

A Message from the President...



Dear Colleagues,

I hope you're looking forward to #ASPSATX2018. We'll gather in San Antonio in less than 2 weeks. We've got a great scientific program and fun social events - including the opening reception overlooking the Alamo and the Primate Fun Run for Conservation. I've just returned from the field in Indonesia, and am now busy with last minute details for the conference, so this President's message is super-short!

See all y'all soon!

~Kimberley Phillips
President, ASP

Get Social with ASP!

Connect with ASP online



@ASPVoice

#ASPSATX2018



Don't forget to join the ASP members
Facebook group via the members-only
section at <http://www.asp.org>

See you at ASP 2018! #ASPSATX2018
August 8-11, San Antonio, TX



The full schedule for ASP 2018 is available online! Check out the [schedule online](#), including committee meetings, symposia, the poster session, social events, and more!



A light breakfast will be served each day of the meeting!



Confirmed Speakers for #ASPSATX2018

2017 Early Career Award Winner - **Amanda Melin**

2017 Distinguished Primatologist Award Winner - **Paul Garber**

2015 Legacy Award Winner - **Amanda M. Dettmer**

Continuing Education Credits for Veterinarians to be Offered at ASP! ASP is a RACE accredited organization, so veterinarians and veterinary technicians can earn continuing education credits at this meeting. This year 8.0 credit hours can be earned at the meeting. In addition, 4.0 credit hours can be earned by attending the pre-conference workshop, "[Positive Reinforcement Training for Primate Veterinary Care](#)" which will be offered August 8th. For questions about RACE credits, please contact Greg Wilkerson (GKWilkerson@mdanderson.org). Please refer to the [conference schedule](#) for RACE talks.

Don't miss these events at #ASPSATX2018!

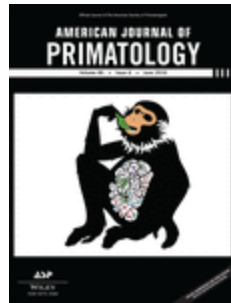
- The Conservation Committee's annual Silent Auction (every day)
- The Opening Reception at La Vista Terrace (Wednesday, August 8, 6-9pm)
- The Data Blitz featuring Student Competition finalists (Thursday, August 9, 8:45-9am)
- ASP's first-ever Simposio en Español/Symposium in Spanish (Thursday, August 9, 2:45-4pm)
- Workshop on Science Communication & Writing (Friday, August 10, 1-2pm)
- The Social Mixer (Friday, August 10, 6-8pm)
- The annual Primate Promenade (Saturday, August 11, 7-8am)
- The Closing Banquet (Saturday, August 11, 6pm-12am)

The most up-to-date meeting information can be found on the ASP website in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).



#ASPSATX2018 Program & Presentation Information

- Poster boards will be 3' x 4'. Please plan your poster printing accordingly.
- Oral presentations will be on Dell laptops with Windows 10 Enterprise/PowerPoint 2016.
- Printed programs will NOT be available.
- Refer to the program [online](#) or use the mobile version! <https://www.asp.org/mobile>.

FROM THE *AJP* EDITOR**Call for Papers, Joint issue of *Developmental Psychobiology* and *American Journal of Primatology*: Psychobiological Development in Primates**

Primate studies have made many seminal contributions to our understanding of development. They also provide a crucial intermediate step in translation of basic developmental studies in rodents to application in humans. Our goal for this special *joint virtual* issue is to feature current developmental work being done in primates. Relevant studies include investigations of behavioral development in primates of different ages (infant, juvenile, adult), as well as interdisciplinary work including genetics, neurobiology, physiology, conservation, etc. These studies would be focused on non-human primate species; studies on humans might be appropriate if they shed light on the Primate order as a whole and the results are discussed from that perspective. Primate studies on either wild or captive populations would be appropriate. Acceptable articles may also review recent empirical work, conceptual advances, and future directions.

Interested authors should submit an abstract (250 word limit) to the editors. From these abstracts, articles will be selected for full submission. **Abstracts must be submitted by September 15, 2018, to both Karen Bales and Michele Brumley.**

- Karen Bales, Editor-in-Chief, *American Journal of Primatology*, klbales@ucdavis.edu
- Michele Brumley, Editor-in-Chief, *Developmental Psychobiology*, brummich@isu.edu

Based on the abstracts submitted, the authors will be instructed to submit by January 1, 2019 their full manuscript via the electronic editorial system of either the [American Journal of Primatology](#) or [Developmental Psychobiology](#) where the manuscripts will be considered for publication with the aim of publishing approximately half of the articles of the special issue in the *American Journal of Primatology* and half in *Developmental Psychobiology*. The entirety of the articles belonging to the special issue will be assembled in a joint virtual issue that will be hosted and promoted on both journal homepages. The content of the virtual issue will be free to access for three months following publication.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Awards & Recognition Committee

The Awards and Recognition Committee, with the approval of the Board of Directors, is pleased to announce the winners of the ASP Ruppenthal Student Travel Awards to help defray the costs of attending the 41st annual ASP meeting in San Antonio:

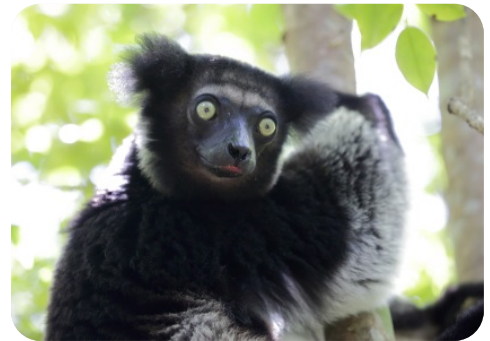
- **Montserrat Franquesa-Soler:** Instituto de Ecología, A.C. and Miku Conservación, A.C.
- **Rais Moreira:** University of Calgary
- **Renee Russell:** Bucknell University
- **Maura Tyrrell:** State University of New York, Buffalo

The current members of the Awards and Recognition Committee are Linda Fedigan, Andreas Koenig, Lynne Isbell, Justin McNulty, and Leanne Nash. Lynne and Leanne are stepping down, with Karin Enstam Jaffe and Juan Carlos Serio Silva taking their places. As outgoing Chair, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to Linda, Andreas, Justin, and Leanne for consistently paying prompt and close attention to the tasks at hand. You made my job so easy! I would also like to thank Justin for stepping up as the new Chair, Leanne for completing three terms (six years!) of service, and Karin and Juan Carlos for accepting the offer to join the team.

~Lynne Isbell, Chair, Awards & Recognition Committee

Conservation Committee

The ASP Conservation Committee supports conservation research and education around the world. The committee raises funds and distributes them to recipients of the Conservationist Award and Conservation Grants. We are seeking donations for the **ASP auction** in San Antonio, Texas. Primate-themed items are especially helpful, but any donations are invited! Please also consider requesting donations from primate artists or businesses near you. If you can't attend this year, you can mail your donations to: Kimberley Phillips, Psychology Dept., Trinity University, 607 Kings Court, San Antonio, Texas 78212. If you have questions about shipping donations, you can contact Kim at Kimberley.phillips@trinity.edu. If you have general questions about the auction, please contact conservation@asp.org.



Indiri (*Indri indri*), by K. West.

We are grateful to have received so many nominations this year for the **Conservationist Award!** Thank you to all of those who submitted nominations. This year was extremely competitive, with seven nominees! The winner will be announced at the banquet in San Antonio.

The Conservation Committee is happy to feature a **Conservation Grant report** at the end of this bulletin on ASP-funded research by **Krista Milich**, who is also a Committee member. We thank conservation committee member **Sylvia Atsalis** for help with editing reports.

Finally, THANK YOU! to the Board, the Society, and our committee members over the past four years during our terms as Co-Chairs. Part of the ASP mission is to ensure the conservation of primates, and to educate the public about primates, and we feel honored to have been able to contribute to that mission. We are inspired by the creative and thoughtful recipients of the ASP Conservation grants and awards that were distributed during our tenure, and we look forward to seeing their future conservation outcomes. They are moving the field of primatology forward during a time when conservation is critically important.

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



Diademed sifaka (*Propithecus diadema*), by K. West

Education Committee

The ASP Education Committee expresses its appreciation to all contestants who submitted applications for the annual Student Competition sponsored by AJP and to the loyal ASPEC members who adjudicated applications in the first round blind judging.

Please join us in recognizing the competition finalists competing at #ASP2018SATX!

Oral presenters

- **Kunal Arekar** (Abstract #145) Phylogenetic position and evolutionary origin of capped-golden langur lineage.
- **Brett Frye** (Abstract #124) Mechanism at large: Sibling sex, but not androgens, influences phenotypes in perinatal common marmosets (*Callithrix jacchus*).
- **Allison McNamara** (Abstract #128) Meeting a challenge: Quadrupedal gait kinematics and substrate disruptions in wild *Saimiri sciureus*.

Poster presenters

- **Alexander Baxter** (Abstract #91) Sexual dimorphism in 2D:4D ratio is associated with maternal urinary sex hormones in a representative new world monkey (*Calicebus cupreus*).
- **Dominique Bertrand** (Abstract #80) Effects of crop guarding on the behavior of wild, habituated groups of *Macaca nigra*.
- **Faye Harwell** (Abstract #104) Temperature of Bornean orangutans (*Pongo pygmaeus wurmbii*) in West Kalimantan, Indonesia as a proxy for body temperature.

- **Lynea Witczak** (Abstract #105) Multiple group modeling of the effects of male aggressive temperament on longitudinal changes in affiliative maintenance behaviors in captive coppery titi monkeys.

Each of these finalists will be participating in the **Data Blitz** at 8:45am following the President's Welcome Thursday morning, August 9. Contestants will have a single slide and two minutes to entice the audience to attend their presentations. We encourage everyone to attend the Data Blitz and to support our contestants at their oral and poster presentations of new and exciting data.

We hope that these contestants will motivate other students to participate in future competitions and we encourage students to attend to get a feel of what's required of them. Participating in the ASP Student Competition is extremely good practice for students entering the discipline and also is an appropriate item for their *Curricula vitae*, particularly if they were selected as a finalist or award recipient.

The ASP Education Committee members will be meeting on Wednesday at 1pm to plan 2nd round judging in the competition, to assess the previous year's outreach, and plan those for the coming year. The members have some exciting ideas and new materials in development. We welcome all interested in outreach to join the committee and pool resources.

~Karen Hambright and Mike Reid, Co-Chairs, Education Committee



Coquerel's sifaka (*Propithecus coquerelli*), by K. West

Primate Care Committee

Members of the Primate Care Committee (PCC) are looking forward to this summer's meeting, and the symposium on pair housing rhesus macaques which our committee co-sponsored with the Behavioral Management Consortium, an NIH working group. In addition, the PCC is sponsoring a pre-conference workshop on August 8th. The topic is Positive Reinforcement Training for Primate Veterinary Care. Details can be found at:

https://www.asp.org/meetings/positive_reinforcement_training_workshop.cfm. There are a few spots left; please contact Jaine Perlman at jeperlman@emory.edu if you're interested in registering for the workshop.

Many thanks to **Grace Fuller** and **Melissa Truelove** for their work on the “Hot Topics in Welfare Science” series. Topics in the past year include welfare of gorillas in the Democratic Republic of Congo, depressive-like behavior and welfare, and self-directed behavior an indicator of welfare. Our aim is to have diversity in these articles, and to include work from the zoo, laboratory, field, and the Welfare Award winner (when appropriate). Grace and Melissa are currently working on a new article focused on welfare of primates in the live pet trade, so keep an eye out for that article.

Several people have applied for the Primate Welfare Award this year. We encourage you to attend the talks and posters of those competing for this award, and we will honor a deserving primatologist for his or her outstanding presentation at the conference. Thanks to Dawn Abney for taking over administration of this award!

If you are interested in joining the Primate Care Committee, please contact Kris or Susan.

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

Student Committee

Our annual meeting of the American Society of Primatologists is right around the corner, and the ASP Student Committee is busy developing programming that will benefit the student members. Below is a list of three events that we are planning.

- First, we aim to host the **Meet-a-Mentor event**. Briefly, this event will entail short (4-6 minute) meetings with potential advisors and mentors. You will have the opportunity to chat with several prominent primatologists during these meetings. We hope that this event will make the act of approaching colleagues less stressful than is usually the case at conferences (especially if this is your first time at ASP!).
- Second, we will plan a **Happy Hour Social** in which you can mingle with primatologists at all stages of their careers. This event will likely take place at the conference hotel bar one evening prior to the poster sessions.
- Third, the Student and Education Committees are teaming up to offer a **science communication workshop** – abstract below:

Science communication is an essential skill that we must constantly practice and refine. Indeed, many major granting agencies, including the National Science Foundation, require proposals to provide detailed, integrative communication plans. While many scientists may be eager to communicate their work, they are often undertrained or unsure of emerging avenues that will best relay information. In this workshop, we will introduce attendees to a new and innovative interface for science communication: The People’s Science (www.thefieldproject.com). This platform compliments other avenues (e.g., to personal blogs, Twitter, or university press offices) that enable scientists to communicate their work with general audiences. Colin Brand, an ambassador for The People’s Science, will first lead a brief (15 minute) presentation introducing this platform. Next, we will facilitate a peer writing workshop (1 hour) with the goal of producing a research summary for submission to The People’s Science website. This workshop is intended for students and nascent primatologists. However, all are welcome. Participants should bring a physical or electronic draft research summary of a

manuscript (in prep or published) or series of papers. We also suggest that attendees register for The People's Science workshop in advance and bring their laptops to this event. We hope this workshop will provide budding primatologists with 1) additional knowledge about up-and-coming communication tools and 2) skills to improve effective and accessible communication about primatology.

In order to make these events work, we need a tentative head count of student members that are interested in participating. Please use this [Google Form](#) below to indicate which event(s) you might be interested in attending.

Students! Undergrads! Grad students! Join us for the Student Committee meeting on Wednesday, August 8 at 1pm in the Pecos room. And, consider joining the ASP Student Committee and serving as co-chair! Learn more at the ASP meeting or by contacting Bretty Frye or Colin Brand (bfrye@g.clemson.edu; cbrand2@uoregon.edu).

We look forward to seeing you in San Antonio!

~Brett Frye and Colin Brand, Co-Chairs, Student Committee

CONSERVATION GRANT REPORT

Forest Degradation and Reproductive Function in the Female Red Colobus Monkey (*Procolobus rufomitratus*) of Kibale National Park, Uganda

Dr. Krista Milich, Department of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis

This project used the red colobus monkey (*Procolobus rufomitratus*) of Kibale National Park, Uganda, as a model to understand how ecological stressors impact female reproductive function and sexual behaviors. By combining behavioral observations, urinalysis, hormone analyses, habitat data, and feeding tree data, this research not only addresses *if* species are being impacted by forest degradation, but *how* species are being affected. The overall goal of this project was to examine a model in which habitat degradation impacts food availability, which then impacts female reproductive hormones and behaviors. To assess this connection, I examined the difference in 5 major factors between females living in four groups in old-growth and heavily logged areas: 1) feeding ecology, 2) activity budgets, 3) sexual behaviors, 4) ketone concentrations (a urinary indicator of starvation), and 5) reproductive hormone concentrations.



Red colobus monkey.

The results indicate that females in logged and old growth areas differ in feeding ecology, activity budgets, and sexual behaviors, but do not differ in ketone levels or reproductive hormone concentrations. Red colobus monkeys in logged areas eat more tree species, eat smaller amounts of each of these species, include more novel foods in their diet, and spend more time feeding than

individuals in old-growth areas. Females in logged areas are more constrained in their mating behaviors. Specifically, they have lower overall copulation rates and focus mating efforts during conceptive periods; whereas, females in old-growth areas mate more often, including during non-conceptive periods. Measurement of hormones in fecal samples indicated no significant differences in estradiol or progesterone concentrations. Similarly, ketone levels measured in urine samples were similar for females living in logged and old growth habitats. There were no clear indications of seasonal breeding in this species. Females copulated, conceived, and gave birth throughout the year and showed no birth peak in either the logged or old-growth areas. Female dietary, activity, and mating adjustments may explain the ability for females to maintain reproductive function in heavily logged areas.

The results of this study suggest that females in poor quality habitats can adjust mating behaviors to maximize the likelihood of conception while minimizing their energetic output. However, this energetic strategy may come at a cost of reducing the ability for females to use nonconceptive sex, outside the ovulatory period, as a reproductive strategy to confuse paternity, avoid infanticide, and enhance male support. Despite differences in habitat quality, females in logged and old-growth areas do not differ as expected in their reproductive hormone concentrations, ketone levels, or degree of reproductive seasonality. Phenotypic and behavioral plasticity in diet and energy expenditure may allow female red colobus monkeys to maintain reproductive function in lower quality habitats that are stable and protected. The ability to adjust to previously logged habitats that are now protected has important implications for conservation management strategies, such as prioritizing areas for protection, and provides insight into how extant primates, including humans, adjust to environmental change.



Some of the field assistants and me watching monkeys. We needed a large team to follow all the groups and collect samples.



Female with infant.

Acknowledgments

Funding for this research was provided by the National Science Foundation, the L.S.B. Leakey Foundation, Conservation International Primate Action Fund, Primate Conservation, Inc., the American Society of Primatologists, the Sophie Danforth Conservation Fund, Idea Wild, the Explorers Club, and the Columbus Zoo Conservation Fund. Research permission and support was provided by the Uganda Wildlife Authority, the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology, the Makerere University Biological Field Station, and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of

the University of Illinois. Thank you to Kugonza Moses, Sabiiti Richard, Atwijuize Seezi, Koojo John, Busobozi Richard, Josie Chambers, Bangirana Wilfred, Ongwang Jimmy, and Mutebi Michael for assistance with field work, Hasib Neaz for assistance with data analysis, Rachel Petersen and Elsa Holden for laboratory assistance, and Rebecca Stumpf, Colin Chapman, Janice Bahr, Laura Shackelford, and Paul Garber for helpful feedback and mentorship throughout the project.

This work has contributed to two publications:

Milich K.M., Stumpf R.M., Chambers J.M., and Chapman, C.A. (2014). Female red colobus monkeys maintain an ideal free distribution through novel foraging strategies in logged forests. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 154:52-60.

Milich K.M., Bahr, J.M., Stumpf R.M., and Chapman, C.A. (2014). Timing is everything: expanding the cost-of-sexual-attraction hypothesis. *Animal Behaviour*, 88:219-224.



Ring-tailed lemur (*Lemur catta*), by K. West

All lemur photos credited to K. West in this bulletin are by Kathy West, 2017, Madagascar. More photos on her website: KathyWestStudios.com and her ASP-funded outreach project on PICCMadagascar.org.

See you at ASP!

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Assistant Professor, Primatology

Department of Anthropology
University of Michigan



The Department of Anthropology at the University of Michigan invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor in Primatology, starting September 2019. This is a university year appointment. We seek an anthropologically trained primatologist with a Ph.D. and a record of original research and publication focusing on the behavior, biogeography, ecology, biology, genetics, or evolution of non-human primates. We are open to a range of geographic and taxonomic foci, but are especially interested in applications from individuals studying African great apes. The successful applicant will show a clear plan for a continuing program of research that complements current faculty strengths within the Department of Anthropology and across campus. Preference is for candidates who have an active field and/or laboratory research program.

Teaching duties include four courses per academic year (semester system) at the introductory, advanced undergraduate, and graduate level, including primate social behavior. The candidate will develop additional classes, perform undergraduate and graduate advising, and supervise graduate and undergraduate student research. The University of Michigan and the Department of Anthropology are interested in candidates who are committed to the highest standards of scholarship and professional activities and to the development of a campus environment that supports equality and diversity.

Applications are due **September 15, 2018**. Please send copies of: (1) a cover letter; (2) a CV; (3) a statement of current and future research plans; (4) a statement of teaching philosophy and experience; (5) evidence of teaching excellence; (6) 3 publications that represent your current work; and (7) the names and addresses of three references to umich.anthro.chair@umich.edu - Please make sure the names of each attached file starts with your name (Last Name, First Name).

Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. The University of Michigan is supportive of the needs of dual career couples and is an equal opportunity / affirmative action employer.

