

A Message from the President...



Dear Friends & Colleagues...

The lovely meeting in Austin is a warming memory now, as we head towards

long winter evenings. It was great to see many of you there (and with 361 registrants, there were many of you there!). There were many highlights for me, including the lectures by Keynote speaker Richard Wrangham and Featured speaker Judy Cameron, Distinguished Primatologist Karen Strier, and Past President Suzette Tardif (and I will always remember the photo of Suzette as an 8 year old, plus or minus, looking eye to eye with a marmoset ... a preview of things to come!). One special event was a showing of the film "Nim," arranged by Bob Ingersoll, with discussion after the showing led by Duane Rumbaugh. Another was an evening lecture by Brian Hare that was advertised and open to the public. We had the usual full slate of science-related activities, including a workshop on nontraditional careers in primatology and many other topics. The society owes a Texas-sized THANKS to Justin McNulty and his able crew for a well-managed

meeting, and Sue Howell and Brian Kelley and the Program Committee for their work in putting together the excellent program. I also want to thank the Chairs and members of the Standing Committees, as well as my colleagues on the Board of Directors (Randy Kyes, Karen Bales, Kim Phillips and Carolyn Ehardt), all of whom contributed to the success of the meeting. Finally, I want to recognize and thank the meeting sponsors: Conservation International Gibbon Conservation Center, Animal Care Products, Inc., and Taylor & Francis Group. Their support and sponsorship was greatly appreciated.

'Tis the election season I'm speaking of the ASP election now! ASP will hold our biannual election for three members of the Board of Directors; that is, President-Elect, Executive Secretary, and Treasurer (the current President becomes Past President and the current President-Elect becomes President, so these two offices are occupied by rotation). The slate of nominees, prepared by the Nominating Committee (chaired by Randy Kyes, with members Nancy Caine, John Capitanio, Jeff French, and Steve Schapiro) are presented on pgs. 13-15 in this bulletin. The election will take place in January 2012, and all balloting will be online. Members

will receive an invitation via email to vote. I extend my thanks to the committee for their work and to the nominees for their commitment to the society.

This past few months has seen a flurry of activity in relation to captive chimpanzees. First, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that it is considering changing the status of chimpanzees in the USA from "threatened" to "endangered." I submitted a comment to FWS on behalf of ASP that has been posted on the ASP website since early November (reprinted on pgs. 18-20) Second, the Institute of Medicine released its report on December 15, 2011, entitled "Chimpanzees in Biomedical and Behavioral Research: Assessing the Necessity." The full report (readable online or free download) and a 4-page synopsis of the report can be found at this URL: www.iom.edu/chimpstudy. The report, and NIH's acceptance of the report's recommendations on the same day as its release, have generated a lot of attention.

The report presented the following criteria (given on page 2 of the short report) to guide the assessment of the use of chimpanzees in biomedical and behavioral research:

Continued ... Next page...

A Message from the President (cont'd)...

“Biomedical Research Criteria: The use of chimpanzees in biomedical research is limited to those studies that meet the following three criteria:

1. There is no other suitable model available, such as in vitro, non-human in vivo, or other models, for the research in question;

2. The research in question cannot be performed ethically on human subjects;

3. Forgoing the use of chimpanzees for the research in question will significantly slow or prevent important advancements to prevent, control and/or treat life-threatening or debilitating conditions.

Animals used in the proposed research must either be maintained in ethologically appropriate physical and social environments or in natural habitats. Biomedical research utilizing existing samples is exempt from these criteria.

Comparative Genomics and Behavioral Research Criteria: The use of chimpanzees in comparative genomics and behavioral research is limited to those studies that meet the following two criteria:

1. Studies provide otherwise unattainable insight into comparative genomics, normal and abnormal behavior, mental health, emotion, or cognition;

2. All experiments are performed on acquiescent animals, using techniques that are minimally invasive, and in a manner that minimizes pain and distress.

Animals used in the proposed research must either be maintained in ethologically appropriate physical and social environments or in natural habitats. Comparative genomics and behavioral research utilizing existing samples are exempt from these criteria.”

Undoubtedly members of ASP will remain involved in the unfolding process of developing standards for “ethologically appropriate” housing and care for chimpanzees to which the Director of NIH has committed. Meanwhile, I have asked the Care committee to consider a position statement on this issue. The topic deserves nuanced rather than “sound-bite” treatment so this statement will take time to develop.

Finally, I recently attended the annual council meeting of the American Institute of Biological

Sciences as the representative of ASP. The program was about how to make academic societies like ours as effective as possible, to do the most good for our members and to reach our goals. One recommendation that struck me as particularly timely for our society was to engage now and then in a long-range visioning exercise, thinking about what we would like our society to be and to do in some 10 or 20 years in the future – what will our community need, and what can the society provide, to remain vital and relevant to our science and our members? Is our current organization the best we can have for these goals? What are we doing well and should continue to do; what needs revision or initiation? Please think about these questions and pass on your thoughts to me or any member of the Board of Directors.



*Sapajus libidinosus, formerly Cebus libidinosus; Boa Vista field site, Brazil.
Photo courtesy of Michael Haslam, EthoCebus Project*

**ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE
35th MEETING OF THE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PRIMATOLOGISTS
June 20 - 23, 2012
Sacramento, CA**

The 35th Meeting of the American Society of Primatologists will be held from June 20 - 23, 2012 at the **Grand Sheraton Sacramento, located in downtown Sacramento, California**. We encourage preparation of proposals for symposia and abstracts for paper and poster sessions.

Deadlines for Abstract Submission

The Scientific Program Committee would like to remind everyone that the deadline for abstract submission is fast approaching. Final submissions must be submitted by **March 22, 2012**. On-line conference registration and abstract submission are available in the **Members section**. You don't have to be a member to register for the conference, but you will need a login.

We are very excited about this year's meeting, as it promises to be of the highest scientific quality. The meeting will feature contributed paper and poster presentations as well as symposia that address widespread interests in primatology. We are pleased to announce our featured speakers including:

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Sarah Hrdy

Professor Emeritus of Anthropology
University of California at Davis

2011 Distinguished Primatologist

Dr. Melinda Novak

Department of Psychology
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Featured Speaker

Dr. Preston Marx

Tulane Regional Primate Research Center

Continued...Next page...

Registration rates will be as follows:

Participant Type	Early	On-time	Late	On-site
Full	\$ 300	\$ 330	\$ 375	\$ 450
Student	180	198	225	255
Non-member	420	465	510	555
Guest	120	135	150	180

We attempt to keep all rates as low as possible. The 2011 rate was \$275 for a full member, early registration. However, unlike some other states, California does not exempt non-profit organizations from sales tax..

Accommodations and Conference Meetings:

All scientific sessions will be held at the Grand Sheraton, Sacramento.

The room block at the Sheraton is now open for booking, at the rate of \$129/night. You may call **800/325-3535** and ask for the Sheraton Sacramento, state that you are with the American Society of Primatologists, or the ASP Annual meeting, and make a reservation at the group rate.

Alternatively, you may use the following link to register:

<http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1111142613&key=12C5>

The group rate is only available until May 25, 2012. Please book early!!!

Preliminary Conference Schedule:

Wednesday, 20 June 2012: On-site registration for the meeting will begin at 8 a.m., with committee meetings scheduled for that afternoon. The opening reception will be held at the **California State Railroad Museum** (<http://www.csrnf.org/>).

Thursday, 21 June 2012: The scientific meeting will open at 8:00 am with the 2011 keynote address and will continue until 5 p.m., with a poster session in the evening.

Friday, 22 June 2012: The scientific meeting will continue at 8:00 am will continue until 5 p.m., with a poster session in the evening.

Saturday, 23 June 2012: The scientific meetings will run throughout the day. The closing banquet will be held in the evening at the **Farm at Putah Creek** (<http://landbasedlearning.org/farm-on-putah.php>), followed by music and dancing.

Continued... Next page...

Area Highlights:

Sacramento, CA is in the midst of Northern California wine country, with short drives to Napa, Sonoma, and Amador Counties...

See you in June!



Photos courtesy of Karen Bales...

Memories of Austin 2011...



**Announcing the Recipient of the
2011 Distinguished Primatologist Award:**

**Melinda Novak
Professor of Psychology
University of Massachusetts, Amherst**



Dr. Melinda Novak is Professor of Psychology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She is the 2011 recipient of the Distinguished Primatologist Award in recognition of her outstanding achievements in teaching, mentoring students, research, and service to the scientific community...

Melinda has shown her tireless dedication to the society by serving as ASP president and by chairing committees. Currently, she is Co-chair of the Primate Care Committee, which recently submitted comments to NIH on the newest draft of the "Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals" on behalf of the ASP. She has chaired the Publications Committee, and has been a member of the Awards Committee. Melinda served as co-editor of the society's journal, the American Journal of Primatology, during a time of great need. She has also served the journal as a member of the Editorial Board and as Associate Editor. She was instrumental in the society's response to the USDA's draft of the environmental enrichment guidelines for nonhuman primates. Outside of her role in these leadership positions, Melinda has served the society with decades of sound advice and wisdom. Outside of the ASP, Melinda also has dedicated her career to providing professional service to the educational and scientific communities. For example, she has been Chair of the Department of Psychology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, for over 15 years. Melinda has served on numerous scientific advisory boards, federal review panels, NCRR site visit teams, and grant review committees for NSF and NIH.

An internationally recognized researcher in the field of primatology, Melinda is currently conducting research at the University of Massachusetts Primate Laboratory, the New England National Primate Center, and the Laboratory of Comparative Ethology, NICHD, National Institutes of Health. She has authored or co-authored over 100 articles and chapters in peer-reviewed journals and edited books. Early in her career, she worked with Harry Harlow conducting research designed to reverse the harmful effects of social isolation on monkeys. That work led to a lifetime of research that has advanced our understanding of the consequences of captive environments on social and cognitive development of primates and the ways in which their lives can be improved.

Continued - next page...

Dr. Melinda Novak, 2011 Distinguished Primatologist Award - continued...

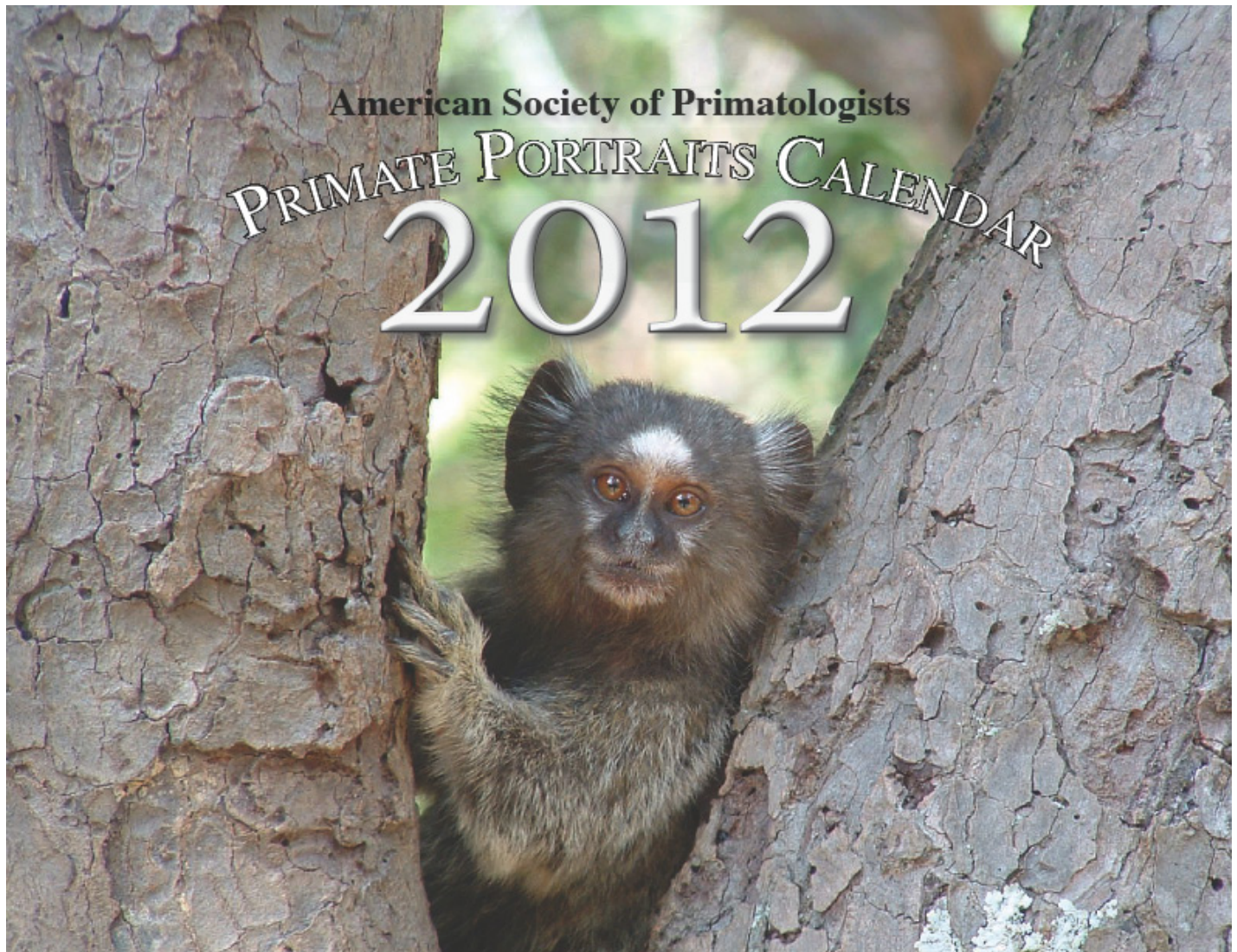
Her work led her to the forefront when the standards for the psychological well-being of nonhuman primates were being developed, and she provided much-needed scientific rigor and objective scrutiny to the process. Her series of papers on the issues set the standards for captive care and turned enrichment and psychological well-being into a scientific enterprise.

Melinda is known for the rigorous design of her studies and her high scientific standards. She conducts controlled studies of behavior at multiple levels of analysis, emphasizing that behavior is influenced by both internal and external factors. For example, in her recent work investigating the factors that underlie self-injurious behavior she has described the disorder, deciphered the stimuli that produce the abnormal behavior, attempted to discover the causes of the psychopathology, and investigated treatments. She is known for advocating parsimonious explanations and letting her data speak for themselves.

A recipient of the College Outstanding Teacher Award from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Melinda is a gifted teacher and lecturer. She sets high standards for her undergraduate and graduate students and leads by example, instilling in her students respect for scientific accuracy. She is not afraid to tackle new questions, encourages her students to do so, and infects them with her enthusiasm. Melinda is very supportive of her students, both while working with her and throughout their careers. The training that students receive in her laboratory provides all the skills necessary for success and teaches best practices for quality laboratory care. Her students have gone on to be primatologists at universities and many of the major primate facilities in the country. By mentoring numerous professionals, she has made a major contribution to the field of primatology.

Melinda has earned the respect, esteem, and admiration of her colleagues around the nation and the world. She has enhanced and inspired others' professional lives. Due to her unyielding dedication to the animals, her research and legacy have dramatically improved the lives of captive primates everywhere. Melinda's accomplishments in all facets of her career make her the epitome of a Distinguished Primatologist and a credit to the ASP. The Awards and Recognition Committee is honored to present her with the award.

-- Peter Judge and Nominators
ASP Awards & Recognition Committee



Still haven't purchased your ASP 2012 "Primate Portraits" Calendar?

Now is the time!

This amazing calendar, with stunning primate photographs gracing each of the months, is now HALF PRICE:

\$7.50 plus shipping & handling

[shipping within US = \$4.25 for 1 calendar + \$1 for each additional calendar); shipping outside US = \$7.00 for 1 calendar + \$3 for each additional calendar]

Order yours today through the ASP website

<https://www.asp.org/society/calendar.cfm>

Proceeds benefit the ASP Legacy Fund!

ASP GENERAL SMALL GRANT AWARDS FOR 2011

- **Caitlin Barale**, Princeton University - "The effects of early life on male reproductive trajectories in wild geladas (*Theropithecus gelada*)"
- **David Samson**, Indiana University - "Great ape sleep architecture: Using infra-red videography to generate sleep quotas in *Pongo pygmaeus*"
- **Pawel Fedurek**, University of York - "Chorusing, call exchanges and social bonds in male chimpanzees"
- **Anita Stone**, Eastern Michigan University - "Mating strategies and sexual selection of squirrel monkeys (*Saimiri sciureus*) in eastern Amazonia"
- **Lisa O'Bryan**, University of Minnesota - "Food-associated calling behavior in chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*): Information pooling to improve collective patch departure decisions?"
- **Lydia Overbaugh**, University of Texas at San Antonio - "Diet, ranging patterns and social behavior of lar gibbons at Huai Kha Khaeng, Thailand: Behavioral flexibility or phylogenetic constraints?"
- **Timothy Eppley**, University of Hamburg - "Ecological flexibility of the southern gentle lemur (*Hapalemur meridionalis*) in south-east Madagascar"
- **Lydia Hopper**, Georgia State University - "Do chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*) choose to exert control over their environment to maximize personal gain in comparison to their peers?"
- **Maria Blaszczyk**, New York University - "Temperament and social niche specialization in vervet monkeys"

Congratulations to all...
Kai McCormack & Erin Kinnally, Co-Chairs, ASP Research and Development Committee

ASP GENERAL SMALL GRANT AWARDS - 2012 COMPETITION

APPLICATIONS DUE: 1 March 2012

Grant proposals are invited for general research projects, with preference given to training initiatives, start-up funds, supplementary funding for students, and innovations in animal care and research technology. Award amounts range from \$500 to \$1500, and will be for a period of one year.

See: <https://www.asp.org/grants/research/index.cfm>

Questions to: Kai McCormack and Erin Kinnally, co-chairs of the ASP Research and Development Committee for 2010-2012...

ASP STUDENT PRESENTATION AWARDS FOR 2011

*At the 2011 Meeting in Austin, the ASP Education Committee judged 65 student presentations.
Congratulations to the following awardees:*

Poster Award: C. Shih (co-author: MH Kohn) "Hybridization between Rhesus and Cynomolgus Macaques as Inferred from Analysis of Published Genomic Resources."

Oral Presentation Award: K.R. Amato (co-authors: CJ Yeoman, N Righini, A Kent, A Estrada, RM Stumpf, KE Nelson, M. Torralba, M. Gillis, SR Leigh) "The Influence of Habitat on Mexican Black Howler (*Alouatta pigra*) Gut Microbial Community Composition"

Poster - Honorable Mention: N.J. Freeman (co-authors: J Sashaw, L. Barrett, and P. Henzi) "Brothers in Arms: Coalition Formation by Free-Ranging Male Vervet Monkeys (*Chlorocebus aethiops pygerythrus*)"

Oral Presentation - Honorable Mention: C.C. Veilleux "Effects of Nocturnal Light Intensity on Calling Frequency in Dry Forest Phaner and Lepilemurs."

--- Education Committee
Katie Hinde, Chair

*Vervet (or Grivet) monkey
Chlorocebus aethiops,
Tanzania*

--Photo by CL Ehardt



The Awards and Recognition Committee is seeking nominations for American Society of Primatologists awards...

Awards include, but are not limited to:

Distinguished Primatologist Award

Distinguished Service Award

&

Special Recognition/Achievement Award

See the ASP website under "Grants" for award descriptions and nomination procedures.

Please take the time to recognize deserving applicants by submitting a nomination!

Completed nomination applications for this year are *due by May 1st, 2012*

— Peter Judge, Chair, Awards and Recognition Committee

The Awards and Recognition Committee wishes to announce that applications are now being accepted for the Maderas Rainforest Conservancy Scholarships for education and training in field primatology...

The scholarships are funded through an educational grant from the Maderas Rainforest Conservancy (MRC). The American Society of Primatologists offers two scholarships annually to outstanding undergraduate and graduate students. The scholarships include a field course that provides research and career training 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. See the ASP web site under "Grants" for more information about the scholarships and application submission guidelines.

Completed applications are *due by March 1, 2012*

ASP wishes to thank Dr. Andrew R. Halloran, Director of Operations at the Maderas Rainforest Conservancy, for providing these generous awards.

— Peter Judge, Chair, Awards and Recognition Committee

Candidates for 2012 ASP Elections

It's time to elect officers for the American Society of Primatologists! Please go to the members portal on the ASP website to cast your vote. Here is the link:

<https://www.asp.org/portal/index.cfm>

Remember: According to our Constitution, *you must be an Active or Retired member of ASP to be eligible to vote (Student members are not eligible to vote)*. If you have not yet renewed your membership in ASP, now is a great time to do so...

***Voting is currently underway - and will conclude on 31 January 2012...
Please vote!!!***

The Biosketches and statements for the candidates here (as well as on the ASP website):

President Elect

Mollie Bloomsmith

Biosketch: I am the Director of Behavioral Management at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center where I oversee the enrichment, animal training and socialization programs. My research interests are in social behavior and well-being, as I conduct research to promote the welfare of captive primates in laboratory, zoo and sanctuary settings. I am an Associate Research Professor at Emory University, and an Adjunct Professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology. I am a founding Board member of Chimp Haven, and currently serve as Secretary of the Board. I earned my B.S. in Animal Behavior at the University of California at Davis in 1982, and my Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology at the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1987.

ASP Activities: I have been actively participating in ASP conferences for more than 20 years. I've enjoyed serving the society as a Co-Chair of the new Primate Care committee (2010-current), a member of the Program Committee (1994-1997), and Chair of the Program Committee (1997-2000). As the Chair, I edited two volumes of the *American Journal of Primatology* which contain abstracts for the annual conference. I have Chaired the ASP Elections Committee (1998), and the Nominations Committee (2006). I also served on an ASP *Ad hoc* committee as we developed the society's response to the USDA Draft Policy on Environmental Enrichment, and I am an *Ad hoc* reviewer for the *American Journal of Primatology*.

Vision for ASP: Like many of you, I feel that ASP is my "professional home"—it is the place where I have grown up in my career, where I have learned about primates, where I have strengthened my commitment to understanding them, and where I have met colleagues and renewed friendships over the years. I want as many primatologists as possible to have this same feeling of gratitude and loyalty to ASP. ASP is doing so much, so very well. The annual conference is well-attended and is of high quality, the journal is critically important, the grant programs fund valuable investigations, the education programs are significant and expanding, conservation projects around the world are supported, and we are recognizing the contributions of outstanding primatologists. Each of these programs should continue to flourish, and we need to do all of this while remaining fiscally sound. We need to focus on encouraging student participation in the society, to keep our future bright. The membership of ASP is diverse—we study and care for primates in many settings, we have different academic backgrounds and perspectives. This diversity is the most fundamental feature of our organization, and it is our greatest strength. I would like to see ASP capitalize on this diversity as we define our role as primate experts within society at large.

Marilyn A. Norconk

Biosketch: Current position: Associate Professor of Anthropology, and Graduate Faculty, School of Biomedical Science, Kent State University. Education: B.S., University of San Diego, 1975; M.A., San Diego State University, 1978; Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, 1986. Long-term research on the ecology and behavior of wild platyrrhines in Peru, Venezuela, and Suriname.

ASP activities: Chair, Program Committee, 2002-2004; Member, Program Committee, 2001, 2010; Member, Education committee, 2000, 2007-2010; Member, Awards & Recognition committee, 2009, 2011 to present. Guest editor of American Journal of Primatology, program and abstracts of the 26th and 27th annual meetings, 2003-2004.

Vision statement: I recently read Doree Fragaszy's letter to the Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the conservation status of chimpanzees and was struck by the important and unique perspective the Society has with regard to primate welfare. Whether in habitat countries (where most of my work has taken place) or in U.S. zoos, research facilities, and sanctuaries, ASP has the opportunity and the responsibility to provide education ranging from issues such as primates as pets to the relevance of research on non-human primates to humans. With input from dedicated contributors, the ASP website provides an attractive and comprehensive public face. I would encourage the expansion of the education arm of ASP to reach out to K-12, college-aged students, and adults. For example, the incredible effort and success that ASP Program committee members have had with teachers residing in local communities where our annual meetings are held could be made more broadly accessible if they were housed on the Society's website.

I have been a member of ASP and attended meetings long enough to remember the view that ASP was considered the venue for primatologists studying captive primates, whereas field primatologists most often presented their research at IPS. That gap has narrowed to a remarkable degree. Papers at recent ASP meetings have been balanced between captive and wild studies, attracting increased diversity in research interests and reinforcing the view that the Society is open to all primatologists. Many recent student research awards have been given to students working in habitat countries. In that light and given that ASP represents the Americas, I would like to see our sphere of direct impact broaden beyond the boundaries of the U.S. Whether this means increasing the ease with which students from other countries can attend our meeting or increasing the frequency of meetings north and south of the U.S. My experience suggests that involvement of local students and professionals swells when meetings are held in their community and benefits of information exchange goes both ways.

Executive Secretary

Carolyn L. Ehardt

Biosketch: My current position is that of Program Director for Biological Anthropology, Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences, National Sciences Foundation. While serving this role within NSF, I retain my position as Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Texas at San Antonio – to which I will return upon completion of my appointment at NSF. Education: Ph.D. from University of Texas at Austin 1980; M.A., University of Texas at Austin 1978; B.S., Virginia Commonwealth University, 1975.

ASP Activities: My service within ASP has encompassed over 30 years, now. This has included multiple years on the Research and Development Committee (1980-1984, 1990-1994, 2002-2004), the Conservation Committee (1996-2002), the Nominations Committee (2003-2005), and the recently-established Media and Information Committee (2008-2010). Since 2010, I have been pleased to serve in the role of Executive Secretary for our society.

Corinna Ross

Biosketch: Education: B.S. in Biology (Neurobiology and Behavior), Cornell University, 1997. M.A. Biology University of Nebraska at Omaha, 1999. Ph.D. Biology, University of Nebraska Lincoln, 2005. Post doc – University of Nebraska Lincoln 2005-2006. Postdoc Barshop Institute for Longevity and Aging Studies, University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio, 2005-2011. Current position: Research Instructor, Cellular and Structural Biology, Barshop Institute for Longevity and Aging Studies, University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio.

ASP activities: I have been a member of ASP since 1999 and have only missed one meeting since joining (2000, I was too pregnant to fly). I have been a member of the education committee since 2002 and chaired the committee from 2006-2010. I now also serve on the media and public relations committee.

Treasurer

Kimberley A. Phillips

Biosketch: Education: B.S., Wofford College, 1989; M.A., The University of Georgia, 1991; Ph.D., The University of Georgia, 1994. Current positions: Associate Professor, Psychology, Trinity University, San Antonio Texas; Adjunct Scientist, Southwest National Primate Research Center, Texas Biomedical Research Institute; Faculty Associate, Research Imaging Institute, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. My research program is centered on understanding the neurological basis of primate behavior, particularly skilled motor actions. Much of my research has utilized capuchin monkeys as a model for these investigations.

ASP Activities: I have been an ASP member since 1990. I have served as a committee member, co-chair (2006-2008) and chair (2008-2010) of the Conservation Committee. I frequently am an ad hoc reviewer for *American Journal of Primatology*. At the 2011 meeting in Austin I organized a symposium on Primate Neuroethology; a special issue of *AJP* resulting from this symposium is in progress. I currently am the Treasurer for the Society; I would be honored to serve another term.

Matthew Novak

Biosketch: Current position: Assistant Professor, Psychology, Central Oregon Community College. Education: B.S., University of Washington, 1994; Ph.D., University of Washington, 2002.

ASP Activities: Chair committee for Ruppenthal Student Travel Award, 2005 - Present; ASP Program Committee Chair, 2007-2010; Education Committee, 2003-2006, Conservation Committee 1999 – 2002; Organized Silent Auction for Conservation 2000-2002; Local Arrangements Committee, 1994.

Vision Statement: ASP is my professional home and we are a relatively little society with big ideas. Many of these big ideas take money. My goal as treasurer will be to work on behalf of the society to continue the work of recent years and to increase the amount of sustainable funding available to the society. This can happen internally via existing mechanisms such as the Silent Auction for Conservation, Vendor tables, the recently introduced fun run activities that take place at the meetings, meeting registration, membership fees and member donations which historically have all been vital to ASP's success. Maintaining, protecting and, when possible, growing these programs with a conservative approach will be my first responsibility. However, we can only ask for so much from within our existing membership. To reach our financial and programmatic goals, I agree with the position of our current and past Boards of Directors that more work needs to be done to recruit sustainable funds from other sources. As treasurer, I will learn from previous treasurers and leaders of our society about the work that has already been done in this area. I will also contact treasurers for other scientific societies in which I am a member. Then, on behalf of ASP I will either start or continue to pursue these funding opportunities for conservation, for outreach, for student training and for the society at large.



Tana River Red Colobus
Procolobus rufomitratatus rufomitratatus,
Kenya

Conservation status: Endangered

-- Photo by Julie Wieczkowski

Thank you to all participants of this year's second annual ASP fun run, the Mangabey Miler!

The run was a great success and lots of fun, with about 40 people taking part in one way or another (whether it was only running to one or two bars, or all the way till the end). A big thank you to those members who also purchased the ASP pint glasses! Between the registrants for the Mangabey Miler and the sale of the pint glasses, we collectively raised \$790 for the society, which will be split evenly between the Gerry Ruppenthal Student Travel Award and the Conservation Funds.

Stay tuned for information on next year's fun run at ASP 2012 in Davis/Sacramento! The schwag promises to be enticing!

---Amanda Dettmer



Not the winner... but fast, none-the-less... Sanje mangabey *Cercocebus sanjei*.
Conservation status: Endangered. Photo by C. Ehardt.

ASP Treasurer's Report

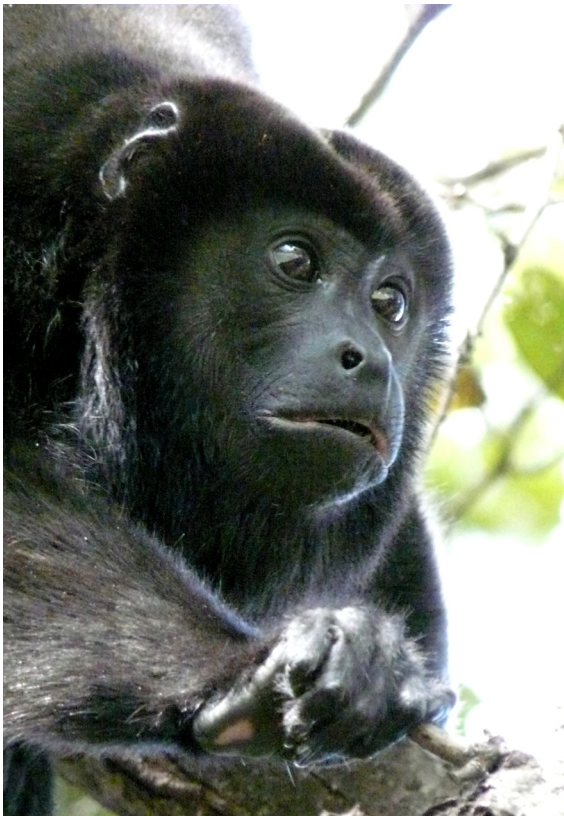
Over 360 registered participants attended the 2011 Annual Meeting in Austin, TX. In addition to excellent scientific program, the meeting was a financial success for the Society, earning a profit of just over \$11,000. Additionally, the Mangabey Miler fundraiser made a profit of \$550, which will be split between student travel awards and the Conservation Fund. The annual Silent Auction and banquet donations generated \$3,300 to the Conservation Fund. **Thank you** to everyone who supported these initiatives of ASP!

Don't forget to renew your membership in ASP for 2012 – you'll enjoy continued access to *AJP* and enjoy discounted registration for ASP 2012 in Sacramento, CA. ASP dues and the cost of *AJP* subscription included with membership will increase in 2012; ASP dues by \$5 and *AJP* subscription by \$5. This is the first increase in ASP dues in over 5 years. Log on to the members only section of www.asp.org to renew.

Searching for a great gift? Don't forget books from the ASP Book Series or the 2012 ASP Calendar. Profits from the sale of books go to the Conservation Fund and the Education Committee's Minority Initiative; profits from the calendar sales support the Legacy Fund.

I would like to extend my thanks to the Membership and Finance committee members, for their assistance and ideas in ensuring the financial stability of ASP.

– Kimberley Phillips, ASP Treasurer



Mantled howler *Alouatta palliata palliata*.

Conservation status: Least Concern

– Photo by Lisa Corewyn.

Copy of comment to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service written and submitted by President Fragaszy, on behalf of ASP, in response to public solicitation of comment concerning the potential change in the listing of chimpanzees under the Endangered Species Act:



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PRIMATOLOGISTS

October 25, 2011

Public Comments Processing
Attn: FWS-R9-IA-2008-0123
Division of Policy and Directives Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4401 N. Fairfax Drive
MS 2042-PDM
Arlington, VA 22203

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the American Society of Primatologists, I wish to supply scientific information to your program with respect to the potential change in the listing of chimpanzees under the Endangered Species Act from “Threatened” to “Endangered” in the United States. I understand that you are seeking the “best scientific and commercial data” concerning the status of the species throughout its range, in accord with the language of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended, including but not limited to conservation and management programs, information whether any populations may qualify as distinct population segments, and other factors that are the basis for a making a listing determination such as overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific or educational purposes, and adequacy or inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms.

The American Society of Primatologists is a nonprofit scientific society (see www.ASP.org). Our goals are to promote and encourage the discovery and exchange of information regarding primates, and anyone engaged in scientific primatology or who is interested in supporting these goals may apply for membership. In accord with these wide goals, our membership includes people working across the full spectrum of life sciences, in management of captive nonhuman primates, and in conservation programs. Some of our members work with chimpanzees in natural settings, some in research settings, some in sanctuaries, and some in zoological parks. Our society is a member affiliate of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and some of our members serve in the IUCN Primate Specialist Group.

The American Society of Primatologists strongly supports ending commercial trade in chimpanzees and private ownership of chimpanzees, including the use of chimpanzees in the entertainment industry. Aside from our objections to these uses of chimpanzees for welfare, safety, and ethical reasons, trade and commercial use leads the general public to believe that chimpanzees are not endangered (Schroepfer KK, Rosati AG, Chartrand T, Hare B (2011) Use of “Entertainment” Chimpanzees in Commercials Distorts Public Perception Regarding Their Conservation Status. *PLoS ONE* 6(10): e26048. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0026048), thereby undermining public support in this country and in source countries for conservation programs, and thus indirectly contributing to the overutilization of this species for commercial purposes.

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Response to U.S. Fish & Wildlife - continued...

Ending commercial use of chimpanzees can be accomplished in a variety of ways, including passing legislation targeting this issue directly. If the change in listing of captive chimpanzees would result in the termination of their use in the entertainment industry and in private ownership, that would be a powerful good to come from the change in listing.

We also wish to comment on whether any populations of chimpanzees qualify as distinct population segments and on management programs for captive chimpanzees, and on adequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms. We comment specifically on chimpanzees in zoological parks and research facilities. Information given below about the numbers of chimpanzees held in different kinds of facilities was obtained from www.chimpcare.org.

The population of chimpanzees in accredited zoological parks and research facilities in the United States is maintained by captive breeding, not by importation from source countries. The population of chimpanzees in American Zoological Association-accredited zoological parks is 267 at this writing; breeding of these apes is supervised by the Chimpanzees Species Survival Plan (SSP; <http://www.lpzoosites.org/chimp-ssp/>). There are 469 chimpanzees in sanctuaries affiliated with NAPSA (North American Primate Sanctuary Alliance), and these animals do not breed. Unaccredited facilities hold 220 chimpanzees.

Chimpanzees that participate in research in the United States are held in six specialized facilities. There are currently 991 chimpanzees in these facilities. The moratorium on breeding chimpanzees in research facilities imposed by the NCCR of the NIH in 1995 (see www.ncrr.nih.gov/comparative_medicine/chimpanzee_management_program/), if it is maintained, will result in the gradual reduction in the number of chimpanzees held in research facilities, through natural mortality. Care and management of chimpanzees in research facilities have been specified at the federal level (see Chimpanzees in research. Strategies for their ethical care, management and use. 1997. National Academy Press, Washington, D.C. and www.ncrr.nih.gov/comparative_medicine/chimpanzee_management_program/). Management practices that emphasize training with positive reinforcement methods are used effectively in these facilities to gain chimpanzees' voluntary participation in routine health care and research activities, such as blood sampling, injections, use of a stethoscope, oral and topical application of medications, and inspection of the body parts (see Bloomsmith et al. 2006. Preparing chimpanzees for laboratory research. *ILAR Journal* 47(4), 316-325.; Schapiro et al. 2005. Training nonhuman primates to perform behaviors useful in biomedical research. *Lab. Anim.* 34:37-42; Schapiro et al. 2003. Positive reinforcement training as a technique to alter nonhuman primate behavior. Quantitative assessment of effectiveness. *J. Appl. Anim. Welfare Sci.* 6, 175-187). These same management practices are used in zoological parks and sanctuaries, as routine management challenges are the same across facilities.

We understand that decisions concerning appropriate involvement of chimpanzees in research will be made subsequent to a decision by F & WS concerning the listing status of the species in captivity. Moreover, debates about the appropriate involvement of chimpanzees in life sciences research and the circumstances under which they should participate are taking place outside of this particular process. Our membership unanimously supports the close regulation of research with primates to ensure the animals' health and welfare, and this applies to chimpanzees as it does to all other species.

Our membership holds diverse opinions concerning whether a change in the listing of chimpanzees will impact basic research with chimpanzees that contributes to our understanding of this species. Although many of our members feel that a change in listing will not constrain research with chimpanzees directed at basic understanding of their behavioral, psychological, and social processes, other members have strong concerns that a change in the

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Response to U.S. Fish & Wildlife - continued...

listing of chimpanzees will impair the ability of the scientific community to study this species in captivity. These disparate views arise from apparently uneven approvals by F & WS for research with other species of primates listed as endangered by F & WS. Some researchers report reasonable access to endangered primates for basic research purposes (for neuroimaging using MRI scanning, for example), but others report serious constraints that ended research, such as studies with white-collared mangabeys, *Cercocebus torquatus*. Careful development of policies concerning appropriate research participation of chimpanzee will be essential, if the change in listing occurs, to avoid a negative impact on research that would benefit chimpanzees in the wild as well as in captivity.

In conclusion, the evidence is overwhelming that chimpanzees are endangered in their natural habitat from the combined effects of capture for the pet trade, the bushmeat trade, and habitat destruction and human encroachment on their dwindling range. Changing the listing of captive chimpanzees in the United States from threatened to endangered brings the F & WS evaluation of the species' status in line with reality in Africa. Meanwhile, captive chimpanzees held in zoological parks and research facilities in the United States require careful management to provide for their health and well-being. Continuation of basic research with these individuals will contribute to improvements in care for them.

On behalf of the American Society of Primatologists,
Sincerely yours,

Dorothy M. Fragaszy

Professor and Chair, Behavioral and Brain Sciences
Psychology Department
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602

Phone: 706-542-3036
Email: doree@uga.edu

President, American Society of Primatologists 2010 - 2012

ASP COMMITTEE ROSTERS AND UPDATES

Scientific Program Committee:

Sue Howell & Brian Kelly, Co-Chairs

Andrea Clay	Liz Mallott
Dinah Davidson	Lynne Miller
Amanda Dettmer	Pablo Morales
Sian Evans	Marilyn Norconk
Jo Fritz	Jeff Rogers
Paul Houghton	Angela Ruggiero
Peter Judge	Melanie Schwandt
Matt Kessler	Suzette Tardif
Nancy Klepper-Kilgore	Sarah Williams-Blangero
Chris Kuhar	Julie Worlein
Gabe Lubach	

The co-chairs wish to thank all of the Members of the Scientific Program Committee for their advice, input, and abstract review. We wish to thank our invited speakers, **Dr. Richard Wrangham, Dr. Karen STrier, Dr. Judy Cameron, and Dr. Suzette Tardif** for their excellent presentations. We also wish to thank Matt Novak, Kim Phillips, and Steve Schapiro who answered many questions and helped make the scientific meeting a success.

The 2011 ASP Meeting in Austin included 243 abstracts. Presentations included 120 oral presentation, 84 poster presentations, 32 symposia presentations, 4 invited speakers, and 3 workshop abstracts. A wide variety of topics were included in the meeting:

Presentation Topic	Total Abstracts
Social Behavior	36
Ecology	31
Learning/Cognition/Language	26
Colony Management/Enrichment	26
Infant Development/Maternal Behavior	25
Conservation	21
Neuroscience/Pharmacology	14
Genetics	14
Breeding/Reproduction	10
Demography/Population Studies	9
Research Methods	6
Feeding/Nutrition	6
Veterinary Medicine	5
Endocrinology	5
Human Evolution/Anatomy/Growth	4
Physiology/Immunology	3
Biomedicine	2
Grand Total	243

We are looking forward to this year's meeting! Please plan now to attend the

meeting in Sacramento/Davis. **We ask that the Membership plan symposia/workshops no longer than 2 hours.**

Education Committee:

Katie Hinde, Chair	Julienne Rutherford
Amanda Dettmer Erard	Adam Smith
Karen Hambright	Jessica Vandeleest
Magdalena Muchlinski	Elaine Videan
Annika Paukner	Kathy West
Jaine Perlman	
Mike Power	
C. Mike Reid	
Cory Ross	

On the evening of Sept 15th, 2011, the Keeling Center for Comparative Medicine and Research in Bastrop, TX, hosted a Teachers Workshop providing a tour of their primate facilities to 10 local science teachers. Following the tour the teachers were provided with teaching modules (compliant with Texas standards) for the science teachers featuring primates. (Special thanks to Steve Schapiro and the staff there! They provided the tours and refreshments).

On Sept 16th, Cory Ross, Kathy West, and Chair Katie Hinde visited 10 science classes (estimated 220-250 students) at Bailey Middle School in Austin, TX, as ASP Education Outreach. We presented information about what primates are, how we can protect them in the wild, and how one can become a primatologist. Instructors were provided teaching materials as described above.

At the 2011 meeting, the ASP Education Committee judged 65 student presentations, making 4 awards, as listed previously in this Bulletin.

The Student Luncheon "Careers in Primatology: Options Outside Traditional Tenure Trajectories" had 85 attendees. ASP generously provided lunch for the first 50 registrants. Special thanks to our panelists, Toni Zeigler, Corinne Lutz, Jessica Sheftel, Paul Houghton, and Joe Erwin, for sharing their personal career narratives and generously providing their time to our junior colleagues.

In Spring 2012 ASP will again have a booth at the USA Festival of Science in Washington, DC, primarily organized and staffed by ASP Education Committee members.

Primate Care Committee:

Mollie Bloomsmith & Melinda Novak, Co-Chairs	Tina Koban
Kate Baker	Corrine Lutz
Stephanie Braccini	Jaine Perlman
Andrea Clay	Jennifer Sullivan
Kris Coleman	Jim Weed
Sian Evans	Alesha West
Michele Fahey	Greg Wilkerson
Amy Fultz	Julie Worlein
Alison Grand	

The Primate Care Committee held its first meeting at ASP's September 2011 conference, and we set some goals for our committee. The committee was formed to advocate for the appropriate care and welfare of nonhuman primates in all settings; to cooperate with other organizations regarding issues of appropriate primate care; to serve as a resource on research findings and methods relating to primate care; and to encourage scientific investigation of appropriate primate care.

We decided that, for this year, we will develop an informational paper on the complex issues surrounding social housing for nonhuman primates; compile and disseminate information on training nonhuman primates through the ASP website, and develop a welfare award.

Media and Information Committee:

Allyson J. Bennett, Chair
John Capitanio
Jessica Crast
Joseph M. Erwin
J. Dee Higley
Raymond Ho
Brian Kelly
Corinna Ross
Julienne Rutherford

The ASP Members Facebook group has grown rapidly and serves as a venue to facilitate communications among members of the society. The group currently has 136 members. The committee discussed ways to promote more interaction and dynamic content on the group page, as well as the possibility of creating a public group that could serve to share ASP information with the broader community. (Note - ASP members who would like to join the Facebook group should request

ASP COMMITTEE ROSTERS AND UPDATES (continued...)

membership via the ASP Members Only section and through Facebook. Please remember that both steps are required to be added to the group. If you have any questions or suggestions about the group please send an email to one of the committee members.)

The committee discussed partnering with the ASP Historian to initiate a new oral history project. The goal is to conduct interviews with ASP members, beginning with its initial membership, and produce short podcasts that could be shared with ASP and the public via the ASP website. In the upcoming year we will begin work on this project by identifying list of potential interviewees, the format and questions for interviews, and the best methods to produce good quality podcasts.

The committee discussed ways to encourage ASP members in outreach and education efforts via social and other media. Enthusiasm was high for offering a workshop on science communication and media training at a subsequent ASP meeting. We anticipate proposing this for a future ASP meeting.

Finally, we noted that some scientific societies are encouraging efforts to contribute to Wikipedia entries on topics of relevance and within the expertise of their membership. For example, the American Psychological Society has written about incorporating Wikipedia entries into undergraduate teaching assignments. At our next meeting we will discuss in more detail how ASP could contribute to this educational effort.

<http://www.psychologicalscience.org/index.php/publications/observer/2011/september-11/wikipedia-in-the-classroom.html>

<http://www.psychologicalscience.org/index.php/publications/observer/2011/october-11/wikipedia-entries.html>

Research and Development Committee:

Kai McCormack & Erin Kinnally,
Co-Chairs

Carola Borries

Janice Chism

Kris Coleman

Lynn Fairbank

Caroline Hostetler

Michael Jarcho

Lisa Jones-Engel

Andreas Koenig

Brenda McCowan

Charles Menzel

Leanne Nash

Ken Sayers

Adam Smith

Larry Williams

The Research and Development committee received 35 excellent research proposals in 2011. These proposals represented both field and captive research studies. During the meeting in August, each of these applications was reviewed and 9 awardees were selected (see announcement in this Bulletin). We awarded a total of \$10,963. We would like to congratulate these awardees for their superb work. We also would like to encourage those who did not receive awards this year to apply this year!

Deadline for this year is March 1, 2012.

Conservation Committee:

Erin Riley, Chair

Rich Bergl

Bert Covert

Eduardo Fernandez-Duque

Kathy Jack

Susan Lappan

Grainne McCabe

Michele Petracca

The committee conducted deliberations on a number of issues at the 2011 meeting in Austin. Actions on these, and other aspects of the minutes, are the following:

Conservation and Subscription Awards:

The committee received one nomination for the Conservation Award but decided that the applicant was ineligible because he is not originally from a habitat country. The committee discussed the need to announce these awards more widely (e.g., via national societies) in order to increase the number of nominations. The committee also discussed the value of subscription awards for individuals and memberships for institutions who likely have access to the internet.

IUCN membership:

The committee agreed on the importance of being a member of the IUCN (i.e., importance of showing support for a global effort aimed at conservation; access to conservation information and funding for ASP

members). The committee noted that the ASP membership could likely be made more aware of our membership status. To do so we discussed putting the IUCN logo on the ASP website, and determining whether all ASP members are eligible to access the IUCN membership page. Riley agreed to follow up on these two things.

Amendments to the Conservation Grant applications:

The committee made the following recommendations for changes to the current application form: 1. Include a statement on how grant recipients are expected to follow in-country rules and regulations regarding permits and adhere to ASP's principles on the ethical treatment of nonhuman primates; 2. Remind applicants that the funds may not be used to reimburse expenses already incurred; 3. Have student letters of recommendation submitted online.

As of 10.19.11, an additional amendment to the application process is: all non-members and all students (regardless of membership status) are required to submit a letter of recommendation. Non-member applicants should preferably have an ASP member write their letters. Letters in support of student projects should preferably come from academic advisors. Letters of recommendation are to be submitted online. Note: students and non-members will be asked to enter the email address of their letter writer. An email message will then automatically be sent to the letter writer with information on how to submit the letter.

Conservation grant review process:

The committee agreed to stick to the review process used for the 2011 applications.

One change: the committee agreed that it would be helpful to applicants to see on what criteria their applications are being judged. Riley will post this information on the website.

Committee Funds:

After paying out all 2011 grants and awards, the current balance of the Conservation Fund is \$78,003.

ASP COMMITTEE ROSTERS AND UPDATES (continued...)

Long-term strategy:

The committee decided that for this next year (2012) it will fund projects up to approximately \$10,000, as has been done in the past. Factors to consider in subsequent years include: the number & size of the grants (fewer grants at higher amounts?), emergency requests (how often accept these?), matching funds, coordinating/communicating with IPS, as well as other ways to effect conservation (besides research). Another idea that was proposed was to evaluate the conservation significance of past grants (how contribute to conservation? How contribute to capacity building of applicants?) and then highlight success stories in the society's fundraising efforts. The committee discussed the issue of fundraising and how the Board of Directors might consider forming a new committee explicitly devoted to fundraising so that individual committees aren't redundant in their efforts.

Conservation Committee Activities:

This year the committee reviewed applications for two grants: the ASP Conservation Small Grants and the Brumback *Aotus* Conservation Grant. The winners of these grants were announced in the previous issue of the Bulletin, but are listed again, here:

Conservation Small Grants (Total: \$9016)

Carolina Gómez-Posada. "Evaluating the potential for bamboo forest agroecosystems to foster red howler monkeys conservation in a highly fragmented and privately-owned landscape in the Colombian Eje Cafetero region."

Nanda Grow. "Altitudinal Distribution, Density, and Conservation Status of Pygmy Tarsiers (*Tarsius pumilus*) in Central Sulawesi, Indonesia."

Tracie McKinney. "Assessment of human-monkey conflict at Cahuita National Park, Costa Rica."

Bebongnchu Loveline Nkobeni. "The role of early childhood conservation education on chimpanzee conservation

in the Mak-Betchou forest block, South West Cameroon."

Ganga Ram Regmi. "Estimating Group Density of Assamese macaque *Macaca assamensis* using Multiple Covariate Distance Sampling in Lower Kanchenjungha Area, Eastern Nepal."

Travis Steffens. "Habitat Loss and Fragmentation Effects on Primate Species Occurrence and Diversity in Multiple Landscapes in Northwest Madagascar."

DJAGOUN Chabi Adéyèmi Marc Sylvestre. "Hunting and trade primates for animal based medicine purposes in Southern Benin: Implications for long term conservation."

Brumback *Aotus* Conservation Grants (Total: \$10,000)

Cecilia Juarez. "Forest composition and use of patches of forest to evaluate demographic parameters in owl monkey groups (*Aotus azarai*) inhabiting a naturally fragmented habitat in the Argentinean Chaco."

Angela Maldonado. "The *Aotus* Project: Participatory conservation to address the illegal trade of night monkeys for biomedical research, Colombian-Peruvian border."

Sam Shanee. "Distribution and abundance of the endemic Peruvian night monkey (*Aotus miconax*)."

Awards & Recognition Committee:

Peter Judge, Chair
Irwin Bernstein
Nancy Caine
Marilyn Norconk

The Awards Committee is pleased to announce that Dr. Melinda Novak received the Distinguished Primatologist Award at the 2011 annual meeting in Austin, Texas. Melinda is a Professor of Psychology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She is renowned for her research on the influences of early experience on social and cognitive development in nonhuman primates, investigation of complex cognitive processes in

monkeys, and the study of the causes and treatment of psychopathology in monkeys. Melinda is revered by her students as an excellent teacher and mentor. She has provided limitless service to her university, the scientific community and the society. Melinda was also instrumental in developing the guidelines for the psychological well-being of captive primates. We thank Melinda for accepting our invitation to present the Distinguished Primatologist Address at the 2012 meeting in Sacramento CA.

Applications are now being accepted for Maderas Rainforest Conservancy Scholarships. The scholarships are funded through an educational grant from the Maderas Rainforest Conservancy (MRC). The American Society of Primatologists offers two scholarships annually to outstanding undergraduate and graduate students. The scholarships include a field course that provides research and career training 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. See the ASP web site under "Grants" for more information about the scholarships and application submission guidelines. Completed applications are due by March 1, 2012.

The Awards and Recognition Committee is seeking nominations for American Society of Primatologists awards. Awards include but are not limited to the Distinguished Primatologist Award, Distinguished Service Award, and the Special Recognition/Achievement Award. See the ASP website under "Grants" for award descriptions and nomination procedures. Please take the time to recognize deserving applicants by submitting an application. Completed nomination applications for this year are due by May 1st, 2012.

MINUTES OF THE 2011 ASP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, Austin, TX

President Dorothy Fragaszy called the Executive Committee Meeting to order at 11 am, 18 September 2011. In attendance: Randy Kyes, Karen Bales, Kim Phillips, Carolyn Ehardt, Allyson Bennett, Mollie Bloomsmith, Dee Higley, Katie Hinde, Susan Howell, Peter Judge, Brian Kelly, Erin Kinnally, Kai McCormack, Melinda Novak, Erin Riley, Suzette Tardif.

President Fragaszy opened the meeting by expressing appreciation for the commitment to ASP by all present.

ASP committee Chairs presented the following reports:

Suzette Tardif, Historian:

Since assuming the role of Historian last year, activities have been minimal. Planning is in progress with respect to the goals and intended accomplishments, including anticipated meetings with individuals at University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio regarding potential archiving activities. A report on progress will be submitted at the end of the year. The goal is creation of a digital archiving system, variably accessible by the membership and the public. Decisions will be made as to what materials should be archived, how the materials will be utilized, and how access will be defined.

Conservation Committee, Erin Riley, Chair:

The committee was concerned by the recent absence of nominations for subscription and conservation awards, prompting thought as to how to increase exposure for these nominations, including possible advertisements within habitat countries. Discussion supported the latter, recounting the free ASP membership and AJP subscriptions for those in habitat countries, and suggestion was made that utilization of the website and Facebook pages to solicit nominations should be enhanced. The committee did award eight conservation grants during the year, with one subsequently unfunded when the student was unable to conduct the project.

Discussions are also underway by the committee examining additional or alternative mechanisms by which ASP can foster conservation. These have included potential assessment of the impacts/outcomes of ASP conservation grants and the option of symposia for awardees.

Education Committee, Katie Hinde, Chair:

The committee conducted several activities in conjunction with the meeting. A Teachers Workshop, including a tour of the primate facilities, was held at the Keeling Center for Comparative Medicine and Research in Bastrop, TX, on 15 September. The 10 local science teachers were provided with teaching modules featuring primates (compliant with Texas state standards), developed by Cory Ross. On 16 September, committee members visited Bailey Middle School as part of ASP Education Outreach, where they discussed primatology, including conservation, with ~235 students.

The meeting's student luncheon focused on alternative career options and was filled within four hours of opening registration. These luncheons do not conflict with the scientific program, enhancing their appeal, and the feedback on their effectiveness and importance has been excellent.

The committee reported on their judging of 65 student presentations during the meeting. Some concern was expressed as to the ability to properly evaluate this large number of entries for the competition; discussion by the committee focused on alternative formats for both submission and evaluation, in an effort to find the most productive and useful format for students which can be balanced with the burden on evaluators.

ASP's participation in the inaugural USA Festival of Science held in Washington, DC, last year was very successful; as a consequence, committee members will participate again in this year's festival, to occur during the last weekend in April.

Membership and Finance Committee, Kim Phillips, Treasurer and Chair:

The membership trend has been negative, overall, in the figures presented for 1998-2011 (through August 2011), although at present, membership levels appear to be relatively stable, or with a slight increase. Current total membership (through 1 August 2011) was reported to be 694, including 497 full, 183 student, and 14 retired members. The committee is working to expand membership to previously higher levels through mechanisms such as the use of target email lists and posters.

Book sales generated approximate \$480, limited perhaps by online ordering problems that ensued with the revision of the website. The committee is also monitoring tax revenue developments regarding the important Amazon account, from which the society receives *ca.* \$1200/year for conservation activities.

The Treasurer reviewed the ASP Financial Statements for the period of 1 June 2010 to 31 May 2011. Total revenue in the General Fund was \$127,735; total expenses were \$98,952. The General Fund was reported to be stable; the Conservation Fund declined 19%, the result of increased funding of the Brumbeck *Aotus* Conservation Grant and Conservation Small Grants programs; the Legacy Fund has increased 81%; and the Ruppenthal Fund supporting student travel showed a 40% increase in association with profit from the previous meeting. Fees paid by the society in FY 11 declined slightly, aided by working with a larger financial institution (Wells Fargo), which lessens fees. The 2010 ASP meeting in Louisville, KY, netted \$8870 in total profit.

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Program Committee, Sue Howell and Brian Kelly, Co-Chairs:

The committee reported inclusion of 243 abstracts in the Austin meeting. Of the oral presentations, 28% were field-based research, while 72% were captive-based; for posters, the split was 37% field, 53% captive. The committee indicated positive feedback from the pairing of senior members with students as co-chairs for sessions, a procedure suggested by Katie Hinde.

There were a number of challenges discussed by the committee at their meeting. These included reviewer timeliness, abstract deadlines, and meeting scheduling. To address these issues, the committee decided to recommend the following (report submitted):

A. Reviewer timeliness: The committee has identified need for assistance in timely review and copy editing of abstracts. The following alteration in procedures was made to address this:

Add more reviewers for the next meeting. Some of these reviewers will serve specifically as copy editors for the journal and online schedule. That will alleviate some of the work of the committee chairs and allow for abstracts to be finalized in a more timely manner.

B. Abstract deadlines:

To allow members more time to submit completed abstracts, thereby increasing the quality of the scientific meeting, the committee decided to extend the abstract deadline to March 22, 2012, with a symposium submission deadline of February 15, 2012. Additionally, the printed version of the journal will be published after the meeting; however, the meeting schedule and abstracts will be available online at least a month before the scientific meeting.

C. Meeting scheduling:

To account for the fact that the meetings are relatively large and there are only a few rooms in which to hold competing sessions, the committee decided to recommend actively limiting the number of oral presentations and suggest the conversion of oral presentations to posters.

Publications Committee, Dee Higley, Chair:

The *American Journal of Primatology* had a good year; impact factors were the highest ever reported. This was at least partially driven by increased representation of special issues, which the committee suggested be further enhanced through inclusion of "state of the art" special issues, perhaps interfacing with the media.

Support was clear for moving the publication of the Bulletin to twice yearly. Generation of sufficient copy for an issue has been difficult, especially in conjunction with increasing utilization of alternative formats, such as website updates, email communications to the membership, and Facebook.

The Media and Information group was identified as important to the society, with support indicated for elevating its status to that of a formal committee.

Research and Development Committee, Kai McCormack and Erin Kinnally, Co-Chairs:

The committee received 35 applications for research grants in 2011. Each was reviewed 3-4 times by the 15 committee members before recommending 9 for funding. One issue identified by the committee during the review process was the potential need for a policy concerning reapplication by previous awardees. Suggestion was made that the committee formulate a policy and submit it to the Board of Directors for their consideration.

Primate Care Committee, Mollie Bloomsmith & Melinda Novak, Co-Chairs:

The committee is seeking to expand its membership.

The first meeting of this newly established committee considered a number of initiatives, including: 1) development of a 'white paper' on social housing; 2) enhancement of information on the website concerning animal training and the changes in the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*; 3) increasing contact with other relevant groups (e.g., AALAC, ALAS, etc.) and expansion of related activities, such as becoming ad hoc visitors for AALAC; 4) development of an award related to primate care; and 5) possible development of a specific mechanism for communicating with the membership on questions related to primate care. The chairs discussed the latter with the Executive Committee, with concerns expressed that the committee's role remain one of activities such as provision of resources and referrals to established bodies, recognizing that the society should not be engaged in any form of investigation or 'policing' of primate care.

Submitted by:
Carolyn L. Ehardt, Executive Secretary

MINUTES OF THE 2011 ASP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, Austin, TX

President Dorothy Fragaszy called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 5:15 pm, 18 September 2011. In attendance: Randy Kyes, Karen Bales, Kim Phillips, Carolyn Ehardt.

The following recommendations were considered:

Recommendation: The Awards & Recognition Committee recommended Dr. Melinda Novak as ASP 2011 Distinguished Primatologist. **Action:** Approved.

Recommendation: The Publications Committee recommended publishing the ASP Bulletin twice per year. **Action:** Approved.

Recommendation: The Program Committee recommended extending the date for submission of abstracts, and publication of the proceedings of the 2012 Sacramento conference after the meeting, rather than before/in conjunction with the meeting. An abbreviated program/schedule would be made available at the meeting. **Action:** Approved.

Recommendation: The Education Committee recommended funding levels for 2012: awarding \$200 total for runners-up, and \$400 total for winners in the student presentation competition; approximately \$1600 for participation in the US Science Festival. **Action:** Approved.

Recommendation: The Research & Development Committee recommended 9 research awards. **Action:** Approved.

Recommendation: A suggestion forwarded by Erin Riley, Conservation Committee chair, was to form an ad hoc committee to address formulation of the ASP code of ethics. **Action:** Approved formation of a committee to propose an initial project.

Recommendation: Suggestion has been made to raise the status of the Media & Information group to full committee status, and to make the Primate Care Committee permanent. **Action:** As these actions require membership voting, any such changes should be considered simultaneously. Will be taken up in June.

Recommendation: Consideration of holding the 2013 ASP meeting in Puerto Rico would necessitate another June meeting (as will be the 2012 Sacramento meeting), due to increased risk of hurricanes during September, which is counter to the standing procedure of alternating between June and September for consecutive meetings. **Action:** In so far as possible, if there are back-to-back June meetings in 2012 and 2013, the subsequent two meetings should be held in September.

Other business:

The Board discussed the solicitation for comment by the US Fish & Wildlife Service concerning changing the conservation status of *all* chimpanzees to Endangered. A decision was made to solicit comment from the membership and to subsequently produce an ASP response based on these comments, to be written by President Fragaszy.

The Treasurer, Kim Phillips, proposed creation of a 'fund raising committee' – a coordinating body which would oversee what are now highly dispersed efforts to raise funds for the society. Discussion favored an exploratory committee to produce a mission statement regarding establishment of such a committee.

The Board saw merit in production of a "State of the Science Report," in response to the standing solicitation for such papers by American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS). These reports appear in *Bioscience*, which has an excellent impact rating. Discussion was supportive of soliciting input from the membership on possible topics/concept papers.

The Nominating Committee produced a slate of candidates for the ASP officers positions which will be voted on in January 2012 by the appropriate membership.

The Board discussed the letter from the Director of the Primate Society of Japan in response to the letter and offer of support sent by President Fragaszy after the tsunami. There was recognition that the society needs to formulate a policy to cover procedures for financial support in cases of such emergency situations, as others have arisen. The Board asked President Fragaszy to respond to the Director's letter of request, indicating that there would be an assessment of ASP finances, followed by an official response regarding emergency funds by the end of the year.

There have been member suggestions concerning provision of childcare at meetings. Recognizing that this is an issue with potential legal concerns, the Board agreed to look into how other societies have structured any childcare provisions.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Submitted by:
Carolyn L. Ehardt, Executive Secretary



Adult male Japanese macaque
(*Macaca fuscata fuscata*) of the
Arashiyama E troop on Mt. Iwata,
Kyoto, Japan

--Photo by Michael Huffman

ADDITIONAL UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS OF INTEREST TO PRIMATOLOGISTS

PRIMATE SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN SPRING MEETING

Dates: April 17, 2012 - April 18, 2012

Sponsor: Primate Society of Great Britain

Location: Howletts and Port Lympne Wild Animal Parks

Web Site: <http://www.psgb.org/Meetings/Spring2012.html>

UNRAVELING CYNO DNA: MAPPING A PATH TO BETTER RESEARCH MODELS

Date: May 10, 2012

Sponsor: New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research; Bristol-Myers Squibb

Location: BMS Conference Center, Pennington, NJ

Web Site: <http://njabr.com/events/current-events/unraveling-cyno-dna-mapping-a-path-to-better-research-models/>

1ST INTERNATIONAL GIBBON HUSBANDRY CONFERENCE

Dates: June 4, 2012 - June 6, 2012

Sponsor: Natural Science Center of Greensboro, North Carolina

Location: Greensboro, North Carolina

Web Site: <http://www.gibbonconference.org>

FIFTH CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR GESTURE STUDIES: THE COMMUNICATIVE BODY IN DEVELOPMENT

Dates: July 24, 2012 - July 27, 2012

Sponsor: International Society for Gesture Studies (ISGS)

Location: Lund, Sweden

Web Site: <http://www.gesturestudies.com/isgs2012/>

INTERNATIONAL PRIMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY XXIV CONGRESS

Dates: August 13, 2012 - August 17, 2012

Sponsor: International Primatological Society

Location: Cancun, Mexico

Web Site: <http://www.ips2012.org.mx/>

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ZOOKEEPERS (ICZ)

Dates: September 9, 2012 - September 13, 2012

Sponsor: Wildlife Reserves Singapore

Location: Singapore

Web Site: <http://www.iczoo.org/singapore2012.php>

Chimpanzee *Pan troglodytes*;
Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary,
Ol Pejeta Conservancy, Kenya

-- Photo by Julie Wieczkowski

Conservation Status: Endangered

