

A Message from the President...



Dear Colleagues,

It is an honor and a privilege to begin my term as President of the American Society of Primatologists. I will work diligently to make a positive impact on the current and future of our

Society. Our outgoing President, **Marilyn Norconk**, deserves a tremendous thank you for her thoughtful and dedicated leadership these past two years. I am grateful that she will continue to serve the Society as Past-President.

Our journal, the *American Journal of Primatology*, continues to be strong under the leadership of Editor **Paul Garber**. In 2015, *AJP* was ranked highest of the four primatology journals in the Zoology category of the Journal Citation Report. Please continue to submit your best work to *AJP*! On the recommendation of the Publications Committee, the BOD has reappointed Paul to an additional 3-year term as Editor. Paul and the Editors deserve our thanks for their dedication to ensuring the quality and vitality of the journal.

The Joint Meeting of the ASP/IPS just concluded in Chicago. Over 1500 primatologists attended, including 700 from the Americas. With over 50 symposia, workshops and roundtables, 370 contributed talks in addition to the symposia,

298 poster presentations, and 5 keynote speakers, the scientific program was non-stop from 9am – 9pm. It was an exhausting but exciting week! I've returned invigorated and energized. Thank you to the local hosts, **Steven Ross** and **Lydia Hopper**, the Program Co-Chairs, **Karen Bales** and **Katie Hinde**, and the conference coordinator, **Steven Schapiro**, for organizing and delivering such an outstanding meeting.

Each year our small grants competitions (administered by the Conservation Committee, and Research and Development Committee) provides funding for between 10-20 projects. These grants provide critical funding for students, newly independent scientists as well as established scientists. Over the past 15 years, the Society has awarded in excess of \$200,000. We may be a small society but these grants have made a huge impact.

One serious issue does need attention: membership. Membership in the Society has been steadily declining over the past decade, likely due to a variety of factors. We are quite an academically diverse organization, including the primary disciplines of anthropology, biology, psychology, and neuroscience. While we are all primatologists, most of us identify with additional professional organizations/specializations. Such dual identifications likely limit participation in ASP by some, especially when finances are limited. The Membership and Finance Committee,

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chaired by **Corinna Ross**, will be focusing on membership and initiating a membership drive. The goal will be to recruit new members as well as to reach out to lapsed members. The BOD works diligently to support the Mission of the Society, and to promote and protect the interests of our members. We need you and your perspectives to guide us in decision-making. This is your society, and the richness of diverse perspectives and disciplines can only make us stronger.

I encourage you to become involved in the Society. There are nine standing committees. Most of the business of the Society is conducted by these committees – so your active participation will make a difference. If you wish to serve on a committee please contact the committee chair. I would like to extend my thanks to those who served as committee chairs during 2015-2016: **Lynne Isbell**, Awards and Recognition; **Morgan Chaney and Brett Frye**, Student Committee (ad hoc); **Michelle Bezanson and Stacey Tecot**, Conservation; **Amanda Dettmer and Karen Hambright**, Education; **Corinna Ross**, Finance and Membership; **Christopher Schmitt**, Media and Public Engagement; **Mollie Bloomsmith**, Primate Care; **Karen Bales and Katie Hinde**, Program; **Randy Kyes**, Publications; and **Larry Williams**, Research and Development. Committee chairs for 2016 – 2018 will be announced in the next Bulletin.

Two officers have completed their terms on the Board of Directors: Past President **Karen Bales** and Secretary **Justin McNulty**. Thank you Karen and Justin for your dedication and your hard work on behalf of the Society!

Mark your calendars and plan to attend our Ruby Anniversary meeting in Washington, D.C. #ASPDC2017! The dates are August 25 – 28, 2017. The conference will be held at the Washington Plaza Hotel, and is accessible by public transportation. **Amanda Dettmer**, the local host, has secured excellent rates (\$159

single/double; \$189 triple). We expect the abstract submission deadline to be in early March. Additional information about the conference will be posted on the ASP website as it becomes available.

Feel free to contact me with your thoughts and feedback (Kimberley.phillips@trinity.edu). I look forward to serving the Society these next two years.

- Kimberley A. Phillips

Join us for ASP's Ruby Anniversary!



Artwork by Michelle Bezanson

August 25-28, 2017
Washington Plaza Hotel
Washington, DC
Hosted by: Amanda M. Dettmer, PhD

A Message From the Outgoing President

I have had the good fortune to work with **Karen Bales, Justin McNulty, Kim Phillips, and Cory Ross** over the past two years. I thank them for their support and patience as I learned many things about the Society and broadened my views of the complexities of primate research. There is no doubt that we live in a challenging time for both captive and field research.

I look forward to serving the Society for another two years as Past President with **Kim Phillips, Cory Ross, Mollie Bloomsmith and Amanda Dettmer**. Presidents of the Society serve two years before and after their term as president, thus I also had the pleasure of working with **Carolyn Ehart** and **Doree Fragaszy** when I was President Elect.

The Society could not function without the chairs and committee members of the standing and ad hoc committees. I thank all of them for their dedication and hard work. Please read their reports in this Bulletin and recognize what they do for both the present and future of the Society. Many annual awards and ASP activities are directed at recognizing the achievements of students and supporting their research. Student involvement is critical to maintaining the freshness and direction of the Society. Also critical to our ability to maintain a public presence is our website. Many thanks to **Nancy Capitanio**, who works behind the scenes to maintain our website; she is the great and powerful Oz! I also thank my partner, **Jean Engle**, for her editorial skills and long-term support of all things primate.

- Marilyn A. Norconk

Distinguished Primatologists Award for 2016 Announced at ASP/IPS Meeting in Chicago, IL

Yes, you read that right! *Two* primatologists won ASP's most distinguished award at the joint meeting in Chicago!

The Distinguished Primatologist Award for career achievement in primatology was presented to Drs. Dorothy Cheney and Robert Seyfarth, whose career contributions to primatology have always been highly collaborative.

Under Robert Hinde's supervision, **Robert Seyfarth** and **Dorothy Cheney** earned their Ph.D.s in 1976 and 1977, respectively, from the University of Cambridge, based on fieldwork conducted on the social behavior of chacma baboons in South Africa. After South Africa, as postdoctoral fellows at Rockefeller University with Peter Marler, they turned to Amboseli National Park in Kenya to study vervets, and so began their lifelong focus on communication as a way to explore social relationships and social cognition in free-ranging primates. After 13 years with the Amboseli vervets, they shifted back to southern Africa, this time to Botswana, where they studied chacma baboons again for another 20 years. Despite the challenges of conducting fieldwork, for which it is a given that the pace of publication will be slower than that of laboratory work, they have thus far jointly authored 160 journal articles and book chapters, one edited volume, and two books, in addition to their many separate publications. Their volume, *Primate Societies*, co-edited with Barbara Smuts, Richard Wrangham, and

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model for two more recent edited volumes by others. Their two books have been entertaining as well as informative.

Drs. Seyfarth and Cheney pioneered field playback experiments in which they used the primates' own vocalizations and those of other species to pry into the minds of the animals they worked with as a way to understand how primates perceive the world around themselves. One obvious example is their universally known study that identified the alarm calls of vervets as representative of referential communication, i.e., different types of alarm calls were given when particular predators were detected, they could be easily distinguished from each other, and they were responded to in an ecologically appropriate manner by other group members. Drs. Seyfarth and Cheney have also conducted playback experiments using baboon grunts and barks to explore the depth and functional value of social relationships between individuals and extending to their relatives living together in the same group. Throughout their careers, they have maintained a strong comparative and evolutionary perspective.

The ASP joins a number of other organizations in acknowledging their mutual achievements. As a prelude to what was to come, early in their careers they were jointly given the Young Scientist Award from the University of Pennsylvania. Later honors and awards shared by Drs. Cheney and Seyfarth include being elected Fellows of the American Academy of Sciences and the Animal Behavior Society. They were both awarded the Doctor of Science, *Honoris Causa*, from the University of Neuchatel, Switzerland, were both John Simon Guggenheim Fellows, and were both Fellows of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University. It was the latter that led to *Primate Societies*. They were also awarded the W.W. Howells Book Prize from the Biological Anthropology Section of the American Anthropological Association for their first book, *How Monkeys See the World*.

The Awards and Recognition Committee is pleased to award **Drs. Dorothy Cheney and Robert Seyfarth** with the Distinguished Primatologist Award. They are invited to speak at the ASP Meeting in Washington, D.C., in August, 2017.



Dorothy Cheney and Robert Seyfarth



Drs. Cheney (top) and Seyfarth (bottom) follow baboons during a water crossing.
Photos courtesy of Cheney & Seyfarth

2016 ASP Early Career Achievement Award

Dr. Bernardo Urbani was given the **Early Career Achievement Award**. This award is for exceptional contributions by a primatologist who is less than seven years past receiving the Ph.D. Dr. Urbani is from Venezuela. He earned his undergraduate degree in Anthropology, *Magna Cum Laude*, at the Universidad Central de Venezuela in Caracas, and his Ph.D. at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign under the guidance of Paul Garber. His dissertation was on spatial mapping in white-faced capuchins, which was funded by a National Science Foundation doctoral dissertation improvement grant as well as other grants. His academic interests are broad and include behavioral ecology, conservation, ethnoprimateology, and the history of primatology, and he has written over 50 publications on these



Mantled howler monkey (*Alouatta palliata*)

topics in English, Spanish, and French, largely focusing on primates in Latin America and the Caribbean. Dr. Urbani has also, at this early stage, co-edited two volumes on howler monkeys, two historical books on primatology, and one children's book. Moreover, his interest in historical primatology has taken him to over 120 libraries and museums around the world. He is currently with the Center for Anthropology, Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Research.

The Awards and Recognition Committee is pleased to honor **Dr. Bernardo Urbani** with the **Early Career Achievement Award**. Dr. Urbani has confirmed his presentation at #ASPDC2017!

Awards and Recognition Committee Members:
Linda Fedigan, Lynne Isbell (Chair), Peter Judge, Andreas Koenig, and Leanne Nash

It was a very successful year, and we raised over \$8,400, to be split evenly among our two societies! This would not have been possible without the extremely kind donations of original art by many of our members, including Charity Oetgen, Jessie Williams, Kathy West, Patrick Neary, and several other creative primatologists/primate fans who contributed. We are so grateful to the artists and art collectors alike!

The Conservation Committee is also working on helping to spread the word about ASP and raise funds for conservation grants and awards using **video vignettes**. Committee members Krista Milich and Emma Cancelliere are collecting and editing video vignettes describing past grant winners and their research. We are also streamlining our **grant reporting process** to better highlight the work of our grant recipients. Stay tuned for more information!

Please don't forget to use the ASP Amazon link (on the ASP homepage: www.asp.org) for all purchases.

amazon.com.

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Committee Update: Conservation

This year's joint **ASP/IPS silent auction** highlighted the creativity and generosity of our members. The Conservation Committee would like to thank all who contributed to the ASP/IPS 2016 conservation silent auction. We could not have had such a successful auction without the help of our committee members, as well as **Janette Wallis** and the IPS Conservation Committee. We are also grateful to **Cory Ross, Steve Shapiro, and Steve Ross** for their help.

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We raise quite a bit of funds through this link, and the funds go directly to Conservation Grants and Awards. Please contact Stacey Tecot and/or Michelle Bezanson if you have fund-raising ideas or fund-raising connections. All of the funds that the committee raises are distributed to recipients of the Conservation Award and Conservation Grants.

Please continue to **nominate outstanding conservationists!** Details can be found at: <https://asp.org/grants/conservation/index.cfm>. Submission dates are the same each year.

2016 Conservationist Award

This year's **Conservationist Award** was earned by Dr. Francisca Vidal-García, a Research Assistant at Instituto de Ecología AC. Dr. Vidal-García has made key contributions to primatology and conservation, both in publications and in providing critical information necessary for conservation action plans. She previously received the ASP Elizabeth Watts Student Travel Award, and was the first non-US recipient of the Best Oral Presentation award. She was also an outstanding participant in the IPS Pre-Congress Training Program, so she has a long history of contributing to both of our societies. 'Frany' will receive a plaque and a \$750 award to continue her work with primate conservation and education.



Dr. Francisca Vidal-García

2016 Conservationist Grants Awarded

The Conservation Committee is pleased to announce the following winners of the 2016 Conservation Grant competition:

- **Cheryl Knott:** Saving Orangutans One Classroom at a Time: Conservation Education in Remote Communities near Gunung Palung National Park, Indonesian Borneo.
- **JoAnna Malukiewicz:** Mitochondrial Population Genomics as a Tool for *Callithrix aurita* and *C. flaviceps* Conservation.
- **Amanda Mancini:** Impact of landscape heterogeneity on the genetic structure of a critically endangered primate (*Varecia variegata*).
- **Brandon Semel:** Climate Change, Coups, and Critically Endangered Species: First Aerial Drone Surveys of Madagascar's Lemur.
- **Montserrat Franquesa Soler:** Diagnostic, assessment and design of an environmental education program in Mexican schools for the conservation of the black howler monkeys (*Alouatta pigra*).
- **Ly Tran:** Protecting Grey-shanked douc langur in Kon Ka Kinh National Park by raising awareness of Banah ethnic minority people in Ha Dong commune, Gia Lai province, Viet Nam.

- **Stacey Tecot and Michelle Bezanson,**
Conservation Committee Co-Chairs

Committee Update: Education

We want to express our appreciation to the IPS and ASP members who served as reviewers of abstracts to determine finalists in the joint Student Competition, as well as to those who served as judges at the meeting in determination of the outstanding and honorable mention awards. These generous volunteers are listed below:

ASP: **Amanda Dettmer (Co-chair), Karen Hambright (Co-chair), Kathy West, Eliza-Bliss Moreau, Cory Ross, Tamara Weinstein, Francisca Vidal Garcia, Matt Novak, Allison Howard, Anja Depp, Katie Chun, Annika Paukner, Jessica Vandeleest, and Lynne Miller.**

IPS: **Elizabeth Lonsdorf, (Chair), Laura March, Francine Dolins, Zarin Machanda, Serge Wich, Lisa Parr, Ann Savage, and Lynne Miller.**

We offer a special thanks to volunteers, **Ben Regan** and newly minted Ph.D., **Michael Reid**, who served as “pinch hitters” to equally distribute ASP/IPS judges at the meeting.

As expected, judging was quite difficult given the quality of the submissions and presentations. We are pleased to announce the following awardees:

Outstanding Oral Presentation Award

Corinna Most ([Abstract](#)) “Ecological factors influence weaning behavior and mother-infant proximity in a troop of wild olive baboons (*P. anubis*) in the Laikipia Plateau, Kenya.”

Honorable Mention Oral Presentation Award

Erin Kane ([Abstract](#)) was awarded an entitled: “Fecal glucocorticoids, feeding behavior, and sociality among free-ranging female Diana monkeys (*Cercopithecus diana*) in Taï, Côte d’Ivoire”

Honorable Mention Poster Presentation Award

Ashley Murphy ([Abstract](#)) was awarded an entitled: “Effects of maternal parity on infant impulsivity in socially housed rhesus macaques (*Macaca mulatta*).”

The ASP Education committee is looking forward to an equally challenging research competition at #ASPDC2017. We encourage graduate and undergraduates, post-bacs, and animal care and research techs to renew their membership and submit their research for next year’s competition.

Thanks again to everyone for their hard work and dedication to the ASP!

- Karen Hambright and Amanda Dettmer,
Education Committee Co-Chairs

Committee Update: Media & Public Engagement

It was a good year for the Media Committee! By the end of ASP/IPS in Chicago, we had increased our Twitter following to 1415 (up nearly 1000 followers from this time last year), and our tweets from @ASPvoice (along with those of @IPS_2016) were the nexus of thousands of tweets sent by 938 other Twitter users on the conference hashtag (#ipsasp16). By the end of the conference we had racked up over 8000 views of our media, and 1200 profile visits. Fittingly, the most popular tweets were those from the #talkingprimates16 session on the use of social media in primatology. Keep an eye out for our Storify summaries of IPS/ASP and the various hashtagged sessions, which we will disseminate via @ASPvoice and the ASP Facebook page, and archive on the ASP website.

In committee, we discussed a number of items. First, the Committee on Media and Information will be working closely with the Publications Committee from now on, and we are working towards merging the two committees to streamline ASP's public presentation and presence. We will also be working over the next year to develop a more sustained branded strategy for ASP. This work will include campaigns designed to increase engagement with ASP members and the public on social media platforms – such as a large social media workshop at the 2017 meetings in Washington, D.C. (#ASPDC2017), arranged live tweeting from students at ASP 2017 with prizes for the best tweets, and a more consistent internet presence via regular planned online engagements (similar to #fossilfriday; think #monkeymondays and online polls meant to educate readers about primates and primate research). Kathy West has generously donated the use of her beautiful images to help this effort succeed. We are also working towards getting an app for the ASP 2017 to offer easier browsing and scheduling for conference attendees.

We are also happy to welcome **Kathy West, Erin Kane, and Michele Mulholland** to our committee roster. They will work closely with previous members **John Capitanio, Dee Higley, Katie Hinde, and Justin McNulty** to improve ASP's public effectiveness. If you're interested in joining us, please email me (caschmit@bu.edu) or DM our Twitter account (@ASPvoice) to discuss!

- **Christopher A. Schmitt,**
Media & Public Engagement Chair

Get Social With ASP!

If you missed the ASP/IPS meeting in Chicago, catch up with [#IPSASP16](#) on Twitter.

Connect with ASP and next year's meeting!

 [@ASPVoice](#) [#ASPDC2017](#) 

Don't forget to join the ASP members Facebook page via the members-only section of www.ASP.org.



Female rhesus macaque (*Macaca mulatta*)

Committee Update: Research & Development New Grant Opportunity!

Dr. Deborah Moore Memorial Grant for Early Career Primatologists

Purpose and Description of the Award

The society opens applications for a grant to memorialize Canadian primatologist, **Dr. Deborah Moore**. Deborah completed her graduate and doctoral studies at the University of Texas, San Antonio, following a community of unhabituated chimps in Tanzania, often travelling alone in harsh circumstances, as the chimps fled from human contact. She continued into her early career carrying out biological research on bonobos in the rain forests of the Democratic Republic of the Congo through the Bonobo Conservation Initiative. All of her studies were completed as a mature student and in the face of her own repeated battles with breast cancer - first diagnosed in the field in Tanzania - but never dulling her commitment to continue in the field, deliver original findings and publish her work.

Deborah was acutely aware of the challenges facing early career researchers seeking to secure funding to support primatological studies without the security of a permanent academic position. In honor of Deborah and her passion for primate research and conservation, this grant is open to application from exceptional early career researchers who can demonstrate their passion and dedication for extending knowledge through original research of primates in their natural environment. Promising new primatologists able to continue the legacy set by Dr. Deborah Moore should apply.

In this funding round, three grants of **\$2000 USD** will be awarded. **The deadline for application is March 1, 2017.**

Eligibility

The applicant must possess a Ph.D., Ph.D. must have been awarded within the last 5 years and the applicant must not be in a tenure-track or tenure position.

Application

The proposal form will be available at the members-only section of the ASP website (www.asp.org).

Evaluation

The Research Committee will evaluate the applicant's full application; three awards will be given this funding round.

Budget

Proposals will be accepted that request up to \$2,000 in support. An itemized budget of expenses and a budget justification should be provided. Allowable expenses include travel, per diem, equipment, salaries of local in-country support. Conference travel and PI salaries will not be supported.

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Reporting to ASP

Candidates who receive the Dr. Deborah Moore Memorial Grant will prepare a two-page summary of the outcome of the study at the completion of project and within 18 months of receipt of the award.

Submission of Application

Completed applications must be submitted in a single PDF file. **The deadline for application is March 1, 2017.**

This year the Research and Development committee reviewed 38 applications for the ASP small research grants. Thanks to all of you who submitted applications this year, the overall quality of the applications made it difficult for the committee to select those that it could fund.

Congratulation to the winners! Next year's application will be due **June 1, 2017** so please keep an eye on your email for more information.

- Larry Williams,
Research & Development Committee Chair

| Author | Institute | Title |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Laura Abondano | University of Texas at Austin | Mating strategies and reproductive endocrinology of lowland woolly monkeys (<i>Lagothrix lagotricha poeppigii</i>) |
| Susie D. Lee | New York University | The role of Testosterone in the Modulation of Parental Behaviors in Female Macaques |
| Candace Stenzel | Winthrop University | Do the Vocalizations of Equatorial Saki Monkeys (<i>Pithecia aequatorialis</i>) Contain Referential Meaning? |
| Nicole Thompson | Columbia University | The Benefits of Social Ties during Development in Blue Monkeys |



Vervet monkeys (*Chlorocebus pygerythrus*)

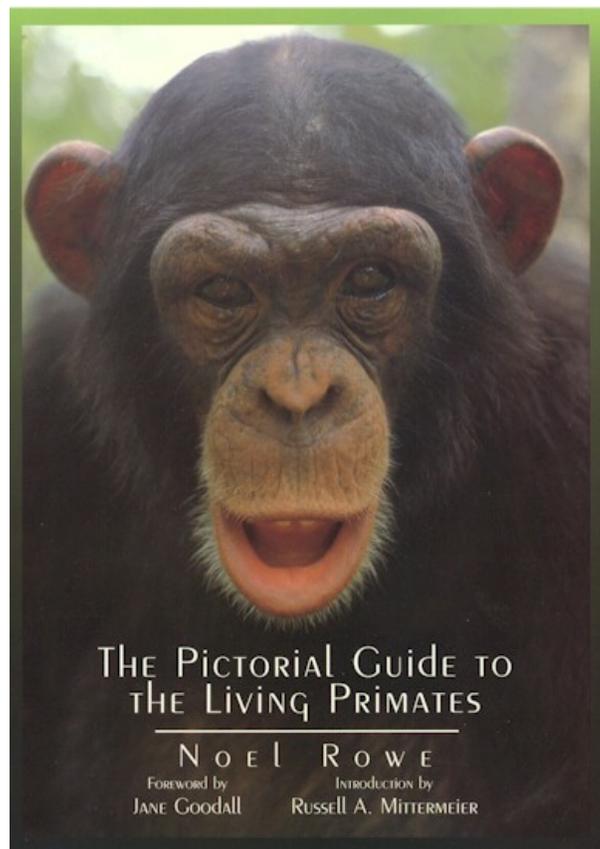
2016 President's Award

Outgoing ASP President, Marilyn Norconk, gave the ASP President's award to **Noel B. Rowe** – photographer, philanthropist and Director of Primate Conservation, Inc. Noel has been a tireless supporter of primate field research and conservation. He has provided small-grant funding for more than 500 projects in 28 countries since 1993 through his non-profit organization, Primate Conservation, Inc. He published a comprehensive compendium of primate identification, habitat distribution and conservation status in *The Pictorial Guide to Living Primates* in 1992 and will be launching a massive revision this year. In addition, he collaborated with Marc Myers to coordinate the production of the on-line primate resource, "[All the World's Primates](#)" website, a few years ago.

Many primatologists have both benefited from Noel's generosity and collaborated with him to maintain a current database on the distribution, behavior and ecology of the more than 500 primates. I cannot think of a more deserving individual who has made "unique and exceptional contributions to primatology" and impacted so many people directly than Noel Rowe.

- Marilyn A. Norconk

This [award](#) was established in 2000 and is given to individuals or to organizations that have made unique and exceptional contributions to primatology. The President of ASP, during his/her term of office, may nominate an individual or organization for the award. If the Awards and Recognition Committee endorses the nomination, it is forwarded to the Board of Directors for final approval. Awardees are given a \$500 honorarium and a plaque.



Upcoming Meetings



Midwest Primate Interest Group

Held in honor of Dr. Robert Sussman

Grand Valley State University

Friday, October 21st – Saturday, October 22nd, 2016

The deadline for abstract submission for the 2016 MPIG meeting at Grand Valley State University is **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**.

Please send your abstract (275 word limit) to **Dr. Julienne Rutherford** (ruther4d@uic.edu). Indicate your preference for a poster or podium presentation. Podium talks are typically limited to <20. First come, first served, with some discretion to highlight excellent student research.

Abstract Instructions:

PLEASE name your file with the last name of the presenting author (e.g. Rutherford_MPIG2015.docx). Include in the abstract (and the title if appropriate) the taxonomic name of the species discussed in your paper. Italicize genus and species names. Capitalize genus names.

Registration fees:

Registration fees are \$20 for students and \$45 for faculty. Please make your check payable to the Midwest Primate Interest Group and mail to:

Dr. Katie MacKinnon

Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice

Saint Louis University

3500 Lindell Boulevard

St. Louis, MO 63103

Northeastern Evolutionary Primatologists

Hunter College, New York City

Friday, November 4th - Saturday, November 5th, 2016

Keynote Speaker (evening of Nov. 4): **Dr. Christopher Schmitt**

Registration is now open! Register at register.neevolprimatol.org.

Registration is \$30 for students and \$60 for faculty. Pay your registration fee at neep2016.eventbrite.com.

Abstracts for oral and poster presentations will be accepted until **September 15, 2016**. Submit your abstract when you register.

NEEP logo contest (to be voted on at #NEEP2016): E-mail entries to ne.evol.primatol@gmail.com before **October 21, 2016**.

See the [website](#) for more information on #NEEP2016 including transportation, food/drinks, and details on Hunter College. Accommodation (hotel rooms at discounted conference rate) options to come! Keep checking back.



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The Sackler Colloquium of the National Academy of Sciences



Irvine, California, USA

Wednesday, November 16th -Thursday, November 17th 2016

Theme: “[The Extension of Biology Through Culture](#)”

Organizers: **Andy Whiten, Marcus Feldman, Francisco Ayala and Kevin Laland**

Poster abstracts are due October 26! Abstracts on social learning, traditions and culture in humans and non-human species are welcomed and encouraged! Follow the [poster tab](#) on the margin of the webpage.

Invited and Confirmed Talks:

- *Evolution and revolution in cetacean vocal culture: lessons from humpback whale song*, **Ellen Garland**, University of St Andrews, UK
- *Gene-culture coevolution in whales and dolphins*, **Hal Whitehead**, Dalhousie University Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
- *Cultural legacies: unpacking the inter-generational transmission of information in birds*, **Lucy Aplin**, University of Oxford, UK
- *What evolves in the evolution of social learning? A social insect perspective*, **Elli Leadbeater**, Royal Holloway, University of London, UK
- *Can culture re-shape the evolution of learning and how?*, **Arnon Lotem**, Tel Aviv University
- *What long term field studies reveal of primate traditions*, **Susan Perry**, University of California, Los Angeles
- *Can we identify a primate signature in social learning?*, **Dorothy Fragaszy**, University of Georgia
- *The evolution of primate intelligence*, **Kevin Laland**, University of St Andrews, UK
- Public Lecture *How animal cultures extend the scope of biology: Tradition and learning from apes to whales to bees*, **Andrew Whiten**, University of St Andrews, UK
- *Skill learning, neuroplasticity and exaptation in the evolution of human tool-making and language*, **Dietrich Stout**, Emory University
- *The role of cultural innovations, learning processes, and ecological dynamics in shaping Middle Stone Age cultural adaptations*, **Francesco d’Errico**, University of Bordeaux, France
- *The ontogenetic foundations of cumulative cultural transmission*, **Cristine Legare**, University of Texas, Austin
- *"I don't know": ignorance and question-asking as engines for cognitive development*, **Paul Harris**, Harvard University
- *Childhood as simulated annealing: How wide hypothesis exploration in an extended childhood contributes to cultural learning*, **Alison Gopnik**, University of California, Berkeley
- *How language shapes the nature of cultural inheritance*, **Susan Gelman**, University of Michigan
- *Big data, cultural macroevolution and the prospects for an evolutionary science of human history*. **Russell Gray**, Max Planck Institute for the science of human history, Germany
- *Ongoing prospects for a unified science of cultural evolution*, **Alex Mesoudi**, University of Exeter, UK
- Concluding Remarks, **Francisco J. Ayala**, University of California, Irvine

Minutes of the 2016 Meeting of the Executive Committee

Chicago, Illinois

The members of the Executive Committee of the American Society of Primatologists convened at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 22, 2016, in the Room 328 at Navy Pier, 600 E. Grand Avenue, Chicago Illinois, with the following participation:

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Karen Bales

Michelle Bezanson

Mollie Bloomsmith

Amanda Dettmer

Karen Hambright

Katie Hinde

Lynne Isbell

Justin McNulty

Marilyn Norconk

Kimberley Phillips

Cory Ross

Christopher Schmitt

Stacey Tecot

Larry Williams

Members Absent

Randy Kyes

Guest(s) Present

Morgan Chaney

Dee Higley

President Norconk called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and requested reports by the chairs of the standing and *ad hoc* committees, with discussion by the Executive Committee. In alphabetical order:

Awards & Recognition Committee

Lynne Isbell, Chair

The Chair reported the receipt of ten applications for the Maderas Rainforest Conservancy Scholarship for Education and Training in Field Primatology. Earlier this year, one student—Kira Collins of San Diego State University—was offered a scholarship. The Chair asked that the ASP

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advertise the scholarship to their students so that additional scholarships can be offered.

The committee recommended selections for the Distinguished Primatologist Award and the Early Career Achievement Award. These recommendations were emailed to the Board of Directors and have been approved. The Early Career Achievement Award will go to Bernardo Urbani and the Distinguished Primatologist Award will be announced at the Business Meeting.

Conservation Committee

Stacey Tecot and Michelle Bezanson, Co-Chairs

The committee received 28 applications for the Conservation Small Grants, however, seven were disqualified for not following the application instructions. The committee recommended funding six of the remaining applications. The total award amount recommended and approved was \$12,000. The committee will encourage individuals to reapply as well as suggest that applicants contact prior winners for guidance in completing applications. In addition, the committee is working to streamline the post-award report process, which should help promote work and disseminate project outcomes much more quickly.

For the Conservationist Award, the committee received three applications and recommended to the BOD that the recipient be Francisca Vidal-Garcia, Research Assistant, Instituto de Ecología AC, México. The committee decided to keep nominations on file for three years and reevaluate these each year.

The committee anticipates lower income from the silent auction this year due to sharing 50% of the profits with the IPS Conservation Committee. There has been some disagreement regarding how the end of the silent auction will occur as IPS asks members to login to their account and pay online. After a brief discussion, the Executive Committee was in agreement that the ASP method of using Square Mobile Payment should be used, particularly since there is a lower charge for processing credit cards than the online method.

Finally, there was a brief discussion regarding the amount of work the committee puts in each year to raise money for their projects. They are open to handing off the silent auction in future years to other committees that may need to fundraise since there is a significant reserve in the Conservation Fund.

Education Committee

Amanda Dettmer and Karen Hambright, Co-Chairs.

The Co-Chair discussed the student competition, which this year is being held jointly with the IPS Education Committee, headed by Elizabeth Lonsdorf. It was pointed out that both societies are sharing the costs of the competition evenly, with IPS paying slightly more in prize money. There has been one round of review and there are ten poster finalists and 22 oral presentation finalists. While the overall number of participants is lower than previous years, the committee members find that the two round judging has increased the quality of submissions and reduced the variation among the submissions so that the process is much more manageable and submissions are of higher quality. The winners will be announced at the Business Meeting.

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The Co-Chair reported that ASP participated in the 4th annual USA Science and Engineering Festival, which was held in Washington, D.C. April 16 & 17, 2016. This year the booth was located across the aisle from the booth for the National Primate Research Centers and the traffic was noticeably higher. The ASP booth continues to highlight simple, but interactive activities for all ages. The Co-Chairs suggested that the incoming committee chairs evaluate increasing booth space for the 2018 festival and/or rethinking the booth activities. Other outreach activities over the past year included a test of concept of the modified primate evolution game at a public school in Maryland.

There was a brief discussion about future chairs for the committee and several names were suggested. Incoming president, Kimberley Phillips, will work to appoint committee chair(s) soon.

Finally, the Co-Chairs discussed their plans for the ASP Award for Excellence in Outreach, which was recently approved by the membership in the January elections. The committee has identified their first recipient and will present the award at next year's meeting in Washington, D.C.

Media & Public Engagement Committee

Christopher Schmitt, Chair

The Chair noted that the committee will be working closely with the Publications Committee and suggested that the two committees be combined to streamline ASP's public presentation and presence. The committee plans to work over the next year to develop a more sustained branded strategy for the Society. This work will include campaigns designed to increase engagement with ASP members and the public on social media platforms – such as a large social media workshop at the 2017 meeting in Washington, D.C., arrange live-tweeting from students at ASP 2017 with prizes for the best tweets, and a more consistent internet presence via regular planned online engagements (similar to #fossilfriday; think #monkeymondays and online polls meant to educate readers about primates and primate research).

The Society Historian position was officially folded into the committee via Society vote during the January 2016 elections. As a result, another goal for the next year is to finish the historical archives project that was started by a previous committee chair.

Finally, both the Publications Committee and the Media and Public Engagement Committee will explore whether a conference app for smartphones can be implemented for future meetings. There was also discussion of making hard copies of the conference schedule available to members from habitat countries and for purchase on site.

Membership and Finance Committee

Cory Ross, Chair and Treasurer

The Treasurer reviewed the Financial Statements of the Society for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2016. For the General Fund, the period began with \$115,005; the May 31, 2016 balance was \$92,473 (down 20%). Another significant donation was made to the Society from the Nacey Maggioncalda Foundation, in honor of Robert Sapolsky's contributions to primate physiology and behavior in the amount of \$10,000. Since the 2016 meeting is being held jointly with IPS, all meeting expenses are not reflected in the balance sheet since the IPS Treasurer is handling the meeting finances. For the

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the May 31, 2016 balance was \$16,997 (down 37%). This May 31, 2016 balance reflects one expenditure: the 2015 Award to Amanda Dettmer. For the Conservation Fund, the period began with \$26,997; the May 31, 2016 balance was \$16,997 (down 37%). This May 31, 2016 balance reflects one expenditure: the 2015 Award to Amanda Dettmer. For the Conservation Fund, the period began with \$64,464; the May 31, 2016 balance was \$64,712 (up 0.4%). This May 31, 2016 balance reflects expenditures over the last year of \$6,964 (including award of the 2015 Conservation Small Grants (\$5,900), and revenues of \$7,212, generated primarily through the silent auction (\$2,501), raffle tickets (\$2,200), and amazon.com sales (\$953). The 2015 meeting in Bend, Oregon generated \$86,940 in revenue and expended \$64,215, resulting in a profit of \$22,725.

The total number of ASP members at the end of 2015 was 479 (472 paying members). As of May 31, 2016, membership totaled 268 members. Membership numbers were expected to decrease due to the timing of abstract submission (in 2015) and the fact that meeting attendees only needed to be members of ASP or IPS (which has significantly lower dues) to register for the meeting. The Treasurer and Membership and Finance Committee will work on more renewal reminders for the rest of the year as well as reaching out to past award winners that are not members to re-join. In addition, it was suggested that a brief survey be sent to 2016 meeting attendees that are not ASP members to inquire as to why they are not ASP members. Finally, the Treasurer suggested that perhaps a reduced meeting rate could be established for recent graduates or post-doctoral researchers in order to attract them to the meeting.

Primate Care Committee

Mollie Bloomsmith, Chair

The Chair reported that the “Primate Welfare Award” received thirty applications, but only four completed the full process to be eligible for the award. The winner will be announced at the Business Meeting. The Committee is in the early stages of developing a welfare innovation award.

The Chair reported that the committee continues to update the “Welfare” section of the ASP website. Over the past year, information on primate retirement was added. The committee is looking to add more information for the general public as well as potentially profiling primatologists involved welfare. Additionally, the committee will collaborate with the Media and Public Engagement Committee to disseminate information from the committee.

The committee worked on a Special Topics volume in the *American Journal of Primatology*, which is currently in Early View on the AJP website. The committee is considering work on another special topic or a symposium for the 2017 meeting.

The committee is working to encourage more primate veterinarians to become involved with ASP and join the society. Some work has been done to establish continuing education credits and more information will be presented to the BOD.

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Program Committee

Karen Bales and Katie Hinde, Co-Chairs

The current meeting generated ~1195 abstract submissions and 51 symposia, round-tables, and workshops on topics as diverse as primate aging, sensory evolution, the hormone oxytocin, the primate pet trade, and laboratory primate welfare. In addition, there are 45 sessions of contributed oral presentations and three nights of posters. The committee had no action items for discussion.

Publications Committee

Dee Higley for Randy Kyes, Chair

The report from the Publications Committee was short due to many items already being covered by the Media and Public Engagement Committee. The committee suggested that the manuscript submission process to the AJP be amended to have authors submit short highlights or bullet points of the paper for ease of advertising the paper via social media. Finally, the committee suggested that options should be explored to incentivize members to submit via AJP, such as reduced costs for open access, etc.

The term of the current AJP editor Paul Garber is about to end and the Publications Committee recommends to the BOD that Paul's term be extended.

Research and Development Committee

Larry Williams, Chair

The committee reviewed 38 Small Research Grant applications. The committee recommended a total of six awards at a total expenditure of \$7,600.

Through the efforts, led by Grainne McCabe, a fund has been established to honor the memory of Deborah Moore. Deborah was a graduate of the University of Texas, San Antonio, who worked with chimpanzees in Tanzania, and bonobos in the rain forests of the Democratic Republic of the Congo through the Bonobo Conservation Initiative. These monies will be used to fund grants for early career researchers who can demonstrate their passion and dedication for extending knowledge through original research of primates in their natural environment. In the first funding round in 2017, three grants of \$2,000 USD will be awarded. The committee expects to continue awarding one additional grant per year in subsequent years.

Student Committee, *ad hoc*

Morgan Chaney, Co-Chair

The Co-Chair provided an update regarding the work of the *ad hoc* committee. A mission statement has been drafted and agreed upon by members and the committee is brainstorming ways as to how to fulfill it. Largely through the efforts of co-chair Brett Frye, the student committee planned and executed a roundtable discussion/symposium at this year's conference. The center of discussion for this panel discussion was best practices in the communication of primatological research to the public. The event was very well attended and generated a good deal of audience participation.

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Finally, a student mixer was held at the ASP+IPS Opening Reception at Lincoln Park Zoo. The committee is grateful for the approved budget for the student mixer.

President Norconk thanked the committee chairs for the reports and opened the floor for further discussion. The Executive Committee discussed the downward membership trend and Society finances. All expressed concerns, but the Membership & Finance Committee has plans to bring members back into the Society. Further, the BOD will explore ways to ensure the Society remains fiscally conservative and will work to reevaluate whether multiple Society “funds” are necessary. It is hoped that with the upcoming 40th anniversary of the establishment of ASP, that the Society will be in a more solid membership status.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, President Norconk adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Submitted by:
Justin A. McNulty
Executive Secretary 2014-2016



Minutes of the 2016 Meeting of the Board of Directors

Chicago, Illinois

The members of the Board of Directors (BOD) of the American Society of Primatologists convened at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 23, 2016, in the Room 2727 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago, 151 East Upper Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois, with the following participation:

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Karen Bales

Justin McNulty

Marilyn Norconk

Kimberley Phillips

Cory Ross

Members Absent

No members absent.

Guest(s) Present

Mollie Bloomsmith

Amanda Dettmer

Greg Wilkerson

President Norconk called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

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The first item of business was a proposal from Dr. Greg Wilkerson regarding inclusion of Veterinary Continuing Education Credits to the ASP annual meetings. The ASP thrives as an organization in part due to the diversity of the Society's members and through the participation of these members in the Society's committees and annual meeting. Veterinarians and registered-veterinary technicians involved in the care of non-human primates (NHPs) can gain novel insight into NHP health from participation in ASP events. ASP may be able to attract more veterinarians and veterinary technicians to ASP if formal continuing education (CE) credits can be obtained for attendance at the annual meeting. Dr. Wilkerson asked the BOD to consider investing funds in efforts to offer formal CE credits. Specifically, the proposal included:

1. Apply with the Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE) board to become a RACE-approved provider of CE.
2. For each ASP meeting, a designated RACE-Program Administrator for ASP would submit the scientific presentations to the RACE board for approval.

Dr. Wilkerson suggested that no less than ten RACE-credit-hours should be offered each year to attract those interested in earning the credits. The BOD thanked Dr. Wilkerson for his efforts in researching this topic and developing a proposal. The BOD will consider the proposal later in the meeting.

The next item of business was a presentation to the BOD by Amanda Dettmer on behalf of Dorothy Fragaszy, Chair of the Legacy Committee. In 2015, the Legacy Committee decided to offer a Legacy Award every other year for financial reasons, but also to allow time for the award winner to complete her or his project and present at an annual meeting. The 2015 awardee, Amanda Dettmer, will provide her report to the BOD in the coming months and her Legacy Address will be featured at the 2017 meeting in Washington, D.C.

In the past year, Dr. Fragaszy solicited donations to senior members of ASP as well as former members of ASP in efforts to raise money for the Legacy Fund. Over 30 letters were sent, but unfortunately no responses—or donations—were received. The Legacy Committee suggests that unless fundraising efforts can be changed; the BOD may want to reconsider how the Legacy Fund is administered. Dr. Fragaszy reminded the BOD that the large, initial donation from Don Lindburg was accompanied by a request to use the funds for something new and beneficial to the Society. It is agreed that those are good goals, however, unless the Society can generate a consistent revenue stream, the Legacy fellowship program cannot be sustained as envisioned. Dr. Fragaszy asked that the BOD consider whether to announce a 2017 competition, and if so, should be announced by the end of this year. Finally, Dr. Fragaszy thanked the BOD for the honor of serving as Chair of the Legacy Committee, but will be stepping down in this role.

The BOD discussed the points raised by Dr. Fragaszy and agreed that a 2017 call for a Legacy Award should be postponed. The Society is in challenging times, membership-wise, and the BOD should focus efforts on ensuring the financial stability of the Society. It was agreed that no matter what decision is ultimately made, a summary report should be sent to Don Lindburg to outline how his generous donation has been used.

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After Dr. Wilkerson departed, the BOD considered the following recommendations from the Executive Committee:

Recommendation: Approval of Dorothy Cheney & Robert Seyfarth for the Distinguished Primatologist Award, as recommended by the Awards & Recognition Committee. **Action:** Approved.

Recommendation: Approval of Bernardo Urbani for the Early Career Award, as recommended by the Awards & Recognition Committee. **Action:** Approved.

Recommendation: Approval of Francisca Vidal-Garcia for the 2016 Conservationist Award, as recommended by the Conservation Committee. **Action:** Approved.

Recommendation: Approval of funding of six Small Research Grants totaling \$7,600, as recommended by the Research and Development Committee. **Action:** Approved.

Recommendation: Approval for the establishment of the Deborah Moore Memorial Award as recommended by the Research and Development Committee. **Action:** Approved.

Recommendation: Approval of funding for the Society's continued participation in the 2018 USA Science & Engineering Festival. **Action:** Pending based upon receipt of a projected budget that accounts for a possible expansion to larger booth.

The BOD discussed the following items:

- Paul Garber's term as Editor of the *American Journal of Primatology* ends in December 2016. The Publications Committee recommended that Dr. Garber be reappointed for an additional term. While the BOD was in vehement agreement that Dr. Garber should continue in this role, several ideas were discussed regarding the editorial board. It was the consensus of the BOD that any person serving as an Executive Editor should maintain current membership in ASP. Further, the BOD will discuss with Dr. Garber potential term limits for Editors as well as a potential structural change in the editorial board.
- The BOD discussed the role of the Society Meeting Liaison, currently served by Steve Schapiro, and also future meeting locations. The BOD was in agreement that Dr. Schapiro has been an invaluable asset to the success of the annual meetings. Steve previously conveyed to President Norconk that he wished to step down from this role and not coordinate meetings after 2017. Discussion of individuals who might assume this role ensued. President Elect Phillips suggested that outgoing Executive Secretary Justin McNulty, who was a successful local host in 2011, should serve in this role.

The BOD was in agreement that future meeting hosts and venues should be identified. Suggested future venues discussed included Denver, Seattle, Las Vegas, Florida (in conjunction with Animal Kingdom, perhaps), New Orleans, Omaha, Boston, San Antonio, and Toronto. The BOD also considered working with other organizations, e.g., the AZA, to coordinate meeting locations and times, as a way to increase participation in the annual meeting.

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- The BOD discussed the future administration of the Ruppenthal Student Travel Awards as the previous long-term chair, Matthew Novak, has tendered his resignation. The BOD was in agreement that Dr. Novak has provided outstanding service to the Society for the past 11 years in this role. To ensure the Society operates in accordance with the established By-Laws, it was suggested that the administration of the Ruppenthal Student Travel Awards be administered by the Awards and Recognition Committee.
- The BOD briefly discussed the Social Media Policy that was recently established and whether it should be extended to future meeting years. It was agreed that the Media and Public Engagement Committee should review the policy and propose any changes to the BOD for approval.
- The BOD also discussed whether any changes to the Code of Conduct policy are needed prior to discussion and voting at the business meeting. President Norconk will distribute copies at the business meeting. It was agreed that the draft policy was well-written and should be easily approved as long as enough full-voting members attend the business meeting.
- In light of the recent developments regarding the transfer of NIH-sponsored chimpanzees to Chimp Haven, the BOD discussed whether ASP should officially comment. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that since the decision to transfer the chimpanzees to Chimp Haven has been finalized by NIH, an official statement will add little to the existing discussion. Should the situation change, the BOD will re-evaluate whether an official statement should be issued.
- The BOD also discussed whether ASP should provide an official statement regarding a USDA petition to amend the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit public contact with big cats, bears, and primates. It was acknowledged that the comment deadline is in a few days, therefore an official statement most likely will not be feasible. It was agreed that the Primate Care Committee should follow any developments on the petition and advise the BOD to future action.
- Finally, the BOD addressed the membership issues faced by the Society. The BOD acknowledged an expected decrease in membership numbers this year due to the timing of the abstract submission deadline being in the previous membership year as well as the current funding climate affecting the number of societies members may be able to participate in. After discussion, it was agreed that a membership characteristic publication be prepared (to follow up Schapiro (2003)) as well as revisiting Article 3 of the ASP Constitution regarding lapsed members.

After discussion of numerous topics, the BOD considered the following:

Recommendation: Approval of funding for the Society to provide RACE credits for the next four years. **Action:** Approved.

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Recommendation: Approval of moving the Legacy Award administration to the Awards and Recognition Committee and postponing a 2017 competition. **Action:** Approved.

Recommendation: Approval of Paul Garber for an additional term as Editor of *AJP* with the exploration of term limits and ASP membership for Executive Editors. **Action:** Approved.

Recommendation: Approval of Justin McNulty to assume the role of Meeting Liaison, pending the development of a position description and a statement of expectations by the BOD. **Action:** Approved

Recommendation: Approval of moving the Ruppenthal Student Travel Awards administration to the Awards and Recognition Committee. **Action:** Approved.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, President Norconk adjourned the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

Submitted by:
Justin A. McNulty
Executive Secretary 2014-2016

Photos From ASP/IPS 2016 in Chicago, IL



View of Navy Pier



Jane Goodall with conference delegates



Frans de Waal



Primate artifacts for sale at the meeting



ASP Exec. Sec. Justin McNulty goes shopping



As seen on Navy Pier...



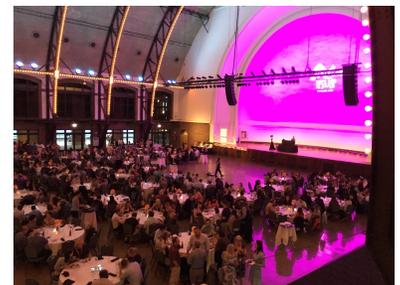
Young conference-goers at the end of a poster session



Lots of camaraderie within ASP!



Katie Hinde



ASP/IPS Closing Banquet