



Michael Reid, Executive Secretary
Volume 46, Number 2

Spring 2022

A Message from the President...



Happy Spring to All!

The 2022 election for ASP Officers is now closed and I'm honored to share the news with you. With all serving for a two-year term beginning at the end of the ASP Business Meeting in Denver this August, the new slate of elected Officers will be **Paul Garber**, President-Elect, **Kris Coleman**, Treasurer (for a second term), and **Ashley Edes**, Executive Secretary. Rounding out the Board of Directors will be current President-Elect **Matthew Novak**, who will take over the helm as President, and yours truly, as Past President. **Mollie Bloomsmith**, currently Past President, will be completing her six years of service on the Board of Directors. Her contributions will be missed but I'm sure she will remain active in the Society in other ways for

many years to come. The ASP is in her blood!

Since my last report in the Fall Bulletin, we have kicked off the registration and abstract submission process for our next meeting, which will be held in Denver, August 25-28. **Amy Levine**, our local host, has arranged for our opening reception to be at the Denver Zoo, and **Ashley Edes**, our Program Committee Chair, is overseeing our exploratory dip into holding hybrid meetings. There have been a lot of requests for this, and if we don't lose money on it in Denver, you may expect to see more of them in the future. We lose money by not fulfilling our contracted number of room-nights with the hotels where we hold our meetings, and this year we have the added expense of creating a virtual component, so this is a gamble, for sure. We are very much hoping that those who can travel to Denver will join us in person, while those who are farther away and can't, will join us remotely.

I want to congratulate the Conservation Committee on successfully reaching its goal of raising \$25,000 to support research projects conducted by primatologists in primate range countries. Matching funds from the Re:Wild NGO will extend this capability considerably, and we are grateful to Re:Wild's Chief Conservation Office and ASP member **Russ Mittermeier**, for the matching offer.

A final, somber note: We are all mourning the loss of Steve Ross. More information about Steve will appear in a future Bulletin. For now, please see recent ASP social media posts.

Be healthy and happy,

Lynne Isbell, ASP President
Professor of Anthropology, UC Davis

Get Social with ASP!


 Connect with ASP online
 

[@ASPVoice](https://twitter.com/ASPVoice)

Don't forget to join the ASP

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Awards & Recognition Committee

2021 President's Award Announced at the 43rd Meeting of the ASP in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma!

At the Closing Banquet in Oklahoma City, Past ASP President, Mollie Bloomsmith, presented the ASP President's Award to **Nancy Capitanio**. This award recognizes Nancy's long tenure as the Society's webmaster and her invaluable assistance with the Society's recent transition to a new website. Thank you, Nancy, 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.

+ + + + +

Students! Apply for the Ruppenthal Student Travel Award

Student members of ASP are eligible to apply for \$500 awards to offset the cost of travel and accommodation to the 2022 ASP meeting in Denver. Deadline is May 15, 2022.

Details: <https://asp.org/grants-and-awards/ruppenthal-student-travel-awards/>

+ + + + +

Consider Nominating ASP Members and Supporters of ASP 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 **May 17, 2022**.

- **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-and-awards/recognition-awards/>

Conservation Committee

The Conservation Committee has been working on several fronts in the last few months to advocate for primate conservation.

- The CC has offered three webinars since the OKC Meetings. The Dec. 1 and Feb. 24 webinars are available on the [ASP Conservation Committee YouTube](#) channel.
 - On Dec. 1 we hosted an event celebrating some of our recent Conservationists Award winners. Thank you to our speakers who joined us from all over the world- Dr. Andie Ang, Dr. William Olupot, Dr. Mamy Razafitsalama, Dr. Bernardo Urbani, and Dr. Fernanda Abra.
 - On Dec. 14 we hosted a conversation with Dr. Pat Wright and our Conservation Champions, big donors to the Saving Primates Where They Live fundraising campaign. Dr. Wright joined us from Madagascar and shared the latest on her long-time primate conservation work. Thank you Dr. Wright!
 - On Feb. 24 we hosted a Karisoke Today webinar for our Primate Guardians and Conservation Champions, donors to the Saving Primates Where They Live fundraising campaign. We were able to meet the researchers who continue Dian Fossey's work to study and protect mountain gorillas and their habitat. Thank you to the excellent speakers- Dr. Tara Stoinski, Dr. Winnie Eckhardt, Honorine Ihimbazwe, and Eric Ndayishimiye.

Webinar: Reports from the Field

Six ASP Conservationist Award winners tell their stories about protecting primates and developing conservation programs



- The committee is currently reviewing 15 applications for **Conservation Small Grants**. The awardees of the 2022 grants will be announced in May 2022.
- Many of you contributed to our Saving Primates Where They Live fundraising campaign during the ASP annual meeting in Oklahoma City. We exceeded our goal of \$25,000 and our funds are being matched by NGO Re:wild. This funding supports habitat-country primatologists. See full [details on the ASP website](#).



- Given that the ASP annual meeting is not occurring until late August, 2022, we will accept applications for the **Conservationist Award** until mid-May. "This award provides recognition and financial support for students and early career investigators from habitat countries who demonstrate potential for making significant and continuing contributions to primate conservation." [Instructions](#) for completing a packet for review is available on the ASP website.

- And speaking of the upcoming ASP Meetings in Denver Aug. 25-28, the silent auction and raffle at the annual meeting are important fund-raising activities for the Conservation Committee. Please support us at the meeting by contributing great auction items and bidding on them. If you are unable to attend but have items, you would like to contribute please contact Bert Covert at Herbert.covert@colorado.edu
- The committee is currently planning an education event at the Denver Zoo on Sunday morning, August 28. If you would like to help with the event, please let us know.
- Thanks to individuals who contributed to **support the Conservation Committee** by contributing directly to the committee via the website and through the [Amazon Smile](#) program. The committee generates its own income to support research and general conservation efforts and we are always grateful for your support!

If you have any questions about our report, please contact the Conservation Committee co-chairs, Bert Covert (herbert.covert@colorado.edu) or Jennifer Cramer (jdanzycramer@gmail.com)

Program Committee



Submit your research for the August meeting!

Abstract submission is now open!

The Program Committee invites you to submit your research for podium and poster presentations at the 2022 meeting. While we'd love to see you in Denver, if you can't join us in person, ON-DEMAND presentation options are available with our new hybrid meeting format.

Abstracts for in-person and virtual podium and poster presentations are due May 15, 2022.

For more information, visit the [Call for Abstracts page](#).

If you have questions, contact [Ashley Edes, Chair of the Program Committee](#).



Registration is Open!

Join us in *Denver* for the
American Society of Primatologists
44th annual meeting

August 25-28, 2022

We're Going Hybrid!

For the very first time, the ASP meeting will be held in hybrid format. Virtual attendees will have access to most live conference sessions, and both in-person and virtual attendees will have access to "on demand" meeting content online.

Featuring:

Cutting edge presentations on the welfare, ecology, behavior, anatomy and conservation of primates in the wild and in human care

Highlighted Speakers:

Júlio César Bicca-Marques
Hayley Murphy
Ed Louis

Submission Deadlines:

Symposia, Workshop, and Roundtable Proposals due **April 15, 2022**

Abstract Submissions due **May 15**

For more information visit:

<https://asp.org/asp-meetings/>





Come to ASP 2022

AND

Join the Drive for 200/200, Conference Registration Campaign

(quite simply, 200 in-person attendees and 200 virtual attendees will demonstrate the value that virtual access can add to equity within our community and communication among primatologists)

The 2022 ASP annual conference in Denver from August 25 – 28 is in person for those of you who can make the trip.

However,

if you cannot make the trip to Denver to join us for the traditional conference, there is a virtual option as well.

We want to you come to Denver!

It is not an overstatement to say that we live in interesting times. The ASP Board of Directors is adjusting to these times with ambitious plans to increase both the size and value of our membership through better access and more equity. Our plan is to offer both in-person and virtual conferencing. You can help us meet our goals and provide proof of concept data for this effort. Join our 200/200 conference registration drive today.

For many long-term members of ASP, the society feels like family. So, as we hopefully emerge from the pandemic, our goal is to get back to at least 200 in-person registrations. We want to see you again! We also want to meet primatologists from all over that embrace the mission, vision and principles of ASP (<https://www.asp.org/the-society/asp-mission-vision-and-guiding-principles/>); many of you for the first time. ASP is the place for you and your best work!

In addition, we are adding a virtual component for those of you who cannot attend in person. In this first year of attempting to be both in person and virtual at the same time, we believe we have the ability to offer a virtual version that will allow almost-complete access to the 2022 conference from the comfort of your office and/or home. Long term, our goal will be to offer even more of the meeting virtually. To demonstrate the potential that virtual conferencing can add to our traditional in-person ASP in the future, we want to show robust virtual-only registrations, without sacrificing in-person registrations.

Research and Development Committee

The Research and Development Committee is accepting applications from ASP members for the ASP Small General Grant. Research Award amounts range from \$500 to \$1500 and are for a period of one year. The deadline for proposal submissions is June 17, 2022. Winners will be announced at the annual meeting in Denver. More information and how to apply can be found here:

<https://www.asp.org/grants-and-awards/research-grants/>

Student Committee

The ASP Student Committee will be hosting a post-conference student social event in Denver on August 29, 2022! Please contact Kaelyn Dobson (kmd212@txstate.edu) to RSVP or get more information by July 30, 2022.

The ASP Student Committee will be hosting a speed mentoring event at the Denver 2022 ASP Conference! This is our call for mentors! If you are interested in being a speed mentor for this event, please reach out to Alexander Baxter (axbaxter@ucdavis.edu) or Gabriela de Faria Oliveira (gabriela.oliveira@wisc.edu) to sign up or for information by June 30, 2022.

AJP Editorial Board Announcements

American Journal of Primatology Expands Editorial Board

AJP recently added fifteen extraordinary early career researchers to its editorial board. These fifteen were chosen from nearly 40 stellar nominations. These researchers represent the wide spectrum of interests in primatology, ranging from socioecology to behavioral endocrinology, primate welfare, cognition and conservation. We are looking forward to working with our new colleagues!

Our new editorial board members include:

- Laura Abondano, University of Texas, Austin
- Krishna Balasubramaniam, Anglia Ruskin University
- Marcela Benítez, Emory University
- Michelle Brown, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Felipe Ennes Silva, University of Brussels
- Joseph Erinjery, Kannur University, Kerala, India
- Kylene Garland, Detroit Zoo
- Aaryn Mustoe, University of Nebraska, Omaha
- Susanne Pfeifer, Arizona State University
- Lauren Robinson, University of Michigan
- Stacey Rosenbaum, University of Michigan

- Kris Sabbi, Tufts University
- João Souza-Alves, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco
- Luc Tedonzong, Royal Zoological Society of Antwerp
- Elizabeth Wood, Oregon Health and Sciences University

ASP Small Research Grant Awardee Report

2020 ASP Small Research Grant Awardee Report

Amanda Mancini,
CUNY Graduate Center

Proposal Title: Fine-scale assessment of black-and-white ruffed lemur (*Varecia variegata*) population connectivity in the Ranomafana-Andringitra Corridor

Study Aims: The aim of this study was to use a landscape genetics approach to investigate the effects of habitat heterogeneity on population connectivity of black-and-white ruffed lemurs in the Ranomafana-Andringitra corridor, Madagascar.

Project Summary and Progress Report:

Ruffed lemurs, like much of the endemic diversity in Madagascar, are being threatened by ongoing deforestation and habitat degradation on the island. These Critically Endangered primates are often absent from the most heavily degraded forests due to their obligate frugivory and reliance on mature canopies. Intact rainforest appears to be the primary driver of population connectivity across ruffed lemurs' remaining range and the major factor influencing presence-absence dynamics in this species. It remains unclear, however, whether this same driver is the leading force at a finer regional scale. To evaluate this question, we first quantified population genetic structure of ruffed lemurs in the Ranomafana-Andringitra corridor and followed with an assessment of dispersal characteristics of the species in this region. Furthermore, we utilized a landscape genetics approach to assess the influence of intra- and inter-site characteristics in driving observed population genetic structure, and by extension dispersal, in the region. We successfully genotyped 159 unique ruffed lemurs at 11 microsatellite loci (average of 9.5 loci) across 15 localities in the Ranomafana-Andringitra corridor. We found that ruffed lemurs in the region constitute one genetic cluster, indicating that gene flow (a proxy for dispersal) was occurring throughout the area. We found no evidence of sex-biased dispersal and we found ruffed lemurs of both sexes participated in both short (< 5km) and longer (>30km) range dispersal. Our landscape genetic analyses suggests that intact forest is important in facilitating population connectivity, similar to results from prior range-wide assessments of dispersal in ruffed lemurs. In addition, our results indicate that terrain also impacts ruffed lemurs' abilities to disperse between localities.



Board of Directors Accessibility Initiative

“Office Hours”

Greetings from the ASP Board of Directors. During our most recent annual conference, members of the executive committee discussed increasing access and communication between rank and file members, executive committee members and the board of directors.

As the incoming President for ASP, I want to express my openness to ideas and conversations about society business. You are all encouraged to email me directly: mnovak@cocc.edu.

Really, that is all it takes.

However, I also recognize that email might not be an ideal format for some types of people and for some types of questions. So, starting June 1, I will be holding “office hours” on ZOOM every first and second Friday of the month from 9:30 – 10:30 am PST. Members can just drop in by clicking on the link below, anytime during that interval, and I will be happy to listen and chat with you about society business.

<https://cocc.zoom.us/j/2458386027>

ASP President-elect

Matthew Novak