Student Chapter Progress Report – Guidelines

Complete this form and email to the Student Representative on Council, Catharina Vendl (Catharinavendl@gmail.com), before April 30th 2018. This report will be made available on the WDA website, thus it is also your chapter’s business card.

For the first time, we will have a drawing of cash prizes for Progress Reports!

To be entered in the drawing for cash prices (3 x $100 prices will be given out):

1) Send your report in on time: deadline April 30th 2018

2) Complete your report according to the guidelines below

3) Make sure to list the current officers and their details in this report.

4) If possible, please attach a group shot of the current chapter officers for 2018 to be added to the website.

5) Be aware that the quality of your report will be considered as one of the criteria for the student chapter grant.
Student Chapter Progress Report

Chapter Name:
UGA Student Chapter of the Wildlife Disease Association (UGAscWDA)

Established in (if known):
This chapter was established in 2010.

Mission:
The mission of this chapter is to provide students with opportunities for involvement in wildlife health research and conservation medicine and to facilitate an understanding of the complex relationship among ecosystem health, animal health, and human health. We strive to take advantage of the WDA’s extensive student networks, conference and workshop opportunities, faculty mentorship, and externship database.

Number of chapter members:
We have a total of 165 active members.

Number of chapter members that are WDA members:
25 chapter members are WDA members; 15 of these are student members
Faculty Advisor
Name: Dr. Sonia Hernandez
Position: Associate Professor
Email: shernz@uga.edu

Current board members

President(s):
Name: Kevin D. Niedringhaus
Email: kevindn@uga.edu

Vice President
Name: Shannon Curry
Email address: securry@uga.edu

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

Vet Student Representative: Jenny Bloodgood, jcbloodg@uga.edu
Secretary: Brianna Williams, briannaw@uga.edu
Undergraduate Representative: Jamal Belk, jamal.belk25@uga.edu
Undergraduate Representative: Isabel Ott, isabel.ott25@uga.edu

How frequently does your chapter hold elections?
Every two years

Board members 2018-2019
New board members will be determined in summer of 2018
Description of Chapter Activities

PR & Fundraising

PR:

Online presence:

- Chapter website (if applicable):
  https://uga.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/scWDA
  https://sites.google.com/site/ugawdasc/
- Chapter facebook page (if applicable):
  https://www.facebook.com/groups/154394054593279/
- Other chapter online or social media presence (i.e. youtube, twitter): None
- Does your chapter have a newsletter?: No

Member recruitment & Club outreach

- How does your chapter announce and advertises your events?
  We maintain a list serve to communicate events by email. We also sent emails to other list serves in other departments when large events are held. Occasionally flyers are made and hung up in various relevant buildings advertising events.

Collaboration:

- Which other groups does your chapter collaborate with?:
  UGA Pre-veterinary Club, Vet School Zoo Med Club
- If your chapter collaborates, what does the chapter do together with the other organization?
  We co-host speakers and workshops, and also encourage our officers and members to volunteer at other organizations’ events.
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)

Our chapter is active at external events where we recruit new members, including during club fairs at the beginning of the school year and an annual open house for the UGA veterinary school. At our first event every year, we encourage WDA membership and talk about WDA and its mission, how to join, and the benefits of membership. We then follow this up with an email to our lists serve that contains a summary and a direct link to the WDA membership page. We also repeat this information at other events through the year, including our public student symposium. We host a symposium in the spring in which student presenters compete for travel awards. We encourage them to apply to these awards for financial help towards travel to the WDA conference, and we coordinate travel and lodging among those attending the conference every year.

Fundraising:
- Does your chapter have a membership fee, if so what are the fees?  
  No

- Did your chapter host a fundraiser (i.e. cookie sale, gear sale)? 
  Yes, we had a percentage night at a local bar and restaurant (Blind Pig Tavern).

- Did your chapter apply for grants and awards (i.e. WDA student chapter grants, university support)?

Although we did not apply for a grant for the 2017-2018 school year, we have applied and received grants 2012-2016.
- Any other way the chapter’s financial health is maintained (i.e. sponsorships)?

We receive direct funding for some of our events including our annual symposium that go towards expenses for the event as well as travel awards. These funds usually come from different departments at UGA. We also sell merchandise and hold regular percentage nights at local businesses. We also accept small donations when they are provided.

EVENTS
Please share the activities your chapter organized or co-organized between April 30th 2017 and April 30th 2018. 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:
  On April 13, 2018, UGAscWDA hosted the 7th annual UGA Wildlife Disease Association Student Symposium.
  Number Attended: 49
  Number Abstracts: 14 undergraduate, graduate, and veterinary students
  Oral Presentation Session: oral presentations chosen from the top 3 abstract submissions
  Oral Speed Talk Sessions: 9 talks lasting under five minutes
  Poster Session: 2 posters
  Awards Arranged: The authors of the top 3 abstracts received a travel award ($450, $350, and $250), and presented their research in 20 minute oral presentations after the poster session. The posters and speed talks were judged separately, and the authors of the top poster and top speed talk per session each received a $150 travel award. Travel awards were funded by The Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, and The University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine. The travel awards are to be used to attend the 2018 Wildlife Disease Association International Meeting, or a relevant meeting in that student’s field of interest.
- Public outreach events:
  Center for Student Organizations Fall Activity Fair. We had a table with wildlife disease specimens and recruited new members.

  UGA CVM Open House, April 1, 2016. We had a table at the University of Georgia’s CVM open house (open to the general public) with wildlife disease specimens.

- Workshops:
  Field Techniques Workshop, April 30, 2016. Participation was capped at 20 students. Students participated in 3 stations including chemical immobilization (darting), trapping and telemetry.

**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.

Our chapter hosts events such as rounds, talks, yearly symposiums and weekly officer meetings were conducted to determine future events, collaborations, and fundraising.

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

We are proud that our chapter includes a wide variety of students predominantly from the college of Forestry and Natural Resources and College of Veterinary Medicine. Our members are both graduate students and undergrads, and many faculty from multiple departments are actively involved in supporting our club.

**Reminder:** If you received a Student Chapter Grant in 2017, don’t forget to submit a Financial Report before April 30th!