



Minding Animals[©]

Minding Animals Bulletin 59

Welcome to Bulletin 59 of Minding Animals International Incorporated (MAI). In this bulletin we will provide an update on the organisation, potential future activities and other matters.

What is Minding Animals International?

Minding Animals International Incorporated (MAI) was established to improve the status of nonhuman animals and alleviate nonhuman animal exploitation by facilitating research and discourse among scholars, students, artists, activists, advocates, and members of the general population, in the transdisciplinary field of animal studies. MAI's main objectives are to further the development of nonhuman animal studies internationally and to help establish legal and moral protections for nonhuman animals, mainly through international conferences, national group activities and the Minding Animals Bulletin.

MAI provides an avenue for the transdisciplinary field of Animal Studies to be more responsive to the protection of animals. It is recognised that animal protection in this context encapsulates both the humanities and zoological sciences, as well as environmentalism, animal liberation, animal rights, wildlife protection, animal welfare and animal justice (in no particular order of importance). MAI aims to enable discourse between the various interests within this developing transdisciplinary field in ways that will improve the status of nonhuman animals and alleviate nonhuman animal exploitation. As such, MAI facilitates research in Animal Studies as a conduit of non-governmental politics and action. MAI acts as a bridge between academia and advocacy and is a network of more than 3,000 academics, artists, activists and advocates, dedicated to the study and protection of all planetary life through the advancement of Animal Studies.

Donations to Minding Animals International

To continue to operate and provide coordination of all our activities, Minding Animals International is in urgent need of additional funding.

Did you know that, if you are a US citizen, all donations to Minding Animals International are tax deductible? MAI is a registered US 501(c)(3) charity, with all donations eligible for a tax deduction.

If interested in donating, please contact us directly at mindinganimals@gmail.com to facilitate the best option available for you to donate.

Consideration of donating will be greatly appreciated.

The names MAC, MAC5, Minding Animals Conference, MA, MAI, Minding Animals International, MAA, Minding Animals Australia, organisational logos and all content on Minding Animals Websites and Minding Animals Bulletins are © 2026 Minding Animals International Incorporated.

Minding Animals International Board: Call for Nominations

The Minding Animals International Board is in need of four additional Directors. All Directors are active members of the Board and are expected to take an active interest and role in all matters related to Minding Animals International Inc. (MAI). MAI is a non-profit corporation under the US State of Delaware statutes. It is a charity with 501(c)(3) status (all donations are tax deductible in the USA). Our current Board of Directors comprises: Dr Rod Bennison (Chair), Dr Candace Laughinghouse (Secretary), Dr Adam See (Treasurer), Professor Ana Cristina Ramírez Barreto, Dr Yoriko Otomo, Professor Sandra Swart and Dr Rajesh Reddy.

When considering nominating, you should consider how you may be able to actively contribute:

- Having a commitment to the aims and objectives of MAI, and the MAI brand
- An understanding of US based corporations and charities, and of constitutional review
- Experience in online payments and book-keeping to assist our Treasurer
- An interest in developing websites and newsletters, especially Wordpress
- An aptitude and track record in seeking donations and fundraising
- An ability to grow and expand partnerships
- A knowledge of event coordination
- An expertise of or access to networks necessary to sustain and grow MAI

Nominations for Directorship of the Board should be forwarded to the Chair of the Board (Dr Rod Bennison) at mindinganimals@gmail.com. Nominations should be accompanied with the following documentation/information:

- An email nomination with details of how you could contribute to MAI
- Resume/CV of your qualifications and experience
- A jpeg of a recent photo of yourself (for the MAI website)

Minding Animals Germany Symposium

The Minding Animals Germany (MAG) Symposium will take place this year at the Academy of Media Arts in Cologne on 11 and 12 December. To be able to plan a little bit regarding the venue, it would be nice to know how many of you want to come – perhaps you would like to add your names to this list at: <https://terminplaner6.dfn.de/en/b/a716afea8bcdcf3f13b4ac0fe6615bad-1677225>

Or contact Ute Horner at hoerner@khm.de or Pascal Dreier at pascal.dreier@khm.de

Minding Animals Australia: Call for Nominations

The Minding Animals Australia (MAA) Board is also in need of three additional members. All Board members are active members of the Board and are expected to take an active interest and role in all matters related to MAA. You should be an Australian resident.

Nominations for Membership of the MAA Board should also be forwarded to mindinganimals@gmail.com. Nominations should be accompanied with the following documentation/information:

- An email nomination with details of how you could contribute to MAA
- Resume/CV of your qualifications and experience
- A jpeg of a recent photo of yourself (for the MAA website – in development)

Minding Animals Conference 5

Minding Animals Australia was provided the opportunity to host the next Minding Animals Conference. This will be done in direct collaboration with Saffron Aid. The conference is entirely dependent upon a funding application made on behalf of Saffron Aid. We will inform all our supporters of the outcome of the funding application as soon as possible.

All being well, the conference will be held in the Hunter Valley at Lovedale/Wonnarua Country, north of Sydney (all transfers will be available from Sydney and Newcastle airports, and a range of accommodation recommended). The conference would be held in July 2027 or 2028 at Rydges Resort Hunter Valley.

The conference themes will include:

- Rewilding and compassionate conservation
- The biodiversity crisis and climate change
- The animal industrial complex
- Animals, the circular economy and sustainable food systems
- Animals in development and food sovereignty
- First Nations and decolonisation
- Educating with and for Animals
- Animals, the law and public policy
- Multi-species justice
- Personhood, animal philosophy and bioethics

Minding Animals Website and Contact Emails

Please check out the Minding Animals website at www.mindinganimals.com, www.mindinganimals.net, or www.mindinganimals.org. If you have problems accessing any of the sites, you may need to clear your cache. The emails are:

Enquires	Relevant Email Addresses
Minding Animals email (always available)	mindinganimals@gmail.com
All supporters, membership and donations enquiries	memberships@mindinganimals.com
All Board matters	board@mindinganimals.com
All other matters	admin@mindinganimals.com
Minding Animals Australia	mindinganimals@gmail.com
Minding Animals Germany	benzschwarzburg@googlemail.com
Minding Animals Danmark	kontakt@mindinganimals.dk

Vale

We remember the actions in protecting animals of those lost since the last Bulletin, including Keith Mann, Karl Garside and Brigitte Bardot. We also post here brief obituaries of Ian Douglas-Hamilton, Desmond Morris and our former patron, Jane Goodall.

Iain Douglas-Hamilton

The British scientist Iain Douglas-Hamilton, became the world's leading authority on the behaviour of African elephants and played a vital part in ensuring their conservation. His efforts to save the African elephant began in 1965 when, as an Oxford zoology graduate who had also just received his pilot's licence, he flew his Piper Pacer bush plane from Nairobi down to Tanzania's pocket-sized Lake Manyara National Park. The challenge he had accepted at the age of 23 was how to solve the problem of 450 elephants confined in a space too small to support them.

He was utterly fearless, a quality that stood him in good stead, as his work was not without risks. Often he was forced to climb trees to avoid being killed by angry elephants, such as the formidable matriarch he called Boadicea, and on three occasions his Land Rover was skewered by their tusks. But eventually they came to accept him, while remaining truly wild.

Having become the first scientist to study the elephants' social interactions, Iain came to believe that understanding their seasonal migratory movements was the key to their conservation. But the growing menace of ivory poaching soon caused him to devote the rest of his life to staunching the flow of tusks that was bleeding Africa dry. Although elephant poaching had been endemic in Africa, the price of ivory had remained stable until 1969, but then suddenly took off as tusks became a commodity, to be stored and traded like gold. This proved disastrous for Africa's great elephant herds, and Kenya became the first country to feel the full effect of the ivory price hike as the shifta – Somali poachers armed with semi-automatic weapons – swept down into Tsavo national park, the country's biggest elephant stronghold.

To prove his point he had begun carrying out pan African aerial surveys that revealed the extent of the crisis for the first time. In 1980 he was made honorary chief warden in Uganda, where he introduced air and ground patrols against Sudanese poachers who sometimes shot at his plane, and in 1988 he was awarded the Order of the Golden Ark by Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands for alerting the world to the sheer scale of the elephant killing. He was appointed CBE in 2015.

It emerged that 90% of all ivory stocks had been obtained illegally, and in July 1989, the Kenyan president Daniel Arap Moi, publicly torched a 12 tonne pyre of tusks worth \$6m. So powerful was the case put forward by Iain and his fellow conservationists that the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species was compelled to ban the international trade in ivory in 1990.

Although the ban did not put a complete end to poaching, it bought Africa's dwindling elephant herds a precious reprieve, a time in which their numbers might increase again, and to this end in 1993 Iain moved to Samburu National Park in northern Kenya and founded Save the Elephants, a conservation charity working to secure a future for the species by enabling them to coexist alongside local communities. There he pioneered techniques of tracking collared elephants by satellite, an invaluable tool to increase their protection and avoid possible conflicts with people.

In 2008, Iain almost came to grief at Samburu when he was charged by a cow elephant that then tried to impale him as he lay on the ground. Somehow he emerged unscathed, with little damage except for a broken pair of spectacles.

In the event it was not elephants that ended his life but a swarm of bees, which attacked him while he was walking back to his home at Naivasha. He was flown to Cape Town for treatment but never recovered. He is survived by his wife Oria, and children Saba and Dudu, and six grandchildren, Bundi, Selkie, Mayan, Luna, Cosimo and Luca. Iain Douglas-Hamilton, zoologist and conservationist, was born 16 August 1942 and died 8 December 2025.

An excerpt from Iain's obituary by Brian Jackman published in The Guardian, 10 December, 2025

Desmond Morris

The zoologist, Desmond Morris, was perhaps best known for his book *The Naked Ape* and his work on the ITV programme Zoo Time. Morris's son Jason paid tribute to him after his death, praising his many professional achievements as well as his role as a father and grandfather, *His was a lifetime of exploration, curiosity and creativity. A zoologist, manwatcher, author and artist, he was still writing and painting right up until his death. He was a great man and an even better father and grandfather.*

Morris rose to prominence in 1967 when *The Naked Ape* became an international bestseller. He was also a prolific producer of surrealist art, often painting until 4am. He acknowledged that his work may have been indirectly influenced by his knowledge of natural history and nature and his lifelong interest in the reproductive behaviour of animals.

Born in Wiltshire in 1928, Morris began his two years of national service in the British army in 1946 before pursuing his interest in the arts and studying natural history. Morris studied zoology at the University of Birmingham and completed a doctorate in animal behaviour at Oxford University, where he remained to study the reproductive behaviour of birds.

He became the face of the ITV Granada nature series Zoo Time in 1956. The show ran until 1967, featuring animal experts and zoo staff and exploring the behaviour of animals. Morris also hosted art exhibitions, including one at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London in 1957 which combined his interest in animals and painting, showcasing works created by chimpanzees. He also coorganised an exhibition titled *The Lost Image* in 1958, which compared images created by infants, human adults and apes and was displayed at the Royal Festival Hall in London.

Morris became the Zoological Society's curator of mammals at London zoo in 1959 and held the post for eight years. He started his career with the BBC in 1965, hosting its *Life in the Animal World* programme, and later went on to present many documentaries for the corporation, including *Manwatching*, *TV and Natural History* and *The Human Animal*.

After the success of *The Naked Ape*, he wrote follow up books including *The Human Zoo*, *Manwatching* and *The Naked Man*. He contributed to more than 90 titles in his decades long academic career dedicated to the study of animals and zoology. The BBC released a programme titled *The Secret Surrealist* in 2017 showcasing Morris and his artwork which examined his double-life as a painter. Desmond died in April at the age of 98.

An excerpt from Desmond's obituary by Kevin Rawlinson published in The Guardian, 21 April, 2026

Jane Goodall

Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Jane Goodall: 1934-2025

This essay was written by Marc Bekoff, with Colorado's First Gentleman, Marlon H. Reis.

Now more than ever, we must recognise that animals do matter. They are more than symbols of geographic and political divides. They deserve more out of life than to be casualties in our own failed efforts to coexist with one another, much less the natural world. Their worth is not a function of how 'human' they look or act. And just as we appreciate individuality in people, so too must we value it in other animals.

On Oct. 1, 2025, Jane Goodall passed away. Marc has worked very closely with Jane for decades. Much of her amazing life is captured in *Jane Goodall at 90: Celebrating an Astonishing Lifetime of Science, Advocacy, Humanitarianism, Hope, and Peace*.

In our home state of Colorado, Governor Jared Polis immediately proclaimed October 1, 2025, as Jane Goodall Day, in honour of her unrelenting and inspirational work in every corner of our magnificent planet. Her presence surely will be everlasting. Here are some of our reflections on Jane and the amazing legacy she leaves behind for others to follow:

Marc: Jane's pioneering research has set the agenda for more than 65 years of study on chimpanzees, other great apes, and countless other nonhuman animals. In November 1960, she observed the chimpanzee David Greybeard making and using a tool by stripping leaves from a straw stick to extract termites by inserting it into their mound. Her seminal observations of a nonhuman making and using a tool were met with scepticism by her colleagues until she showed them a video of this behaviour. In response to this important discovery, palaeoanthropologist and archaeologist Louis Leakey claimed, *Now we must redefine tool, redefine Man, or accept chimpanzees as humans*.

Jane also named the chimpanzees she observed, recognizing the importance of studying identified individuals and the value of each life and underscoring that each individual has a unique personality. She was strongly reprimanded by her colleagues, but she continued to do so. I was also told that naming animals is too subjective and would influence how data are interpreted and explained, and that individual differences in personalities simply amounted to 'noise in the system' and are fraught with error. Large amounts of subsequent comparative research have shown how wrong our critics were.

In 2002, Jane and I published *The Ten Trusts: What We Must Do to Care for the Animals We Love*. At around that time, I also began working closely with her Roots and Shoots program. I fully share her firm belief that everyone can make a positive difference in the lives of other animals, including humans, and in saving their homes. On the personal side, Jane and I share a passion for good single malt scotch, and whenever we meet, I always bring a small flask of what she calls her 'cough medicine'. Jane also had a wonderful sense of humour.

Marlon: I could hardly believe my ears when, in early 2023, Marc asked if I would like to meet Jane Goodall at her upcoming talk in Denver. My admiration and respect for animals go back as far as I can remember. And as a strong believer in the power of stories to change the world, I had long looked up to Goodall as an ambassador for the natural world with a unique talent for narrating her own story of passion and purpose. For most of us, unearthing the formative moments of our lives is a voyage into the vast and uncharted thicket of memories shaped and reshaped by time. Not so for Goodall, who cuts through the mist with ease, plucking out the befores and afters - vivid and fully formed - and weaving them together as if there'd been no dead ends, no wasted time, no fruitless pursuits. The

prospect of meeting Goodall was a dream come true, and a gift I won't ever forget. Marc even arranged for my husband, Governor Jared Polis, and our two kids to attend her talk. For a few precious moments, before she went onstage, our children peppered her with questions about how she became the Jane Goodall.

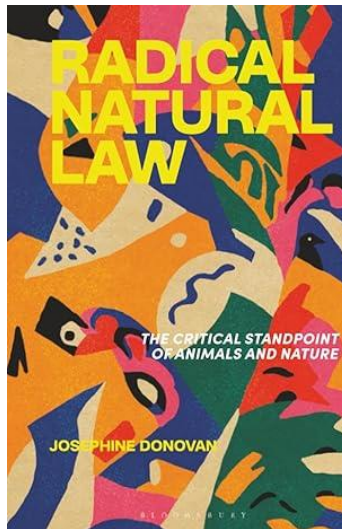
In her work as both a scientist and a storyteller, Goodall has inspired and taught me so many things, but perhaps most importantly: the secret to a life well lived is discovering what you truly care about - that which stirs the heart most - because doing what you love is never work. It is fulfilment. In stringing together the moments that mattered most throughout her remarkable 91 years on planet Earth, we come to learn not only that time is never wasted in pursuit of what is heartfelt, but that all life is interconnected, and we cannot tell the story of one without telling the story of the other.

Every life - human and nonhuman alike - is marked by beginnings, middles, and ends. The closer we look, the clearer it is to see that our fates are not solitary, but inseparable - a tapestry of lives that matter profoundly each to each.

Marc and Marlon: the world will sorely miss Jane Goodall and it's essential that we all work together to keep her globally present radiant flame alive for all animals, people, and their shared homes. She was, and remains, a pillar of hope for a better and more humane world for all beings.

Book Recommendations

Radical Natural Law



Professor Donovan's *Radical Natural Law* offers readers a compelling take on how we should view our nonhuman animal kin.

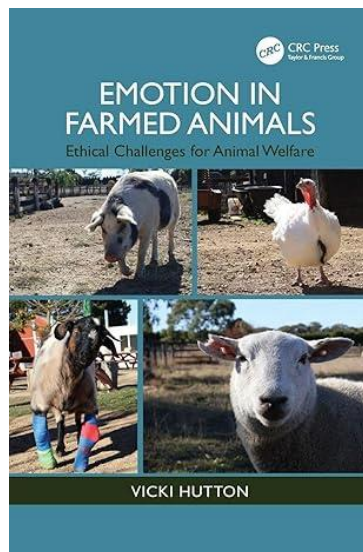
Eschewing anthropocentric framings, *Radical Natural Law* proposes a reconception of natural law that locates it in the critical standpoints of animals and other life forms in the natural world. Engaging an impressively diverse range of thinkers and intellectual traditions, from conceptions of natural law in ancient Stoic and scholastic writings, to theoretical discussions about natural world critical subjectivity in modern schools of thought, this book is an original and timely discussion that draws from within the Western philosophical tradition to make a case for the extension of natural law to nonhuman life.

Josephine Donovan identifies a common premise that she uses as the foundation for radical natural law: the fact that there are in all living organisms both an innate design or dynamic order and a centre

of awareness or 'self', who knows what the imperatives of that order are and seeks to satisfy the needs essential to survival as such.

Marc Bekoff notes that *for far too long, self-serving speciesist anthropocentrism has dominated how we view and position nonhuman animals (animals) in the natural world. Arguing for human exceptionalism while placing animals below and separate from ourselves, misleads some people into thinking we are above and separate from other species. In fact, nonhumans are not sub-human, and viewing all species as unique and important in their own ways is a better representation of the members of many earth's diverse communities, none being better or more valuable than the others. These are among the many reasons why I found Radical Natural Law to be an important and enlightening read in which she successfully decentres humans, recenters other animals, and offers a holistic view of the natural world.* Please see: [The Case Against Human Exceptionalism](#)

Emotion in Farmed Animals: Ethical Challenges for Animal Welfare



The emergence of scientific data confirming the capacity of nonhuman animals to feel what is happening to them and experience positive and negative emotions has created an uncomfortable moral dilemma for many humans. To meet demand for animal products in the 21st century, millions of animals are confined and suffer in industrial farm settings.

Acknowledging that a sense of helplessness to end this entrenched suffering on such a large scale can lead to inertia, Vicki Hutton instead seeks to bring change through stories of individual animals now living on farmed animal sanctuaries. These rescued animals have narratives that reveal them as individuals with emotional capacity and a future. Each chapter looks at a particular species' entwined history with humanity, as well as the biological and neurological structures that unequivocally confirm their ability to experience positive and negative emotions. This aspect is brought to life through the stories of individual animals living the good life after rescue and rehabilitation.

Farmed animals all have stories to tell but few get the chance to do so; this book amplifies the voices of those who have been able to reclaim basic rights in a human-dominated world with their stories providing insight into the uniqueness of every pig, cow, bird, rabbit and more intended for our plates and others for companionship or sheer joy.

This book will be of interest to those studying or working in animal ethics, welfare and law; veterinary science; running a farmed animal sanctuary; or simply seeking to understand more about the animals with whom we share this planet.

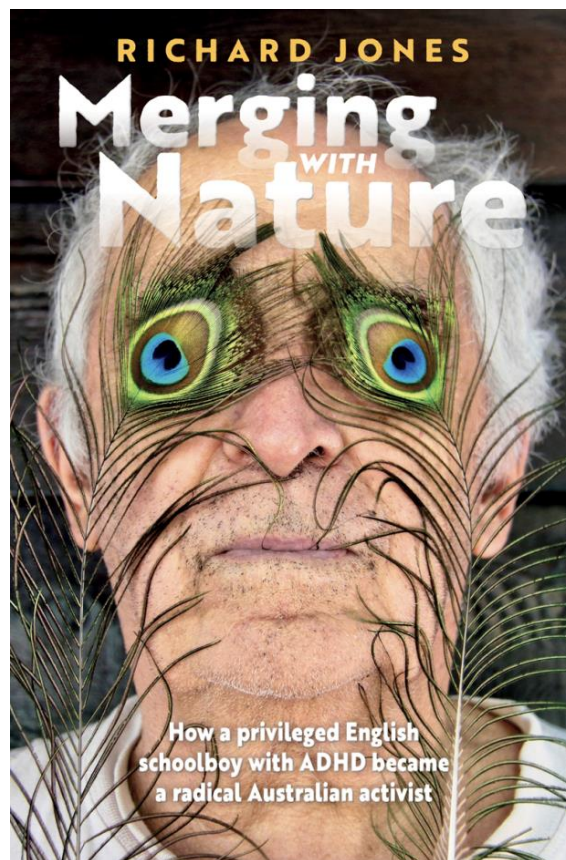
Merging With Nature

If you are an Australian animal academic or activist, in fact any animal protectionist, Richard Jones' *Merging with Nature* is a must view.

I first met Richard in the mid 1980s at an Australian Democrats fundraiser before being a member of his Legislative Council (New South Wales Upper House of Parliament) team and subsequently becoming a friend. I can vividly remember his (and my) disgust at the furs draped over the shoulders of the misinformed at this Sydney upper north shore event. His leadership and drive has been motivating and fundamental in the expansion of my passion and commitment to the environment and animals, and of kangaroos in particular – Rod Bennison

In this inspiring memoir, Richard recounts pivotal life experiences, including interaction with influential individuals such as Spike Milligan, Prince Philip and the Dalai Lama. Richard 'blew his mind on LSD' in the 1960s, igniting a passion for the natural world. He kick started three environmental groups, including Greenpeace Australia, and in the 1980s published the ground breaking alternative magazine, *Simply Living*.

Richard was twice elected to the New South Wales Parliament, holding the balance of power for over a decade. Dubbed the 'nudist, dope-smoking, plastic sandal wearing MP' by the media, he wore this epithet happily. His courageous international acts for nature cost him relationships, wealth, and almost ended his life. Today Richard resides in the hills behind Byron Bay in northern New South Wales, living in the 'Forest of Friends' that he planted. He has reinvented himself as a ceramicist, saving rainforests all over the world with the proceeds and the message: **Be Kind to All Beings**



Copies of this important publication can be purchased directly from Richard by visiting: <https://richardjonespublishing.com/>

Upcoming Publication

Love in Their Hearts: A Celebration of Animal Emotions and a Guide to Compassionate Action

A must have book for animal lovers! From renowned ethologist and animal advocate Marc Bekoff and award winning young adult author Jeff Campbell comes a powerful and visually stunning exploration of animal emotions, and why they matter. Jane Goodall provides one of her final forewords that celebrates the book's message of hope, responsibility, and connection.

Love in Their Hearts invites young and adult readers alike into the rich inner lives of animals, from dogs to dolphins, octopuses to orangutans, and bees to bears. Through moving, surprising, and often joyful true stories, the authors explore the widespread evidence of empathy, playfulness, curiosity, grief, anger, and love across the animal kingdom challenging readers to rethink what they thought they knew about nonhuman beings.

Written for young adults but accessible and compelling for all ages, this inspiring volume blends cutting edge research, firsthand accounts from leading scientists, and a stirring call to compassionate action. Also setting this book apart is its breathtaking wildlife photography, much of it by internationally acclaimed photographer Thomas D. Mangelsen.



Featured throughout, these enthralling, intimate portraits bring readers inside the passionate hearts of our fellow animals. Both eye opening and soul expanding, *Love in Their Hearts* is an essential read for animal lovers, nature enthusiasts, students, educators, and anyone who believes compassion can change the world. Please see: [*Love in Their Hearts: A Celebration of Animal Emotions and a Guide to Compassionate Action*](#)

The Future of Animal Studies: a call for articles

Over the next few issues of the Minding Animals Bulletin, we will be providing readers with a series of articles from renown and emergent Animal Studies academics and authors on the current state of Animal Studies.

Would you like a short paper presented in the Minding Animals Bulletin? Just send your draft to mindinganimals@gmail.com for consideration. Our first article from Professor Paul Waldau follows:

Paul Waldau: On the Current State of Animal Studies

From a paper presented in 2025 to the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion in Boston.

Because humans evolved in a world full of astonishing other-than-human forms of life, our kind has long demonstrated a deep fascination with our fellow living beings. Those who study our ancient past soon learn that every one of our countless ancient human cultures manifested a deep interest in our fellow Earth beings.

In the last millennia or two, however, this deep interest in other-than-human communities has been curtailed by both religious and secular claims that humans *alone* are exceptional. What is tragic about such claims is that even a cursory exploration of humans' many different cultures and religions reveals how peculiar such claims are. Further, the vast majority of each and every person's ancient ancestors would have recognised claims of human exceptionalism to be not only factually wrong, but ethically, spiritually and scientifically bankrupt.

My 2016 volume *Animal Studies: An Introduction* attempted a survey of the opportunities and challenges that our early twenty first century academic disciplines face as they explore our existence in a multispecies world. A follow-up volume to be published in 2026, which carries the title *The Animal Invitation: Science, Ethics, Religion and Law in a More-Than-Human World*, further investigates the value of interdisciplinary approaches to the animal question. It does this by addressing both the "how" and "why" of the claim that *every living human's ancestors were certain that nonhuman animals in diverse places invite each human to recognize that humans and other animals together compose, in Thomas Berry's words, a larger community which is our greater self.*

Interdisciplinary approaches to the animal question face, of course, many challenges. We need to ask, for example, which culture's vocabulary, and which discipline's ideas, will be used to describe the many different issues and problems. In addition, there is this poignant question about the future—"what sense of 'living in this world' might we leave for our children?" What, indeed, will our children and their children will take from us? Will it be a heritage that (i) embraces the undeniable facts of our membership in the diverse community of Earth's living beings, or (ii) merely "business as usual" that continues to participate in the dysfunctional denial of our own animality that has become the heartbeat of modern, industrialized, consumer societies?

These and other questions have power beyond the particular answers we give—consider, for example, how the following basic questions taken from the four central chapters of *The Animal Invitation* challenge all of our academic disciplines that purport to offer insights about the Earth's other-than-human animals. In combination, these four questions ask each of us to reflect on *what humankind can know about ourselves and the Earth's other living beings.*

Regarding humans' scientific pursuits, we must ask,

How much better would our scientific exploration be *if*, as we go about each of our many different science fields that in some way explore nonhuman animals, *we already knew* a great deal about (i) what our ethical systems have suggested about other animals, (ii) what our religious traditions have claimed, and (iii) what our legal systems have in the past done and now might attempt because they play such a prominent role in every modern nation state?

Regarding humans' long history and contemporary efforts to assess how ethics-based discussion currently handles "the animal issue", we must ask,

What might we learn about ethics if, for the purpose of seeing this human capacity as well as possible, we search our human legal systems, our religious and wisdom traditions, and our many sciences in order to fathom what humans can know of our nonhuman neighbours and our own animal features?

A parallel question is posed in the chapter of *The Animal Invitation* focusing on “animals and religion.”

Can we better fathom our religious and wisdom/spirituality traditions if we have also noticed, taken seriously, and then dispassionately explored the animal features evident in the ways humans have pursued and now are doing science, ethics and law?

Finally, a parallel question appears early in the chapter focusing on how “the animal question” has been handled in our human legal systems from time immemorial.

How much better will our species understand what different human communities have attempted through the law if, as we attempt such an understanding, we have already explored seriously our own animal features as they connect us to what is claimed about nonhuman animals in our sciences, ethics, and religions?

Part III of *The Animal Invitation* carries the title “The Gathering Place” because it attempts to explore two key issues: (i) the basic-ness of our own animality and (ii) how an acknowledgment of each human’s membership in communities extending beyond the human realm is the foundation of responsible life in a more-than-human world.

Chapter 9, “Education and Other Animals—Seeing the Pluralism,” points out that in the matter of the animal invitation, our ancestors developed wisdom and perspectives that contemporary education has failed to integrate into modern approaches to responsible citizenship. In this sense, modern educational “establishments” have crippled contemporary citizens through an abject failure to engage the vision that there is a larger community that “constitutes our greater self.”

Chapter 10, “Re-Walking the Shared Earth Community,” dares to hope that human institutions will join citizens around the world in noticing and taking seriously our fellow living beings to the extent our limited abilities permit. Such efforts teach two lessons—the first is called out by Walt Whitman in *Leaves of Grass*:

*Failing to fetch me at first keep encouraged,
Missing me one place search another,
I stop somewhere waiting
for you.*

The second is named in T. S. Eliot’s “Little Gidding (No. 4 of “Four Quartets”):

*We shall never cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time.*

Paul Waldau is an American ethicist and former professor at Canisius College in Buffalo, New York, where he headed the graduate program on anthrozoology, which he founded. He has several times served as Barker Lecturer in animal law at Harvard Law School, and is the author of a number of books on animal rights and speciesism. Paul has also served as the legal director of the Great Ape Project, which campaigns for rights for chimpanzees, gorillas and orangutans, and as President of the Religion and Animals Institute since 2003.

For a recent Interview on the *Animal Invitation* with Sam Mickey of the Forum on Religion and Ecology, please view:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=280CEYjG1NU&list=PLfoNnUIQBvM2DfHmBp5_X4NFfaI6Yss4S&index=2&t=337s