

The Tenth Annual Oxford Animal Ethics Summer School

The Ethics of Captivity

4-7 August, 2025

Merton College, University of Oxford

Provisional Programme

Monday 4 August

<p>3.00pm Onwards: Check in for Residential Delegates in the Junior Common Room</p>
<p>4.00-5.00pm: Registration in the Summer School Office</p>
<p>5.00-6.00pm: Reception in the T S Eliot Foyer Welcome by the Revd Professor Andrew Linzey and Dr Clair Linzey</p>
<p>6.00-8.00pm: Welcome Meal in the Dining Hall</p>
<p>8.00-9.00pm: 10 Years of Summer Schools: Animal Ethics Looking to the Future A conversation with the Revd Professor Andrew Linzey and Dr Clair Linzey Followed by Q and As</p>
<p>9.00pm: Afterhours at the Summer School Social in the Junior Common Room</p>

Tuesday 5 August

8-9am: Breakfast in the Dining Hall (for Residential Guests)

8.30-9.00am: Registration in the Summer School Office

T S Eliot Theatre	Mure Room
Chair: David B. Rosengard	Chair: Dr Alan Bates
<p>9.00-9.30 Professor Steven McMullen Professor of Economics Hope College</p> <p>Evaluating the economic justifications for confinement in animal agriculture</p>	<p>9.00-9.30 Giulia Malerbi Head of Global Policy Aquatic Life Institute</p> <p>The ethical imperative for a preemptive ban on octopus farming</p>
<p>9.35-10.05 Vanessa Shakib Co-founder and Co-director Advancing Law for Animals</p> <p>Impact litigation as a vehicle for change</p>	<p>9.35-10.05 Dr Kenneth Valpey Research Fellow Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies</p> <p>Cows' confinement and the logic of Bhakti care ethics: The case of Bhaktivedanta Manor's "cow protection" programme</p>
<p>10.10-10.40 Chris Lewis Captivity Research and Policy Manager Born Free Foundation</p> <p>Elephants in zoos: Past, present, but what future?</p>	<p>10.10-10.40 Professor Delcianna J. Winders Associate Professor of Law Vermont Law and Graduate School</p> <p>Pay-to-play: Circumventing Endangered Species Act protections for captive wildlife</p>
10.40-11.10am: Tea and Coffee in the Foyer	
Chair: Professor Thomas White	Chair: Robyn Hederman
<p>11.10-11.40 Dr Lori Marino President, Whale Sanctuary Project Co-Director, Animal Law and Science Project George Washington University</p> <p>Law, Science and Ethics: The three pillars of protection for captive cetaceans</p>	<p>11.10-11.40 Professor Tom Lininger Professor of Law University of Oregon School of Law</p> <p>The ethical case against "virtual captivity" for wildlife</p>

T S Eliot Theatre	Mure Room
<p>11.45-12.15 Kimberly Moore Attorney Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP</p> <p>The ethics of captivity in conservation: recommendations to enhance legal protection for individual animals</p>	<p>11.45-12.15 Professor Matthew Hayek Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Studies New York University</p> <p>Beyond the cage: Ecological impacts of animal captivity in aquaculture</p>
<p>12.20-12.50 Cynthia von Schlichten General Counsel Farm Sanctuary, USA</p> <p>Sanctuaries as ethical captivity</p>	<p>12.20-12.50 Moena Zeller Librarian and Book Conservator Stiftung für das Tier im Recht, Switzerland</p> <p>Animal modifications to captive conditions</p>
12.50-1.50pm: Buffet Lunch in Rose Lane Garden	
Chair: Alice Di Concetto	Chair: Professor Kurt Remele
<p>1.50-2.20 Professor Jodi Lazare Associate Dean (Academic), Schulich School of Law Dalhousie University, Canada</p> <p>Ethical policy making for captive animals</p>	<p>1.50-2.20 Professor Sunanda Bharti Professor of Law University of Delhi, India</p> <p>Ethics of animal captivity in India's legal and cultural context</p>
<p>2.25-2.55 Grace Robinson Partnerships and Programmes Officer Cruelty Free International</p> <p>Captive lives, unseen suffering: Exposing the reality of animal testing in Europe</p>	<p>2.25-2.55 Dr Daniela Rizzo Associate Lecturer, Systematic Theology Alphacrucis University College, Australia</p> <p>Liberation in chains: A theological reflection on captivity as a spiritual metaphor</p>
<p>3.00-3.30 Amy P. Wilson Doctoral Candidate and Research Associate University of Johannesburg, South Africa</p> <p>Factory fins: Cruelty and harm beneath the surface</p>	<p>3.00-3.30 Caitlin Hawks Chief Programs Officer Animal Legal Defense Fund, USA</p> <p>Legal rights under the radar: United States Endangered Species Act litigation as a tool for elevating captive animal status</p>
3.30-4.00pm: Tea and Coffee in the Foyer	

T S Eliot Theatre	Mure Room
Chair: Dr Colin Simonds	Chair: Professor Daniel Dombrowski
<p>4.00-4.30 Dr Melissa Ann Kaul SNSF Postdoctoral Mobility Fellow University of Edinburgh</p> <p>Captured Karma: The Buddhist release ritual 放生 (chin. <i>fang sheng</i>, jap. <i>hōjō</i>) and its animal ethical consequences</p>	<p>4.00-4.30 Ritesh Singh Senior Associate, Corporate Social Responsibility Programs CSRBOX Foundation, India</p> <p>Captivity and human perception of animals: Does seeing animals in captivity normalize exploitation?</p>
<p>4.35-5.05 Professor Katie Sykes Professor, Faculty of Law Thompson Rivers University, Canada</p> <p>Moby Doll, Darwin, Jane Goodall: The law of captive wildlife in Canada</p>	<p>4.35-5.05 Dr Cosetta Veronese Director International Society of Zooanthropology</p> <p>Emotional prisoners: Pets</p>
<p>5.10-5.40 Michelle Welch Director of the Animal Law Unit Virginia Attorney General's Office</p> <p>Roadside zoos and animal exploitation</p>	<p>5.10-5.40 David Thomas Legal Consultant Cruelty Free International</p> <p>The law and philosophy of keeping animals in captivity</p>
6.00pm: Dinner in the Dining Hall	
7.30pm: Aquaculture Cocktail Reception in Rose Lane Garden	
<p>8.15pm: Panel: Aquaculture: The Next Moral Frontier in the T S Eliot Theatre</p> <p>Chair: Max Elder, Managing Director of Food Systems Innovations Dr Natasha Boyland, Senior Research and Policy Advisor at Compassion in World Farming Professor Kathy Hessler, Assistant Dean of Animal Law at GW Law School Liz Nussbaumer, Project Director at Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future Giulia Malerbi, Head of Global Policy at Aquatic Life Institute</p>	
<p>9.30pm: Afterhours at the Summer School</p> <p>Social in the Junior Common Room</p>	

Wednesday 6 August

8-9am: Breakfast in the Dining Hall (for Residential Guests)

T S Eliot Theatre	Mure Room
Chair: Chris Lewis	Chair: Dr Malcolm Hay
9.00-9.30 Alice Di Concetto Chief Legal Adviser The European Institute for Animal Law and Policy Animal captivity and the law: Progress and limitations	9.00-9.30 Professor Chien-hui Li Professor of History National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan The origin of intensive agriculture? Cattle fattening in the era of high farming in nineteenth-century Britain
9.35-10.05 Professor Sarah Nilsen Associate Professor of Film and Television Studies University of Vermont The ethics of captivity in Walt Disney's <i>Dumbo</i> (1941)	9.35-10.05 Professor Nellie El Enany Assistant Professor, School of Business The American University in Cairo, Egypt Islamic ethical perspectives on animal captivity
10.10-10.40 Professor Daniel A. Dombrowski Professor of Philosophy Seattle University The aesthetics and ethics of captivity	10.10-10.40 Professor Idan Breier Jewish History Department Bar-Ilan University, Israel "Like a cage full of birds" (Jer. 5:37a/SoA 17.11.1940): Life and death in the Warsaw ghetto in terms of animal ethics
10.40-11.10am: Tea and Coffee in the Foyer	
Chair: Caroline Griffin	Chair: Dr Margarita Carretero-González
11.10-11.40 Professor Thomas White Founder, International Business Ethics Case Competition Hilton Professor Emeritus, Loyola Marymount University Cetacean captivity: "Slavery" and "cruelty"	11.10-11.40 Dr Natasha Boyland Senior Research and Policy Advisor Compassion in World Farming Assessing public support for aquatic animal welfare: Insights from a multi-national survey

T S Eliot Theatre	Mure Room
<p>11.45-12.15 Adeline Lerambert International Policy Manager Born Free Foundation</p> <p>An ethical critique of sustainable use approaches</p>	<p>11.45-12.15 Professor Letícia Albuquerque Professor of Law Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil</p> <p>Confinement in live animal exports: A Brazilian case study</p>
<p>12.20-12.50 Taylor Waters Farm Animal Advocacy Staff Attorney Vermont Law and Graduate School</p> <p>From cute to captive: The role of infantilization in controlling animal lives</p>	<p>12.20-12.50 Dr Jacqui Wilmshurst Psychologist and Doctoral Candidate The Open University</p> <p>Better off dead? Exploring ethics of captivity as a wildlife sanctuary owner</p>
12.50-1.50pm: Buffet Lunch in Rose Lane Garden	
Chair: Dr Linda Johnson	Chair: Dr Lori Marino
<p>1.50-2.20 Laurie Sellars Postgraduate Fellow Yale Law School</p> <p>Wildness lost: The effects of farming on aquatic animals</p>	<p>1.50-2.20 David B. Rosengard Managing Attorney Animal Legal Defense Fund, USA</p> <p>One victimization is too many: Arguments on behalf of animal cruelty survivors in captive custody</p>
<p>2.25-2.55 Dr Naama Harel Co-Chair, Seminar on Human-Animal Studies Columbia University</p> <p>Against captivity: Animals speak out in modern Jewish fiction</p>	<p>2.25-2.55 Caroline A. Griffin Vice-Chair of the Board Animal Welfare Institute</p> <p>The insatiable demand for long-tailed macaques in biomedical research</p>
<p>3.00-3.30 Courtney Fern Director of Government Relations and Campaigns Nonhuman Rights Project</p> <p>Challenging captivity: The legal and ethical case for nonhuman animal rights</p>	<p>3.00-3.30 Anna Caramuru Pessoa Aubert Doctoral Candidate Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</p> <p>Entrapped Subjectivities: Phenomenological considerations on the violation of animals' interests in zoos, circuses, and aquariums</p>
3.30-4.00pm: Tea and Coffee in the Foyer	

T S Eliot Theatre	Mure Room
Chair: Professor Jodi Lazare	Chair: Taylor Waters
4.00-4.30 Dr Linda Johnson Agnes M. Stine Schreiber Curator Washington County Museum of Fine Arts Hidden themes of captivity in nineteenth century American paintings	4.00-4.30 Dr Christie Sietou Associate Professor in Agricultural Economics University of Nottingham 93 days in a kennel. Will tomorrow mark freedom?
4.35-5.05 Anders Skou Jørgensen PhD Fellow University of Copenhagen Caring for animals in intensive animal agriculture	4.35-5.05 Dr Colin H. Simonds Assistant Lecturer University of Alberta, Canada Care, captivity, and compromise in Buddhist animal sanctuaries
5.45pm: Summer School Official Photograph in St Alban's Quad	
6.00pm: Champagne Reception on the Sundial Lawn	
7.00pm: Gala Dinner Speakers: The Reverend Professor Andrew Linzey Kimberly Moore	
9.30pm: Afterhours at the Summer School Social in the Junior Common Room	

Thursday 7 August

8-9am: Breakfast in the Dining Hall (for Residential Guests)

T S Eliot Theatre	Mure Room
Chair: Professor Katie Sykes	Chair: Dr Daniela Rizzo
9.00-9.30 Professor Stacy Lopresti-Goodman Professor of Psychology Marymount University, VA Primates in captive environments: Research, rescue, and reform	9.00-9.30 Professor Shannon Johnstone Assistant Professor of Art Meredith College, Raleigh, NC Photography and the ethics of captivity
9.35-10.05 Professor Andrew Westoll Associate Professor, Department of English University of Toronto Scarborough From the cage to the stage: The birth of the modern zoo	9.35-10.05 Emma DiGiovanni Masters Candidate George Washington University Law School Legal protections for plant-based foods as a strategy to reduce farmed animal captivity
10.10-10.40 Professor Michael Gilmour Associate Professor of English Literature and New Testament Providence University College Not a hoof left behind: The exodus narrative and St Paul's vision of animal liberation	10.10-10.40 Chloe Campbell Doctoral Candidate University of Lincoln Reevaluating equine welfare: The impact of extended stabling on horses and the need for humane, welfare-centred alternatives
10.40-11.10am: Tea and Coffee in the Foyer	
Chair: Vanessa Shakib	Chair: Jacob Brandler
11.10-11.40 Gabriel Toolan Independent Scholar Principal Solicitor, Walter P. Toolan & Sons Solicitors Language as a weapon and a tool to conceal the captivity and fate of farmed animals	11.10-11.40 Elizabeth M. Nussbaumer Project Director, Center for a Livable Future Johns Hopkins University Professor Dave Love Research Professor, Center for a Livable Future Johns Hopkins University Examining ethics in aquaculture: A planetary health and food systems perspective

T S Eliot Theatre	Mure Room
<p>11.45-12.15 Chris Green Executive Director Animal Legal Defense Fund, USA</p> <p>U.S. regulation of “exotic” or dangerous wild animals</p>	<p>11.45-12.15 Pooja Kumar Registered Professional Planner Toronto, Canada</p> <p>What if planners cared about animals in captivity? Raising the bar for ethical planning practice</p>
<p>12.20-12.50 Professor Kathy Hessler Assistant Dean, Animal Law Program George Washington University Law School</p> <p>Aquaculture hatcheries: The need to protect animals throughout the system</p>	<p>12.20-12.50 Dr Miriam Sampson Independent Scholar Portsmouth, UK</p> <p>“Girls’ own pets”? Exploring the chequered history of women and caged birds</p>
12.50-1.50pm: Buffet Lunch in Rose Lane Garden	
Chair: Kimberly Moore	Chair: Professor Steven McMullen
<p>1.50-2.20 Professor Kurt Remele Associate Professor Emeritus University of Graz, Austria</p> <p>Goin' to the animal sanctuary instead of the zoo? Ethical criteria for confining abused or neglected animals for whom care is provided</p>	<p>1.50-2.20 Dr Malcolm Hay Research Fellow Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics</p> <p>“Inhuman caught, and in the narrow Cage”: Ethical Debates on Caged Birds in the Eighteenth Century</p>
<p>2.25-2.55 Dr Laura Donnellan Associate Professor in Law University of Limerick, Ireland</p> <p>The banning of mink farming in Ireland: The legislative framework for the protection of animals in captivity</p>	<p>2.25-2.55 Professor Samantha Hurn Associate Professor of Anthropology University of Exeter</p> <p>“You can take the animal out of the wild, but you can’t take the wild out of the animal”: Assessing the ethical issues associated with “exotic pet keeping” in the UK</p>
<p>3.00-3.30 Dr Margarita Carretero-González Senior Lecturer University of Granada, Spain</p> <p>Beyond looking: Seeing captive animals through Jo-Anne McArthur’s photojournalism</p>	<p>3.00-3.30 Katherine Hermans Co-President Sentience, Switzerland</p> <p>The ethics of free-range standards: Moral licensing and the perpetuation of animal confinement</p>
3.30-4.00pm: Tea and Coffee in the Foyer	

T S Eliot Theatre	Mure Room
Chair: Professor Shannon Johnstone	Chair: Amy P. Wilson
<p>4.00-4.30 Robyn Hederman Associate Court Attorney New York State Supreme Court</p> <p>P T Barnum’s menagerie to Gunda the “rogue” elephant at the Bronx Zoo: Animal captivity in New York City, 1860-1920</p>	<p>4.00-4.30 Kristýna Králová Doctoral Candidate, Faculty of Law Masaryk University Brno, Czech Republic</p> <p>The animal owner as perpetrator: Where does the “owner's” right end, and the animal's protection begin?</p>
<p>4.35-5.05 Dr Roman Werner Lecturer, Ethics and Catholic Social Thought Graz University, Austria</p> <p>Better off than in nature! Why farm animals desperately need milk drinkers (and meat eaters)</p>	<p>4.35-5.05 Dr Dan Misheiker Head of the BEd Primary Education Program Levinsky-Wingate Academic College, Israel</p> <p>Captive bird, captive soul: An ecocritical reading of Agnon's “Tzipori”</p>
<p>5.10-5.40 Dr Marcello Newall Independent scholar</p> <p>Released from the fowler’s snare: A Christian theology of hope for animal captivity</p>	<p>5.10-5.40 Dr A. W. H. Bates Director Convit House Pathology</p> <p>Beyond entertaining: Wombwell’s travelling menagerie in nineteenth-century England</p>
<p>5.45-6.15 Dr Carlos Frederico Ramos de Jesus Post-doctoral Fellow University of São Paulo</p> <p>Taking sentience seriously: Zoos and domestic animals</p>	<p>5.45-6.15 Hana Nabulsi Masters Candidate George Washington University Law School</p> <p>How captive animals are vulnerable to zoonotic disease</p>
6.20 Closing Remarks by Professor Andrew Linzey	6.20 Closing Remarks by Dr Clair Linzey
6.30pm: Summer School Ends	