcelona Bar Association, April 24, 2024.
- “Global Perspectives on Animal Experimentation; The *Vivotecnia* Case,” Toronto University, Animal Law Conference, Sept 29 – Oct 1, 2023.
- “From Ecosystems to Animals: Examining Three Watershed Cases and Bridging the Rights of Nature and its Inhabitants,” Michigan State University, New Legal Perspectives: The Synergy of Law and Science to Protect the Rights of Nature, Sept 14, 2023.

Guest Lectures

- Specialization Course in Animal Law, Barcelona Bar Association (ICAB), Nov 9, 2023.
- “Exploring Animal Law and Advocacy: Personal Experiences, Challenges, and Career Opportunities,” Symbiosis Law School, Pune. October 26, 2023.
- Animal Law, Michigan State University College of Law, Sept. 13, 2023.
- Animal Law and Policy Class, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, April 13, 2023.

Rachel Mathews**Blog Posts**

- “Rodenticides Are Killing Massachusetts Wildlife; Will Authorities Step Up?” ALPP Webpage, May 13, 2024.
- “Harvard Law School Clinic Calls for End to Use of Cruel Traps in Connecticut,” ALPP Blog, April 11, 2024.
- “Ninth Circuit Orders Park Service to Report on Progress of Point Reyes Elk Plan,” ALPP Blog, April 03, 2024.
- “Clinic Talks Manatees at Tufts Vet School,” ALPP Blog, Jan. 25, 2024.
- “Progress in the Fight to Protect Cephalopods Used in Research in the U.S.,” ALPP Blog, Sept. 11, 2023.
- “Cultural Practitioners, Marine Wildlife Advocates Succeed in Shutting Octopus Petting Zoo, ALPP Blog, Aug. 22, 2023.

Papers, Presentations, Panels

- “Manatees and the Endangered Species Act ,” Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, Tufts Wildlife, Aquatics, Zoo and Exotic Medicine, Jan. 25, 2024.

Guest Lectures

- Dr. Martha Smith-Blackmore’s Law & Veterinary Medicine course, Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, November 30, 2023.

Kelley McGill**Reports**

- “Legislative Analysis of S.2019 / H.R.4417: The ‘Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression Act,’” Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program at Harvard Law School, 2023.
- “Brooks 2023 United States Year-in-Review Compendium,” Brooks Institute for Animal Rights Law & Policy, Inc. and Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program at Harvard Law School (with Bonnie Nadzam, Carney Anne Nasser, and Kristen Stilt) 2024.

Works in Progress

- “The Regulation of Cultivated Meat: An Exploration of Emerging Approaches Around the World,” The Oxford Handbook on Global Animal Law, eds. Anne Peters, Kristen Stilt, and Saskia Stucki. Forthcoming Oxford University Press.

Panel

- “Congressional Response: The EATS Act and Other Efforts to Negate State-level Progress for Farmed Animals,” Animal Law Symposium 2024: State Confinement Laws and the Future of Farmed Animal Policy, panel event hosted by The Animal Legal Defense Fund, April 6, 2024.

Regulatory Comments

- Comment on Docket No. FSIS-2022-0015, “Voluntary Labeling of FSIS-Regulated Products with U.S.-Origin Claims” (rule proposed on March 13, 2023), submitted to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, June 7, 2023.
- Comment on Docket No. FDA-2023-D-0451, “Labeling of Plant-based Milk Alternatives and Voluntary Nutrient Statements; Draft Guidance for Industry,” submitted to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, April 24, 2023.
- Joint comment on “Request for Information (RFI) on Proposed Guidance to Assured Institutions on Cephalopod Care and Use,” submitted to the National Institutes of Health (drafted with Hallie Aylesworth, Jonathan Smith, the Humane Society of the United States, and the Humane Society Legislative Fund), December 22, 2023.
- Testimony on “Proposed Amendments to Chapter 13-74, Hawaii Administrative Rules, ‘License and Permit Provisions and Fees for Fishing, Fish, and Fish Products,’” submitted to the Division of Aquatic Resources, Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, October 13, 2023.

Macarena Montes Franceschini**Book Chapters**

- Macarena Montes Franceschini and Paula Casal. “Fatal Attractions: The Ethics of Persuasion in the Animal-Based Entertainment Industry,” in *Animal Suffering and Public Relations: The Ethics of Persuasion in the Animal-Industrial Complex*, ed. Núria Almiron, London: Routledge, 2023.

Articles

- Macarena Montes Franceschini. “Revolución judicial en Latinoamérica: animales no humanos como personas” *Revista Cultural* 142, 17 (2023), 64–65.

Amicus Briefs

- Kristen Stilt, Carlos Contreras and Macarena Montes. “Observaciones a la solicitud de opinión consultiva sobre emergencia climática y derechos humanos a la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos presentada por la República de Chile y la República de Colombia,” Amicus curiae, Interamerican Court of Human Rights, 2024.

Works in Progress

- “El lenguaje especista en el derecho,” (book chapter, forthcoming in 2024).
- “Naturalized Rights of Animals, Animalized Rights of Nature,” co-authored with Kristen Stilt, forthcoming in the *Stanford Environmental Law Journal*.

Papers, Presentations, Panels

- “Personalidad jurídica de los animales en Latinoamérica,” Instituto Distrital de Protección y Bienestar Animal, III Conferencia de Derecho Animal, June 9, 2023.
- “Animal Rights and the Rights of Nature,” with Kristen Stilt, Harvard University, Aspire, July 19, 2023.
- “Animal Law Career Talk,” University of Denver, Sturm College of Law, Sept. 13, 2023.
- “Animal Rights and the Rights of Nature: The Case of Woolly Monkey Estrellita,” Michigan State University College of Law, New Legal Perspectives: The Synergy of Law and Science to Protect the Rights of Nature Conference, Sept. 14, 2023.
- “Woolly Monkey Estrellita: The Case that Linked the Rights of Nature and Animal Rights,” George Washington University, Earth Law Symposium, Sept. 15, 2023.
- “Rights of Nature as a Path to Animal Rights,” with Kristen Stilt, University of Toronto, Canadian Animal Law Conference, Sept. 30, 2023.

- “Avanzando los derechos de los animales a través de los derechos de la naturaleza,” Central University and Atacama University of Chile, VIII Animal Law Colloquium, Oct. 10, 2023.
- “Rights of Nature and Rights of Animals,” with Kristen Stilt, Yale Law School, Law, Ethics & Animals Speaker Series, Nov. 2, 2023.
- “Are There Any Animal Rights?” Queen Mary University of London, Talk Series Fundamental Rights for Non-Humans: Foundations, Faults, and Future, Nov. 17, 2023.
- “Protección jurídica para los grandes simios en España”, Asociación Parlamentaria de Defensa de los Derechos de los Animales (APDDA), Spanish Parliament, May 24, 2024.

Guest Lectures

- Animal Law Summer School, with Kristen Stilt, University of Antwerp, July 7, 2023.
- Animal Law, Michigan State University College of Law, Sept. 12, 2023.
- In the Reweaving Ourselves and the World: New Perspectives on Climate Change course, Professor Rebecca Henderson, Harvard Business School/Harvard Kennedy School, April 15, 2024 (with Kristen Stilt).
- Animal Law, with Kristen Stilt, Harvard Law School, April 16, 2024.

Bonnie Nadzam

Publications

- Bonnie Nadzam and Ann Linder. “A Dangerous Game of Chicken,” *Orion Magazine*, September 6, 2023.
- Bonnie Nadzam. “Storytelling in the Anthropocene,” *Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science* 59(1), 178–94, 2024.
- Guest Editor, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, Summer/Fall 2024.

Reports

- Ann Linder, Valerie McCarthy, Bonnie Nadzam, Kristen Stilt, Dale Jamieson, and Chris Green. “Animal Markets and Zoonotic Disease in the United States,” Harvard Law School’s Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program, July 2023.
- Ann Linder, Bonnie Nadzam, Kristen Stilt, Dale Jamieson and Valerie McCarthy. “Animal Markets, Their Sources, and Zoonotic Disease Risk: Global Synthesis Report of a 15 Country Study,” Harvard Law School’s Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program, July 2024.
- *Brooks 2023 United States Year-in-Review Compendium*, compilation, Brooks Institute for Animal Rights Law & Policy, Inc. and Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program at Harvard Law School (with Bonnie Nadzam, Carney Anne Nasser, and Kristen Stilt) (2024).

Works in Progress

- “Buddhism and Animals,” *The Oxford Handbook on Global Animal Law*, eds. Anne Peters, Kristen Stilt, and Saskia Stucki. Forthcoming Oxford University Press.
- Storytelling & Interbeing: Narrative Ethics in the Anthropocene (book manuscript).

Guest Lectures

- “Ethics, Narrative and the Pluriverse,” Guest Speaker, Institute for Religion in an Age of Science, Star Island, NH, June 2023.
- “What it Means to Be Human in an Age of Extinction: Grief, Loss, and Joy”, Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, November 2023.

Nirva Patel

Articles

- Nirva Patel. “Compassion for All Creatures,” Boston University, *ENGINEER*, Spring 2024.

- Arthi Kannan, Apoorva, Shreya Padukone, and Vivek Mukherjee with additional research and editing by Jayasimha Nugehalli, Nirva Patel and Shashank Vura. “Animal Markets and Zoonotic Disease in India,” Harvard Law School’s Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program, July 2024.

Works in Progress

- “Legislative History of Animal-Based Research,” Moving Toward Non-Animal Approaches in Medical Research and Testing, Elsevier Publishing, forthcoming 2025.
- “Jainism,” The Oxford Handbook on Global Animal Law, eds. Anne Peters, Kristen Stilt, and Saskia Stucki. Forthcoming Oxford University Press.

Papers, Presentations, Panels

- “Strategies for High Impact Films in the Vegan Movement,” 2nd China Vegan Summit, Nov. 17, 2023.
- “Animals, Advocacy and Fur Bans,” Study Weekend, Harvard University Center for Hellenic Studies, Naplio, Greece, June 14, 2024.
- “Animals & Advocacy,” Jain Student Delegation at Harvard Law School, June 12, 2024.
- “Animals & Advocacy,” Weston Council on Aging, Feb. 8, 2024.
- Moderator, Food For Thought Festival, Harvard University, April 12, 2024.

Guest Lectures

- “Animal Welfare Act (AWA): Animals in Research: A case study on experiments at Harvard Medical School,” Harvard Law School, March 5, 2024.
- “Advocacy for Animals at Harvard Law School,” The Salata Institute for Climate and Sustainability, The Great Food Transformation: Food Systems and Politics, April 16, 2024.
- “Advocacy in the Animal Rights Movement,” Purdue University, April 4, 2024.

Silvina Pezzetta

Articles

- Silvina Pezzetta. “Bienestar animal y derechos de los animales.Regulación y jurisprudencia argentinas,” *Revista Ius et Praxis*, Vol. 30, N°. 1, 141-159, 2024.

Podcast Interviews and Social Media

- Silvina Pezzetta. “Rechazando el especismo...” ECA Podcast, Maria R. Carreras. March 12, 2023.
- Silvina Pezzetta. “Hay Que Regular La Inteligencia Artificial Para Que No Sea Discriminatoria Con Los Animales.” *Animalados*. April 25, 2024.
- Content creation <https://www.instagram.com/eticaanimal/> for the Dissemination of Animal Law and Ethics (11.3K).
- Etolog Podcast, by Med. Vet. Erika Reimmers et al., Spotify, forthcoming Fall 2024.

Works in Progress

- “Argentina: between animal rights and animal farming intensification,” (English) forthcoming in *Revista Derecho GV*.
- “Animals as Subjects or Citizens: Can Animals Have Rights Without,” (English) forthcoming in *Derecho Animal, Forum of Animal Law Studies*.
- “Animal Rights in the Meat Country. What Can We Learn from Argentina” (book, introduction and two draft chapters finished, in English, publisher to be found).

Presentations, Panels, Interviews

- “The advance of industrial livestock farming in LATAM. Presentation of the Tiny Beam report,” Seminar on November 22, 2023, Peru. Organized by attorney Marcia Govinda and a Culture & Animals Foundation grant. Nov. 22, 2023.
- Invited panelist of the international seminar on animal law. “Exploring the foundations of the progressive animal rights Argentinean case law,” International Seminar on Animal Law, Animal Law Center, University of Helsinki, November 29, 2023.

- “Is There a Latin American Veganism? EA, AW, and Ars.” Organized by Círculo de Estudios Antiespecistas, May 11, 2024.

Guest Lecturers

- Teri School of Advanced Studies, New Delhi, Feb 2024.
- Costa Rica University, Cátedra de Filosofía, May, 2024.
- In the Jean Monnet Program, Milano-Bicocca University, Dec 2024.

Editorial Activity

- “Towards the end of human exceptionality: multidisciplinary views on the animal question,” *Astrolabio*: 33. July 2024.

Kristen Stilt

Articles

- Kristen Stilt. “War is Peace,” Review of Saskia Stucki, *Animal Welfare Law and the Need for an Animal Law of Peace: A Comparative Reconstruction*, 20 *The American Journal of Comparative Law* 1-45 (2023), Jotwell, November 10, 2023.

Reports and Other Public-Facing Writing

- Ann Linder, Valerie McCarthy, Bonnie Nadzam, Kristen Stilt, Dale Jamieson and Chris Green. “Animal Markets and Zoonotic Disease in the United States,” Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program, July 2023.
- Ann Linder, Bonnie Nadzam, Kristen Stilt, Dale Jamieson and Valerie McCarthy. “Animal Markets, Their Sources, and Zoonotic Disease Risk: Global Synthesis Report of a 15 Country Study,” Harvard Law School’s Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program, July 2024.
- Kristen Stilt and Bonnie Nadzam. “Zoonotic Disease and Animal Welfare in the U.S.,” Faunalytics, September 20, 2023.

Amicus Briefs

- Professor Kristen Stilt as *Amicus Curiae* on behalf of Defendant Wayne Hsiung, *California v. Wayne Hsiung*, No. SCR-721464-1, California Superior Court, Sonoma County, Aug. 30, 2023.
- Professor Kristen Stilt as *Amicus Curiae* on behalf of Defendant Paul Picklesime’s Motion in Limine, *Wisconsin v. Paul Picklesimer*, No. 2021CF001839, Circuit Court of Wisconsin, Dane County, March 4, 2024.
- Kristen Stilt, Carlos Contreras and Macarena Montes. “Observaciones a la solicitud de opinión consultiva sobre emergencia climática y derechos humanos a la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos presentada por la República de Chile y la República de Colombia,” *Amicus curiae*, Interamerican Court of Human Rights, 2024.

Works in Progress

- “Naturalized Rights of Animals, Animalized Rights of Nature”, with Macarena Montes Franceschini, forthcoming in the *Stanford Environmental Law Journal*.
- “Case Note: Estrellita,” with Macarena Montes Franceschini, *The Oxford Handbook on Global Animal Law*, eds. Anne Peters, Kristen Stilt, and Saskia Stucki. Forthcoming Oxford University Press.
- *The Oxford Handbook of Global Animal Law* (ed. with Anne Peters and Saskia Stucki, under contract with Oxford University Press).
- *Animal Law & Policy Coursebook* (with Angela Fernandez and Justin Marceau, under contract with Foundation Press).
- *The Animal Lawyer* (with John Bliss and Justin Marceau, under contract with Oxford University Press).

Papers, Presentations, Panels

- “Animal Rights and the Rights of Nature,” Harvard University, Aspire, July 19, 2023.
- “Rights of Nature as a Path to Animal Rights,” University of Toronto, Canadian Animal Law Conference, with Macarena Montes, September 30, 2023.

- “Rights of Nature and Rights of Animals,” Yale Law School, Law, Ethics & Animals Speaker Series, with Macarena Montes, November 2, 2023.
- “Naturalized Rights of Animals, Animalized Rights of Nature,” HLS Animal Law & Policy Workshop, February 7, 2024.
- “Naturalized Rights of Animals, Animalized Rights of Nature,” HLS Faculty Workshop, February 22, 2024.

Guest Lectures

- In the Animal Law Summer School, University of Antwerp, July 7, 2023 (with Macarena Montes).
- In the Reweaving Ourselves and the World: New Perspectives on Climate Change course, Professor Rebecca Henderson, Harvard Business School/Harvard Kennedy School, April 15, 2024 (with Macarena Montes).

Cleo Verkuijl

Articles

- Cleo Verkuijl, Jan Dutkiewicz, Laura Scherer, Paul Behrens, Michael Lazarus, Maria José Hötzel, Rebecca Nordquist and Matthew Hayek. “FAO’s 1.5 °C roadmap for food systems falls short,” in *Nature Food* 5 (2024), 5, 264–266.
- Cleo Verkuijl, Jessie Smit, Jonathan Green, Rebecca Nordquist, Jeff Sebo, Matthew Hayek and Maria J. Hötzel. “Climate Change, Public Health, and Animal Welfare: Towards a One Health Approach to Reducing Animal Agriculture’s Climate Footprint,” in *Frontiers in Animal Science*, 5, 2024.

Reports

- “What’s Cooking? An assessment of novel meat and dairy alternatives,” Frontiers Report, United Nations Environment Programme, 2023.

Blog Posts

- “Will animal welfare be COP28’s sacrificial lamb?” with Jeff Sebo, Table Debates, 2023.

Works in Progress

- “Towards a Global Ban on Industrial Animal Agriculture by 2050: Legal Basis, Precedents, and Instruments” (article, forthcoming in *Lewis & Clark Environmental Law Review*, 2024) (with Jeff Sebo, Emma Dietz, and Toni Sims).

Papers, Presentations, Panels

- “Evolving Knowledge of Animal Sentience: Implications for Policy.” New York University conference on animal consciousness. April 19, 2024.
- “Climate change, One Health, and Animal Welfare in the FAO’s 1.5°C roadmap” Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, March 29, 2024.
- “What’s Cooking? An assessment of novel meat and dairy alternatives.” United Nations Environment Assembly side event, February 26, 2023.
- “What’s Cooking? An assessment of novel meat and dairy alternatives.” 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference side event, December 10, 2023.
- Climate Action, One Health and Animal Welfare: Connecting the dots. United Nations Climate Change Conference food pavilion side event, December 13, 2023.
- “Future Food Systems from the Animal’s Perspective.” Future Food Utrecht Symposium. December 13, 2023.
- “Food systems, sustainable development and animal welfare. 7th Good Food Summit China, October 20, 2023.

Guest Lectures

- “Climate Change, One Health and Animal Welfare,” Tufts University, May 8, 2024.

- “Alternative Proteins: Opportunities and Challenges for Food Systems Transformation,” Harvard University, April 2, 2024.

Dinesh Wadiwel

Articles

- Dinesh Wadiwel. “Challenging Epistemic Violence: Parrhesia, Counter-Hegemony and Transformation.” *Politics and Animals*, 10, 1-17, 2024.
- Danish Wadiwel and John Sanbonmatsu. “Hegemony, Animal Liberation, and Gramscian Praxis: An Interview with John Sanbonmatsu by Dinesh Wadiwel.” *Anthropos*, 55(2), 237-268, 2024.

Blog Posts

- “Multi-Species Metropolis: Rethinking the Rural Factory Farm as a City.” *Berliner Gazette*. (2024).
- “What Is The Factory Farm? Notes From Animals And Capital.” *Progress in Political Economy*, 2024.

Works in Progress

- “Animals and the Concept of the Rule of Law.”

Papers, Presentations, Panels

- “Animals, Capital and Marxism” with Alex Blanchette, Marxist Education Group, workshop hosted by Fred Murphy. May 8 2024.
- “Animals and the Concept of Rule of Law.” Animals in Philosophy, Law and Ethics. Workshop, Queen’s University, workshop hosted by Professor Will Kymlicka, May 4 2024.
- “Response: Why Seeing is Not Believing.” Animals in Philosophy, Law and Ethics. Workshop, Queen’s University, workshop hosted by Professor Will Kymlicka, May 3 2024.
- “Animals and the Concept of Rule of Law.” Animal Law and Policy Program, Harvard Law School. Workshop, workshop hosted by Professor Kristen Stilt, April 24 2024.
- “Animal Rights and Capitalism.” Annual Tom Regan Memorial Lecture, Culture and Animals Foundation. Harvard Law School, lecture hosted by Professor Kristen Stilt, April 15 2024.
- “Animals and Capital.” Indian Animal Studies Collective, English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, online presentation hosted by Professor Anu Pande, March 12 2024.
- ‘Animals and Capital.’ Wesleyan University, workshop hosted by Professor Lori Gruen, April 8 2024.
- Wadiwel D. and Johannsen K. ‘Animals and Capital.’ March 19 2024.
- ‘Animals and Capital.’ Marxist Education Group, workshop hosted by Fred Murphy, March 13 2024.

Yi Jian

Books

- “Food Design 100” (China: Chemical Industry Press, 2023), Deputy Editor-in-Chief, featuring 100 food designers who embrace food systems change around the globe.

Articles

- “What is Sustainable Diet,” CECL, a popular magazine published monthly in Beijing.

Reports

- “Collection of Best Practices in China’s Food Systems,” Transformation, 2023 edition.
- First China Vegan Lifestyle and Market Study focusing on GenZ Chinese, 2023 edition.

Blog Posts

- First interview of Frances Moore Lappé for a Chinese audience, posted on various WeChat platforms in November 2023.

Works in Progress

- *Zodiac 12*, a film and media project.

Papers, Presentations, Panels

- UMass Amherst. Presentation on China's food systems and plant-forward dietary shift, on the 29th Chef Culinary Conference at University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2023.
- Food Systems Transformation, with Rafi Taherian, Associate Vice President of Yale Hospitality. Yale World Fellows Program, Yale University, Sept. 2023.
- Opening speaker, 2nd MANG China Vegan Summit, Nov., 2023.
- Moderator, panel with Peter Singer on Animal Ethics, China Vegan Summit 2023.
- Grand jury member, the 4th (2023) International Food Design Contest (themed on sustainable food systems).
- The 7th (2023) Good Food Summit, opening presentation; the summit attracted a cumulative viewership of 450k+.
- Jury member, Food Systems National Poster Contest China, 2023.
- Moderator, Plant-Forward College Dining workshop, Food4Thought Festival, Harvard.
- Mentor speaker, 1st cohort of China Vegan Action Fellowship, spring 2024.
- Panel speaker, China-US Sustainable Development Summit, Harvard, April 2024.
- Moderator, Jeff Sebo on Animal Ethics, China Vegan Action Fellowship, May 2024.

Guest Lectures

- Cornell University. Guest Lecturer in the Climate Solution Capstone course, taught by Cornell Professor Marianne Elizabeth Krasny, 2023.
- Goethe Institute artist workshops, presenting concepts of *Zodiac 12*, Goethe Institut Boston & Harvard, April 2024.
- MIT, Raphael & Johanne (German artists) class, presenting concepts of *Zodiac 12*, April 2024.





LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the Program will welcome new fellows, offer a wide variety of Animal law courses to students, and continue to generate new scholarship and policy work that advances the field of Animal law.



FUTURE COURSES

In 2024-2025, students will be able to pursue a growing list of coursework related to Animal Law. Those taught by ALPP faculty and staff are described here.

FALL 2024

1L Reading Group: Law and the Anthropocene (Professor Kristen Stilt)

Professor Stilt regularly offers a reading group to 1Ls in the fall semester. These reading groups provide an informal setting for new students to meet fellow first-year students with common interests and get to know a law school professor early in their first year. This reading group asks, what role did law play in creating the situation the world is now in, which we might call the Anthropocene, and what role can law play in preventing a worsening situation? The 1L students who take Professor Stilt's reading group often go on to take Animal Law and related classes and enroll in the Clinic, so this is a fantastic opportunity for students to get involved with the animal law community from the very beginning of their law school career.

Farmed Animal Law and Policy Seminar (Professor Kristen Stilt)

This seminar will explore farmed animal law and policy, with a focus on high-profile issues concerning the use of animals for food, including current controversies over animal welfare, environmental degradation, public health, consumer protection, worker safety, and climate change. The seminar will examine the history and evolution of animal agriculture from early agrarian domestication to modern industrial farming, and highlight the major ethical, cultural, ecological, social and economic issues that shape farmed animal law and policy in the 21st century. The

seminar will include an overview of key laws and regulations concerning farmed animals, as well as an exploration of current legislation, litigation, ballot initiatives and consumer-based campaigns to reform animal agriculture. The seminar will also compare farmed animal laws and regulations in different countries, and touch on the role of international trade agreements in both promoting and preventing legal protections for farmed animals.

SPRING 2025

Introduction to Animal Law (Professor Kristen Stilt)

This course will introduce students to the broad range of laws that affect non-human animals (“animals”), including companion animals, farm animals (with a particular focus on factory farms), animals used in the context of entertainment (such as zoos and aquaria), animals used in scientific experimentation, and wild animals. The course will focus mainly on the U.S. but will also include some attention to the laws of other countries and to international law.

The course will also engage with fundamental questions about animals and the law, such as: Are some animals more deserving of protection than others, and if so, on what basis? What role does culture and belief play in animal law—why are dogs considered pets in the U.S. and food in some parts of the world, for example? Does the status of animals as property pose an insurmountable barrier to increasing protections for animals? What are the advantages and disadvantages of the concepts of “animal rights” and “animal welfare”?

Reading Group: Outlaw Ocean (Professor Kristen Stilt)

Every problem on land is worse at sea—but for the most part, these problems escape the attention of regulators, legal advocates, and the general public. The fishing of wild fish is driving species to extinction, while aquaculture, often touted as a solution to feeding the world, amounts to floating factory farms, or aquatic industrial animal agriculture, with all the associated harms to animals, the environment, and humans who work in the industry and consume the fish produced. Fish are sentient creatures, and suffer and feel pain, but their welfare is on almost nobody’s agenda. Fishing ships, especially distant-water ships, are now known to be sites of major human rights abuses, including labor trafficking and debt bondage. The common practice of trawling, which involves dragging heavy nets along the ocean floor to entrap fish, harms marine life and marine ecosystems. The amount of CO₂ released when the seafloor is damaged through trawling is compared to clear cutting forests for extractive terrestrial industries. It is estimated that every day, approximately 2,000 truckloads of plastic are dumped into oceans, rivers, and lakes. Ocean temperatures are increasing, and the climate crisis is as profound and urgent at sea as it is on land. This Reading Group will explore these and other dimensions of the outlaw ocean and consider efforts that are underway by individuals and organizations around the world to bring these problems to public attention and to take steps toward improvements.



THE NEW FELLOWS AND THEIR PROJECTS

In the Fall of 2024, we will welcome several new fellows to the Program. Each of these fellows will be working to advance scholarship in the field of animal law through a diverse range of research and writing projects. Fellows have the opportunity to share their work in weekly workshops and to develop their ideas with support from Program faculty and staff.

Macarena Montes Franceschini

Rights of Nature Fellow

Macarena will be returning to the Program in Fall 2024 and continuing her work as a Rights of Nature Fellow. In recent years, several U.S. states, such as Utah, have passed laws prohibiting the recognition of personhood for animals, nature, and other nonhuman entities. Macarena will examine the legal and moral implications of these animal personhood bans and explore the legislative history of these laws to determine the reasons behind them. Her work will also explore how rights of nature legal frameworks can be used to protect the interests of animals in the United States and will build upon her past scholarship in this emerging area of law.

Pablo Perez Castello

Visiting Fellow

Pablo has just completed his appointment as the 2022–2024 Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Animal Ethics at Queen’s University, where he studied the political status of domesticated animals and how to include them in political decision-making processes. As a fellow at Harvard, and drawing on his previous work at St. Edmund’s College, University of Cambridge, and at the Cambridge Centre for Animal Rights Law, he will identify strategic points of pressure to recognize wild animals’ fundamental legal rights and chart legal pathways to achieve this goal. His research focuses on understanding the importance of human language in producing human dominion over animals and investigates the role animal language can play in relation to the participation of animals in political decision-making processes and the construction of zoo-democratic systems.

Amy Fitzgerald

Visiting Fellow

Amy’s research is situated at the culture/nature nexus and focuses on the perpetration of harms (criminal and otherwise) by humans against the environment and nonhuman animals. She has interrogated this broad

area of inquiry vis-à-vis several topical areas, including the coexistence of animal abuse and intimate partner violence; industrialized animal agriculture; sport hunting culture; the pet food industry; the animal advocacy and environmental movements; animal cruelty laws and investigations; and environmentally-mediated human health risks. Her work is interdisciplinary, although she draws from and contributes most specifically to the fields of green criminology, (critical) animal studies, environmental sociology, and gender studies. She holds a PhD in Sociology from Michigan State University, an MA in Sociology from the University of Windsor, specializing in Criminology, and a BA with Honours in Criminology from the University of Windsor.





1. Look, it's no longer radical to recognize, respect, and want to protect the emotional lives of animals.
2. And a person would have to be totally out of touch not to know that human animals (animals) are wantonly, brutally slaughtering nonhuman animals (animals) in a wide variety of anthropocentric (human-centered) activities.
3. We all know it.
4. We might well replace our understanding of the "Anthropocene," often called the "age of humanity," with a more apt definition: "the rage of inhumanity."
5. But I do find that people are expressing more humility toward other animals and nature, perhaps as a consequence of the unmistakable damage our presence has caused.
6. When I was young and growing up in Brooklyn, I used to say hello to all the local animals and talk with them. While my parents were very tolerant of this behavior, some of our neighbors clearly thought, "There is surely something wrong with this kid." I'd walk along the streets and ride my tricycle (my field vehicle) and stop for every dog, cat, bird, and insect to say hello and ask them how they were doing. I used to talk to the goldfish who was living in a small glass aquarium on the kitchen counter, never doubting they were smart and emotional. It was their emotions – their expressed feelings – that drew me to them and kept the contact going. I could feel their feelings.
7. Now, people want me to say more. "What do you mean, you feel their feelings?"
8. So OK, let me tell you. When I say cranky, this is what I mean. It was first as a child I could feel what I call this crankiness in my entire body when I saw animals getting abused, or when someone told me and my parents that I was (*())\$&)&@#%^ing crazy.
9. Are animals sentient, some folks want to know? What does science say about this animal? What about that animal?
10. Sentience surrounds us in a spectacular and diverse array of non humans.
11. And yes, I can feel it. I am coextensive with "it."
12. And no, I'm not alone, among humans. (I'm looking at you, reader.)



From a new essay of a 40-point "Honest Reality Check" by Marc Bekoff, published in Alaska Quarterly Review's Summer/Fall 2024 issue, selected and edited by ALPP Research Fellow Bonnie Nadzam



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-  [Animal Law](https://www.linkedin.com/company/AnimalLaw)