A Message from the President…

Dear Colleagues,

Your ASP Board of Directors (BOD) has been busy through these early months of 2019 to enhance and advance ASP. A few highlights follow.

To recruit new members to ASP, Erin Riley (Treasurer) working with her Finance and Membership Committee members, and with others on the BOD, designed some targeted messaging to describe why we thought ASP would be a beneficial organization for potential members to consider joining. The messaging was sent to well over 300 individuals and to a few professional organizations. We focused on field researchers, veterinarians, zoo professionals, students and those working in National Primate Research Centers. This work is driven by our Strategic Plan goals to foster an inclusive and diverse community of people studying primates, and to recruit and retain diverse ASP membership.

We are all looking forward to the ASP conference in August. Thanks to all the work that Toni Zeigler and her team are doing to prepare a comfortable, productive and fun atmosphere for primatologists to meet. Corrine Lutz and Doree Fragaszy (Program Committee Chairs) report a vibrant program is in the making that will include a four plenary talks, one interdisciplinary symposium, five other symposia, three roundtable discussions, three student events, one workshop during the conference, and two pre-conference workshops. Please talk with your colleagues who don't usually attend our conference about giving it a try this summer. Erin Kane (Media and Public Engagement Committee Chair) created a flier to help advertise the conference, see below. Please feel free to send this to anyone you think may be interested.

Another objective from our Strategic Plan is to develop partnerships that will benefit ASP. Currently we are partnering with the Association of Primate Veterinarians (APV). In 2018, we had presentations at each of our conferences (ASP and APV) highlighting the other organization and discussed benefits of increasing interactions between the organizations. The ASP annual conference offers credits to veterinarians that are required for their professional continuing education. We are now forming a joint working group between ASP and APV to design our future collaborations. Please contact me if you are interested in serving on that working group. If you have ideas about other professional organizations you think we should create partnerships with, please let me know.
We are working with Wiley on renewing our contract with them regarding our official journal, the *American Journal of Primatology*. We appreciate the support of Paul-André Genest, Senior Editor at Wiley, as we complete this process.

A quick note on our Code of Conduct and Acceptable Behavior policies. Some of you may be aware of recent unfortunate events at a Society for American Archaeology (SAA) conference: an archaeologist who had been banned from his university campus for sexual harassment attended the conference, causing multiple problems. The SAA did not have a policy that covered the situation. In light of this, the ASP BOD will be proposing some modifications to our policies, and will bring those changes forward to the ASP membership for approval. Our goal is to be proactive on this front, and to maintain a collegial and safe environment for all ASP members.

Mollie Bloomsmith  
President, ASP  
mabloom@emory.edu

**Flier:**

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Join us for the 42nd Meeting of the  
American Society of Primatologists  
The Pyle Center at University of Wisconsin, Madison  
August 21-24, 2019  

Featuring:  
Cutting edge presentations on the ecology, behavior, anatomy, welfare, physiology, neuroscience, genetics, and conservation of captive and wild primates  

With keynote talks by:  

- **Stephen Nash**

- **Marilyn Norconk**
  Fielding change in Primatology  

- **Dorothy Fragaszy**
  DIY Primatology: Building Careers  

- **Karen Strier**
  Primates and Conservation in the Time of Yellow Fever  

**Symposium Submission Deadline**
March 1, 2019  

**Abstract Submission Deadline**
March 31, 2019  

Details at [https://asp.org/meetings/conference.cfm](https://asp.org/meetings/conference.cfm)
2018 Distinguished Primatologist Award Announced at ASP Meeting in San Antonio, Texas!

With the approval of the ASP Board of Directors, the Awards and Recognition Committee (Linda Fedigan, Lynne Isbell, Andreas Koenig, Justin McNulty, & Leanne Nash) presented the 2018 Distinguished Primatologist Award for career achievement in primatology to Dr. Dorothy Fragazy. This award honors a primatologist who has had an outstanding career and has made significant scientific contributions to our field.

Dorothy Fragaszy has had a long and very productive career. Her first refereed publication was in 1974 when she published a paper in the Journal of Human Evolution titled “Infant socialization in primates”, with Gary Mitchell, before she even earned her Master’s degree. She earned her Ph.D. in psychology from UC Davis in 1978 and from there she went on to hold a variety of positions, from her early days as an assistant professor at San Diego State University, to an associate professor at Washington State University and finally, as a full professor at the University of Georgia where she has been since 1994. For 21 years, until last year, she was the Chair of Brain and Behavioral Sciences in the Department of Psychology at the University of Georgia.

Her research interests include investigation of problem-solving, perception, manipulation, and skill learning in primates. She studies flexible or problem-solving behavior via development and social learning, mainly in capuchins. In this context she has formed collaborations to study tool use in capuchins in the wild, particularly how they learn to use stone tools to crack nuts, and spatial cognition, perception, and action in captivity. She has given too many talks to count, published 149 refereed journal articles and 26 book chapters, and has co-authored two books, The Complete Capuchin, and The Biology of Traditions: Models and Evidence.

Doree has thus far trained 24 Master's students and 20 Ph.D. students, and most of her doctoral students have gone on to become faculty members at colleges and universities scattered around the country, spreading her influence far and wide.

She is a member of numerous scientific societies, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Association for Psychological Science (formerly American Psychological Society), American Society of Primatologists, Animal Behavior Society, International Primatological Society, International Society for Developmental Psychobiology, and the International Society of Ecological Psychology. She has held service positions in many of these societies, and has served in editorial roles for AJP, Developmental Psychobiology, Primates, and the Journal of Comparative Psychology. She was elected a fellow of the AAAS in 2009, and as a further indication of her high esteem among primatologists here and around the world, she was elected President of IPS in 2001 and ASP in 2012. She is one of only two people to have served as president for both societies. The other person was Bill Mason and he was also given the Distinguished Primatologist Award.

The Awards and Recognition Committee is pleased to present Dr. Dorothy Fragazy with the ASP 2018 Distinguished Primatologist Award. She will deliver her address as a Featured Speaker at the 2019 ASP meeting in Madison, WI.
PRIMATE CARE COMMITTEE
PRE-ASP WORKSHOP 2019

IDENTIFYING AND TREATING
ABNORMAL BEHAVIORS
IN NONHUMAN PRIMATES

WHO
Those working with primates in Zoos, Sanctuaries, & Research Environments

WHEN
Aug 20th 1-5PM
Aug 21st 8AM-12:30PM

WHERE
PYLE CENTER
702 Langdon St., Madison, WI

COST
ASP Attendee - $85
Non-ASP Attendee - $125

This workshop will include a full day of instruction, discussion, and presentations focused on identifying and treating abnormal behavior in nonhuman primates. Participants will gain an understanding of how to identify, evaluate and apply various treatment options for abnormal behaviors. Technical and programmatic elements necessary to facilitate these goals will be covered and include: behavioral ethograms, behavior and physiological assessment techniques, problem solving approach, treatment options (enrichment, primate training, social housing, operational, pharmacological, etc.), and evaluation and follow up on treatments. This workshop is designed for keepers; behavior management specialists; veterinarians; veterinary technicians; curators and supervisors; research personnel.
2018 President’s Award

Outgoing ASP President, Kimberley Phillips, presented the ASP President’s Award to Gabe Lubach. Gabe served as the Society’s Historian for many, many years. She dutifully kept documents and records and took many photos at the annual meetings. After she stepped down, the Society embedded the Historian’s duties the Media and Public Engagement committee. While certainly the role of the Historian has changed since the way the society does business has changed (more electronic communications) things just aren’t the same. Thank you, Gabe, for the valuable role you have played for the Society.

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

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Awards & Recognition Committee

What is the ASP ARC?

The Awards and Recognition Committee (ARC) administers all programs for awards and formal recognitions conferred by the Society (except the Student Research Award, the Award for Excellence in Outreach, and the Primate Welfare Award). The ARC has three major responsibilities:

The first responsibility is to evaluate applications and award one Maderas Rainforest Conservancy Scholarship annually in March to promising undergraduate/graduate students in primatology who apply for research and career training through field courses at La Suerte Biological Research Station in Costa Rica or Ometepe Biological Research Station in Nicaragua.

The second responsibility is to evaluate applications and award several Ruppenthal Student Travel Awards. The awards are designed to help students who would otherwise not be able to attend the meeting.

The third responsibility is to evaluate nominations and determine winners of the Distinguished Primatologist Award for career achievement in primatology, the Early Career Achievement Award for young professionals whose research has already made a substantial mark in the field, the Senior Research Award for outstanding contributions to research by those who have not received the highest degree offered in their field, the Distinguished Service Award for exceptional long-term service to the Society, and the Special Recognition Award for exceptional short-term service to the Society.

I thank 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. Thank you Linda Fedigan, Karin Jaffe, Andreas Koenig, and Juan Carlos Serio Silva.

~ Justin McNulty, Chair Awards and Recognition Committee
Conservation Committee

The Conservation Committee has completed its review of the 2019 Conservation Small Grant applications. We are pleased to announce six awards for a total expenditure of $10,500 to the following outstanding applicants.

Kayleigh Chalkowski & Sarah Zohdy (Auburn University), Role of domestic cats and dogs in spillover of soil-borne parasites to Godman's mouse lemur (*Microcebus lehilahytsara*), Madagascar. $1,500

Pamela R. Navarez-Torres (University of Calgary), Assessing Lemur Functional Diversity Through the Use of Arboreal Camera-Traps in Disturbed Forests and Reforested Areas in South East Madagascar. $1,500.

Yves Olatoundji & Junior Ohouko, (Organisation pour le Développement Durable et la Biodiversité, Benin), Conservation status and spatial distribution of diurnal primates within the Gnanhouizoun community forest in southern Benin: implication for conservation. $2,000

Domenic Romanello (University of Texas, Austin) Exploring Artificial Tree Holes as a Strategy for Facilitating Recolonization of Burned Area by the Red-Tailed Sportive Lemur (*Lepilemur ruficaudatus*), Madagascar. $2,000

Yeissy Sarmiento, Sam Shanee & Nestor Allgas (Neotropical Primate Conservation), Field surveys and Environmental Education for Sustainable Protected Area Management for the Yellow Tailed Woolly Monkey and Peruvian Night Monkey. $1,500

Melissa Zarate (Boston University) Impact of habitat fragmentation on genetic diversity of the Critically Endangered yellow-tailed woolly monkey (*Lagothrix flavicuuda*), Peru. $2,000

We thank ALL of the applicants for submitting applications and wish them success with their projects.

A reminder to all ASP members – the Conservation Committee receives most of its funding from the silent auction and raffle at the annual meeting. Please support us at the meeting by contributing great auction items and bidding on them at the meeting.

Congratulations to the project winners and we hope to see all of you in August!

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

Education Committee

We have already begun planning our work for ASP 2019 in Madison Wisconsin with the help of local host, Dr. Toni Ziegler and Wisconsin National Primate Research Center staff member Jordana Lenon to host a pre-conference workshop for local elementary or high school teachers. If you would like to help and/or participate and think you might be in Madison a day or two before the official start of ASP 2019 we would love to hear from you.

Lauren and I also are beginning to prepare for the 2020 USA Science & Engineering Festival. This is an important opportunity for outreach and to encourage children to explore careers in STEM.
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, non-tenured 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](https://goo.gl/forms/vWP0JiatMyoQRFkD3)

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

~ Erin Kane, Chair Media and Public Engagement

Primate Care Committee

The Primate Care Committee (PCC) is happy to announce our pre-conference workshop on identifying and treating abnormal behavior in nonhuman primates. The workshop will be held August 20 (1-5pm) and August 21 (8 am-12:30 pm). Please see [https://asp.org/meetings/preconfworkshop.cfm](https://asp.org/meetings/preconfworkshop.cfm) for more information. Topics include creating behavioral ethograms, behavioral and physiological assessment techniques, problem solving approach, treatment options and evaluation and follow up treatments. The workshop is designed for people working in research facilities, zoos and sanctuaries. Speakers include Corrine Lutz, Jason Wark, Ori Pomerantz, Colin Brand, Heidi Hellmuth, Eric Hutchinson, Jaine Perlman and Susan Pavonetti. Space is limited, so sign up soon! Contact Jaine ([jeperlm@emory.edu](mailto:jeperlm@emory.edu)) for more information.

Be sure to check out “Hot Topics” under the Welfare tab on the ASP website for the quarterly featured primate welfare topic. Topics this past year have included slow loris welfare and conservation, chimpanzee group size and composition, self-directed behavior as an indicator of welfare and the newest hot topic- Personality, the environment, and health outcomes in captive primates. 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). Many thanks to Melissa Truelove and Ashley Edes for their work putting these topics together!

The deadline for the ASP Primate Welfare Award is June 30, 2019! If you participated in the Primate Welfare Award competition when you submitted your abstract, it is now time to finish the process. Applicants must submit a written summary of the welfare value of their work. The application form is available on the ASP website ([https://asp.org/grants/primatewelfare/index.cfm](https://asp.org/grants/primatewelfare/index.cfm)). If you have any questions, please contact Kris Coleman ([colemank@ohsu.edu](mailto:colemank@ohsu.edu)) or Susan Pavonetti ([slambeth@mdanderson.org](mailto:slambeth@mdanderson.org)).

Finally, while PCC 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, let us know!

~ Susan Pavonetti and Kris Coleman, Co-Chairs, Primate Care Committee
**ASP’s ARC Awards 2019 Maderas Rainforest Conservancy Scholarship**

In March, the Awards and Recognition Committee reviewed applications for 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. Congratulations, Tamara!

**ASP Members Visit Congress**

In March, four ASP members attended a Congressional briefing on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. The Congressional briefing was titled, “Research with Nonhuman Primates: Advancing Health and Scientific Knowledge,” and focused on the value of basic scientific research. The group included ASP Past-President **Kimberley Phillips**, ASP STAR (Supporting Truth About Animal Research) representative **Amanda Dettmer**, APA STAR representative, **Allyson Bennett**, and **Peter Pierre**, chair of APA’s Committee on Animal Research Ethics. The Congressional briefing was sponsored by STAR with financial support from the American Psychological Association (APA) and the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP). The 90-minute briefing featured presentations by Dr. Marina Emborg of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and WNPRC, who spoke about monkey models of Parkinson’s disease; Dr. Andy Schwartz of the University of Pittsburgh, who spoke about primate research leading to neural prosthetics; and Dr. Sandra Comer of Columbia University and the New York State Psychiatric Institute, who spoke about the value of primates in understanding opioid addiction. APA and ASP member Allyson Bennett moderated the session and gave an introduction that provided the audience with a brief summary of the role of basic scientific research, the US regulatory system under which it is conducted, and the ethical consideration given to balance scientific objectives, public interest, and animal welfare.

As part of the STAR effort, Kim, Amanda, Allyson, and Peter also visited the offices of their U.S. Representatives and Senators to discuss for the value of NIH and NSF funding and to encourage continued support of responsible, ethical nonhuman primate research in the U.S. Some of the legislators included Ted Cruz (R-TX), Chris Murphy (D-CT), and Tammy Baldwin (D-WI). Overall, 13
scientists from 5 STAR member organizations visited 23 congressional offices to provide information about the value of scientific research and the potential impact of legislation that would affect research. The latter includes the “Primate Protection and Modernization Act, introduced recently by Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ).

STAR is a coalition of eight scientific societies that are invested in supporting and promulgating ethically sound and scientifically valid research with nonhuman animals. Its mission is to provide a unified voice on issues that bear on research with nonhuman animals and meet the dual goals of ensuring meaningful laboratory animal welfare while sustaining scientific progress. STAR was convened by the American Psychological Association’s (APA) Committee on Animal Research and Ethics (CARE) as an informal organization in July 2013. Over the past six years STAR has held multiple congressional briefings, provided statements and information to federal agencies and universities with research interests, and supported scientists under attack. ASP’s representatives are nominated by the BOD. Your representatives to STAR are Amanda Dettmer and Ori Pomerantz.

You can find out more about STAR, additional advocacy opportunities, and how to use evidence to inform public consideration and decisions about practices and policies that affect primate research and care, at a roundtable symposium at ASP 2019 in Madison, WI. This roundtable will be hosted by Amanda Dettmer, Kimberley Phillips, and Allyson Bennett and is called, “Primates and Policy: How to Advocate For Responsible Primate Research.”
The Awards and Recognition Committee would like to thank those in the membership who submitted nominations for the Society’s awards. The recipients will be announced at the upcoming meeting in Madison, Wisconsin.

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**Check out the newest Conservation Award Winner Video!**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5RNGxf7h4WQ

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**ASP Legacy Award publication**

At the time of her Legacy Award in 2015, Dr. Amanda Dettmer was a postdoctoral trainee at NICHD in the laboratory of Dr. Stephen Suomi. She is now an Associate Research Scientist at the Yale Child Study Center. Amanda gave the Legacy Award Address at the 2018 meeting in San Antonio, TX, about her training experience and preliminary research results for her project, *From Bowel to Brain: Studying Gut Microbiota Integrity and Chronic HPA Axis Activity in Rhesus Monkeys Across Development*. Amanda's first publication emanating from this award was published in April 2019 in the *American Journal of Primatology*: "A descriptive analysis of gut microbiota composition in differentially reared infant rhesus monkeys (*Macaca mulatta*) across the first 6 months of life."
Save the date!

Northeastern Evolutionary Primatologists

The Fifth Northeastern Evolutionary Primatologists Meeting will be held November 8th-9th at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. NEEP welcomes participants from a wide range of disciplines within evolutionary primatology such as morphology, genetics, genomics, physiology, and behavioral ecology. We welcome research on any and all primates, including humans.

Keynote speaker: Dr. Ashley Hammond, American Museum of Natural History

For more information, including registration, abstract submission, and accommodations, please see the NEEP website: