WDA Council Meeting - Remotely  
April 8th, 2019, 12 pm EDT, through Zoom (online) connection

1. Agenda
2. Opening procedures
3. Council members’ attendance
4. Council Business – Action Items
   4.1. ACT#2019-01 Approval of Council Meeting Minutes from December 6th, 2018
   4.2. ACT#2019-02 WDA membership to give access to all BioOne journals
5. Council Business – Information Items
   5.1. INF#2019-01 Donation Options on WDA Renewal Forms
   5.2. INF#2019-02 Joint IAAAM-WDA student award for best paper in JWD
   5.3. INF#2019-03 WDA Budget
   5.4. INF#2019-04 Crowd funding going to Small Grants Committee
   5.5. INF#2019-05 Awards Committee report
   5.6. INF#2019-06 Membership Committee
   5.7. INF#2019-07 Student Awards Committee – disbursement of funds
   5.8. INF#2019-08 WDA Annual Meeting, Tahoe, California, USA, 2019
   5.9. INF#2019-09 WDA Strategic plan
   5.10. INF#2019-10 WDA WVS’s Promotional videos
   5.11. INF#2019-11 Proposed Subcommittee for membership gaps
   5.12. INF#2019-12 Proposed “early career” membership category.
6. Other Council Business
7. Concluding remarks

Note: Audio/Video recording of this Council Meeting (WDA-April8-2019-CouncilMeeting.mp4) is available and supports these minutes. Please note that the Agenda was not always followed in the above sequence.

"WDA is all wildlife diseases, all conservation, all one health all the time!"
1. Agenda

A tentative agenda for this Council meeting was included in an initial information package sent to Council on March 18th, 2019. A updated information package with the finalized agenda (PACKAGE-BriefingNotesUPDATED-April8-2019) was sent to all Council members by email on March 27th, 2019.

2. Opening procedures

Council was called to order by President Deb Miller at 12:01 EDT.

3. Council members’ attendance

The following Council members were present:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Debra Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Carlos das Neves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>María Forzán</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Michael Ziccardi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past-President</td>
<td>Marcela Uhart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWD Editor</td>
<td>Daniel Mulcahy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nordic Section</td>
<td>Knut Madslien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Section, in absentia</td>
<td>Erik Ågren*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Member</td>
<td>Marianthi Ioannidis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member at Large</td>
<td>Jenny McLelland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member at Large</td>
<td>Heather Fenton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member at Large</td>
<td>Holly Ernest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member at Large</td>
<td>Richard Kock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member at Large</td>
<td>Justin Brown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“WDA is all wildlife diseases, all conservation, all one health all the time!”
The following Council members were absent:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member at Large</td>
<td>Lisa Yon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WVS</td>
<td>Sonia Hernandez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Section</td>
<td>Marie Pierre Ryser*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa-Middle East Section</td>
<td>Stephen Cheng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australasian Section</td>
<td>Scott Carver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America Section</td>
<td>Gerardo Suzan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia-Pacific Section</td>
<td>Tokuma Yanai</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Erik Ågren (Nordic Section, EWDA Vice-Chair and Newsletter Editor) filled in for Marie Pierre Ryser while she is taking time off for medical reasons, was unable could not join this Council Meeting.

Also present was: WDA Executive Manager, Dave Jessup

4. Council Business – Action Items

4.1. ACT#2019-01 Approval of Council Meeting Minutes from December 6th, 2018

Forzán introduced minutes, which had been provided to all Council members ahead of time. Uhart noted a mistake: she was noted as making the motion to vote on ACT#2018-25, which was certainly wrong as she was not able to attend that meeting. The mistake as corrected in the final version of the minutes. A few pending items were discussed:

- ACT#2018-26 – Jessup was to discuss with Hilton about integrating crowd funding into the activities of the Small Grants Committee. This will be discussed at this meeting as INF#2019-04
- Other#2018-01 – Fenton was to email Miller a list of possible members of a proposed sub-committee to increase membership, particularly in where paying full membership fees may present a barrier to join. This will be discussed at this meeting as INF#2019-11
- INF#2018-12 – Das Neves was going to contact the Public Awareness Committee about raising the profile of WDA. Das Neves will meet with Julian at Utrect the following week and talk about this.
- INF#2018-15 – Change to the WDA Constitution after approval by membership back in January 2018. Das Neves will work on that by sending it to Jessup after making the necessary modification.

Das Neves moved this Action Item’s Motion to Council and the motion was seconded by Ziccardi.

MOTION was put to vote and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.
4.2. ACT#2019-02 WDA membership to give access to all BioOne journals

Jessup presented the item and provided the background for this motion (included in the briefing note). Jessup highlighted the numerous journals that BioOne provides access to, and which would be available to all members of WDA if we were to move with this proposed motion at a very low cost (approximately $5 USD/member). Council was supportive of the motion, but there were some questions regarding which type of WDA membership would be granted the BioOne access.

After Miller read out the motion, which was to grant access to BioOne to regular, emeritus and lifetime members (excluding students and associate members). Ernest asked why we would do this with BioOne, and if there are any other institutions that can also do this. Jessup said this is the only one that he knows that offers this to non-profits like WDA. Ziccardi explained that since we already have a relationship with BioOne, and profit from it economically (to the equivalent to about what we would receive from 500 regular memberships). Ziccardi mentioned how it would mean expanding on that relationship to provide a benefit to WDA members at a little cost, without changing the revenue we receive from the JWD memberships.

Uhart asked how much more it would be if we included “associate” and “student” members, as well as regular members - it would mean an approximate additional $3,000 USD. Jessup noted that this goes very well with the mission of WDA, and how it makes a membership in WDA competitive with other organizations such as EAZWV, which also offers BioOne access to all its members. Das Neves supports granting access to all types of memberships and, if necessary, cut back in future if there is some reason for it. Mulcahy warns about cutting out a specific group afterwards, and proposed granting access to some membership types and, if it seems desirable, increasing it to other groups later on, particularly when it comes to students. Uhart said it would be very useful for students, particularly outside of North American and Europe, whose universities don’t necessarily grant them access to the journals that BioOne would provide. Forzán and Miller supported extending the access to students. Miller further mentioned that if students have access to BioOne during their school years and can keep it when they graduate (when they may not have access to a university library anymore), it may be a reason to then become a regular member. Ziccardi mentioned there are 479 students, 211 of which are from outside of the USA. Ziccardi also supported including students but he is concerned about including associates, as the difference between “regular” and “associate” is the access to the JWD, so giving access to BioOne to associates would mean they get the same as regular members but pay significantly less ($40 instead of $110 USD). Jessup explained that we could start with this access to BioOne to WDA members (in whichever category is decided) in January 2020, advertising it starting in October 2019, when the membership renewal campaigns begin. McLelland wondered if granting access to BioOne to regular members may make some associates upgrade to regular membership. Following up on the conversation, Miller summarized that Council was happy to add students but keep associates out of the membership categories to receive access to BioOne journals. Das Neves motioned to revised the motion, which was then amended to include regular, emeritus, lifetime and students, went from an approximate cost of $4,500 USD to $5,500 USD, and dated to begin in membership year 2020.

Council voted on the motion as revised below:

"WDA is all wildlife diseases, all conservation, all one health all the time!"
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Doc ID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COUNCIL MEETING</td>
<td>18.06.2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 8th 2019 MINUTES</td>
<td>MForzán</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WDA Council approves for one membership year (2020) WDA becoming a BioOne “subscribing member” (also referred to as ‘BioOne Complete’) at an approximate cost of $5,500 USD, and to provide access to BioOne content to Student, Regular, Emeritus and Lifetime WDA members.**

**Uhart** moved this Action Item’s motion to Council; it was seconded by **Ernest**. [changing the motion was moved by **das Neves** and seconded by **Uhart**]

**MOTION was put to vote and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

"WDA is all wildlife diseases, all conservation, all one health all the time!"
5. Council Business – Information Items

5.1. INF#2019-01 Donation Options on WDA Renewal Forms

Forzán introduced the topic, which came up from a request by the EWDA to add a specific donation box soon before membership forms went out. Ideally, from now on, the Secretary (Forzán) will send a reminder to Council/members by email asking for proposed donation boxes to be added to the form ahead of the Annual Meeting, so the proposals can be discussed then. Ernest mentioned the need to be able to take off donation categories that are not needed anymore. Uhart and Jessup said it would be good to have this discussion at the Annual Meeting. Forzán will include it as an information item for the agenda of the upcoming meeting.

5.2. INF#2019-02 Joint IAAAM-WDA student award for best paper in JWD

Jessup summarized the item. The winner of award in this its inception year, Jason Ferrante, will be at the Annual Meeting this coming August, in Tahoe, California. Unfortunately, he will not be presenting his work as he didn’t submit an abstract. Jessup suggests that, instead of the ad hoc committee which was formed to select the paper this time the Student Awards Committee takes on the job. Brown, speaking for the Students Award Committee, said it should work alright as long as there is enough time for the committee to receive the list of eligible papers and work alongside IAAAM members on the selection. As Council was disappointed at Jason’s not presenting his work at the Annual Meeting, so several options to include him were proposed and discussed. As Ziccardi acknowledged that there is a bit of room on the student presentation day, Brown will talk with Tiggy (chair of the committee) and report back – if he is not murdered during the conversation.

Mulcahy suggested raising the profile of the award by labeling the paper as the winner in some way. As the paper is already published, it could not be noted in the journal itself. Miller thought a presentation, or at least a poster, at WDA with the label indicating that the paper was the winner of the joint IAAAM-WDA award would be great.

Jessup emphasized the similarly supportive nature of the IAAAM organization, which reflects the manner of WDA. And he wanted to recognize the work of Frances Gulland, who rose to the occasion in this newly created award, following up on her work of selecting aquatic animal papers and helping organize the selection of the winner. Brown asked if the award is to be given out at the regular ceremony at the WDA Annual Meeting, and whether it will require a plaque, like other student awards do. No one had an answer to that, but Jessup noted whatever happens needs to be coordinated with IAAAM as this is a joint award and, at the very least, would probably require the presence of both logos on it. All these details will be coordinated by the Student Awards Committee, so Brown will work with Ziccardi for the upcoming conference. For the future awards, it will rest on the Students Award Committee, in coordination with IAAAM, keeping the ExMan and WDA President (das Neves in the near future) in the loop.

In response to the question on how to select the winner from Brown, Jessup said the ad hoc committee developed a template that could be used or modified, as the Students Awards Committee chooses.

"WDA is all wildlife diseases, all conservation, all one health all the time!"
5.3. INF#2019-03 WDA Budget

Ziccardi introduced the item. He will get final totals as soon as possible, after the financial year ends in April/May. What Council reviewed requires a few minor adjustments. Miller thanked Ziccardi for the great work he has been doing with the Budget. Uhart supported Miller and asked whether income is still going into the endowment. Ziccardi explained that portions of it goes into the endowment, as will be reflected in the 2019 final budget.

5.4. INF#2019-04 Crowd funding going to Small Grants Committee

Jessup introduced the topic. This will be the second round through Experiment, after a very successful first run last year: the success rate of the projects that WDA supported was higher than Experiment’s usual. This upcoming year starts with a call for proposals on April 10. After 30 days, proposals will be selected and the fund raising will begin. Jessup reminded Council that participation is not restricted to WDA members, as the money is not coming from WDA, so restriction is not possible. However, to receive the additional funding from WDA that is awarded to the most successful projects, the applicant has to be a WDA member. All this information is in a presentation that could not be added to the information package prior to the meeting but that, as per request from Uhart, will be included in the minutes, as well as uploaded onto the Google drive folder for this meeting (April 2019). Mulcahy made a few editorial changes to the last slide.

McLelland suggested adding updates on the last funded projects in the WDA newsletter. Jessup thought that’d be a great idea, and will hopefully include some updates in the August newsletter.

5.5. INF#2019-05 Awards Committee report

Miller introduced the item, she noted that Jim Mills, as the Chair of the committee, had sent the results of the deliberations to Council. The awards to be given at the Annual Meeting in August 2019 include the Emeritus Award, Ed Addison Distinguished Service Awards and Tom & Beth Award. Jessup updated what was in the briefing note and mentioned that there were 3 nominees for each of the Emeritus and Distinguished Service Award. Miller said there were great nominations for the Tom & Beth Award, and that a decision had been reached. Logistics are on the way to make sure the winners attend the Annual Meeting. The winners will be announced at the meeting.

5.6. INF#2019-06 Membership Committee

Jessup presented the briefing note regarding the status of the proposed “young professional” category. Because of the relationship to INF#2019-11 and INF#2019-12, the discussion regarding this item will be placed there.

5.7. INF#2019-07 Student Awards Committee – disbursement of funds

Das Neves requested Ioannidis explain the item. Ioannidis explained that there have been some discussions regarding the current way in which funds for student activities and grants for student chapters are disbursed.

"WDA is all wildlife diseases, all conservation, all one health all the time!"
Ioannidis said that, until a solution is found regarding the debate on student chapter grants, the budget for student activities will be split between the 2 student workshops and the student activities of the Latin America (LA) Section meeting (2019), and the rest of the funds will go to the student activities for the Australasian Section meeting (2019). Ioannidis will submit a proposal for the student chapter grants at the Annual Meeting in August 2019.

Ioannidis reminded Council that not all officers in the LA Student Chapter were active members of WDA, and that she is not getting feedback from said officers. Jessup added the very low renewal of memberships from the LA Section and suggested Uhart could bring these concerns to Suzán (Chair of the LA Section but not present at the meeting), as well as the fact that the funding collected to support LA students attendance at their regional meeting has not been allocated. Uhart agreed to help Ioannidis and das Neves will email the LA Student Chapter President directly.

5.8. INF#2019-08 WDA Annual Meeting, Tahoe, California, USA, 2019

Ziccardi gave an update on the upcoming Annual Meeting, including the efforts to make it “green”, such as not providing printed proceedings to attendees but instead giving them in a USB drive. All information is available at the conference website (https://wda2019.ucdavis.edu). Ziccardi reported that over 100 regular abstracts and over 100 student abstracts were received; more than $21,000 USD have been received as donations, $14,000 USD have been pledged and there are $16,000 USD under consideration. Donations have, therefore, exceeded the amount that was estimated as the goal in the original budget. Ziccardi also informed Council that the notifications to submitters will go out April 30, with a request to register by May 15. Forzán suggested, as part of the greening efforts, not to produce a USB stick with the proceedings, but instead send a link to participants to download directly from the internet. The idea was supported by Miller, Ziccardi will look into this.

5.9. INF#2019-09 WDA Strategic plan

Miller introduced the item, and said she hopes to get feedback on the possible options listed in the briefing note regarding the process of developing a strategic plan. Uhart suggested waiting until after the Futures Committee has had a chance to present its report to Council. Koch feels there may not be a need to wait, and supports the idea of having an independent facilitator so suggests waiting to discuss it at the Council Meeting in August. Jessup supported the idea to wait even longer, until the 2020 Annual Meeting, to allow time to draw more non-North American input during the lag time. McLelland suggested there may be some active WDA members who may be good facilitators, with prior experience; she referred specifically to Tiggy Grillo and Tim Portus. Uhart also thinks someone within WDA may be a good choice, perhaps better than an outsider as they would have knowledge of the organization already. Forzán highlighted the benefits of having an independent professional facilitator, who gets to know the organization and follows up with a report and proposal within a specific timeline. Jessup is not worried about an outsider not being able to learn about WDA as the process is likely to be lengthy, with enough opportunities to get to know the organization. Forzán suggested getting the person with the, so far, only proposal for the strategic plan, to produce something for the Annual Meeting, so Council and membership can get a better idea of what an outsider would bring to the process. Miller proposed other internal candidates, who could be paid for this, and mentioned Andrew Peters. Miller will reach out to...
Peters and see if he would be interested in this; as the incoming Vice-President, Peters’s contributions in either way may be of great value. Kock suggested getting membership feedback on why or how to do a strategic plan. Miller noted that the initiative actually came out of a suggestion from the Futures Committee, and that part of the strategic planning process is to garnish the membership and making sure there is agreement with what is proposed, throughout the process.

5.10. INF#2019-10 WDA WVS’s Promotional videos

Miller, in the absence of Hernández, presented this summary of the item: video clips will be taken from member submissions and put together as promotional material for WDA. It is hoped that the final product will be ready for the Annual Meeting this coming August. Jessup said the first call for submissions will go out in the April newsletter and will be included in every newsletter afterwards. McLelland said she thinks this is a great initiative, a sentiment supported by Miller who further noted that, although it is run by the Wildlife Veterinary Section, it is inclusive of all members rather than exclusive to veterinarians.

5.11. INF#2019-11 Proposed Subcommittee for membership gaps

[Discussed together with INF#2019-12]

Miller requested to talk about the proposed subcommittee first, and then talk about the proposed early career category.

Fenton introduced the issue of high membership fees as a barrier to attract members in low income countries. Fenton explained that Andrew Peters took over the lead of the proposed subcommittee to fill membership gaps, proposed the name of “Global Participation Subcommittee” and presented Council with the proposed terms of reference (all included in the briefing note). Das Neves added that some members, such as Kock, have already been proposed as possible members of the subcommittee, given their long term professional relationships with people in some of the countries targeted. Kock said he is happy to be a member of the subcommittee and has already started discussions with some potential members in Central Asia, perhaps help them along in the process of forming a Section of their own. Forzán asked Kock to clarify if he meant to recruit members even before a Section is created. Das Neves and Jessup supported the idea of trying to attract members to the mother organization first, before talking about creating another geographical section.

Jessup brought up the problem of paying for memberships in USD, as is the only way that can be done at the moment; he mentioned that this is a problem particularly for some countries in Africa. He believes that it may not be the amount that is too high, but that the way to pay is difficult and, in the case of students, perhaps the decision is made not based on how much the membership costs but what will come out of being members, such as whether membership in the WDA would facilitate their getting a job after school. Forzán mentioned that some students from Latin America had mentioned to her that lowering the membership by a few dollars may not necessarily make joining more appealing, while other benefits (such as travel grants to meetings) may make it so. Ioannidis said that recently the EAZWV separated the membership fees between undergraduate and postgraduate students, so that graduate students pay slightly more than undergraduate students. Jessup noted how difficult it would be to implement different fees by categories that refer to information not captured in our database, such as whether someone is a resident, a PhD student or an undergraduate; changes would have to

"WDA is all wildlife diseases, all conservation, all one health all the time!"
be supported by changes in the data we collect, and some of those changes in data collection may not be possible as they are done through Allen Press.

This led to the discussion of the proposed new membership category (see INF#2019-12 below).

5.12. INF#2019-12 Proposed “early career” membership category.

Fenton into the discussion of the proposed category of “new professional”, which replaces the original proposed “early career” category. She provided a background and examples of other organizations that have a similar category for their memberships, as worked out by a subsection of the Membership Committee (and included in the briefing note). Fenton also added that something that has been brought up to the Membership Committee, which she chaired until stepping down a few weeks before this meeting, is that WDA does not make a clear case of what the benefits of membership are. A discussion ensued on how to be able to track whether a person is a student, a new professional, etc. In summary, there are some ways that could be implemented, if the category is to be created. Miller explained that the reason for this to be an information item now, is to inform Council and request feedback on a potential proposal with the details of the new membership category by the following meeting.

Jessup informed Council that, if we were to implement a new membership category, it would have to be decided at the Annual Meeting, in order to give enough time to Allen Press to add it to the list of current membership categories offered.

McLelland supports the category and will email Fenton with some ideas. Ågren also supports the idea in principle and thinks will help recruit new members. Uhart asked if the new membership would be like the associate membership or have the same access to JWD and, now, BioOne, all the benefits of a regular membership. Fenton said the idea would be for the new membership to have the same benefits as the regular members. Uhart reminded Council that, if this new category comes to be in the Annual Meeting, a vote would have to include that the new category would also give them access to BioOne, as in the original approved motion (in this meeting) the category was not included. A discussion ensued regarding the logistics on how to implement the new membership category and the need to track what effect, if any, it has in recruiting new members or retaining members when they go from students to professionals. Miller suggested to follow up with emails to Fenton for further ideas.

Forzán asked how much Allen Press is involved/responsible for the renewal reminders. Miller explained that Allen Press does send those emails, but that the idea of having the Membership Committee send emails was to add a more personal touch to the message. She also said that Allen Press have said they want to work more closely with the Membership Committee, to facilitate this and have better coordination. Jessup added that there is software that allows you to send multiple letters, and that there is also further support that would be available from Allen Press, but that this would incur further costs. Forzán suggested, if the cost is not prohibitive, to involve Allen Press more to relief some of the work of the Membership Committee. McLelland suggested putting the burden on the Sections. Jessup said that is the way it is currently done, except that the Membership Committee is responsible for North America. Fenton supported the need for a closer collaboration between the Membership Committee and Allen Press, which was supported by Miller.

"WDA is all wildlife diseases, all conservation, all one health all the time!"
6. Other Council Business

6.1. WDA election results
Jessup presented the results: incoming President Carlos das Neves, incoming Vice-President Andrew Peters, incoming members at large Claire Jardine and Annie Page-Karjian, replacing Heather Fenton and Richard Kock. Of the incoming members, only Claire Jardine will be absent at the Annual Meeting.

6.2. Allen Press going to a new platform
Mulcahy informed Council that Allen Press will be moving from the current Allen Track to a new platform, Peer Track, for online submissions. The old platform will no longer be supported. Mulcahy has seen a presentation on the Peer Track and sees no great difference and, thus, no problem with the change. Forzán asked if he could share the presentation with Council, which was supported by Miller. Mulcahy will ask and send to Council, if possible.

6.3. JWD featured in a new article on wildlife research
Mulcahy brought up a chapter in a 2016 book “Trends in wildlife research, a bibliometric approach” (https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-319-27912-1_1#enumeration) that features Journal of Wildlife Disease as one of the two most important contributors to the field.

6.4. Futures Committee final report: June deadline
Jessup reminded Mulcahy that the Futures Committee awaits his chapter, as the Editor of JWD. Mulcahy replied that it may be impossible for him to provide the chapter within the timeline, so Jessup proposed taking it over himself, if that is agreeable. Mulcahy and Jessup will follow up after the meeting.

6.5. Enthusiastic young Section: Asia Pacific
Miller mentioned how enthusiastic the officers of the recently formed Asia Pacific Section have been, and commended their work so far.
7. Concluding remarks

No further topics being brought before Council. President Miller thanked all members for their participation and called for a motion to close the meeting.

Das Neves moved to close the meeting and was seconded by Forzán.

MOTION was put to vote and UNANIMOUSLY (and enthusiastically) APPROVED.

Council was officially declared closed at approximately 3:02 pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted to the attention and approval of the WDA Council,

Ithaca, New York, USA, June 20th, 2019

María J. Forzán, MVZ PhD DiplACVP
WDA Secretary