



Student Chapter Progress Report – Guidelines

Complete this form and email to the Student Representative on Council, Marianthi Ioannidis (ioannidis.marianthi@gmail.com), before May 1st 2020. This report will be made available on the WDA website, thus it is also your chapter's business card.

- 1) Complete your report according to the guidelines below
- 2) Make sure to list the current officers and their details in this report.
- 3) If possible, please attach a group shot of the current chapter officers for 2020 to be added to the website.
- 4) Chapter that are not sending back a progress report will not be considered active anymore.



Student Chapter Progress Report

Chapter Name: Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine Wildlife Disease Association Student Chapter (A subset of Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine Zoo and Wildlife Society (ZAWS))

Established in (if known): Not known.

Mission: In conjunction with ZAWS, we host lectures, labs, and workshops focused on wildlife and conservation medicine. We also strive to connect students, faculty, and researchers who are interested in wildlife, and foster a relationship with the WDA for students at Cornell.

Number of chapter members: Most clubs at Cornell CVM do not have a formal membership, as most events are open to everyone. However, ZAWS/WDA has about 50 dues paying members that get preference for capped events.

Number of chapter members that are WDA members: Not known.

*The number of student WDA members within the chapter is one of the election criteria in the Student Chapter Grant Selection process. Make sure that you advertise the advantages of WDA membership to your chapter members (discount on conference fees, student awards at conferences, WDA newsletter, mentoring program etc.). If you are unsure about the number of WDA members among your chapter members, feel free to attach your chapter's membership list. We can easily check how many people are WDA members.

Faculty Advisor

Name: Dr. Krysten Schuler

Position: Assistant Research Professor, Department of Population Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences

Email: ks833@cornell.edu

Current board members: Since WDA is considered a part of ZAWS, we only have one true board member, the president who fulfills all necessary responsibilities. However, for official reasons on Cornell's campus groups website we also have a VP (who is the president of ZAWS) and a treasurer (who is the treasurer of ZAWS) listed. They are listed here as well.



President:

Name: Brianne Keane

Email: bmk73@cornell.edu

Vice President

Name: Amanda Michelson

Email address: amm645@cornell.edu

Treasurer:

Name: Kate Slyngstad

Email: kls354@cornell.edu

How frequently does your chapter hold elections? Once a year

Board members 2020-2021

Transition occurs at the end of the spring semester 2020!

Will be updated when we elect the new board! Should be by end of May 2020.

President: TBD

Name:

Email:

Vice President: TBD

Name:

Email:

Treasurer: TBD

Name:

Email:



Description of Chapter Activities

PR & Fundraising

PR:

Online presence:

- Chapter website (if applicable): N/A
- Chapter facebook page (if applicable): N/A
- Other chapter online or social media presence (i.e. youtube, twitter): N/A
- Does your chapter have a newsletter? N/A
- CUCVM has the WildLIFE blog for information about zoo and wildlife opportunities and WDA is featured as a student organization: <https://blogs.cornell.edu/wildlife/wildlife-at-cucvm/student-organizations/>

Member recruitment & Club outreach

- How does your chapter announce and advertises your events? We use the student email listservs and advertise around the school with advertisement slides on the TVs. We also post all our events on the college's public online calendar.

Collaboration:

- Which other groups does your chapter collaborate with? At Cornell, WDA falls within the Zoo and Wildlife Society organization, so we are always working with them. We also have worked with the undergraduate pre-vet society this year.
- If your chapter collaborates, what does the chapter do together with the other organization? We hold talks and labs with them and pool funding to make the events better!

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) At our events we introduce students to the WDA and tell them how to become a member or how to attend the conference. All our emails/posters for events have WDA on them.



Fundraising:

- Does your chapter have a membership fee, if so, what are the fees? Our WDA chapter does not have specific fees, but the club that it is a part of, the Zoo and Wildlife Society, has \$15 dues.
- Did your chapter host a fundraiser (i.e., cookie sale, gear sale)? We had an active Cornell Giving Day profile for donations (an annual program Cornell has to raise money from alumni, parents, etc.).
- Did your chapter apply for grants and awards (i.e., WDA student chapter grants, university support)? We apply for funding via Cornell's Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Finance Commission.
- Any other way the chapter's financial health is maintained (i.e., sponsorships)? In the past when needed we have applied for and received funding from two other options at Cornell, the Alumni Association Fund and MEOW funds. We work closely with Leslie Planck, the accountant that assists Cornell Vet student organizations to ensure that our finances are always in order.

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.

(Bi)Annual events (if applicable):

Please provide a brief description of the activity, include at least the date(s), speaker/host/goal and approximate attendance. If you have pictures, please include them.

- **Symposium:** Cornell CVM hosts the Special Species Symposium every other year, alternating with PennVet. Cornell Zoo and Wildlife Society (ZAWS) hosts it, and as WDA is under that umbrella organization, we help plan the labs and lectures for the weekend event and provide additional funding if needed. It is usually two days in early March. This year it was held at PennVet, so I have no information to report.
- **Field trips:** Every year ZAWS has an annual trip to the Rosamund Gifford Zoo in Syracuse, New York. The trip was on November 10th, 2019, and 20 people attended.



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- **Labs:** Every year we work with our advisor, Dr. Schuler, to host a Chronic Wasting Disease event with dinner, a lecture, and a lab. She gave us a talk about what we know so far about CWD, her research, and how CWD is dealt with in NYS. Then we moved to the necropsy floor to practice CWD testing and sample collection from white tailed deer heads. About 20 people attended, and the event was on February 13th, 2020.
- We also always host a yearly introductory meeting (mostly for first years) to introduce them to ZAWS/WDA, and all the zoo, wildlife, and exotics opportunities there are at CUCVM.

Weekly or monthly events (if applicable):

Please provide a brief description of the activity, include at least the date(s), speaker/host/goal and approximate attendance. If you have pictures, please include them.

- ZAWS hosts monthly rounds with various professors and clinicians.

One Time events:

-Co-hosted Dr. Mark Valitutto, a wildlife veterinarian from the Smithsonian, with Cornell's Undergraduate Pre-vet Society. He gave two dinner lectures, one regarding career advice, and another talking about his pangolin and giant panda conservation projects in Asia. We hosted him October 15th and 16th of 2019 and had about 50 people at each event.

-Hosted Andy Dobson, a conservation researcher and professor at Princeton, for a dinner lecture/Q&A regarding his career and research in the ecology of infectious diseases and conservation of endangered species. We hosted him on November 12th, 2019, and about 30 people attended his talk.

Most of our spring events were unfortunately put on hold or cancelled due to COVID19 and Cornell's closure, but ZAWS has hosted virtual rounds on zoom with the topic "Wildlife Disease Monitoring in Necropsy" lead by one of our pathologists Dr. Elizabeth Buckles.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We look forward to being more involved next year! We also wish we had pictures of our ZAWS/WDA executive board, but we do not ☹️.



!!!Regarding the WDA conference in 2021, Wisconsin

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? Perhaps something about COVID19!

What would you like to see during this event in terms of lectures, workshops,? Anything hands-on and that promotes networking!