Dear Colleagues,

At our meeting in Madison, it was great to hear that we had increased ASP membership by 5% in the last year. One of our Strategic Plan objectives is to do the same this year. Please do your part by recruiting your primatology friends and colleagues to become members of ASP. We have been working hard to attract veterinarians to our organization and this plan has been successful—the number of veterinarians attending our meeting is climbing. We are now expanding this effort by trying to bring more primatologists working in zoos to ASP. It is a perfect year for this initiative with the Denver Zoo hosting our 2020 conference. Having members who work with primates in a wide range of settings has always been a strength of ASP, and it is exciting to see this continued growth. If you have suggestions for veterinarians or zoo colleagues, or anyone else you think should be recruited to ASP, please send their contact information to me (mabloom@emory.edu) and I will make sure they receive some information.

Vote  Be on the look-out for notice coming soon about some important decisions for ASP members. First, we will be voting for new officers who will take on leadership positions as our 2020 conference comes to a close. Second, the membership will vote on several proposed changes to our by-laws that will affect committee structure and operations. Please make your opinion heard by voting!

2020 Meeting  Plans are well underway for our 2020 conference and you can see from Amy Levine’s announcement in this Bulletin that it will be another great one! As you may know, income from our annual conference is one of the main revenue streams for ASP. Conferences are also our largest annual expense. To continue to protect the financial viability of our society, we will be making some minor changes in plans for the conference. There will be a modest increase in the registration fees, and we will hold down some of our costs. If we can all get breakfast on our own and bring a few bucks for drinks at the poster session, ASP will save thousands of dollars to put toward achieving our society goals, such as awarding research grants and recognizing early career primatologists.

2021 Meeting  In case you are planning ahead, we have determined the location and dates for our 2021 conference. We will meet June 3 – 6, 2021 at the Omni Hotel in Oklahoma City. Thank you to Justin McNulty, our Meeting Advisor, and Janette Wallis, our Local Host, for making all of this happen.

~ Mollie Bloomsmith, President, ASP (mabloom@emory.edu)
Join us for the 43rd Meeting of the American Society of Primatologists
at the Sheraton Downtown Hotel in Denver, Colorado

Renew your membership so that you can receive discounted registration rates for ASP 2020!

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Local Host Denver Zoo Invites ASP Members back to Colorado for the First Time in 20 Years!
The 2000 ASP meeting was held in Boulder, Colorado – right in the shadow of the dramatic sandstone slabs of the Flatiron foothills. But that was nearly 20 years ago, so it’s high time we bring
our primate clan back to Colorado; this time, 30 minutes southeast of Boulder to the capitol city of Denver.

Located in the high rolling plains, the “Mile High City” of Denver is truly situated exactly one mile above sea level (5280’ = step number 13 at the State Capitol). The city itself was established in 1858 and while expansive, it is incredibly walkable, accessible via public transport and bike-friendly. From Denver, you can see the Rocky Mountain foothills 12 miles to the east and the snow-capped peaks beyond rise to over 14,000’ (“fourteens”). With over 300 days of sunshine each year, a thriving cultural, historical, culinary and arts scene, over 150 breweries and tap rooms and a growing number of local distilleries and wineries, and one of the most extensive city park systems in the country, the Denver metro area has something for everyone.

The venue for the ASP 2020—Denver conference is the Sheraton Downtown Hotel, situated right on the 16th Street Mall. This mile-long pedestrian-friendly mall is packed with shopping, restaurants, and attractions, and is bookended by the beautifully renovated Union Station at one end and the Colorado State Capitol at the other. Free shuttle buses, dubbed the MallRide, travel up and down the street stopping at almost every corner and making everything downtown easy to reach. Whether you’re interested in people watching at one of 42 outdoor cafes, bar-hopping in the hip “LoHi” neighborhood, visiting a museum, or catching a ride in a horse-drawn carriage or pedi-cab after dark, you’re sure to enjoy the heart of Denver.

For those flying in to Denver, you’ll find making your way to the Sheraton both easy and affordable. Denver’s Regional Transportation District offers a direct line between the international airport and Union Station ($10.50). After arriving at the Station, conference attendees will be able to transfer to the free MallRide for a quick bus trip down the 16th Street mall, and will be dropped off right in front of the Sheraton, at the corner of 16th and Court Place. We can’t wait to welcome you!

**Important ASP 2020 Dates to Remember:**

- Registration Opens: December 1, 2019
- Symposium Submission Deadline: January 3, 2020
- Abstract Submission Deadline: January 17, 2020
- On-time Registration Deadline: May 20, 2020

**Continuing Education Credits for Veterinarians to be Offered at ASP!** ASP is a RACE accredited organization, so veterinarians and veterinary technicians can earn continuing education credits at this meeting. Stay tuned for more information about how to earn these credits during ASP 2020—Denver!

**Don’t miss these events at ASP 2020—Denver:**

- Pre-Conference Workshops on Education, Science Communication and Primate Care (Wednesday, May 27 & Thursday, May 28; times TBD)
- Zoo Day at Denver Zoo, including Behind-the-Scenes Tours (Thursday, May 28; 12noon-5:00pm)
- The Opening Reception at Denver Zoo’s Primate Panorama (Thursday, May 28; 5:30-8:30pm)
- The Closing Banquet (Sunday, May 31; 6pm-12am)

We will be organizing many more events in the coming weeks, so check the ASP website for the most up-to-date meeting events and schedule information.
Call for Nominations for Society Awards

The Awards and Recognition Committee encourages nominations to recognize those who have contributed in different ways to primatology or to the ASP. Please consider nominating someone who has devoted substantial time and energy over the years to the ASP for the Distinguished Service Award. We also have the Early Career Award for someone who has made an exceptional contribution to primatology at the beginning of their professional career and the Distinguished Primatologist Award for someone who has made exceptional contributions throughout the course of their professional career. The nomination deadline is March 15, 2020.

- **Distinguished Primatologist Award** for career achievement in primatology
- **Senior Research Award** for research achievement by one who has not received the highest academic degree in his/her field
- **Early Career Award** for exceptional contributions by a primatologist who is less than seven years past receiving the Ph.D.
- **Distinguished Service Award** for long-term contributions to the ASP
- **Special Recognition/Achievement Award** for exceptional one-time or short-term service to the ASP

For details on the nomination process for these awards and others, please see [https://asp.org/grants/awards/index.cfm](https://asp.org/grants/awards/index.cfm).

2019 Distinguished Primatologist Award Announced at the 42nd Meeting of the ASP in Madison, Wisconsin!

With the approval of the ASP Board of Directors, the Awards and Recognition Committee (Linda Fedigan, Karin Jaffe, Andreas Koenig, Justin McNulty, & Juan Carlos Serio Silva) presented the 2019 Distinguished Primatologist Award for career achievement in primatology to Dr. Susan Alberts. This award honors a primatologist who has had an outstanding career and has made significant scientific contributions to our field.

Susan Alberts is one of the leading figures in the fields of primatology and mammalian behavioral ecology. Dr. Alberts earned her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1992 under the mentorship of Dr. Jeanne Altmann (also a previous winner of the ASP Distinguished Primatologist Award). She is now is the Robert F. Durden Professor in the Departments of Biology and Evolutionary Anthropology at Duke University and Chair of the Department of Evolutionary Anthropology.

Dr. Alberts’ impact on primatology has been exceptional! To cite from her nomination letter: “she has made profound contributions to understanding the fitness consequences of
behavioral and life history variation; she has helped steward the Amboseli Baboon Research Project for the last three decades; and she is an exceptional mentor, scientist, and role model.”

Dr. Alberts has trained many students, both undergraduate and graduate level, with many of her doctoral students becoming faculty members at colleges and universities scattered around the country.

Since 1987, Dr. Alberts has published over 120 peer-reviewed papers on the relationships among survival, development, health, and environmental and social factors. Her work is focused on long-term studies of baboons and is widely cited and influential across psychology, anthropology, public health, and medicine. It is also the product of deeply collaborative work spanning traditional disciplines in biology, public health and medicine.

Since 2001, Dr. Alberts has been awarded more than $9 million in external funding. She was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in April 2019 and is also an elected fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Animal Behavior Society.

Dr. Alberts’ work exemplifies why it is important to study primates, and in particular, why it’s important to do so in the field, with wild populations.

The Awards and Recognition Committee is pleased to present Dr. Susan Alberts with the ASP 2019 Distinguished Primatologist Award.

Congratulations to the 2019 Ruppenthal Student Travel Awardees!

The Ruppenthal Student Travel Awards are designed to help students who would otherwise not be able to attend the meeting. This year, the BOD was able to offer four awards:

- Carly Miles
- Daniel Cuervo-Zanatta
- Emily Boeving
- Ryno Kruger

Congratulations students!

Thank you to the 2018-2020 Awards and Recognition Committee for their hard and thoughtful work in soliciting and evaluating the various nominations and applications during the past year. The members include:

- Linda Fedigan
- Karin Jaffe
- Andreas Koenig
- Justin McNulty
- Juan Carlos Serio Silva

Just this week, Linda noted that her retirement is becoming closer to a reality, and she is thinking that she should step off this committee and let someone who is continuing to be more active in ASP join the committee.
The Maderas Rainforest Conservancy Scholarship, an educational fund established to offer one scholarship annually to outstanding undergraduate and/or graduate students for research and career training in a field course at La Suerte Biological Research Station, Costa Rica or Ometepe Biological Research Station, Nicaragua. The awardee for 2019 is Tamara Britton, a Ph.D. student in socio-cultural anthropology at the University of Western Ontario.

~ Justin McNulty, Chair, Awards and Recognition Committee

Conservation Committee

The Conservation Committee was pleased to announce the 2019 ASP Conservationist Award recipient, Dr. Andie Ang, at the ASP banquet in Madison, WI. Dr. Ang is co-chair of the Raffles’ Banded Langur Working Group, vice-president of the Jane Goodall Institute in Singapore, vice-president of the Southeast Asian Biodiversity Society and a member of the IUCN_SSC Primate Specialist group. She received her PhD from the University of Colorado studying genetic variation in populations of douc langurs and Germain’s langurs. In addition to her administrative and lab work, she has conducted field research in Vietnam and Singapore. We are pleased to recognize Dr. Ang for outstanding work to protect endangered Asian primates and we thank Dr. Herbert Covert and Dr. Vilma D’Rosario for their nomination and letters of recommendation.

Nominations for the 2020 Conservationist Award are due May, 1 2020.

With your help and generosity, the Conservation Committee raised $5,116.46 in the combined Silent Auction and Raffle during the 2019 meeting at Madison. This year’s raffle was made possible by donations from artists Stephen Nash and Michelle Bezanson. We are very grateful for the generosity of both contributors.

The Conservation Committee plans to conduct two more fundraising events before the end of 2019 – a call for donations on Giving Tuesday and an on-line raffle to auction additional signed primate plates donated by Stephen Nash. We will use our social media accounts to advertise these events. We hope that you will participate!

We recently launched a U-Tube channel to promote primate conservation to the public through interesting and informative videos. In addition to uploading the three published videos, that are currently available on the ASP webpage, we will develop and add new videos about research funded by the committee. We also encourage members to submit primate videos. Contact Krista Milich (krista.milich@gmail.com) for more information.

The committee also launched a Google document spreadsheet to increase the dispersion of primate conservation-related material on our social media sites. Contact Kristen Morrow (Kristen.s.morrow@gmail.com) or Erin Kane (erinkane@bu.edu) for more information on contributing to this database.

Looking forward to the 2020 Conservation Small Grants award cycle, the website will be open for submission of applications on Jan 1, 2020 and end on Jan 31, 2020. Awards will be announced in May 2020. Application instructions for 2020 will be available on the website soon. Contact M. Norconk if you have questions (mnorconk@kent.edu).
Many thanks to the 16 members of the Conservation Committee for their input, expertise and guidance during 2019: Sylvia Atsalis, Andrea Baden, TQ Bartlett, Michelle Bezanson, Cathy Cook, Bert Covert, Andrea Eller, Wendy Erb, Montse Franquesa Soler, Tremaine Gregory, Susan Lappan, Krista Milich, Kristen Morrow, Christopher Shaffer, Stacey Tecot, and Raymond Vagell.

~ Marilyn A. Norconk, Chair, Conservation Committee (mnorconk@kent.edu)

Education Committee

We here at the ASP Education Committee wish you a happy and healthy end to 2019 and a great holiday season. As 2019 ends we wanted to update the ASP membership on a few things on the go for the Education Committee in 2020, and beyond!

At ASP Madison, the Education Committee had the pleasure of adjudicating some excellent student papers and posters. We had a difficult time as all the finalists did an excellent job, but two oral presentations stood out. Congratulations to……

ASP’s 2019 Outstanding Oral Presentation Award:
Lynea Witczak
University of California Davis
“Assessing variability in affiliative maintenance behaviors in captive coppery titi monkeys using longitudinal data.”

ASP’s 2019 Outstanding Oral Presentation Runner Up Award:
Malique Bowen
Florida Southern College
“Characterizing the microbiota of the subcaudal gland of *Aotus nancymaeae.*”

These awards recognize high-quality first-authored student presentations. Each winner will receive:

1. Cash prize
2. One-year membership to ASP with electronic access to AJP
3. AJP publisher Wiley will give a substantial bonus offer and make this manuscript freely available to download (Open-Access) for a period of one-year post-publication, if accepted following submission to AJP.

In addition to these prizes, this year Wiley generously added a bonus for both winners. Lynea Witczak received Wiley Blackwell’s 3 Vol International Encyclopedia of Primatology, while Malique Bowen received Wiley Blackwell’s Encyclopedia of Human Evolution. Thank you again to Dr. Paul-André Genest and Wiley for sponsoring our student presentation awards.

As we start to creep closer to ASP 2020 in Denver, Lauren and I would like to encourage students to enter the ASP Education Committee Student Oral Presentation and Poster Presentation when they submit their abstracts. It gives us the chance to get to know students and their work while also giving us an excuse to share it with the broader community. We are so proud of the wonderful work coming from the next generation of primatologists and we look forward to their involvement in next year’s conference.
2020 and Beyond

We have already begun planning our work for ASP 2020 in Denver Colorado with the help of local host, Dr. Amy Levine and the staff at the Denver Zoo to try and host a pre-conference workshop for local elementary or high school teachers. We are currently batting around ideas and themes for the workshop with the help of the Denver Zoo staff who have done many of these with great success over the years.

This year the ASP Education Committee are also preparing for a major student outreach event! The USA Stem Festival will take place April 23\textsuperscript{rd}-26\textsuperscript{th} in Washington, DC <http://usasciencefestival.org/>. We will need both local, and member volunteers to help us staff the booth while helping us conduct this terrific outreach event which is attended by thousands of families and school aged children. Unfortunately, Lauren and I are both living outside of the USA so we will not be able to attend but we hope that we can find some volunteers to proudly represent ASP and the ASP Education Committee at the USA STEM festival. We do have some limited funds to help with travel and accommodations thanks to the ASP BOD.

With all these amazing and exciting activities planned for 2020 and beyond, Lauren and I as always need help on the education committee. If you would like to serve on a great committee, please don’t hesitate to contact Lauren or myself. We would love to have you. If you are a past student competition winner, we ask you strongly consider joining!

~ Mike Reid and Lauren Robinson, Co-Chairs, Education Committee (mj.reid@utoronto.ca; drlmrobinson@gmail.com)

Media and Public Engagement Committee

We continue to highlight early career researchers (undergraduates, graduate students, postdocs, nontenured faculty, field assistants, volunteers, etc) on our twitter and facebook. If you would like to be featured, or you have mentees and trainees you would like featured, please fill out this google form: https://goo.gl/forms/vWP0JiatMyoQRFkD3

If you would like to join this committee, please contact Erin Kane (erinkane@bu.edu).

~ Erin Kane, Chair, Media and Public Engagement

Primate Care Committee

The Primate Care Committee (PCC) had a productive 2019! Our mission is to advocate for the appropriate care and welfare of nonhuman primates in all settings. While membership is diverse, we currently have no representatives who work in the field or in sanctuaries. If you work in one of these areas and want to join the PCC, please let us know!

One role of the PCC is to administer the annual Primate Welfare Award. There was a record number of applicants this year, and the committee was impressed by their contributions to primate care and
welfare. Thanks to all the applicants for their excellent presentations; the judges had a difficult time trying to determine just one winner. The PCC is pleased to announce that the winner of the 2019 Primate Welfare Award was Marissa Janavaris, from the Oregon National Primate Research Center, for her poster presentation entitled: “Bedding as an enrichment strategy in group housed Mauritian cynomolgus macaques (Macaca fascicularis).” Congratulations, Marissa! As a reminder, the Welfare Award is an excellent way to showcase your research, so if you study issues surrounding welfare—*in any environment*—consider applying next year!

The PCC had a very successful pre-conference workshop in Madison entitled, “Identifying and Treating Abnormal Behaviors in Nonhuman Primates”. Many thanks to Lisa Reamer Maharaj, Lydia Hopper, Dawn Abney, and the instructors for putting the workshop together. Thanks, also, to Toni Ziegler and the Madison team for their help in ensuring that the workshop went off smoothly. The 28 participants heard about topics including how to identify, evaluate, and implement treatment plans for primate abnormal behavior. The workshop was well received by all who attended. We are currently planning another welfare-related pre-conference workshop on Primate Enrichment Strategies for ASP 2020 in Denver. Stay tuned for more information.

ASP was once again able to offer RACE (Registry of Approved Continuing Education) credits to veterinarians and veterinarian technicians at the 2019 meeting due. We thank Greg Wilkerson and Kelly Metcalf Pate for their hard work. There were a total of 18 RACE credits from certified talks this year, including 6.5 from the workshop. Let your favorite veterinarians know that they can get these RACE credits at ASP!

Please check out “Hot Topics” under the Welfare tab on the ASP website for the quarterly featured primate welfare topic. Recent topics thus far have included chimpanzee group size and composition, personality and health outcomes, marmoset wasting syndrome, and aggressive temperament and oxytocin. Our aim is to have diversity in these articles, and to include work from the zoo, laboratory, field, and the Welfare Award winner (when appropriate). Thank you to Melissa Truelove, Ashley Edes, and Sarah Neal Webb for their outstanding work with these interviews.

If you have any questions or want more information about the committee, please contact us.

~ Susan Pavonetti and Kris Coleman, Co-Chairs, Primate Care Committee

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Publications Committee

At our annual meeting in Madison in August, a steering committee was formed under the umbrella of the Publications Committee, to study the possibility of ASP starting an online only, open access, electronic journal that would complement the Society’s flagship journal, AJP. The committee (J. Capitainio, Chair, along with K. Hinde, M. Novak, and M. Petracca) has been investigating the resources that are available for organizations looking to start an e-journal, including platforms that are available for organizations to utilize for their own journals. Our activities have included exploring online resources, zoom meetings to discuss issues, interviews with current and former editors of e-journals that are particularly relevant to ASP, and a lengthy meeting with the principal staff behind one platform, eScholarship. Our charge is to deliver to the Board by the end of December a summary of the information gathering phase, and a recommendation. At this point, the committee’s activities are on schedule to have the report delivered by this deadline.
At the Business Meeting in Madison last August, a question came up about the differences between the Amazon Smile program (which one registers for at smile.amazon.com) and the Amazon Associates (now known as the Amazon Affiliate) program (which one accesses by clicking through the “In association with Amazon.com” link on the home page of our website). ASP receives income from both, but the rate of return is much higher for the Amazon Affiliate program. From the Amazon website:

*AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. Every item available for purchase on www.amazon.com is also available on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com) at the same price. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.*

In contrast, the fees that we receive from the Affiliate program range 1% to 10% depending on the product category, and can be viewed at this location: https://affiliate-program.amazon.com/help/node/topic/GRXPHT8U84RAYDXZ (Note, if this link does not work, go to this location: https://affiliate-program.amazon.com/help/node/topic/ and click on the “Where is the fee schedule link.”) For example, tools purchased from Amazon through the link on the ASP web page earn 5.5%, books earn 4.5%, home improvement stuff earns 8%, digital music/physical music/groceries earn 5%, and so on.

The bottom line is that ASP seems to earn considerably more money from the Affiliate program than from the Smile program, both because the rates are higher for the Affiliate program, and because it appears that not all items on the Amazon site are eligible for the Smile program. We recommend that, when you intend to purchase products from Amazon, you enter the Amazon website through the link on the ASP page. That logs your purchase as part of the Affiliate program. You do not need to be a member of ASP to use that link, so with the coming of the holidays, let your friends and relatives know!

~ John Capitanio, Chair, Publications Committee

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**STAR UPDATE**

ASP is a member of STAR (Supporting Truth About Animal Research), a coalition of scientific societies that advocates for the responsible use of animals in research. One of STAR’s many activities is focusing on legislative advocacy. In [this post by Speaking of Research](https://www.speakingofresearch.org/2019/05/15/the-history-of-ethics), you’ll see which campaigns and legislative efforts are currently underway that affect nonhuman primate research, as well as animal research more broadly. Please read this post for more detailed information that underscores the importance of STAR’s efforts.

~ Amanda Dettmer, ASP Representative to STAR

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2020 Maderas Rainforest Conservancy Scholarship
Maderas Rainforest Conservancy Scholarship for Education and Training in Field Primatology

Funded through an educational grant from the Maderas Rainforest Conservancy (MRC), ASP is able to offer one scholarship to an outstanding undergraduate and/or graduate student for research and career training in a field course at La Suerte Biological Research Station, Costa Rica or Ometepe Biological Research Station, Nicaragua. The goals of the MRC are to advance research, education and conservation of primates and tropical forests. We encourage interested students from anywhere in the world to apply.

Please see https://asp.org/grants/scholarship/index.cfm for more information. Applications are due March 1, 2020.

You are invited to take part in a survey to collect information on behavioral management of nonhuman primates (NHPs). The survey is a collaboration between the Tulane National Primate Research Center (TNPRC) in the USA and National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research (NC3Rs) in the UK. We very much hope you will participate.

The aims are to:
- Gather information on behavioral management practices currently in use.
- Understand changes in behavioral management practices over time.
- Generate an evidence base to inform and support good practice.
- Disseminate the findings and recommendations via publication and conference presentations.

The survey consists of 77 questions and we estimate it will take 50 minutes to complete. A PDF of the questions can be downloaded using the link (www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y3JT3C6), if you would like to prepare your answers offline first (a few questions may require reviewing records). You should be able to partially complete and return to the survey later, provided you are using the same computer and browser. Please ensure that only one representative from your facility fills out the survey online, as this will decrease any chance of repetition. The survey will close on 20 December 2019 at 24:00 GMT.

All data collected in this survey will be anonymous, treated in strict confidence and held securely by the TNPRC and NC3Rs. The NC3Rs data management plan is available upon request (enquiries@nc3rs.org.uk). If you have any questions or concerns about the survey, please contact Dr. Kate Baker (kbaker1@tulane.edu) or Dr. Mark Prescott (mark.prescott@nc3rs.org.uk).

2020 IPS Pre-Congress Training Programme (Tiputini Biodiversity Station, Ecuador)

We are thrilled to announce that the application process for the IPS Pre-Congress Training Programme is now open for application (please click the following link for access to access to application form: http://www.internationalprimatologicalsociety.org/announcements.cfm). The deadline for applications is December 8th, 2019 and applicants will be informed of the results in early January 2020. The PCTP-IPS 2020 will take place at the Tiputini Biodiversity Station from the 10-14th of August 2020. All successful applicants will then have the opportunity to attend the XXVIII Congress of the International Primatological Society which will be held in Quito, Ecuador between 16th-22nd of August 2020.
**Eligibility criteria:**

- Must be citizens of primate habitat countries
- Must be actively working with (or studying) primate species in their country
- Must be relatively “new” in their careers (though no age limit is imposed)
- Cannot have attended a previous IPS PCTP
- Must have good enough level of English to follow training programme which will be delivered in English

We look forward to receiving your application.

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**Yerkes National Primate Research Center**

**Colony Director (Asst. or Assoc. Research Professor)**

The Yerkes National Primate Research Center of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, has an immediate opening for a faculty position of Asst. or Assoc. Research Professor (internal title of Colony Director) with a background and interest in social behavioral management and biomedical research in one or more relevant nonhuman primate species as well as managerial experience. The Yerkes Center is a major biomedical research institution that is rapidly expanding with its main facilities at Emory University’s Atlanta campus and 117 acre Field Station in Lawrenceville. This position will be based at the Field Station in Lawrenceville, Georgia. Working within Yerkes Division of Animal Resources, the qualified candidate will provide leadership to the Colony Management department consisting of the Colony Manager, Project Coordinator, and Research Specialists. This is a senior level management and research position (50% management/ 50% research). The candidate will be expected to develop and implement a productive research program and provide mentorship to junior associates and colleagues. Will report to the Associate Director of Animal Resources and liaise with the Assistant Director of Animal Resources at the Field Station for all animal resources and colony management issues.

The successful candidate will provide oversight for resource management related to nonhuman primates: monitoring production, morbidity and mortality, developing statistical metrics for animal production colonies to sustain colony size while simultaneously providing animals to meet Center-wide research programs. Will take a lead role in departmental planning, enhancing productivity and the collection of high-quality, systematic data. The individual will have principal management responsibility for the Colony Management personnel. Will be Key Personnel on the Yerkes Specific Pathogen Free (SPF) rhesus macaque breeding colony grant and will assist with oversight of the SPF program. Will contribute to grant writing for resource grants related to the Field Station. Works with the Yerkes geneticist to develop and implement genetic based management strategies to enhance the rhesus macaque and sooty mangabey colonies. Meet with principal investigators to coordinate research needs and serve as a primary contact for study planning and implementation. Develop metrics to assess and report on unit performance and goal achievements to support growth and promotion of personnel. Responsible for departmental budget: monitoring expenditures, developing budget proposals, and preparing necessary documentation for supervisor review/approval. Provide recommendations to management regarding breeding colony policies and activities such as SOP development or modification. In consultation with the Colony Manager, will be responsible for hiring, evaluation, training and promotions for all direct and indirect reports. Will also develop and implement a research program congruent with Field Station and colony management research goals. Degree and /or post-doctoral training should be in an area that is compatible with existing resources. Strongly prefer research background in areas such as social
behavior in nonhuman primate species, reproductive medicine or epidemiology with strong writing skills. The candidate’s interests and background will determine the research focus of this position. The ideal candidate will have a PhD or DVM degree in a relevant field, plus 5 years’ experience in social behavioral management or biomedical research in one or more relevant species, and extensive managerial expertise. Working knowledge of statistical forecasting methodology strongly preferred. Salary negotiable based on qualifications and experience.

For questions regarding this position, please contact: Dr. Joyce Cohen, Associate Director for Animal Resources at joyce.cohen@emory.edu.

“Their story is our story”
Highlights from keynote talks at ASP 2019, Madison, WI, USA

By Jordana Lenon, Senior Editor, Wisconsin National Primate Research Center

Against a backdrop of news covering the Amazon wildfires and increasing global tensions over increasing deforestation in Brazil, the 42nd meeting of the American Society of Primatologists drew participants from beyond US borders to share research updates and calls to action.

“Our story is our story,” said Karen Strier of the wild primates in peril.

Strier and three of her colleagues in their ASP keynote addresses shared research, management, intervention, education and outreach methods to better understand and directly address human impact – mining, logging, dams, disease and climate change – on vulnerable people, forests and animals. A central theme was the need for greater collaboration among field scientists and lab scientists, as well as better education and outreach to the public to lead more local efforts to protect their land, its biodiversity and their communities.

The University of Wisconsin–Madison and Wisconsin National Primate Research Center hosted the 42nd ASP meeting, with the local arrangements committee working hard with ASP officers and committees to provide a memorable backdrop for urgent calls to action to help wild primates and their communities as we have never seen before.

Following are highlights from the meeting’s four keynote speakers:
“D.I.Y. Primatology: Building Careers in Primatology”
Dorothy Fragaszy, Ph.D.
2019 ASP Distinguished Primatologist Lecture
http://www.psychology.uga.edu/directory/people/dorothy-m-fragaszy
https://www.nationalgeographic.org/find-explorers/dorothy-m-fragaszy

Charlie Menzel, who introduced Doree Fragaszy, said that her “movement between lab and field is a hallmark of her work.” He described Fragaszy’s studies on squirrel, titi and capuchin monkeys and their abilities to perform spatial tasks in this way: “There’s a craft to what she has put together, a creativity that allows field behavior to enter into the design of lab studies.”

Fragaszy stated that she was aiming her remarks at the young people in the audience, but the seasoned primatologists were just as interested in hearing about her journey in primatology and lessons learned.

Fragaszy grew up on a farm in the Catskill Mountains, caring for horses and sheep and participating in 4H. “It was a paradise for a child doing things outside all the time,” she said. “My father taught me to use tools and to make and repair things with my hands.”

At Duke University, Fragaszy discovered primatology, observing lemur mothers and infants as an undergraduate assistant with Peter Klopfer. At the same time, she studied the literature about maternal care and rejection (mainly in nonhuman primates) for a class in Comparative Psychology. This was familiar turf because she had experienced caring for orphaned and rejected lambs growing up with the animals on the farm.

“I wanted to know what science had to say about that,” she said. These experiences led her to graduate study at UC-Davis with Bill Mason. “One of the best decisions I ever made in my life was to join Bill’s lab.” But, her graduate studies took a different direction.

One of her projects was to study the travel paths of squirrel and titi monkeys. Fragaszy laid out paths through captive habitats for the monkeys to get to food and their social partners. She wanted to know whether the monkeys would take shortcuts, which she provided intermittently, to reach their goals.

Her landmark findings? “We found absolutely different responses in both monkeys.”

The titis were very conservative individuals across the board, she discovered, preferring to stick to the known path, whereas the squirrel monkeys were just the opposite, making quick decisions to take the short cuts.

“These animals were so similar in so many ways, but so different in their psychological makeup,” Fragaszy said. These differences relate to each species’ behavioral and social ecology in nature. It
was obvious to her that one needed to understand a species’ behavior in nature to understand their behavior in captivity, and vice versa.

1980-81, Fragaszy conducted a field study of wedge-capped capuchins with an NSF postdoctoral fellowship. “I was studying John Robinson’s monkeys looking for tool use. They were always very busy with their hands, but I saw nothing close to tooling. Rather, it was all banging, ripping, tearing and shredding.” Soon after that, she established a captive colony of tufted capuchin monkeys with an initial loan of 11 monkeys from Bill London’s lab: “These monkeys offered a wonderful opportunity to study physical cognition.”

Over the next 10 years, her career took off, with a faculty position at San Diego State and the description of capuchin monkeys in her laboratory making and using probing tools. Together with her first Ph.D. student, Leah Adams-Curtis, she described manipulation strategies used by tufted capuchins, finding that these animals manipulate objects extremely frequently, especially the juveniles.

Fragaszy developed a collaboration with Elisabetta Visalberghi, whom she met at an IPS meeting, studying tufted capuchin monkeys in their respective laboratories. In their first collaborative study, they made a nut board. They sandwiched whole walnuts between two boards, with the top half of each walnut poking out of a hole in the upper board, plus metal and wooden tools of varying cracking effectiveness tethered to the board. By studying capuchins’ activity at the nut board, they concluded that the monkeys were not imitating one another, but rather were learning by experience and getting better at cracking the walnuts themselves. Together, Fragaszy and Visalberghi have since studied social influences on behavior in capuchin monkeys in several more contexts.

Then, she joined the psychology department at the University of Georgia in 1990. With support from NIMH and NICHD, in collaboration with colleagues at the Language Research Center, Georgia State University, she studied the organization of manual activity in capuchin monkeys and chimpanzees. She showed that both species could create a nested series of cups (using children’s toy cups), and both species used a strategy called “subassembly” (stack two cups together, then move the set into or onto a third cup). The monkeys and apes used organized hierarchical sequences of actions, but these were not tied to language (as they were thought to be in humans). Later, she showed that capuchin monkeys could learn to make more frequent use of subassembly, suggesting how humans might come to rely on it more strongly over time. She also studied how capuchins and chimpanzees solved novel alley mazes presented on a computer monitor. Initially chimpanzees made fewer errors than capuchins, but with extended practice, “The capuchins became as good at these tasks as chimps,” she said. “There is a lot of plasticity and adaptability in cognitive processes.”

Much of her early research with capuchin monkeys was included in the book, *The Complete Capuchin*, that she wrote with Elisabetta Visalberghi and Linda Fedigan and illustrated by Stephen Nash, published in 2004.

In 2005, Fragaszy and colleagues began studying wild capuchin monkeys that use stone hammers to crack palm nuts in Piauí, Brazil (the EthoCebus project; [http://www.ip.usp.br/ethocebus/]). “Nut cracking is a skill,” she said, showing impressive videos of the monkeys in action cracking open palm nuts. “They show preparatory actions with the stone before striking, use a bipedal stance, and coordinate their body movements throughout the strike to maintain their balance, control the force of their strike, and maintain control of the stone and the nut.” In other words, they do not just grab a stone and whack away at the nut. “They spend a lot of time exploring, handling and turning the stone
around in their hands before they use it to crack the nuts,” she said while showing a video of the monkeys doing just that.

Her research published in PLOS ONE in 2013 demonstrated that the monkeys also figure out how to place the nuts strategically in the most stable position on the anvil. Work at her field site in Brazil is ongoing.

Over her career, Fragaszy has amassed 182 collaborators and counting. She retired her laboratory capuchins in 2014 to Jungle Friends Sanctuary in Gainsville, FL.

“I was sad to see them go, but I was happy they went there and I visit them every year.”

She ended her talk by revealing, "I never would have gotten my lab started as I did if I had not talked to Jean Turnquist at the fourth ASP meeting in 1981, in San Antonio, and learned that Dr. London had capuchin monkeys that he might be willing to lend to me."

Her final advice to young researchers just starting out? “Pick a theme for your research that fascinates you – you will be spending decades thinking about it. Prepare to do things yourself – that is, be self-reliant, persistent, and resilient.”

“Primates and Conservation in the Time of Yellow Fever”
Karen Strier, Ph.D.

Chuck Snowdon introduced his colleague Karen Strier by sharing an anniversary – that her muriqui field study has existed for 36 years. He praised her as an excellent teacher, having earned UW–Madison’s highest research honor, that of Vilas Research Professor, and that she is also a member of the National Academy of Sciences and a fellow of the American Academy of Sciences. Strier has published several books, including *Primate Behavior Ecology*, *Primate Ethnography* and, just last year, *Muriqui*. She is currently the president of the International Primatological Society. “She understands the importance of working with local communities on conservation,” he emphasized.

“Many of her colleagues and collaborators describe her as the consummate, complete primatologist.”

In her keynote talk, “Primates and Conservation in the Time of Yellow Fever” – a nod to the book *Love in the Time of Cholera* by Gabriel García Márquez, Strier began by saying that today’s primatologists need resilience and persistence. “Watching today’s news, we see the Amazon burning, water shortages and temperatures rising,” Strier said. “These crises affect the exact same countries our primates are found in. Their story is our story. We are in an extinction crisis. Out of 504 species, 60% are threatened and 75% are declining.”
Muriqui monkeys live in social, sexual, peaceful egalitarian relationships, thus earning a reputation as the “hippie monkey,” Strier described. “The first population survey of muriquis that we know of was in 1971, when muriquis were considered to be a single species. Since then, the species was split into two, and by 2011, through the National Action Plan for Muriqui Conservation, we are concerned with the conservation of both the northern and southern muriquis.”

After reviewing the history of muriqui taxonomy with the audience, Strier said that we need to learn how to better use more sophisticated taxonomic information in our conservation efforts. She explained how muriqui dispersal plays an important role in conservation. Strier showed slides of disturbed habitat in Minas Gerais, Brazil, revealing how the muriquis’ habitat has been cut or logged, with lots of disrupted edges.

In the second part of her talk, Strier related these disturbances to primatology more broadly. “Most of the behavioral data has been coming in from populations living in disturbed, altered habitats,” she said. “So the idea that we should only be studying primates in pristine habitats is wrong: we need to study their resilience wherever they live.”

“At my field site, you can climb any ridge and see where the forest ends,” she added. “Yet, you can also see the monkeys. They are resilient. They are able to adapt, which gives them a chance in a changing world.”

In 1982, Strier arrived at what became her long-term field site in Caratinga, Minas Gerais and saw about 50 muriquis in two groups. The Matão Group grew to 130 animals by 2014 in this protected environment: “It’s a closed system. It’s like a Petri dish in a way, an ecological phenomenon, where we can monitor all muriquis that inhabit it.”

By 2010, there were 300 individuals. “One third of the species was in this little forest fragment,” Strier shared. “Along with the population growth, we detected an increase in the use of terrestrial resources.” Strier and her research team also saw a shift from female bias sex ratio to male. They saw an increase in fertility, shorter birth intervals in the females and a relaxed mothering style they believed was due to the mothers being on the ground versus in the trees. Strier showed a video with a mother muriqui quite casually holding her infant while focusing more on munching leaves: “She would never hold onto the baby that carelessly up in the trees.”

Since 2001, the forest has been growing back and was protected by the government as a private reserve. “Everything was looking up,” Strier said. But by 2014-2015, severe drought caused a human and environmental crisis. “There were fires all over the place and the muriquis’ water supply started drying up. They were drinking mud. I was afraid this would interfere with their reproduction. Their mortality went up, but with the birth season, their numbers had recovered.”

But then, in late 2016, another crisis hit, with the outbreak of yellow fever. “In January 2017, I was never so scared,” Strier said. “The forest was just silent. Lots of monkeys died.” She summarized results for a collaborative study showing that 80-90 percent of the howler monkeys and marmosets, and 30 percent of the capuchins were gone, as well as 10 percent of the muriquis – all lost in six months.

“This time, there was no recovery during the birth season,” she said.

saturation? When we think of resilience, it’s important to realize that, as resilient as these monkeys are, resilience may not be enough.”

Strier shared that she has undergone some changing views with regard to management: “We need both *in situ* conservation but also active management. There is no hope of this species persisting without intervention.”

Strier has worked hard with collaborators in both field and lab settings, along with long-term Brazilian collaborators Sérgio Lucena Mendes and Carla Possamai. She has worked with Toni Ziegler at the Wisconsin National Primate Research Center to study reproductive biology noninvasively in the lab through hormonal assays of urine and feces collected in the field. She has likewise collaborated with Tony Fiore and Paulo Chaves on noninvasive genetics research. Additional field collaborations are underway with Fabiano de Melo and Fernanda Tabacow through Projeto Muriquis do Sossego. These collaborations, she believes, put her and her colleagues in a stronger position to make informed decisions when intervention became necessary.

“In one forest, we saw the last male die. So, in the next forest, Reserva Ibitipoca, we did not wait too long to do something,” Strier said. “There were two males left. De Melo and his colleagues went to another forest and brought a female that was trying to find a new group to join the two lone males in what is ultimately a “soft release” plan.

“I confess I was not always in favor of translocations, but in these cases, intervention might be the only action that will work to recover populations with only a few individuals left,” Strier said.

She added that working with the news media is also critical to these efforts: “One landowner read about our work in *O Globo* and offered his forest for the muriquis. Although we haven’t taken him up on his offer yet, it is great to know there are people willing to help.”

Citizen science is also important, Strier described. “Within the Caratinga Community, citizens helped us with sighting lists of the primates they had seen before and after the yellow fever outbreak.”

“The muriquis are still on the ground. They are not going back up into the trees,” Strier said. “They have gotten used to their new ways, and I am optimistic their population will recover again.”

And Strier herself has shown a resilience equal to these peaceful primates.

“There is still wonder in this world,” she closed. “We should never underestimate the flexibility of primates. Small populations can show great resilience. And collaborations involving both *in situ* conservation and active management can make a positive difference.”

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“A Working Life: Primates, Turtles, Comic Books and the Sense of Wonder”
Stephen D. Nash, M.A.
https://www.neprimateconservancy.org/meet-stephen-nash.html
http://www.primate-sg.org/stephen_nash/

Returning to Madison for his third ASP meeting, Stephen D. Nash listened as Karen Strier introduced him as an artist at the forefront of conservation whom she has known since the muriqui (Brachyteles sp.) came into both of their lives in 1982. At that time, they began working together with Russ Mittermeier and Brazilian scientists to create conservation education materials focusing upon the species.

Nash took viewers of his talk through a delightful virtual art gallery tour of the primates, as depicted in everything from an embroidery piece depicting a Barbary Macaque by Mary Queen of Scots from the 16th century to drawings used in modern taxonomy textbooks.

Interweaving slides of these illustrations with descriptions of his own artistic journey, Nash said, “My work would not exist but for the encouragement and advice of others.”

Nash grew up in Holland-on-Sea, Essex, England and was fascinated by comic books and their graphic story-telling techniques. (“They were cheap and readily available in the UK at the time”). He studied how comics were drawn, and also collected cutaway illustrations of the internal workings of vehicles and appliances. These pre-computer hand-drawn pictures – made with triangles, protractors and rulers – inspired his own drawings during childhood, as later did the renderings of architect Frank Lloyd Wright. In art school in the 1970s, he produced drawings of articulated dinosaur skeletons, beetles and chimp skulls. Sketching at the London Zoo, he concentrated on herps and primates because he was intrigued that the other visitors’ comments about them were always so extreme – people made the most negative and the most positive observations. “Reptiles and amphibians were considered either beautiful living jewels or dangerous vermin,” he said, “and primates were either repulsive caricatures of ourselves, or admired as our closest relatives.” This led him to want to be an advocate for these two groups of animals.

“Scientific illustrators have a specific task to perform,” Nash explained. “We must show in our work specific diagnostic characters revealing the animal’s taxonomy and anatomy, and just as handwriting reveals information about the writer, these illustrations show whether or not the artist cares about his subject.

In later years, his appreciation of and interest in the work of illustrators from previous centuries has increased, and he has built up an archive of these with assistance from then WNPRC Librarian Larry Jacobsen, as part of The Nash Collection of Primates in Art and Illustration, which is still on line.

Nash showed the works of other artists he admires, including his college tutors John Norris Wood and Edward O. Z. Wade, d’Arcy Wentworth Thompson, Sir Peter Scott and Jonathan Kingdon.

Also inspiring to Nash are the paintings by Beatrix Potter, the author who was trained initially as a scientific illustrator, and those by Roger Tory Peterson, who virtually invented the Field Guide format.
“Their works are beautiful and accurate” Nash said, “and Nature and the art of the past continues to be strongly influential upon me.”

After his formal art education at the Colchester School of Art, Middlesex University, and the Royal College of Art, he had initially planned to work as a medical illustrator, but changed his career path after his London Zoo sketching experiences.

Since 1982, he has been based at Stony Brook University, New York, in the Anatomical Sciences department, and considers his colleagues there as family. He has worked with such primatologists as Russell Mittermeier, Anthony Rylands, John Oates and Marc van Roosmalen and was the scientific illustrator for Conservation International between 1989 and 2017. His work has appeared in numerous books, scientific articles, and conservation education materials, and was even honored by having a titi monkey named for him – Callicebus stephennashi. In 2004, Nash received the ASP President’s Award and in 2008, he received a Medal from the Primate Society of Great Britain.

Having produced drawings of every primate taxon, Nash allows free use of his images by scientists and students in exchange for advice on how they can be improved. Thus, he has seen his images appear all over the world, in expected, as well as unexpected places: “It has been interesting seeing them as mini-posters on placemats, so children can learn about primates while eating… and it’s quite astonishing to see your illustrations tattooed on people.”

Nash’s favorite primate? The cottontop tamarin. His least favorite? Though it was hard to tell from his talk, he did say that titi monkeys (despite one being named for him), are “rather less interesting… they tend to just sit there, like lumps on a log.”

His favorite medium? Coloured pencils. “Good for drawing with in humid, tropical conditions.” He also received a question about whether he draws directly from nature, or from other reference material such as photographs, to which he responded that he does both, but not at the same time: “Drawing animals while in the wild is very different from drawing them from a photograph, unless they’re a tortoise or something relatively slow-moving, so I try not to work with a camera and art media at the same time. It never turns out well.”

In closing, Nash said, “I have always appreciated scientists, and especially primatologists. You have curiosity, compassion and empathy, not unlike children. We must involve children in our conservation education efforts, to help encourage in them that sense of wonder which I feel is so essential to being human.”

“Fielding Change in Primatology”
Marilyn Norconk, Ph.D.
ASP Past Presidents’ Address
https://www.kent.edu/anthropology/profile/dr-marilyn-norconk
http://www.personal.kent.edu/~mnorconk/

Across her career in primatology, Marilyn Norconk has balanced efforts in teaching, research, and community outreach in the service of science and conservation, said Dorothy Fragaszy, who introduced Norconk, adding that her colleague is a good role model for young primatologists on how to do all of these things well.
“How can we and ASP have a greater impact on primate conservation?” Marilyn Norconk opened. “It’s sometimes viewed as a ‘soft science’ but our hope is that this view is changing... we must integrate behavioral, biological and biomedical science in our efforts.”

Norconk began her field research studies 30 years ago, and she now views the 2000s as a “coming of age” period for having reliable methods to do physiology, genetics and cognition studies in the field. In the 2010s, she added, primatologists now have GPS and satellite imaging to help map travel routes and habitat details for primates.

“But we now also have climate change and other new forces that we need to try to incorporate into our research,” she said. “I hesitated putting up extinction ecology on a slide today, but this is something we need to face. There is not enough reforestation taking place; we are not keeping up.”

The best way to protect primates is to improve the security of people,” Norconk said. “We need to change our focus from studying single species to primate communities, giving more empowerment to the people we work with, and training more people in the local communities to take on more responsibility in their countries.”

Norconk then showed examples of companies breaking conservation agreements in the Amazon, such as an oil company clearing the forest for a road two times wider than legally allowed. She explained that this is happening everywhere and greatly impacts primate behavior and ecology.

Norconk was first in Suriname in 1986, then in 2003 until today, conducting research at Brownsberg Nature Park. “There are eight species of primates there, including under-studied bearded sakis and white-faced sakis. We have been monitoring the movements of monkeys in the vicinity of illegal gold mines in the park. Google earth images compared over a ten-year period show a dramatic increase in forest loss, but thus far we have not been able to detect a clear pattern of change in primate movements. That may occur if species like spider monkeys and bearded sakis, that have very large home ranges, can avoid disturbed areas,” she said.

Satellite images help us to understand the speed of deforestation, Norconk said, adding that China increases their access to logging by providing needed cash to several countries in the tropics, including Suriname. Community-owned forests may be at special risk if forestry regulations are not as strict there as in other logging concessions. “With mining, logging for palm oil plantations and dams being built for hydro-electric power, the forest is disappearing quickly.”

“Trying to buy products without palm oil in them is really difficult,” Norconk said. “A ton of palm oil can be produced in a quarter hectare plot, which is half a football field. Given the commercial nature of the product, palm oil plantations are here to stay. Large-scale agriculture, that includes soybeans, also contributes heavily to deforestation. Loss of habitat was cited as a leading cause of population declines affecting the 25 most endangered primate species identified in 2018.”

Norconk stressed that we need to better understand the effect of the climate crisis on primates. While temperatures here in the U.S. may look average on the whole to many people, causing some complacency over climate change here, the places with the highest primate diversity have recorded the warmest temperatures and greatest impacts from climate change. “We have a perception problem,” she said.
“The entire Amazon is vulnerable and we know little about how primates will respond to increasing temperatures and projected droughts. Will primates be able to migrate to maintain their preferred habitat conditions? We don’t know, but research on other organisms suggests that movement upslope and away from lowlands will impact long-adapted species interactions. Increasing heat and drought means that only the most resilient vegetation will survive. But these are not typical primate foods.”

Maybe howler monkeys and muriquis are the most likely to adapt, she said, as research shows they are behaviorally flexible when compared to other species. While there are few studies of the effects of climate change on primates, slow lorises seem to be impacted by a complex set of conditions that include temperature, wind speed, pollination and nectar production of flowers, illustrating that it is difficult to anticipate the variables that will affect specific primate species.”

Climate change policy and habitat protection policy is highly variable in the world, she said. “So we have to step outside of our comfort zones – get into the streets in the U.S. and expand our classrooms to habitat countries. We need to train local people as leaders, not only as field assistants. We need to empower students and provide training in professional development.”

In Suriname, we have found that students and faculty are open to public lectures, focused short courses on conservation, and field experiences. Norconk next described working with Kathy West (who later won the ASP Outreach Award at the awards banquet) to offer a photography workshop to 30 nine-year olds, providing them with experience “seeing nature” in a local park in the capital city, Paramaribo. “There was such high biodiversity locally but none of the students had ever been there,” Norconk said.

In her closing remarks, Norconk echoed what many ASP speakers had shared and what members were discussing throughout the conference: "We can’t forget the public communication angle – we have to elevate it."
NAME OF GRANT RECIPIENT: Holly Torres
AFFILIATION/TITLE: Oxford Brookes University & Tesoro Escondido Reserve

PROJECT TITLE: An investigation into community involvement in the conservation of *Ateles fusciceps fusciceps* in Tesoro Escondido, Ecuador

PROJECT REPORTING PERIOD: May 6th – September 8th 2018

Ecuador has the highest deforestation rate of all of South America and is one of the most primates rich countries in the Neotropics. In the Esmeraldas province of Ecuador, commercial logging and agriculture are the primary sources of income for local communities. Meanwhile, the forest in this region is part of the Ecuadorian Chocó, a biodiversity hotspot, and is home to the Ecuadorian brown-headed spider monkey, *Ateles fusciceps fusciceps*, one of the World’s Top 25 Most Endangered Primate Species. Due to the impending anthropogenic threats to the territory of the brown-headed spider monkey it is critical to conduct studies emphasizing ethnographic methods in communities within this primate’s range.

This study took place in the Tesoro Escondido Reserve and surrounding communities within the Canandé region of Esmeraldas, Ecuador. This location is the only area of the Ecuadorian Chocó where healthy populations of the brown-headed spider monkey have been observed and continuously monitored. During a two-month stay in this area, with various employees of the Tesoro Escondido Reserve and several community members, I successfully integrated into these communities. Throughout the study I recorded participant observations and conducted a combination of 30 semi-structured and informal interviews with local and foreign stakeholders. The integration and observations were used to get a genuine understanding of the participant’s work and personal lives and how this shaped the culture of this area. The interviews focused on the participants experiences and perceptions of their affiliations with the Tesoro Escondido Reserve and additional conservation organizations in this area.

I used these data to understand the community outreach and retention methods of the Tesoro Escondido Reserve in comparison to the other local efforts. Conservation research continuously supports the notion that having local people’s support and active involvement in initiatives is an indicator for success and longevity. It was evident that one of the main objectives of the Tesoro Escondido Reserve is to establish an active community presence in all of their conservation programs centering around the brown-headed spider monkey as their flagship species.
The result of this case study can be used to outline successful conservation practices for gaining and maintaining local support in this region. This project is important for primate conservation because it provides an example of an organization that is successful in community outreach, which other organizations in this area can model to improve the long-term local support for their efforts.
PHOTOS from ASP 2019

Starting off the @ASPvoice #conservation session is Dr. Michelle Bezanson @bezanswer, sharing the results of a survey that she & @allison_mcnama conducted on conservation outcomes in field research & publications. Note also beautiful #artwork by @bezanswer #ASP2019

I want to thank @colinmbrand and @KatieFGerstner for setting up the Meet a Mentor speed networking event. Definitely one of my favorite parts of #ASP2019! I got to meet so many awesome researchers who gave me some great advice!

Had a great time at the #ASP2019 conference here in Madison! So many incredible people and talks throughout the week. Can't wait until next year in Denver! 🦦

Congratulations, too, to @b_malique, runner up for the student award!! #ASP2019
It doesn’t feel like ASP without Suzette but #Babywegotyourback at #ASP2019.

Congratulations to Lynea Witzczak, winner of the outstanding student presentation award! #ASP2019

Congratulations to Marissa Janavaris, recipient of the primate welfare award for her research on bedding as enrichment in group-housed macaques #ASP2019

The silent auction at #asp2019 is well underway! Don’t forget to put in your bids!
Minutes of the 2019 Meeting of the ASP Executive Board

The members of the Executive Committee of the American Society of Primatologists convened at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday August 22, 2019 in Room 220 of the Pyle Center, Madison Wisconsin, with the following participation:

Members present
Kim Phillips
Cory Ross
Erin Riley
John Capitanio
Lauren Robinson
Justin McNulty
Dorothy Fragaszy
Collin Brant
Katie Buster
Marilyn Norconk
Lynn Isbell
Daniel Gottlieb
Kris Coleman
Erin Kane
Mike Reid
Corrine Lutz

Committee reports

Student committee: Chairs: Collin Brant, Katie Buster
The student committee hosted a number of events at ASP 2019:
- Workshop prior to the launch of the meeting—applying for nonacademic jobs, 10 attendees
- Speed networking, 25 participants signed up. There will be refreshments served.
- Grant writing workshop with panelists
- Student mixer on Friday – trivia
- Expect a lot of attendees at other events (had 2000 views on twitter for announcements).

Ideas for future meetings
- Self-identify as students in the program
- Ribbons for name tags – signify looking for grad students or postdocs, etc…
- Speed networking will be included with registration to encourage attendees (both students and mentors).

Research and Development

Chair: Daniel Gottlieb
Committee reviews the small research grants. This year received 20 small research grant proposals, 2 submissions for Deb Moore. Motion: 4 small research grants recommended for funding

Publications

Chair: John Capitanio
The negotiation of Wiley contract has completed and the contract is signed.
Electronic journal for the society
- What are the kinds of things we can do with this format?
  - Brief reports
  - Case reports, anecdotes
  - Open peer commentary
  - Conservation reports
  - Grant reports
- Wiley contract does include the ability for us to launch an e-journal that does not compete with AJP
  - We cannot put primary high impact reports into ASPe
  - May be difficult to determine what the target is regarding competition with AJP
- Now there are a ton of resources to do these types of journals
- Committee feels we should move this forward

Motion to board: form a steering committee to launch ASPe tasked with:
- Investigate platform
- Indexing
- Editorial
- DOI ...
- Steering committee to submit timely report to the board (a few months) to determine feasibility.
Program: Chairs: Doree Fragaszy and Corrine Lutz
The 2018 ASP conference had 190 attendees, this year 254 with a number of onsite registrations, with 168 abstracts, 2 roundtables, and several workshops.

Motion: Deadlines – suggested for 2020 meeting Symposia proposals 1/3/20, Abstracts 1/17/20
Poster symposia – not used by anyone this year, but will offer it again next year and hope that someone takes advantage. Does require some scheduling for staff.

- Impression from other societies may be linked to lack of time for oral presentations and that is the use. May be less appealing for our society
- Growing in popularity at other societies as a format on its own.
- Advertise it more for next year
- Asking for tweek to the registration page for selection of symposium/oral, people are selecting the wrong one. Things to be clarified.
- Confusion regarding category of workshop, symposium, roundtable, etc… Going to work on language for those.

Co-chair system really needed for this committee, due to amount of work; perhaps staggering this co-chair to help with continuance.

Primate Care: Chair: Kris Coleman
Preconference workshop (2 day) – topic was assessing abnormal behavior 29 registrants, several after deadline. 12-15 did not attend ASP conference (several local)

- Hard to estimate costs – received more catering than expected. Spent less than $1000, brought in $2900.
- Hoping to do it again next year, will send outline for approval (enrichment strategies)
- 6.5 hours of RACE credits
- 18 hours offered throughout conference
- Greg Wilkeson will be leaving this position, and a replacement will be named.

Symposium upcoming later in program

Primate Care Award
- 7 applicants, all time high

Finance and Membership: Erin Riley
Expanded the committee and the depth of the committee
Updated the membership page on the website – got its own tab
Formed subcommittees: Field, Lab, Zoo, students. Developed targeted text for recruitment to ASP. Why join ASP?
Looked at membership data – who is missing from the list and generate an email list to recruit. Looking at metrics to determine if emails resulted in memberships

Hit 2 goals of strategic plan
- raise membership 5% annually. This year 5.35%, increase in paying members 7.72%.
- Students 8.42% increase

How do we decrease accidental and deliberate non-renewals? Targeting this in the next year.
- Low cost incentives for registering early
- Collect pins (example AALAS) if renew by certain date. Something low cost as incentive
- Stay on top of people, making things easier on website (especially if not presenting at the conference)

Finances:
- ASP 2018 loss $15000
- ASP 2019 projected revenue $26000
- General fund appears to have 36% increase, but very little paid out for the 2019 meeting yet
- This is why membership and finance are so closely linked.
- Need to consider financial sustainability of conference

Education: Lauren Robinson, Mike Reid
Planned a workshop for educators: had no one sign up. Believed to be due to poor timing associated with the school year and canceled. Next year: Education in the classroom, and go to the classes.

Kyes Award – education committee has proposed a nomination. Not planning to be a yearly award. There is a winner this year, but moving forward noting that it is not an annual award.

Student competition
- Only had 7 people register this year.
- How do we get the numbers back up? Work with student committee to encourage students to compete

DC Science Festival
Financially expensive to fund, and both co-chairs are international
Figure out the ideas and then ask for locals to run it

Media: Erin Kane
Erin has been doing social media, needs to be notified in order to help the committees
Social media
- Monkey Monday, future Fridays are doing well
- Looking to increase posts regarding non-field research in the future
Role of media and journalists – needs to be discussed further and include the Media group
Proposing: Science Communication media meeting/training for the next conference.
**BOD to discuss** – Future Fridays is sometimes people that aren’t ASP members
**BOD to discuss** – outreach website – primate facts, other content, is there a need for this? Or put it on asp.org

Conservation: Marilyn Norconk
Planning to expand membership of the committee, and updating members to encourage activities. Want to increase the number of reviewers for each grant.
Activities this year:
- Conservation small grants: 26 proposals, 24 reviewed, funded 6, $10,500
- Silent auction this year and raffle (2 raffles with 2 items each).
- Conservation award – will be announced at the banquet, 8 nominations.
- Wrote letters to halt the number of dams being built in primate habitat.
- Conservation videos on youtube channel
Planning:
- Conservation programming for annual meetings (conservation genetics symposium for next year)
- Conservation small grants for former winners in future symposia
- Conservation communications committee proposed to help with conservation issues

**BOD** - article 5 section 4 – change in the by-laws. Updating what is done with the conference, IUCN, establish liaisons with other societies. This would need to go to the membership.

Awards and Recognition: Justin McNulty
Maderas– reviewed 2 applications, awarded one. Future of the scholarship is in danger, only had 6 students at their site.
Need to reach out before opening the application next year
Ruppenthal: 18 applications for travel awards
- Recommended 4 awards (get names from Justin)
- Watts award was the original, now one slot is reserved
- Discussed the definition of a Latin American student for this award?
ARC awards
- Advertising all the awards (5 distinguished primatologists nominated), to be awarded at banquet
- Please remember to nominate again – or ask them to be reconsidered
Issues:
- Student travel award – not going to change the guidelines, but dealing with individual rare circumstances
- Asking to include social media handles to include in the blasts
- Updating website – to clarify some of the information regarding the awards.
- Nominations by non-ASP members, but committee feels that nominations may be limited if we limit the nominees or the potential awardees to ASP members. The by-laws currently read that everyone be considered

President updates
- Strategic planning – updates at the business meeting
- Fundraising needs, budget wish lists
- Open meeting to journalists?
- Vendors and exhibitors (11 this year, quite a lot of revenue for the society). Be sure to thank them for coming. Vendors are interested in contact info. Add a new box to the meeting registration for vendor contact permission.

Meeting adjourned: 6:45
Minutes of the 2019 Meetings of the ASP Board of Directors

The members of the Board of Directors (BOD) of the American Society of Primatologists convened twice at the 42nd Annual Meeting of ASP in Madison, WI.

The first meeting was held on 8/21/19 in Room 220 at the Pyle Center, Madison WI.
The second meeting was held on 8/23/19 in the same location.

Meeting #1:
In attendance: Kim Phillips, Lynne Isbell, Erin Riley, Cory Ross. Molly attending via ZOOM.
Meeting initiated at 9 am – Mollie on Zoom

1) Justin was not available to join us this morning to update regarding meeting locations. Location for 2021 meeting is still being investigated, we will need to make a decision by mid-September. New Orleans and Oklahoma City are the current runners.

2) Vendors have requested access to member emails in order to notify members of products. We want to encourage vendors to attend the meeting and this is one thing vendors typically receive.
   a. How do we encourage vendors to return each year? Promote the exhibitors on social media before the meeting – put out one message for each, use their logo. For this year we can release images and promotions.
   b. Access to emails – the exhibitors expect access to the contacts and the registrants. We can add a box that allows people to choose to “allow contact info provided to primate related, BOD deemed to be of interest” under the registration and the membership? Can we recruit book vendors to return to ASP? We as the BOD can contact vendors here and see how it is going.

3) Ideas to increase synergy with Wiley/AJP
   a. Mollie will meet with Paul Andre Friday morning. What can we do to continue to improve the relationship? Wiley contributes money to the ASP conference, and awards for the education awards.
   b. If Wiley is sending out advertising can ASP membership fliers be included and promoted?
   c. There have been issues with AJP’s processing of NIH compliance for publication. People are responding by not publishing in AJP for fear of being out of compliance. All Wiley journals are this way, and they are working on the issue.

4) Should we try to start ASP/E? Who, how, funds?
   b. How feasible is it? Do we have someone that really wants to take this on and launch? We need a single person to really launch, and fundraiser for this. If we are going to do it now is the time.
   c. Preliminary announcement at the business meeting to find out if people are interested.

5) Role of ARC with regard to all awards—Conservation award; Primate welfare award
   a. There are many awards as ASP – many of them do not go through the ARC. Do all awards need to be placed under the ARC, or split out to different committees (ex: Maderas award under ARC but perhaps need to be Education).
   b. BOD needs to approve the awardees. Nominations to be given to BOD earlier so can verify congruency/overlap, BOD will need to set a date, dates will need to be determined based on the meeting. Committee will provide a list of nominees shortly after May 1 to the President. If dates for next year shift to April 1, then they report to May 1 to BOD.
   c. Plaques need to be standardized and use the same template. Circulate the form and the specifics, ARC committee chair can order them all. The steps need to be written out and communicated to the chairs (Consenation, Education, ARC).
   d. BOD is asking ARC to consider whether awards such as the Distinguished Primatologist need to be designated as only for members.

6) Membership has suggested that some language from our new Code of Conduct become a part of our membership requirements as well.
   a. Those with documented sanctions due to sexual harassment from their Institution will have their ASP membership revoked. This will be handled by the BOD to deal with potential appeals on a case to case basis.

7) Journalism, this topic will be a focus of discussions at the conference and at the business meeting
   a. This year due to timing of requests and events the BOD decided not to invite journalists because we did not want to spring it on the members. Locally this year there was an interest by UW to have journalists at this meeting. UW communications is doing interviews locally and will be writing things up for ASP.
   b. ASP needs to have a media policy and procedure for approving credentialed journalists.
   c. For the business meeting, give the background leading into this meeting, the decision that was made. BOD not trying to block media coverage, emphasize the internal tweet and things our media committee
are doing. Allow the members to be prepared to have journalists in the sessions. Trying to find the compromise for the members.

8) Update on the financial documents
   a. Credit card fees- how do we encourage people to help offset fees. Laws and University rules preclude automatic fees for this.
   b. How do we deal with requests for money from the committees? Should we have small budgets for the committees? Lynne previously asked for wish list and got almost no response.
   c. What percentage of the expenditures are going to each category – students, research, etc…
   d. San Antonio meeting, lost $15K +. Projected revenue for this $26K. General fund appears high (but have not paid out for this conference).
   e. For membership increased paying by 7.2%. Also met student increase = 5%. One strategy was targeted for specific people to get them to renew.
   f. Is there something else that we can do with savings to increase the earnings?
   g. Erin will do numbers so that we can see the projected general fund standings.
   h. Lifetime memberships – tied to Wiley. Can revisit this – we had talked about doing projections for lifetime.

9) Committee listings – add a pdf with list of committee chairs and committee members. Have the pdf available on member only access page.

10) Website – time to start discussing plans for an update and having a plan for when Nancy retires. Website is extremely complex with layers of archived information. Perhaps this is where fundraising effort should go. Is there something we can do to store credit card info for automatic membership renewal?

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm

Meeting #2:

Research and Development
- BOD approves funding 3 research grants this year
- Deb Moore not recommended for funding this year

Publications
- Motion approved for the steering committee formation for the ASPe, to report back to the BOD within a few months

Program
- Motion approved for dates for submission for abstracts and symposia
- Charge to the program committee: program must be available online for attendees ~10 weeks prior to the meeting, provided to the BOD the week before for review. Can we say with the abstract acceptance that the program will be live at the end of March?

Welfare and Captive Care
- Proposing increase of the prize for the presentations
  - The BOD does not approve of increasing the size of the award this year. The presentations prizes should be the same across the presentation awards (education, welfare, etc…).
- Revenue for workshop $2000. The committee proposed that revenue from the meeting goes back to the committee for future budget. Tabled for future discussion. Need to further discuss the committee funding and budgeting for requests

Finance
- In order to offset the credit card fees are there other options for processing of payments?
- IPS will owe us money in the next year for the conference software

Education
- If we decide to do the science fair, they need a budget
- Can we find someone local to help with the Science Festival?
- Board – motion – ASP Board approves Science Festival with $2500 budget. Charge to chairs: keep the BOD in the loop regarding organization and who will be going to the festival.

Media
- Future Fridays, showcasing people in ASP facebook site that is supposed to be members only, that aren’t members.
  - Board feels that people being featured should be ASP members. This could be an incentive for membership.
  - Charge to chair: ask Erin to promote membership. For all promotions of the individuals (features) – should be ASP members for both tweets and facebook.

Conservation
- BOD approved: youtube channel for the conservation videos.

ARC
- Charge to the ARC: discuss whether the by-laws for the distinguished primatologist award should be updated.
General discussion for further discussion:
- There have been a number of grants or awards that have arisen and then gone away. In the long-term there are changes in funding, and the status of the award is either lost or gets subsumed into the general fund. How do we balance this with the need to fundraise for the strategic plan initiatives?
- Media – need to plan in advance and get advice from the media committee in the process.

Meeting adjourned.

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Minutes of the 2019 ASP Business Meeting

The members of the American Society of Primatologists convened at 3:30 p.m. on August 24, 2019 in the Pyle Center, Madison Wisconsin.

Committee Reports

Awards and Recognition: Justin McNulty
Committee members: Linda Fedigan, Karin Jaffe, Andreas Koenig, Juan Carlos Serio Silvia, we are always looking for new committee members.
Madera Scholarship – Tamara Britton was awarded in 2019
Ruppenthal Travel awards – 18 applications: Carly Miles, Daniel Cuerbo Zanatta, Emily Boeving, Ryno Kruger were awarded in 2019.
The committee reviews nominations for Distinguished primatologist, Early Career Achievement, Senior Research, Distinguished Service, and Special Recognition Awards. The 2019 Distinguished Primatologist will be announced at the banquet.

Conservation: Marilyn Norconk
Committee membership – there are currently 17 members, always looking for new members
Conservation small grants submitted in January. There were 26 applicants, awarded 6 (1500-2000 each): Madagascar 3, Neotropics 2, Africa 1, with 4 awards to students, and 2 to NGO’s.
Winners were previously announced.
The 2019 Conservationist Award winner will be announced tonight at banquet.
Please nominate worthy considerations!
Conservation videos are on the ASP website, please be sure to view them.
Conservation programming for 2020 ASP meeting
  - An invited symposium – recent conservation winners
  - Invited and contributed poster symposium
Funds for these awards come from the silent auction and the raffles. Also remember to use the Amazon smile link to support conservation.
Question for the committee: Is it better to go through Amazon page link or Amazon smile? Unclear which one is the best way to raise money for the society. John Capitanio will let everyone know (answer provided in Fall bulletin)

Education: Lauren Robinson & Michael Reid
The committee is looking to recruit members, especially students
Please encourage students to apply to the student awards. The 2019 award winners will be announced at the banquet.
The 2019 Kyes award winner will also be announced at the banquet.
The committee continues outreach by via social media, talks and other forms. This year’s teacher’s workshop was canceled, but there will be a workshop in 2020
Lauren had a viral tweet on animal behavior that helped to educate the public regarding threat behaviors.

Finance and Membership: Erin Riley
Very thankful for the hard work of the committee members, always looking for more volunteers.
Finances –
General Fund 2018 – 2019 36% increase in the fiscal year, but has not yet paid out most of this meetings costs. Project a 5% decrease in general fund.
Legacy Fund 2018-2019, change -11%
Conservation fund 2018-2019 decrease 19%, paid out 2 rounds of conservation grants in this fiscal year.
Deb Moore memorial fund, decrease of 75%, no fundraising done this year, but they will do so again next year.
Membership –
Expanded size and diversity of the committee, revised membership page on website, created targeted recruitment statements (field, student, vets, research centers, zoos). Now metrics will be assessed for whether these impacted
membership renewal. Erin presented a graphic to depict overall membership trends. Membership continues to decline. In 10 years the society has lost 48%. This year we have an increase in total membership by 5%. This increase has achieved the strategic goal to increase by 5% (hit 5.25%), increase student membership 5% (hit 8.42%), and increase presence in one area of potential members recruitment (targeted statements released). Moving forward we need to recruit new members and retain existing ones (reduce the number of nonrenewal).

Media & Public Engagement: Erin Kane
Private Facebook group for members, need to fix the link from the member page. Currently 319 members
Twitter (@ASP voice). Had 3157 followers, 575 following (primatologists and journals). #ASP2019, 188 mentions, 56 users. #monkeymonday, #futurefriday – a way to share early researchers. Leakey foundation is following and tweeting. This coming year will be highlighting more captive work.
Engagement with journalists and media – possible in the future
Use her and social medias as a resource! (tweet out awards, etc for the society)
Committee is her and one other person, need more help!
Comment – believe Erin is doing a great thing and working very hard on twitter, best of other societies. Perhaps in the future do some media training to deal with animal activism.

Primate Care: Kris Coleman
17 members on the committee
The committee held a Preconference workshop – identifying abnormal behaviors in NHPs, planning to do another in 2020.
Primate Welfare Ward, outstanding poster or oral presentation, 7 applicants this year. Please encourage everyone to apply. Winner will be announced at the banquet. Thank you Dawn Abney for organizing judging
Hot Topics regularly updated by Ahsley Edes, and Melissa Truelove, available on the ASP website.
RACE education credits – brought new people into the society. 18 hours total (6.5 for workshop). Many thanks to Greg Wilkerson, and Kelly Metcalfe-Pate.
Comment – it has been great to see vets coming to the meetings. Interested in workshop in the interface between vets and care staff to emphasize the good work occurring.

Program: Corrine Lutz, Doree Fragaszy
Members: Jessica Vandeleest, Elizabeth Wood, Ashley Edes, Greg Wilkerson, Emily Rothwell.
254 attendees at the ASP conference this year. There were 4 plenary speakers, 168 abstracts, 55 poster, 113 oral, 8 symposia, 5 workshops, and one preconference
Tentative deadlines for 2020 Jan 3 for symposia; individual abstracts Jan 17. No extensions!
The program committee offered a new format this year but no one asked for it: Poster Symposium which would include a group of posters on a theme with a small oral presentation data blitz, followed by a poster session and then a discussion. A different format in which to interactively engage in a different format. Website will be adjusted for submission. Seeking suggestions for plenary speakers and topics for interdisciplinary symposium for next year.
Continuing forward co-chairs work well and staggering them will help (Education committee has had this work well for them).

Publications: John Capitanio
Thank you to all the committee members.
The committee provided input into the Wiley contract negotiations and the contract has been signed.
The society is considering developing an electronic journal for the society, this was attempted 20 years ago and it didn’t go anywhere because it was ahead of its time. But now there are more resources available to help societies get started. This cannot compete with AJP, but there are a number of possibilities for publishing in this journal that would be interesting: student reports, grant recipients, …
Forming a steering committee to investigate the feasibility. Open Access Style publishing. Looking for half a dozen people to pursue this vigorously. Need to develop a business report and planning document of fact finding, … Contact John if interested.

Research and Development: Daniel Gottleib
Thank you to all of the committee members.
The committee reviewed 26 applications for the Research Grant, and will be awarding 3 grants at $1500 each. Congratulations to the winners!

Student Committee: Colin Brand, Katie Gerstner
The committee currently has 11 members focused on student programming at the meeting
At ASP 2019 there were a number of student activities including a Job application workshop by Sylvia Atsalis, Speed mentoring with 28 participants, Grant writing workshop – Brett Frye, Lydia Hopper, Kris Sabbi (18 participants), and Student Mixer – 17 participants.

Always looking for new members.
Encourage the students to join committee and be an active participant of the society.

AJP Reports: Karen Bales
Karen acknowledges the help of the Wiley publishing team and their help in organizing the workshop Training in Peer Review (Wiley provided lunch for the trainees).

Karen has been editor in chief for 1.5 years, the journal has Associate editors, and 3rd tier editorial board. Submissions have been increasing for the last several years (expect 300 submissions this year). Acceptance rate has been stable (45-50% of papers), with high quality papers being submitted. Time to first decision is about 39 days and time to final decision is about 3 months. Impact factor for 2018 is 2.009. AJP remains the highest ranked primate journal (IJP under 2), and is 31 out of 170 in our division of Biology. If we publish and cite articles from the last 2 years, it increases the impact factor. Marketing and outreach – Wiley takes AJP to conferences. Articles are tweeted, and there are ASP member feature articles (article freely available for 3 months). Remember to have host country authors get complimentary ASP membership so that they can be featured.

Two special issues released this year. Three more to come: Primate Microbiome, Primate Development, Primates in Fragments. Please submit ideas for special issues, and review articles.

Open Science Badges – data sharing. These badges drive an increase in data sharing.
Data availability statement will be included in the submission process. Can still choose no, or author can be contacted, or open repository. Community for data sharing for primatology – there are individuals in the community that want to share the data but need resources and information. None of the primate journals currently have a place that people are sent. AJPA is also going through similar process. Will hear more about this in the next year.
ProjectDeal – Wiley signed a deal with Germany that ultimately a consortium a group in Germany have negotiated an open access rate that allows anyone to publish from this consortium to publish with open access.

Comments: Do Associate editors have term limits
Regarding data sharing repositories – can choose license, may not preclude posting it somewhere else.

President’s Report: Kim Phillips on behalf of Mollie
AJP contract – 5-year contract which included increased sponsorship for conference events, commitment to workshops on publishing practices, peer review data sharing, and student presentation awards. New editor in chief of AJP will be determined in collaboration with Wiley.

Strategic planning – Review of the development of the strategic plan, focus on initial efforts for the plan. The focus for 2019 was the membership goals which Erin reported and we are on track. Other initiatives:

Increase ASP presence in at least one are of potential member recruitment, for example vets
- Established working group between ASP & AVMA
- Working with American Society of Mammalogists

Ensure stable membership levels
- Increased by 5.25 %, assessing the number of deliberate membership nonrenewals and accidental nonrenewals.

Ensure welfare and conservation of primates
- Sponsor conservation symposium – done 2019
- Program committee to invite plenary speaker – done 2019
- Invite members from habitat countries to join committee – currently serving, planning for more
- Advertise complimentary membership – ongoing

Create development planning for ASP
- Fundraising – BOD getting input from committee chair needs, develop funding priorities
- Grant funding – investigate NIH options
- Individual recurring donations from members – investigating security and other needs.
- Question – legacy giving? Do we have anything set up? Recurring payments – problems with stored credit card numbers

Open discussion regarding journalists – Chris Barnard joining for the conversation
- There were requests for journalists for this meeting, at this time Erin and Kim were out of the country with limited access to email. It was decided to not do it at this time – but the time before the meetings was short. Board felt the timing was too short to notify the membership and to prepare. Wanted to open the discussion to the membership.
- Where were the requests coming from? – Came through the PR person at the WNPRC outreach person. Chicago Tribune contacted after the schedule was released – interested in Stephen Nash’ symposium. Interacted with University communications and discussions were had regarding handling journalists.
- General impression from the board and the membership – people are interested in interacting with media and getting message out. What should we be aware of and what are the downsides? Chris – of course there are, there may be very negative interactions with reporters. Scientists often get what they want from the media. Risk is credentialing a reporter that is not truly a science writer.

- Large societies have media rooms, reporters are familiar with this and often register as a media representative, and societies have credentialing SOP’s. Often part of the meeting website asking journalists what they are expected to provide (ex: SfN). Reporters provide – staff information, professional membership, many places provide a service. We can write policy for journalists so that they are badged and identified.

- Can individual scientists opt out? Chris – has never seen it and he would advise against it. Instead encourage journalists to ask questions, provide open access, and allow them to understand the concerns of the society.

- Communication training would be very helpful in future meetings. Could we reach out to certain (positive interaction) journalists to invite them to the meeting?
  - There was a science advocacy workshop at this meeting. AIBS – science communication boot camp, ASP members have a reduced cost.
  - Include what our rights are as people interacting with journalists, provide resources for members, guide and advice for scientists to control interactions with journalists.
  - Great idea to invite journalists, but if going to let one in. Need to let legit reporters in.

- Can reporters be restricted to attributing to things only to people that are individually reported. Reporters respect embargoes. Or to state that they won’t go on the record. Described (deep background, background, on the record). Can restrict to background for media, but only on the record after interview.
  - Media often waits for things to be published, often building a story then waiting for publication.

- How do we construct a policy that meets the needs of all of our members? Local communications specialists can offer a resource for the society. Timing of things is important – waiting until next year to do workshops would delay us a year. Can we get a policy in place?

- There are concerns from people in the animal welfare field. These individuals are concerned about how things may be twisted and the effect it would have on communicating the information. Can we initiate our own press releases after the conferences?

- Monkeys sell science. Universities do not like surprises, and this could be something that is a surprise if something happens at the meeting.

- Welfare – perhaps the information may be twisted, but we need to be prepared to respond. Shows the public that it is a scientific discipline and that there are efforts. Opportunity for students and their opportunity to learn the skills, and they need them.

- There may be some coverage already this year, Jordana was here from WNPRC to write up the plenary speakers.

- Comments should be directed to aspboard@asp.org

ASP 2020
Opening Reception will be at Denver Zoo.

New Business
- IPS2020 – August 16-22, in Ecuador – joint meeting with Latin American Society of Primatology
- Wisconsin Primate Library – financial support ended and the library was closed, but there has been a sustained archive of the material and the website. The library is looking for help maintaining the archives which includes IPS historical documents, and some ASP. Forming a collaboration with a private sector business to help manage the resources of primate infonet. Working on transfer to Primatedata.org. Looking for help with management. Please contact kenmitz@primate.wisc.edu
- Thank the 2019 conference organizers!