



Student Chapter Progress Report

Chapter Name: Wildlife Disease Association – Australasian Student Chapter

Established in (if known): 2015

Mission: Our mission is to acquire, disseminate, and apply knowledge of the health and diseases of wild animals in relation to their biology, conservation, and interactions with humans and domestic animals

Number of chapter members:

The WDA-A Student Chapter is currently made up of 303 members as of May 1st 2020.

Number of chapter members that are WDA members:

Of the 355 members of the student chapter 48 of them are WDA members.

Faculty Advisor

Name: Rachael Gray, BVSc, PhD

Position: Senior Lecturer, Vet Pathology, Marine Mammal Health, The University of Sydney, NSW

Email: rachael.gray@sydney.edu.au

Current Board Members

President:

Name: Christina Karagiorgis

Email: ckaragiorgis@student.unimelb.edu.au



Other Officers:

Committee Member, Lauren Caspersz, caspersz.lauren.g@gmail.com

Committee Member, Jessica Agius, jessica.agius@sydney.edu.au

Committee Member, Berta Blanch, bertablanch.bbl@gmail.com

Committee Member, Alexandra Lamb, a1628670@student.adelaide.edu.au

Committee Member, Siobhon Egan, siobhonegan@hotmail.com

Board members 2020-2021

President:

Name: Christina Karagiorgis

Email: ckaragiorgis@student.unimelb.edu.au

Other Officers:

Committee Member, Lauren Caspersz, caspersz.lauren.g@gmail.com

Committee Member, Jessica Agius, jessica.agius@sydney.edu.au

Committee Member, Berta Blanch, bertablanch.bbl@gmail.com

Committee Member, ?

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How frequently does your chapter hold elections?

Elections are held yearly for 3 committee member positions. Elections are held online.

Description of Chapter Activities

PR & Fundraising

PR:

Online presence:

- Chapter website (if applicable): <https://australasianstudentchapter.weebly.com/>
- Chapter facebook page (if applicable): WDA Australasia Students
- Other chapter online or social media presence (i.e. youtube, twitter): not applicable
- Does your chapter have a newsletter? Yes, we are releasing one quarterly in 2020.



Member recruitment & Club outreach

- How does your chapter announce and advertises your events?
Events announcements and advertising occurs through our Facebook page and email communication.

Collaboration:

- Which other groups does your chapter collaborate with? Nothing currently.
- If your chapter collaborates, what does the chapter do together with the other organization?

WDA-representation:

- How did your chapter promote the WDA? (i.e. hand-out WDA flyers, announced at meetings what WDA mission is and how to become a member, coordinated travel to the WDA conference)
- We encourage students to join via emails and facebook posts.

Fundraising:

- Does your chapter have a membership fee, if so what are the fees?
The chapter is free to join for all students.
- Did your chapter host a fundraiser (i.e. cookie sale, gear sale)? None to report from April 2019 to April 2020
- Did your chapter apply for grants and awards (i.e. WDA student chapter grants, university support)? None to report from April 30th 2019 to May 1st 2020.
- Any other way the chapter's financially health is maintained (i.e. sponsorships)?
An auction is held at the WDA-A Conference yearly to raise student funds. This is our main source of income.

EVENTS

Please share the activities your chapter organized or co-organized between April 30th 2019 and May 1st 2020. It is ok to overlap if you mentioned some of the events above. In addition, if you have exciting end of semester / summer plans please share those too. We love to know how you keep members engaged when school is not in session.

No activities were run between April 30th 2019 and May 1st 2020.



(Bi)Annual events (if applicable):

- We have not held one yet, but we have started to plan one for 2021.

Weekly or monthly events (if applicable):

Not applicable. There are plans to start up a monthly academic discussion online event in 2020.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please share anything else you would like to share about your chapter.

Upcoming plans:

- Organising our first biennial workshop to be held in Melbourne in 2021.
- Organising a monthly academic discussion online event in 2020.
- Organise scholarships and grants for our student chapter members.
- Work on our collaborations with other groups.
- Starting up a mentoring program to begin in 2020.

!!!Regarding the WDA conference in 2021, Wisconsin

In order to organize the next student event prior the annual meeting we decided to ask the student chapter officers:

What would you like to have as a main topic/red line?

- We will be unable to attend this conference however our student chapter would like a focus on one health.

What would you like to see during this event in terms of lectures, workshops,...?

- Workshops and tutorials sound good as it takes a step away from the lectures that most of us students receive on a daily basis.