CENTER for
ADVANCED
STUDY

Living in Multi-Species Worlds

Multi-Species Justice Symposium:

Paradigms, Practices, Possibilities

Friday, February 13, 2026
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Levis Faculty Center,
Room 210
919 West Illinois Street, Urbana

How does recognizing the fundamental entanglements of humans and the more-than-human world impact notions of "justice"? Drawing on perceptions from diverse communities, disciplines, and social, political, and historical contexts, this symposium will provide a space for us to grapple with the question: **What might a more just world or worlds look like in the 21st century?**

Alex Blanchette (Anthropology, Tufts University) and **Daina Bray** (Legal Director, Law Environment & Animals Program, Yale Law School) join an interdisciplinary group of scholars for an extended conversation about multi-species justice.

Use the QR code to see the full program

This event is free and open to the public.
To request special accommodation, please contact cas@cas.illinois.edu

The new initiative, **Living in Multi-Species Worlds,** asks—with all of our shared knowledges—what can or do we know beyond the human? What difference might that make to our laws, ethics, acts of representation, interpretation, values, designs, and more, if we challenged the specifically anthropocentric starting points of so much that we do and know? How might such a reorientation reconfigure our disciplinary knowledges? Our methodologies? Social formations? Challenge our imaginations? Reshape some of the foundational questions that our scholarly and creative work engages? Ultimately, how might it expand the range of contributions we hope our universities can make in the future?

CAS Resident Associate Jane Desmond (Anthropology) oversees this initiative which includes an ongoing public events series of lectures and symposia, among other activities. Professor Desmond is also the Resident Director of the CAS Human-Animal Studies Initiative@Illinois.