



## Student Chapter Progress Report – Guidelines

Complete this form and email to the Student Representative on Council, Marianthi Ioannidis (ioannidis.marianthi@gmail.com), before May 1<sup>st</sup> 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:** [EmoryWDA](#)

**Established in (if known):** [Fall 2019](#)

**Mission:** [The EmoryWDA seeks to build a community consisting of undergraduate and graduate students as well as faculty interested in gaining and sharing wildlife disease knowledge, specifically as it relates to conservation and disease ecology, within the Emory and Atlanta public.](#)

**Number of chapter members:** [14](#)

**Number of chapter members that are WDA members:** [Currently 4 of our 13 EmoryWDA chapter members are WDA members. We plan to have a membership funding drive in the Fall to increase access to funds for more members.](#)

### **Faculty Advisor**

**Name:** [Thomas Gillespie, PhD](#)

**Position:** [Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Sciences and Department of Environmental Health](#)

**Email:** [thomas.gillespie@emory.edu](mailto:thomas.gillespie@emory.edu)

**Current board members**



Please include country of the officers when your chapter represents multiple countries. Also, please include country representatives here (this only applies to regional, not university- based chapters).

**President:**

Name: **KM Barnett**

Email: **kmbarn4@emory.edu**

**Vice President**

Name: **Amanda Vicente**

Email address: **amanda.vicente@emory.edu**

**Other Officers (e.g. treasurer, secretary etc.)**

Incl. position, name and email address

**Undergraduate Representative and Social Media Director**

Name: **Olivia Milloway**

Email address: **omillow@emory.edu**

How frequently does your chapter hold elections? **We will hold elections annually, beginning in the Spring of 2021. We are delaying elections for the first year because our chapter is just getting off the ground and due to the COVID-19 interruption.**

**Board members 2020-2021**

**There will be no changes in our board members for 2020-2021.**

**Description of Chapter Activities**

**PR & Fundraising**

**PR:**

Online presence:

- Chapter facebook page (if applicable): **<https://www.facebook.com/EmoryWDA/>**
- Does your chapter have a newsletter? **Not yet.**



#### Member recruitment & Club outreach

- How does your chapter announce and advertises your events? **Currently, we distribute flyers throughout campus, send notifications advertising our event through the Emory WDA, Emory Biology Department, Emory Population Biology, Ecology and Evolution program, Emory Environmental Science e-mail lists. In the future, we plan to advertise our events through the Emory One Health, Emory Pre-vet and Emory Environmental Health email lists, as well as on our new Emory WDA facebook group. We also advertise future events at all Emory WDA meetings and have our graduate and undergraduate representatives announce the event to their classes.**

#### Collaboration:

- Which other groups does your chapter collaborate with? **We have reached out to Dr. Sonia Hernandez to collaborate with the University of Georgia WDA chapter. Additionally, we hope to hold joint events with the Emory Pre-vet and Emory One Health organizations. We have actually also collaborated with a "Disease Ecology" undergraduate class for a panel discussion event in March 2020.**
- If your chapter collaborates, what does the chapter do together with the other organization? **We planned to attend a symposium at UGA in April of 2020 to network with the UGA WDA Chapter but were unable to due to COVID-19. We hope to collaborate with UGA at the Atlanta Science Festival event next March. We also plan to hold joint WDA meetings with the Emory Pre-vet and Emory One Health groups.**

#### WDA-representation:

- How did your chapter promote the WDA? **We have begun promoting the WDA chapter through the previously mentioned list serves and flyers. We also have been advertising the new WDA chapter and events in relevant classes to wildlife disease, for example in the undergraduate Disease Ecology class.**

#### Fundraising:

- Does your chapter have a membership fee, if so what are the fees? **Currently, our membership does not have a fee. Primarily, this is because we are looking to recruit members and feel that at the start, a fee may be detract from this effort.**
- Did your chapter host a fundraiser (i.e. cookie sale, gear sale)? **We have not yet hosted a fundraiser, but we have plans to do this in the Fall of 2020.**
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- Did your chapter apply for grants and awards (i.e. WDA student chapter grants, university support)? **We applied for the SEED WDA student chapter grant. We also plan to apply for student organization funding from the University in the following academic year.**
- Any other way the chapter's financial health is maintained (i.e. sponsorships)? **Not at this time.**

## EVENTS

Please share the activities your chapter organized or co-organized between April 30th 2019 and May 1<sup>st</sup> 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. **Unfortunately, we have not held a symposium, public outreach event, field trip or workshop yet, mostly because our club has only been active for a few months. We plan to attend the Atlanta Science Festival in March 2021 for public outreach though.**

**Two Emory WDA chapter members hoped to attend the WDA international conference this summer, but we are not sure if the event will still go on considering COVID-19.**

### 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.

**We have held monthly meetings for the chapter board members to organize future events, apply for the SEED grant, and brainstorm EmoryWDA member recruitment. These meetings began in December and while the meeting began with just Amanda and I, they have incrementally grown with each month. Generally the meetings have 3 board members and occasionally two extra EmoryWDA members in attendance.**

**Our first official EmoryWDA event held for EmoryWDA members and the general Emory public took place on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The event was an "Expert Talk," seminar-style, by Dr. Jaap de Roode on "Migration, Microbes, and Medication in the Monarch Butterfly." We had 11 students in attendance,**



all of whom joined the EmoryWDA chapter. The students were a mix of undergraduate and graduate students, and even one post-doctoral fellow.

On March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 EmoryWDA members were invited to attend a Zoom panel discussion with three professionals from CDC's One Health Office. The discussion largely centered on public health tools to prevent zoonotic spillover events and the importance of wildlife health to human health. The undergraduate "Disease Ecology" class held the event, but we opened it up to the EmoryWDA as well. The event provided opportunity for EmoryWDA members to network with the One Health professionals as well. Six EmoryWDA members attended the event.

In May, we plan to host another "Expert Talk" via Zoom with Jorge Rojas Jiménez on his work on antibiotic resistance in the Central American tapir. This event is still in the works, but we are hopeful it will take place!

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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

#### **!!!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 would be interested in anything related to wildlife disease! Also we may be biased because many of the graduate students of the EmoryWDA work on fungal pathogens, but we would be interested in the emergence of fungal wildlife diseases – why is this? How do fungal wildlife diseases compare with other classes of wildlife pathogens (bacterial, viruses, etc.)?**

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

**We would enjoy a mix of both lectures and workshops, as well as perhaps panel discussions on controversial topics and poster presentations.**