



## EWDA STUDENT CHAPTER PROGRESS REPORT

**The EWDA Student Chapter** was established in 2005. The objective of the EWDA Student Chapter is to promote shared knowledge between established researchers in the field of wildlife health and students interested in this field, within the scope of goals defined by the WDA. This is achieved through the following:



1. Organisation of education for students by wildlife health professionals such as lectures, workshops, externships and field trips.
2. Connection of students to mentors within the WDA.
3. Facilitation of the establishment of international relationships between students across Europe and beyond.

We aim to realise these goals by:

- The organisation of a Student Workshop every two years;
- The coordination and creation of an international platform of Country Representatives (whom we encourage to organise activities in their own country);
- The organisation of Student Mixers during EWDA Conferences;
- The coordination of a Mentoring Programme in collaboration with the WDA/AAZV/EAZWV (on hold at the moment)

### ORGANISATION

At this time we have **67 members** in the EWDA Student Chapter. We have **21 Country Representatives** in 15 different countries. The Student Chapter is coordinated by a board that consists of five students elected for 2 year, thus an election is held every other year.

Below you find our Faculty Advisor and the current members of the board (2019-2021).

Name: Jorge Ramón López Olvera

Position: Student Activities Coordinator EWDA

Email: [Jordi.lopez.olvera@uab.cat](mailto:Jordi.lopez.olvera@uab.cat)

**Chair:** Marco Vecchiato, Italy, [mvecchiato@hotmail.com](mailto:mvecchiato@hotmail.com)  
**Communications Officer:** Stefania Tampach, Greece, [stefania.tampach@gmail.com](mailto:stefania.tampach@gmail.com)  
**Workshop Coordinator:** Sinan Julian Keleş, Austria, [keles.julian@gmail.com](mailto:keles.julian@gmail.com)  
**Secretary:** Tina Jansson, Sweden, [tija0002@stud.slu.se](mailto:tija0002@stud.slu.se)  
**Past-Chair/Advisor:** Anna Hillegonda Baauw, The Netherlands, [anna.baauw@ugent.be](mailto:anna.baauw@ugent.be)



**Country representatives:**

Austria: Fabian Bagó  
Denmark: Miriam Dibbern  
France: Manon Moullec & Loic Palumbo  
Greece: Alexandros Konstantinou  
Hungary: Anne-Maud Dupuy-Roudel & Charlotte Guis  
Ireland: Grace Thornton  
Italy: Francesca Vitali & Salvatore Andrea Cafiero,  
Norway: Hans Kristian Mjelde  
Poland: Magdalena Anna Walczak  
Portugal: Andreia Garcês  
Scotland: Laura Ryan & Camille Glazer  
Spain: Josep Estruch Morente  
Sweden: Tina Jansson & Johanna Johnsson  
Switzerland: James Tapia  
The Netherlands: Elja Jeunink & Rens Lindeboom

### PR & Fundraising

Currently, we have a [website](#), [Facebook page](#), [Facebook group](#), and a [Twitter account](#) to promote the EWDA Student Chapter and sharing knowledge. For special events, specific Facebook Events can be used. Most of the country representatives also keep a Facebook page or group for their local group. In our experience, this is a very valuable tool to connect students to professional events and opportunities. Using these media, our members get updates about the most recent news in the area of wildlife diseases and conservation. We post advertisements of open positions worldwide related to the field. We also share reports and pictures of our and the country activities. Currently, these channels are also frequently used to share digital wildlife-health related events (among which the ZWMSG/SAWDASC Journal Club), which are especially popular during the COVID-19 pandemic. The EWDA student chapter does not have a newsletter.

EWDA Student Chapter's main financial incomes are sponsorships, donations and grants (including the SAC grant), used mainly for the biannual EWDA Student workshop. Country representatives can apply for grants (up to 100 euros) to organize local events. We do not have a specific membership fee, but only WDA members can be EWDA SC members.

Last year the auction during the EWDA Student Workshop in Lyon provided a main source of income. Besides, we were awarded a grant by the Morris Animal Foundation, which was used for extra financial support of events organized by country representatives, with the specific aim to include practical training. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most of these events were cancelled or postponed, and the money is reserved for these (or comparable) events in the future.

For the upcoming year, aside from the traditional auction during the WDA/EWDA joint conference in Cuenca 2020, we also plan to sell sustainable coffee cups (now postponed as well). Besides, the SAC has mentioned her intention to support the 2021 EWDA Student Workshop, we applied for the Morris Animal Foundation Grant again, and we are working on approaching sponsors as soon as the current pandemic turbulence has calmed down.

### Collaboration

To carry out WDA's aim, be aware of future directions of the WDA, including the impact in terms of sustainability of the organisation, we keep in close touch with the EWDA Board, EWDA Sustainability Committee and other Student Chapters, and with the WDA board via the WDA Student's Activities Committee (SAC). In the planning stage of the conference in Cuenca we have worked in close collaboration with the organisers and the sustainable committee.

The WDA is presented at events that are held by the EWDA Student Chapter and our Country Representatives. A power-point presentation is provided to help our Country Representatives to present

the organisations in a consistent way. On top of that, we offer our Country Representatives support in other ways, when required (e.g. connecting with speakers, brainstorming about events, etc.)

## COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE EVENTS

We strongly encourage our members to gain experience in raising funds for student activities. This skill may be very useful in the future, when applying for your own research funds. To support our Country Representatives, they can also apply for small grants to help them organise wildlife health events on a national level (if all requirements are met). Below you can find the event reports from the Country Representatives.

### **ITALY- “Il Giornata Di Medicina della Fauna Selvatica (= Second Meeting on Wildlife Medicine)”**

*Representative names: Francesca Vitali, Salvatore Andrea Cafiero*

*Date of event: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019*

*Location: Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Milan, Via dell’Università 6, Lodi Italy*

*Participants: around 120 participants; 70 students (mostly undergraduate) and 50 veterinarians (including researchers and professors in academia)*

*Speakers:*

*Dr. Francesca Vitali, DVM, EWDA Italy representative, Dr. Riccardo Rossi, DVM, Director of Piacenza Wildlife Rescue Center, Italy, Dr. Elizabeth Moullineaux, DVM, Secret World Wildlife Rescue, UK (key-note speaker), Dr. Igal Horowitz, DVM, Israeli Wildlife Hospital, Israel (key-note speaker), Dr. Chiara Garbarino, DVM, IZSLER, Italy, Dr. Fabrizio Biagini, DVM, Italy, Dr. Tullia Guardia, DVM, CRAS Federico II, Italy, Dr. Renato Ceccherelli, DVM, Director of CRUMA-LIPU, Italy, Dr. Massimiliano Tosches, DVM, University of Bari, Italy, Prof. Maria Teresa Capucchio, DVM, University of Turin, Italy, Dr. Cristina Marchetti, DVM, University of Parma, Italy, Dr. Manuel Garcia Hartmann, DVM, MarLab, Italy, Dr. Erika Ottone, DVM, CR Tartarughe Marine Policoro, Italy, Dr. Emanuele Lubian, DVM, CRAS LIPU La Fagiana, Italy, Dr. Elena Di Lorenzo, DVM, Italy, Dr. Luisa Conti, DVM, CRASE Monte Adone, Italy, Prof. Alessandro Pecile, DVM, Associate Professor at the University of Milan, Italy, Dr. William Magnone, DVM, President of SIVASZOO, Italy*

*Panel Discussion: Prof. Giuliano Ravasio (University of Milan), Prof. Davide Zani (University of Milan), Dr. Nicola Ferrari (University of Milan), Fabiana Ferrari (Piacenza Wildlife Rescue Center), Elisa Berti (CRASE Monte Adone), Marzia Naldi (CRASE Monte Adone), Elisabeth Moullineaux (Secret World Wildlife Rescue), Igal Horowitz (Israeli Wildlife Hospital), Francesca Vitali (University of Milan)*

*The conference “Il Giornata Di Medicina della Fauna Selvatica” (“Second Meeting on Wildlife Medicine”) was co-organized with Dr Riccardo Rossi, Health Director of the Piacenza Wildlife Rescue Center. The topic was focused on wildlife medicine of Italian mammals and birds, in particular on basic clinical approaches such as triage and diagnostics. The meeting was divided between key-note talks (Dr. Moullineaux and Dr. Horowitz) and short-communications. A call for abstract was opened a month before the conference in order to select the abstracts for the short communications. A poster section was also organised with the presence of six scientific posters. The event took the entire day from 9 am to 7 pm; it was open to both students and veterinarians. Students came from various Italian Veterinary Universities; for many of them this day had been an occasion to know EWDA Student Chapter for the first time and meet students from other faculties. In order to mix academic teaching and fieldwork experience, the invited speakers were selected from either University of Milan, other Italian Universities and wildlife rescue centers.*

*The seminary began with an introduction of the EWDA Student Chapter presented by Dr Francesca Vitali, who was also the chair of the morning session. Dr. Moullineaux’s first talk was focused on the ethical aspects of treating wildlife. Dr. Horowitz introduced the Israeli Wildlife Hospital activities and presented wildlife clinical cases. The abstract session of the morning included different talks on infectious and non-infectious disease in Italian wildlife with topics such as trichinellosis in foxes (Dr Garbarino), Escherichia coli in foxes (Dr Biagini), methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus isolation in birds of prey (Dr Guardia), lead poisoning in griffon vultures (Dr Ceccherelli) and heavy metals exposure in lesser kestrels (Dr Tosches). Forensic medicine cases were also presented by Prof. Capucchio and Dr. Marchetti.*

*Dr. Riccardo Rossi was the chairman of the afternoon session. Dr. Mollineaux’s second talk was about triage in wildlife casualties. The short communications of the afternoon focused on clinical and surgical approaches to wildlife clinical cases, such as dolphin rehabilitation (Dr Garcia Hartmann), injuries in turtles (Prof Franchini), the role of pre-hospitalization in wildlife recovery (Dr Lubian), predictive role of lactates in roe deers (Dr Di Lorenzo), urinary tract infections in wolves (Dr Conti), laparoscopic surgery in wildlife casualties (Prof Pecile). An urogenital surgery case in a fallow deer was presented by Dr Magnone and Prof Pecile.*

*A panel discussion with professionals from both the academia and rescue centers was organized in order to begin an active discussion on success and failures in wildlife medicine between the participants. The discussed topic ranged from clinical cases to ethical consideration on treatment of wildlife and technical aspects on regulations for the veterinary management of wildlife. Participants from the public were actively involved and opinions on communal objectives towards the future of wildlife medicine in Italy were shared and discussed. The conference had been very interesting and useful to share the knowledge and experience between students and veterinarians.*

*The organisers gratefully acknowledge Medical Swan S.a.s. for funding.*

**Piacenza Wildlife Rescue Center**  
European Wildlife Disease Association  
Student Chapter

organizzano  
**II Giornata di Medicina della Fauna Selvatica**  
Martedì 17-12-2019 Polo Universitario di Lodi - Aula L05

**Programma**  
Ore 8.30 : Registrazione partecipanti  
**Chairperson sessione mattutina:**  
**Dott.ssa Francesca Vitali, PhD candidate, UniMI**  
Ore 9.00 - 9.15 : Presentazione EWDA e introduzione alla giornata  
dott. Francesca Vitali, UniMI  
Ore 9.15 - 10.00 : Why should we treat wildlife?  
Elizabeth Moullineaux, BVMS&S, DVM&S,  
CertSHR MRCVS, RCVS spec Wildlife Med  
Ore 10.00 - 10.45 : Wildlife clinical cases in Israeli Wildlife  
Hospital  
Igal Horowitz, DVM, BSC, ECGM  
Ore 10.45 - 11.00 : Coffee break  
Ore 11.00 - 11.15 : Detection of *Tritrichostoea spulvis* in foxes  
(*Haplo saepe*) in Piacenza province  
Chiara Garbarino, DVM, DZSLER  
Ore 11.15 - 11.30 : Investigation into the diffusion of pathogenic  
Escherichia coli in foxes (*Haplo saepe*)  
Fabrizio Biagini, DVM  
Ore 11.30 - 11.45 : Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*  
(MRSA) isolation from feathers of birds of prey  
Tullia Guardia, DVM, CRAS Federico II  
Napoli  
Ore 11.45 - 12.00 : Lead poisoning in griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*)  
Renato Ceccherelli, DVM, PhD,  
CRUMA-LIPU Livorno

Email:  
evento@piacenzawildlife.org  
DOWE:  
Via dell'Università 6  
Lodi  
**QUOTA DI ISCRIZIONE:**  
€15 a coprire le spese  
organizzative per gli studenti  
(una donazione sarà gradita)  
€10 per i veterinari.  
(con una donazione  
compilata di €50 al work  
shop ed una tassa a sua  
maglietta a scelta)  
IBAN:  
IT240620604400009022001  
Beneficiario: Associazione Piacenza  
Wildlife Rescue Center

**STUDENT CHAPTER**  
**EWDA**  
European Wildlife Disease Association

Ore 12.00 - 12.15 : Food chain affects heavy metals exposure of  
lesser kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*) breeding in  
Apulian and Lazio Marglia  
Maurizio Traversi, Dgs, di Medicina  
Veterinaria, Università di Bari  
Ore 12.15 - 12.30 : Necropsy as first diagnostic tool in bat  
pathology  
Prof. Maria Teresa Capucchio, DVM, PhD  
Università di Torino  
Ore 12.30 - 12.45 : Manner and causes of death of wildlife:  
Forensic approach and social implications  
Dott.ssa Cristina Marchetti, DVM, PhD  
Università di Parma  
Ore 13.00 - 14.00 : Pans Pratos  
**Chairperson sessione pomeridiana:**  
**Dott. Riccardo Rossi, Dr. San CRAS FWRG**  
Ore 14.00 - 14.15 : Introduzione alla sessione pomeridiana  
Dott. Riccardo Rossi, DVM, Piacenza Wildlife  
Ore 14.15 - 15.00 : Tringa in wildlife casualties  
Dr. Elizabeth Moullineaux  
Ore 15.00 - 15.15 : Rehabilitation of the dolphin "bones":  
experiences and conclusions  
Dott. Manuel Garcia Hartmann, DVM, Cert  
zoo and wild animal medicine, Marlab pres.

Ore 15.15 - 15.30 : Head injuries in *Gomphus* on the experience in  
Gulf of Taranto  
Prof. Debba Franchini, DVM, PhD, Università  
di Bari  
Erika Ottone, DVM, Spec. T-PACS, CRAS e  
CR Tartarughe marine Pafos  
Ore 15.30 - 15.45 : Influence of pre-hospitalization in complete  
recovery of wildlife:  
Emanuele Lubian, CRAS LIPU La Pagana  
Ore 16.00 : Coffee break  
Ore 16.15 - 16.30 : Blood lactate concentration predicts outcome  
in rose deer (*Capreolus capreolus*) admitted to a  
wildlife rescue center  
Elena Di Lorenzo, DVM  
Ore 16.30 - 16.45 : Urinary tract infection in wolves (*Canis lupus  
italicus*)  
Laila Conti DVM/PhD CRASE Monte Adone  
Ore 16.45 - 17.00 : Laparoscopic approach in surgery of wildlife:  
from a diagnostic technique to minimally  
invasive surgery  
Prof. Alessandro Piccoli, DVM, PhD UniMI  
Ore 17.00 - 17.15 : Uterine surgery on field in a fallow deer  
(*Dama dama*) a tricky situation in which  
different professionals meet  
William Magnone, DVM, SIVASZOO  
Ore 17.15 - 17.30 : Field Dissection: successes and failures in  
wildlife medicine: considerations for a conviction  
future. Partecipazione Giuliano Ravasio DVM,  
UniMI - Davide Zani DVM, UniMI - Nicola Ferras, DVM,  
Presidente SIVASZOO - Parco Natura Viva - Fabiana Ferrari Biologo Resp. CRAS  
FWRWildlife - Elena Berti, Direzione CRASE Monte Adone IRO -  
Martina Naldi DVM DCSin, CRASE Monte Adone IRO -  
Elizabeth Moullineaux, DVM, Scientific Advisor Secret World  
Wildlife Rescue - Igal Horowitz, DVM, DCSin Israeli Wildlife  
Hospital - Francesca Vitali, DVM, UniMI, Kenya Wildlife Service  
**L'ISCRIZIONE ONLINE È OBBLIGATORIA all'indirizzo**  
**evento@piacenzawildlife.org entro il giorno 10/12/2019**  
**compreso**



The seminar was held in the lecture hall of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Milan

Some of the speakers (from left to right: Dr Fabrizio Biagini, Prof. Giuliano Ravasio, Dr William Magnone, Dr. William Magnone, Dr. Tullia Guardia, Dr Elizabeth Moullineaux, Dr Riccardo Rossi, Dr Renato Ceccherelli, Dr Igal Horowitz, Dr Francesca Vitali, Dr Cristina Marchetti, Dr Elena Di Lorenzo, Dr Emanuele Lubian)



## DENMARK - The Nordic Wildlife Student Symposium "TRAVERSING TRACKS"

*Students gathering to learn about Nordic wildlife*

*On the 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> of December students from all over Europe gathered for a fun and worthwhile weekend in Copenhagen! The reason for it was a student symposium organized by EWDA Student Country Representatives from Denmark (Miriam Dibbern), Norway (Hans Kristian Mjelde) and Sweden (Johanna Johnsson and Tina Jansson). The main theme for the symposium was Nordic wildlife and the idea was to bring together students from different disciplines in order to discuss and learn more about Nordic wildlife and the challenges as well as the importance of interdisciplinary work. Although most of the attendants had a background in veterinary medicine, we were also happy to be joined by students from different fields such as ecology, conservation and forestry management, to mention a few.*

*The symposium took place at the University of Copenhagen at their beautiful historical campus in Frederiksberg. Some of the subjects discussed during the event were human wildlife conflicts, interdisciplinary work, the role of zoos in wildlife conservation, ecosystem health, climate change and emerging diseases in the North. Lectures by speakers from all over Scandinavia were combined with interactive group work where the students were encouraged to work on different cases based on real life situations from the field. As always, there was also time to meet old and new friends from the EWDA family! Many students also took the chance to explore the exciting city Copenhagen during their visit.*

*The symposium was initiated by Miriam Dibbern, country representative in Denmark, during the summer of 2019. The idea had been growing in her mind for quite some time and while visiting previous EWDA student symposiums and workshops she had been inspired to create something similar within the Nordic section. Besides our studies, work and clinical rotations everyone in the organizing committee have worked hard to create this symposium and we were thrilled by the amazing response we received from both speakers and attendants.*

*With such a tight time schedule, we never imagined to be able to put together an event like this. Therefore, we would like to thank everyone who participated and made this symposium possible. This includes sponsors, our amazing speakers and participants likewise! We hope everyone had a great time and we are not only happy and proud of creating this symposium but also thankful for the response we received from everyone. Our vision is to continue this as a tradition to keep on bringing students and professionals together in order to ensure the next generation of wildlife researchers tackling the challenges within our field.*



**TRAVERSING TRACKS**  
 NORDIC WILDLIFE STUDENT SYMPOSIUM

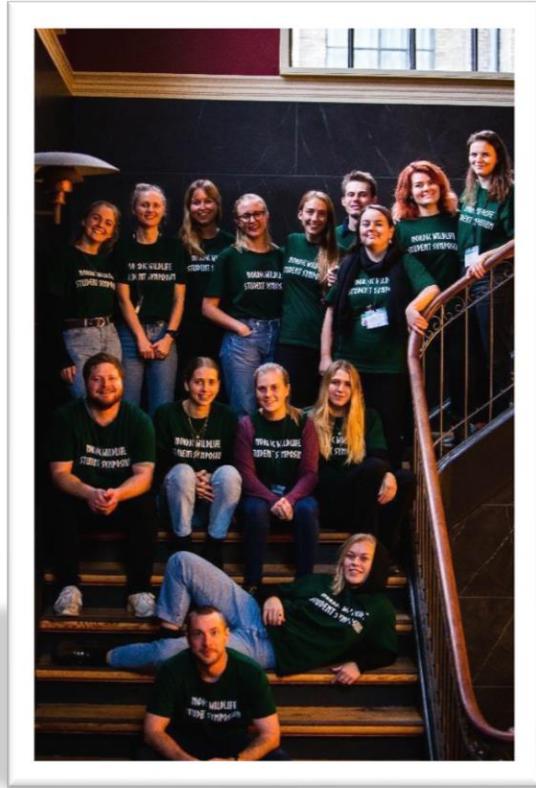
COPENHAGEN  
 6TH-9TH OF SEPTEMBER 2019

THEME - WILDLIFE CONSERVATION  
 THE ROLE OF WILDLIFE IN HUMAN WILDLIFE CONSERVATION  
 SOCIETY AND POLICY IN A CHANGING WORLD  
 THE CHALLENGE OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION









## HUNGARY- EWDA and Wildlife Medicine

*We (Anne-Maud Dupuy-Roudel and Charlotte Guis) held our first event on the 8th of October. We started by introducing the EWDA (and also the EAZWV as I'm on that student board too) to the students, explaining the benefits of joining and sharing our experiences from the previous events.*

*We then had Dr Karoly Erdelyi, who was on the EWDA board for many previous years, come and give a talk. He explained the different aspects of wildlife medicine and shared his previous experiences as well as talked about herd health and other issues. It was a general introduction to wildlife medicine. Overall we had over 60 students attend the talk from both hungarian and international courses and from all the years. Many came down at the end of the talk to ask questions about the organisation and wildlife in general and showed interest.*



## THE NETHERLANDS – Several events with different topics

*On the 26th of November we (Elja Jeunink and Rens Lindeboom) organised a lecture about the respiratory tract by exotic animals by Catharina Vendl. The event took place in the veterinary faculty of Utrecht University. We asked Catharina to tell us something about her research into microbiota in whales. We split the lecture into two parts. Marianthi first introduced the WDA and EWDA to our students before Catharina was doing her part in the lecture. After that Catharina first explained something about the respiratory tract of whales in comparison with humans and then she told us everything about her research in Australia.*

*On 14th of January we organized the Terrarium case histories. This lecture was given by Job Stumpel, the vet of Wildlands Adventure Zoo Emmen. He told us about four different disorders in reptiles, for example the yellow fungus and devriesia agamarum.*

*On the 5th of February we organized a lecture about snakes. Rogier van Rossem from the foundation: Herpetofauna. He told us everything about their conservation projects and about the problems poisonous snakes cause.*

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Due to the Covid-19 situation and the postponed WDA/EWDA conference in Cuenca, the planning of student activities (student mentor mixer, pre-conference workshop) will for now be put on hold. We were planning a pre-conference student event with the aim of keeping a more practical activity, which has been a clear request from earlier years. Eco-friendly cups were planned to be provided for the participants, as a sustainable way of taking your coffee, and also as a fundraiser for student activities. The EWDA Student Chapter was also involved in initiatives to promote sustainable travel towards the conference, such as the sustainable travel award (EDWART) and car-sharing assistance.

We already started to plan the EWDA SC Student workshop and symposium for 2021, and we will continue as planned, but we are recognizing difficulties to plan and primarily get sponsors at this time. We are preparing ourselves to organize this workshop with a shorter amount of time for planning, and we are convinced that this is doable. The workshop and symposium are planned to be held in Vienna in April 2021 and the current working-topic is 'Europe's Wilderness'.

Finally, for your information: the EWDA Student Chapter Guidelines that were updated in the previous year, were reviewed by the EWDA Board and finalized this year. The final version was sent around to the involved parties, and is attached to this report as well.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR THE WDA CONFERENCE IN 2021, WISCONSIN

Over the past few months we have been brainstorming a lot about great topics for events like this and are aware that it's not an easy task to come up with one. Some topics we could propose for the event in Wisconsin would be:

- Neglected species conservation
- Conflicts and conversations in a diverse world
- Crossing borders in conservation and wildlife health

During this event we would value some main talks on the topic by specialists, but also time to actively work on some projects in groups. Besides, in our opinion, field trips are priceless during events like this, to provide some fresh air to the mind, but also to offer participants (and mentors) enough time to interact with each other in a nice environment.

## THANK YOU

We would like to thank the WDA for support and engagement and look forward to future collaboration.

The EWDA Student Chapter Board 2019-2021,  
Marco, Stefania, Julian, Anna and Tina