

Session 1: Update from the Equine Ethics and Wellbeing Commission **Monday, 24 April, 9:30 – 12:30**

For detailed information on the work of the Equine Ethics and Wellbeing Commission, please visit <https://equinewellbeing.fei.org/>

Professor Dr Natalie Waran (NZL)

External expert

Chair, Equine Ethics and Wellbeing Commission

Natalie Waran is an internationally recognised animal behaviour and welfare scientist currently based in New Zealand. She gained a first class Zoology degree from Glasgow University, and her PhD from Cambridge University's Veterinary School funded by the British Veterinary Association's Animal Welfare Foundation. A Professor of Animal Welfare since 2005, she was the Head of School and Associate Dean (Research) at Unitec Institute of Technology in Auckland (NZL), following which she was appointed Chair and inaugural Director of the Jeanne Marchig International Centre for Animal Welfare Education at Edinburgh University's Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies.

While in Edinburgh, she developed and used a 'one welfare' approach for advancing animal welfare in developing countries. In 2016 she returned to New Zealand where she is now Professor of One Welfare at the Eastern Institute of Technology (Te Pūkenga) and Executive Dean. Although she has worked on a range of species and welfare concerns, she has a special interest in horse behaviour and welfare, having published and spoken about equine welfare related topics over the past 25 years.

Natalie is a co-founder of the field of equitation science at the International Society for Equitation Science and is an Honorary Fellow and Trustee of the society. In New Zealand, she is currently Chair of the organisation responsible for the National Animal Register Companion Animals, Chair of the National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC), as well as a member of the National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC). She holds Honorary Professorships at the Universities of Edinburgh, Nottingham Trent and Hartpury.

Professor Dr Kathalijne Visser (NED)

External expert

Member, Equine Ethics and Wellbeing Commission

Kathalijne Visser was appointed Professor (UAS) of Human-Animal Interactions at the Aeres University of Applied Sciences in Dronten (NED) in 2020. She earned her Animal Science degree at the Wageningen University in the Netherlands, defending her well-known PhD thesis, *Horsonality: On the personality of horses*, in 2002.

Following completion of her PhD, Kathalijne led various research projects on equine welfare looking at housing, feeding and training practices, and in 2012 she developed the Dutch welfare monitoring system for horses, based on the Welfare Quality System.

From 2007 to 2012 she was a council member of the International Society for Equitation Science (ISES). As Professor of Human-Animal Interactions, she studies the effect of these interactions on the welfare of dogs and horses in work, therapy, sports and recreation.

Dr Camie Heleski (USA)

Member, Equine Ethics and Wellbeing Commission

Camie Heleski received her PhD in Animal Science with a specialisation in equine behaviour and welfare, and an MSc in Animal Science in equine nutrition and exercise physiology from Michigan State University. She worked at Michigan State University for 25 years as Coordinator of their Horse Management programme, during which time she also coached the collegiate horse judging team for 16 years and the introductory dressage team for six seasons.

Since 2016, Camie has lectured on equine industry issues at the University of Kentucky's Equine Science and Management programme where she co-teaches the Equine Senior Capstone course, and leads the multi-species Animal Behaviour & Welfare class. Her applied research interests focus on equine behaviour and welfare, horse-human interactions, sport horse welfare issues and working equids in developing regions of the world.

Camie has been actively involved with the International Society for Equitation Science as a Council member and Honorary Fellow. One of her recent publications was a co-authored piece in the journal of Sustainability: Thoroughbred Racehorse Welfare through the Lens of 'Social License to Operate—With an Emphasis on a U.S. Perspective. This article led to multiple invited speaking opportunities, both in the USA and abroad. Camie was fortunate to grow up on an Arabian horse farm where she helped her family with training, showing, breeding and managing horses. She helped establish the annual Animal Welfare Judging & Assessment competition as part of her PhD dissertation, which led to her receiving the AVMA Humane Award for Non-Veterinarians in 2012.

Professor Madeleine Campbell (GBR)

BVetMed (Hons), MA (Oxon), MA (Keele), PGCert (Vet Ed), PhD DipECAR, DipECAWBM (AWSEL), FHEA, FRCVS

External Expert

Member, Equine Ethics & Wellbeing Commission

Madeleine Campbell is a Veterinary Surgeon, an EBVS® Veterinary Specialist and a RCVS Recognised Specialist in Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law based in the United Kingdom. She was the first veterinary surgeon to be awarded a Wellcome Trust Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Bioethics, which she used to investigate ethical issues surrounding the use of reproductive technologies in non-human mammals.

Madeleine is Professor of Veterinary Ethics at Nottingham University School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, and runs her own consultancy, Empathy Veterinary Ethics. She Chairs the British Veterinary Association's Ethics and Welfare Advisory Panel

and sits on the Ethics Review Panels for the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and the Zoological Society of London among others.

Madeleine's main focus of current research is on the ethics surrounding the use of animals in competitive sport. In 2020/21, Madeleine developed and published the Ethical Framework for the Use of Horses in Sport Animals and then in 2021/22, she led the development and publication of the Greyhound Board of Great Britain's new Welfare Strategy. In 2021, Madeleine was appointed Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the field of Veterinary Ethics.

Jessica Stark (GBR) **Member, Equine Ethics & Wellbeing Commission**

Jessica Stark is the Director of Communications and Public Affairs for World Horse Welfare. In this position she leads the team responsible for the charity's communications strategy, brand, media relations, stakeholder engagement, policy influence and digital media, as well as educational and research initiatives. Since joining the charity in 2010, Jessica has been closely involved in World Horse Welfare's work to promote the ethical and responsible involvement of horses in sport.

She has more than 25 years of international communications and campaigns experience gained in New York and London in the private, public and non-for-profit sectors including roles with The Economist Group, Pearson plc and Britain's senior public servants' union, the FDA. Jessica is passionate about improving equine welfare within the horse-human relationship and conveying the mutual benefits of this relationship.

Grania Willis (IRL) **Moderator**

Grania Willis, a former international Eventing athlete, was a journalist from 1980 to 2007, working as equestrian correspondent for The Irish Times and RTE (Irish national state broadcaster) Television & Radio. Until 2003, she was also editor of the Irish Horse World, the sport horse section of the weekly racing bible, The Irish Field.

In 2007, she was offered her own television chat show interviewing Irish sporting legends, but chose a different route and went instead to Hong Kong on an 18-month contract as Public Affairs Equestrian Consultant for the Hong Kong Jockey Club, venue providers for the Beijing 2008 Olympic equestrian events.

She joined the FEI in 2009 as Press Relations Director and then Communications Director. She retired from the FEI in December 2021, and now works as a Consultant for both the FEI and the Pan American Equestrian Confederation.

Grania Willis was the first Irish woman to climb the north side of Mount Everest, a feat she achieved on 5 June 2005.