

## REPORT

Jonah Ratsimbazafy, IPS President

August 14, 2023

Three zooms of the IPS Officers were occurred since the last IPS in Quito till now. The last meeting was on August 11, 2022.

One of the main responsibilities of IPS President is the IPS elections, the IPS Elections Committee and the IPS Award Committee were formed.

The Election Committee was soliciting nominations of candidates for the following IPS offices:

- Vice President for Welfare and Captive Care as this position was available after the tragic loss of Steve Ross
- Four officers who are approaching the end of their 4-year terms (VP for Conservation; VP for Research; VP for Membership; and Secretary General).

The nominations were made to the IPS President & Elections Committee chair, Jonah Ratsimbazafy and the IPS Past President (and Elections committee vice-chair) Karen Strier.

The Awards Committee were composed by:

- Cat Hobaiter (chair)
- Liliana Cortez-Ortiz
- Takeshi Furuichi
- Anthony Rylandas
- Claudia Fitchel
- Mauricio Talebi
- Marco Gamba
- Francine Dollins Ekwoke Abwe

The Election Committee:

- Karen Strier (chair)
- Ramesh Zimbo Boonratana
- Nancy Caine
- Peter Kappeler
- Prof Baguio Li
- Johannes Rafresh
- Jatna Supriatna
- Christoph Schwitzer

But those who are good status membership were maintained to be in the Committee.

The second term of office of the followings have been approved by the IPS membership vote counts:

- Julio Cesar Bicca-Marques (Secretary General)
- Trudy Turner (VP for Membership)
- Tatyana Humle (VP for Conservation)

- Marina Cords (VP for Research)

Two candidates were running for the position of VP for Welfare and Captive Care. After vote count of the IPS membership, Mollie Bloomsmish was vote for that position.

Prof Mewa Singh was voted as winner of the Lifetime Award and Anthony Rylands as the winner of the Outstanding Achievement Award.

## Secretary General report for the 2023 IPS Council Meeting

Submitted by Júlio César Bicca-Marques

Since my last report in December 2021, I have assisted the President, worked on bureaucratic matters of the society, organized the Council meetings and General Assembly of the 2022 Congress in Quito, wrote minutes, and corresponded with parties interested in the Society's matters. I list the most relevant activities below:

- I worked on the agendas of the 2022 Pre-Congress Council Meeting, General Assembly and Post-Congress Council Meeting with President Karen Strier.
- I organized the Council meetings and General Assembly and wrote the [minutes](#).
- I coordinated the revision of the [IPS Guidelines for submitting a bid for conferences](#).
- I updated the [Constitution](#) and [Bylaws](#) with the changes approved by the membership.
- I attended meetings of the local organizing committee of the 2023 IPS Congress.
- I wrote letters in support of requests from affiliate societies approved by the Officers.
- I organized Officers' meetings via Zoom to discuss varied matters.
- I invited affiliate societies to submit a bid for hosting the 2027 IPS Congress and responded messages from Bureaus of Tourism from several cities interested in hosting it. Finally, I corresponded with officers of the two competing bidder societies: China Primatological Society and La Societe Francophone de Primatologie.
- I worked on the agenda of the 2023 Pre-Congress Council Meeting with the President Jonah Ratsimbazafy.

## Treasurer's and Membership Report 2023 – IPS/MPS Kuching

In 2023, IPS was able to meet all financial obligations and maintain our grants program at the same level as in the previous year. However, with a transition to greater virtual participation in congresses, it is imperative that the organization discuss potential trade-offs between virtual access to the congress and the loss of revenue that results from this. As part of this consideration, we should also discuss the cost of membership and the level of grant funding available. The congresses are one of our main sources of revenue and reductions in what we bring in from the congresses can affect the number of grants we give out. In addition, there has been a decline in membership since 2018. Hopefully, there can be discussions at the meeting in Kuching about ways to increase membership and participation in IPS. A membership committee will convene at the meeting. Our relationship with Springer, the publisher of IJP has been completely formalized and members of IPS now have free access to the journal. This may provide an incentive for increased membership. In addition, Springer makes a monetary contribution to the meeting.

Current membership for IPS is 1020 (Regular paying 249, Lifetime 261, Range country 372 and Student paying 138).

Members of IPS come from 76 countries. Listed below are the countries that have at least 10 members:

Australia	11	Indonesia	75
Bangladesh	19	Italy	10
Brazil	45	Japan	71
Canada	28	Madagascar	20
China	48	Malaysia	49
Colombia	12	Mexico	17
France	12	UK	90
Germany	41	USA	278
India	32	Vietnam	17

The budget material presented here is derived from the spreadsheet included with this report. Income is derived from four main sources- membership dues, registration for meetings, donations to various funds and disbursements from our accounts at Edward Jones.

For 2023 these numbers are:

Membership	24270
Meeting registration- Kuching	206117
Disbursements from EJ	6500
Donations-general fund	530
Donations and grants	23608
Total	261025

Expenses for the association include the congresses, the pre-congress training program, grants, operations and website costs, and bank fees.

As of July 31, 2023 these numbers are:

Pre-conference training	40000
Meetings- Kuching	49093
Grants	41795
IUCN	582
Bank/CC fees	9852
Operations	6469
Website	10622
Total	158413

However, I would direct your attention to the accompanying spreadsheet which gives a picture of income and expenses over a multi-year period. This gives a better picture of our actual income and expenses since registration and payment for congresses takes place over a period of several months that span two years.

Our investment accounts are consolidated at Edward Jones. This year, we began taking disbursements from these accounts to use in for grants. To maintain our principle, we will take between 4-5% a year. This year, that provided us with \$6500. Our current balance for all funds at Edward Jones is \$215,085.

We have financial obligations over the next two years. These include paying the balance for the meetings in Kuching, paying deposits for the meeting in Madagascar, maintaining our web presence and membership and conference databases and accounting, insurance and other services and banking charges. In addition, we will continue to provide grants at the maximum level we can over the next two years.

A simplified budget for the next three years is presented here. We have enough funds in our checking account now to cover 2023 and 2024.

<b>Budget</b>				<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Income</b>	Membership			25,000	25,000	25,000
	Congress				25,000	221,200
	Disbursements				6,500	6,500
	Grants					25,000
	Total			25,000	56,500	277,700
<b>Expenses</b>	Meetings					
			Kuching	60,000		
			Madagascar		70,000	160,000
	Web		X-CD	10,000	10,000	15,000
	Office				6,000	6,000
	Grants				40,000	40,000
	Total			70,000	126,000	221,000

This year IPS established the Masters and Genin African Primatology Fund to support African and Malagasy students. The fund is in memory of Judith Masters and Fabien Genin who were tragically killed in their home in South Africa in October, 2022. The fund can now accept donations. Another fund has been established by friends of Sebastian Ramirez Amaya to honor his memory. Money raised by friends of Amaya will be used to support primatology students

## VP for Communications report for the IPS Council meeting 2023

Submitted by Cat Hobaiter

### IPS Website

Our new website continues to function well – news has been shifted to focus more on social media, but bigger announcements are also posted here where relevant. I will be working with the VPs to add content from their individual areas so that we can include a wider range of relevant information for our community. The site is very flexible and easily updated, for example I updated the membership page and added an information page on Fiscal Transparency in response to member feedback concerns about the costs of IPS congresses. Similarly, specific sub-committees, such as the IPS Committee on Making Capture Safer & Finding Alternatives, now have their own pages to ease locating relevant information.

### IPS News Bulletin

Our news Bulletins have moved to being one longer (rather than two shorter) a year, partly as a result of the need to re-structure much of our activities, meetings, and granting, across Covid disruptions, and partly as we are able to communicate our activities more quickly with our extended community through our social media (twitter, facebook, Instagram) and through the new website, which makes it easier to reach out to specific sub-sets of members by email. Some form of our Bulletin does still hold appeal for members and allows – for example – longer form written contributions from some members, as well as the usual Officer reports and grantee updates and reports. Bulletins are now openly available on our website allowing everyone to read about our activities.

*One option for the future would be to have a section of our website where we post grantee reports as they come in, rather than saving them for these longform publications. Doing so would make this information easier to find, and perhaps be of interest to potential future grantees in developing their projects.*

### IPS Social Media

Our dedicated IPS Facebook and Twitter page continue to have quite large followings (~3.5k and ~4k respectively). Our Facebook page was hacked in 2022 and it took substantial efforts to retrieve access to it, this was finally made possible in March 2023, and we are now able to use it again. As planned, we now have an IPS Instagram page (~1k), as this allows us to reach members in areas where Insta is used for science communication (e.g., in South America).

We regularly share new papers, information on grants and conferences, relevant jobs, and new announcements about any primate related news and fun of interest to the wider community. We get regular engagement with our material, and these pages also offer an alternative way for our membership and more to reach out to us directly

whether it is questions about meetings and grants, requests to share information, or requests for help – for example: with specific primate rescues. Our audience size continues to be above the threshold at which social media platforms become effective tools for engaging the wider public and policy makers.

*My goal again for 2023 onwards is to generate more original content; however, as discussed before it is impossible for me to do so alone. I aim to set up a small ad hoc committee to add 2-3 extra people to the communications team. I aim for this to be linguistically diverse to engage with a wide audience.*

#### IPS meeting in Kuching

In my role as Communications VP, I was involved in the discussions around member concerns on a) LGBTQ+ safety in Malaysia, and b) the associated costs of attending the congress, particularly for those who were presenting remotely.

IPS Congress fees continue to represent a substantial barrier to participation for many of our members. To address these concerns, I worked together with the Organising committee to a) prepare a Code of Conduct for the Congress, b) change our fee structure and policy for remote attendance and presentations for this Congress, and c) set up a Fiscal Transparency page on our website, which was helpful in explaining how our Congress fees help to fund our grant activity programs etc.

I will be liaising with the organising committee to co-ordinate our social media and news activities throughout the congress.

#### Vice-chair for ad hoc Committees

I served as vice-chair for the long-running Lifetime Achievement Award and the more recently established Outstanding Achievement Award ad hoc committee. I helped to set up and run the committees, organized the review process, and compiled the results. We were delighted to award the LAA to Prof. Mewa Singh and the OAA to Anthony Rylands. Both are planning to attend and speak at the Congress in Kuching.



## **Vice-President for Research Report to IPS Council, August 2023 (Kuching Congress)**

Since the IPS meeting in Quito, I have overseen two research grant competitions (2022 and 2023, details below). In Quito, together with VPs for Conservation and Education, we ran a workshop on writing successful IPS grant proposals, which we plan to repeat in Kuching (and ideally in perpetuity).

### **Changes in and activities of the Research Committee**

The research committee includes 22 current members at the time of writing. Some former members rotated off (after serving a maximum of 8 years), while others wished to step down for other reasons after a shorter time. We identified new members by contacting the leaders of regional primatological societies, current committee members and IPS officers. The committee presently includes 12 women and 10 men. In terms of region, 7 come from North America, 6 from Europe, 4 from Latin America, 3 from East Asia, and 2 from Africa. In some cases, nationals of one region are currently employed in another, i.e. 2 from Europe, and 1 each from Latin America and from Africa working in the USA. The committee also represents a diversity of research interests.

The committee continued to provide feedback on draft proposals by researchers from range-state countries, as long as these were submitted a month before the final deadline. Applicants received constructive comments from two readers within a week, so still had time for revisions before submitting the final proposal. This policy was initiated by my predecessor, Jo Setchell, to try to broaden the applicant pool and reduce inequities in grant-application experience and mentorship. In 2022, we provided feedback to 14 people, and in 2023 to 6: these numbers are more than double those from the previous two grant cycles, and we are pleased that more students are taking advantage of this feedback/mentoring service. Most were from Latin America, and the large number in 2022 especially may relate to the fact that students and mentors learned about the early review option at the Quito congress, shortly before the deadline. 13 of 14 who received feedback in 2022 and 4 of the 6 who received feedback in 2023 ended up submitting a final proposal. Those who did not follow up with a final submission had projects that were not a good fit to this funding stream (they were advised to consider the Conservation Grants instead). Revised proposals were among the funded set in both 2022 and 2023 (N=1 each year), but small numbers make it hard to assess whether this pre-submission feedback increases success rates of range state applicants.

Providing pre-submission feedback is still relatively new, and the opportunity is still somewhat under-used, even if there was an uptick in the last two years. We had applicants to the final competition in both years who could have requested feedback, but who did not submit an early proposal for review. Nevertheless, it is encouraging that the numbers are increasing, and I would like to encourage heads of regional societies, especially those that include range country scientists, to help get the word out. The IPS website does include information about this option, but I'm not sure how many people become aware of it from reading that information. The applicants who received feedback often indicated that they found it useful.

One question that has arisen is whether range-country nationals studying outside their own country, and often in North America or Europe, should qualify for such pre-submission feedback. To date we have included them, even though some committee members feel that they already receive much support from the institution where they study.

### **Research Grants competitions, 2022-2023**

In 2022, we received 53 applications from 13 countries. The largest number came from the North American region (N=25), then Latin America (N=16), Europe (N=11) and Asia (N=1). The total pool was smaller than what we received pre-pandemic (typically 60-65). 21 applications (40%) were from range-country applicants. We awarded a total of US\$ 14,490 to the top 9 applicants, a success rate of 17%. All awards went to students, one Master's and the rest PhD students. One of the 9 awards went to an applicant from a range-country (Mexico). Two of the successful applicants included Community Conservation Initiatives in their application. A list of awardees and their project titles is provided at the end of this report.

In 2023, we received 38 applications from 12 countries, even fewer than in 2022. It is possible that this trend reflects delays in student research planning imposed by the pandemic. Again most applicants came from North America (N=19), then Latin America (N=9) and Europe (N=9), with one application from Africa. Eleven applications (29%) were from range-country applicants. We awarded a total of \$14,970 to the top 10 applicants, a success rate of 26%. All awards went to PhD students. Three of the 10 awards went to applicants who were nationals of a range-country (Colombia, India, Madagascar), matching their representation in the applicant pool. Five of the successful applicants included Community Conservation Initiatives in their application. A list of awardees and their project titles is provided at the end of this report.

Finally, along with the VPs for Conservation and Education, we developed a grant contract which all those awarded IPS funds in 2023 have signed. This contract stipulates that those receiving awards will notify the relevant VP of changes to their research aims, questions or timeline, will submit a final report in a timely way, and will return to IPS any funds that are not necessary to completing the project (e.g. if other funding is secured). For students, we also ask the advisor to sign off on notifying IPS if funds have been spent but the project has not been finalized. We felt it prudent to formalize these expectations, and plan to use the contract in the future.

### **Symposium featuring Research Grant recipients**

We inaugurated this year a symposium at IPS-Kuching featuring recent research grant recipients. Eleven recent recipients who are ready to report on their work will be participating. We hope to make this a regular venue at IPS congresses.

### **Acknowledgments**

I am very grateful to the members of the IPS Research Committee for their help in reviewing the pre-applications and final applications, and for providing constructive feedback which we sent to all applicants. Members for 2022 and/or 2023 included: Katharine Amato, Fernando Campos, Rebecca Chancellor, Oscar Chaves, Liliana Cortes-Ortiz, Bert Covert, Anthony di Fiore, Sofya Dolotovskaya, Cedric Girard Buttoz, Maren Huck, Urs Kalbitzer, Amanda Koerstjens, Andres Link, Ikki Matsuda, Suchinda Malaivijitnond, Nga Nguyen, Patrick Onyango, Julia Ostner, Aridana Rangel, Onja Razafindratsima, Julie Teichroeb, Yamato Tsuji, Sarie van Belle, and Eva Wikberg, and Shinya Yamamoto.

## List of Awardees (Research Grants)

### 2022 Awards:

- Gabrielle Bueno: Micronutrient supplementation by reproductive female Verreaux's sifaka (*Propithecus verreauxi*)
- Isabelle Clark: Ecological and social benefits of juvenile dependence in chimpanzees
- John Dalton: Cognitive ecology of a nocturnal strepsirrhine primate (*Otolemur crassicaudatus*) and its implications on primate cognitive evolution
- Saul De Los Santos: Sexual selection in black howler monkeys (*Alouatta pigra*): an evolutionary trade-off between testicular volume and loud calling
- Jordan Lucore: Integrative physiology in white-faced capuchins (*Cebus capucinus*)
- Evelina Rodrigues: Chimpanzee 'babytalk': Gestural motherese in wild chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*)
- Emma Thurau: Balancing nutrients and toxins in wild monkey diets: a plant metabolomics approach
- Tabor Whitney: Associations between ecological attributes and the gut microbiome of mantled howlers in Los Tuxtlas, Mexico
- Melissa Zarate: Population genetic assessment of the yellow-tailed woolly monkey (*Lagothrix flavicauda*) in Peru, including a newly discovered and potentially isolated population

### 2023 Awards:

- Silvia Carboni: Exploring the Interplay between olfaction and microbes in two sympatric species of wild Peruvian tamarins
- Sebastian Garcia-Restrepo: Unraveling the evolutionary relationships of capuchin monkeys in the northern Andean region of South America: use of integrative taxonomy in the study of *Cebus* spp. in Colombia
- Florence Landry: Can infant morbidity and mortality be influenced by infant nutritional development? The case of wild olive baboons (*Papio anubis*)
- Brynn Lowry: Integrating field and satellite data for identifying high nutrient patches and inferring primate abundance.
- Virendra Mathur: Spatial cognition in colobine monkeys: movement patterns of Himalayan langur *Semnopithecus schistaceus* in a montane habitat
- Abigail Morris: Influence of vegetation composition on male and female gorilla dispersal and population genetic structure in Lac Tele
- Jenna Owens: Characterizing directional gene flow of three primate species at The Área de Conservación Guanacaste, Costa Rica
- Faramalala Francette Vololonirina: Behavioral ecology of black and white ruffed lemur (*Varecia variegata*) population in the Vohibe Forest, Vatomandry, Atsinanana Region
- Lauren Wiseman-Jones: The physiological and behavioral responses of Virunga mountain gorillas (*Gorilla beringei*) to social and anthropogenic stressors
- Eric Wuesthoff: Exploring the influence of tropical forest regeneration on movement, diet, and seed dispersal in threatened lemurs in Maromizaha Protected Area, Madagascar

submitted by: Marina Cords, VP for Research



We are delighted to have been able to run a successful **IPS PRE-CONGRESS TRAINING PROGRAMME (PCTP)** this time around with 11 participants from across eight primate range countries, including three from Central/South America, four from Africa and four from Asia, including two from Malaysia. The conservation committee would like to thank the Malaysian Primatological Society, especially Nadine Ruppert, Susan Lappan, and Felicity Oram, as well as Krystal Ann Jibang and her colleagues at Place Borneo for their support and assistance in organising the PCTP programme. We are forever grateful to the Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation for their continued support of the IPS-PCTP programme. I would also like to extend my deepest thanks to Trudy Turner for her help with managing the finances and Felicity Oram and Zimbo for their voluntary help with running the programme which took place this week in Bako National Park in Sarawak.

**Please do watch out for the next call before the end of 2023 for the next IPS-PCTP in Madagascar in 2025!**

We keep running the **GALANTE FAMILY WINERY CONSERVATION SCHOLARSHIP** which is open to citizens of primate habitat countries with a deadline of April 1<sup>st</sup>. This scholarship, which awards up to \$2,500, can be used for primate conservation education and training, and can help cover transportation to a training course or educational program, course, or event fees and/or expenses during the event period, including online courses or workshops **BUT NOT** conferences such as IPS congresses.

Since 2022, we received 13 applications for this scholarship which is typically awarded annually to a single successful applicant. Two highly deserving and promising primatologists have benefitted from this scholarship to enhance their knowledge and skills in primatology; these awardees include:

- **2023: Gaspard Nzayisenga** from Rwanda is full-time field veterinarian with Gorilla Doctors. He will be benefiting from training at the California National Primate Research Center, UC-Davis, USA; this scholarship will help support his travel-related expenses. Gorilla Doctors will provide all the additional expenses for this training at the CA National Primate Research Center where he will learn the latest techniques and best practices in non-human primate medicine and research; knowledge which he will then be able to apply back in his home country to help with the conservation of mountain gorillas.
- **2002 Tanvir Ahmed** from Bangladesh is a wildlife conservationist and primatologist. The scholarship of \$2,500 has helped him pursue a training program on primate population genetics at the Primate Genetics Laboratory, German Primate Center (DPZ) further enhancing primate conservation efforts in Bangladesh.

We are immensely grateful to the Galante family for their continued support of this scholarship programme which is helping enhance the capacity and professional development of primatologists and practitioners around the world.



The IPS Conservation Committee has continued to receive since our last congress high calibre **IPS CONSERVATION GRANT** proposals contributing to primate conservation globally. We continue to offer on a case-by-case basis feedback on proposals from nationals of primate range-state countries. For this purpose, applications must be submitted by the 1st February for feedback prior to final submission by the March 1st deadline.

Of a total of 14 applications received in 2022, seven grants were awarded for a total of \$12,993; six awardees were from primate habitat countries. The successful awardees include:

- **Abid Ali:** *Population Density and estimate of Endangered Kashmir Langur (*Semnopithecus ajax*) from the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province of Pakistan.*
- **Daniela Solano:** *Primate Watching as a tool for primate habitat conservation in Costa Rica*
- **Eliette Noromalala:** *Ethnoprimateology in Marontandrano Special Reserve, Madagascar*
- **Elise Paietta:** *Identifying Drivers and Mitigation Strategies for Viral Anthroponoses in the Lemurs of Southeastern Madagascar.*
- **Fábio dos Santos:** *Searching for new populations of the recently discovered and critically endangered Groves' Titi, Brazil.*
- **Mohamed Kibaja:** *Urgent conservation surveys of the Endangered Rondo galago (*Galago rondoensis*) in unsurveyed forest patches of coastal forests of Tanzania.*
- **Toussaint Rabary:** *Leveraging *Varecia variegata* feeding behavior to restore forest and wetland ecosystems in Ihofa, Madagascar.*

Of a total of 21 applications received in 2023, six grants were awarded for a total of \$10,396; three awardees were from primate habitat countries. The successful awardees were:

- **Christian Howell:** *Applying a mixed-methods approach to identify the anthropogenic and ecological drivers of chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*) abundance and distribution at Gola Rainforest National Park*
- **Esteban Santiago Rivera Roman:** *Regional approach of the phylogeography and conservation of *Ateles fusciceps* in Colombia and Ecuador*
- **Manuel Fonseca:** *Illegal Wildlife Trade Hotspots of the Red Howler (*Alouatta seniculus*) and the Cotton-top tamarin (*Saguinus oedipus*)*
- **Nina Beeby:** *Nutritional implications of habitat disturbance on black-and-white ruffed lemurs (*Varecia variegata*).*
- **Pamela Reyes:** *Geographic distribution and conservation status of *Mico melanurus G eoffroy Smo. Hilario, 1812* in Paraguay*
- **Reiko Matsuda Goodwin:** *Local ecological niche modelling (ENM) of threatened primates of Comoé National Park using high-resolution satellite imagery*

**IPS Conservation Committee Report**  
**Kuching, Malaysia August 2023**  
**Vice-President for Conservation: Tatyana Humle**



The IPS conservation committee would like to congratulate all these awardees for all their initiative, dedication and motivation to help conserve primates and we look forward to receiving the reports on their work and another round of successful IPS conservation grants in 2024.

If you would like to learn more about the amazing work of our IPS conservation grant and scholarship awardees, please do come along on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting Room 5 from 14-16h to the symposium entitled '*Conservation in Action: Insights from IPS Conservation Grant and Scholarship Awardees*'\*

The IPS Conservation committee membership was refreshed in 2022 and I would like to extend my personal thanks to Arif Setiawan, Jenna Lawrence, Inza Kone, Lisa Rapaport, Mauricio Talebi, Melanie Seiler, Mike Reid and Reiko Matsuda Goodwin for their time and commitment to this committee. Anindya (Rana) Sinha, Augustin Basabose, and Ramesh (Zimbo) Boonratana will be continuing to serve one more term on the committee for the sake of continuity and I am delighted to welcome Alejandro Estrada, Andie Ang, Gladys Kalema-Zikusoka, Josia Razafindramanana, Luciana Oklander, Richard Bergl, Sery Gonedelé Bi, Stella de la Torre and Tom Gillespie as new members of the IPS Conservation Committee.

Finally, the **IPS AD HOC COMMITTEE ON MAKING THE CAPTURE OF PRIMATES SAFER**, which I co-chair alongside Elena Cunningham, Georges Omondi, Jo Setchell and Steve Unwin, seeks to promote the sharing of experience and good practice, as well as alternatives, to the capture of non-human primates. We are delighted to announce that we recently launched a private room on WildHub to facilitate the safe exchange of information, including capture protocols, and to also serve as a tool to promote best practices and assist primatologists (students, academics and practitioners) globally with planning captures or considering alternatives to capture in their research and conservation work.

If you are interested in this topic, please do come along to our symposium entitled '*Primate capture, release, and alternatives*' Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, Meeting Room 1 from 10:30am-1pm\*.

\* Due to possible last-minute changes in the IPS Congress programme schedule, this might change, so please do check the final programme: <https://ipskuching.com/programme/>

## VP for Education report for the IPS Council meeting 2023

Submitted by Patrícia Izar

The Education Committee of IPS awards the Lawrence Jacobsen Education grant of up to \$1,500 to support the development of primate conservation education programs. In addition, we award the Charles Southwick Conservation Education Commitment Award, in the amount of \$2,000: \$1,500 to the recipient and \$500 given in the recipient's name to a project of their choosing in their community.

### Lawrence Jacobsen Education grant

Since the last IPS meeting in January 2022, we have run two editions of the Lawrence Jacobsen Education grant. I am very grateful to the Education Committee members who helped review and judge the applications in these past two years: Adrian Barnett, Alejandra Duarte, Carla Castro, Carlos Ruiz-Miranda, Francine Dolins, Inza Kone, Joana Ferreira da Silva, Luciana Oklander, Martin Kowalewsky, Mewa Singh, Misato Haiashi, Rachel Ikemeh, Renata G. Ferreira, Simplicious Gessa, Suchinda Malaivijitnond, Valentina Truppa, and Zarin Machanda.

In each year, six reviewers reviewed and scored each grant out of 35. I standardized the scores and ranked applications based on their mean standardized score. In all editions, reviewers were asked to provide comments to help applicants in improving their future applications. Three applicants in 2022 and seven in 2023 used the opportunity of pre-application to get feedback on their proposal before the deadline.

In 2022 we received 10 applications from 9 countries across Africa, Asia, and Latin America (Kenya, Cameroon, Zambia, Bhutan, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador [2 applications], Mexico, and Peru) . We awarded US\$ 9,499.33 in five grants (four included Community Conservation Initiatives in their applications).

2022 Awardees:

**Karla Ramirez.** Project: *Primates Of The Neighbourhood (Primates En El Barrio): improving knowledge of locally threatened primates of the Peruvian rainforest through science projects in urban and rural schools of the San Martin region, Peru.* Country: Peru

**Sara Álvarez Solas.** Project: *Misahualli's Capuchin Monkey Educational Plan.* Country: Ecuador

**Tamia Torres-Capelo.** Project: *#ForEverWild, conserving primates as a way of protecting their ecosystems and the species that surround them.* Country: Ecuador

**Belinda Kwamboka.** Project: *Evidence-based conservation education in Kenyan communities: Connecting arts and science to conserve Red colubus Monkey in Tana River Delta.* Country: Kenya

**Kuenzang Dorji.** Project: *Developing conservation conscience among local people and commuters for survival of endangered Gee's golden langur (*Trachypitecus geei*) in the human dominated landscapes, Bhutan.* Country: Bhutan

In 2023 we received 12 applications from 5 countries across Latin America (Brazil [6 applications], Colombia, Mexico [2 applications], and Peru) and one application from Madagascar. We awarded US\$ 5,477.67 in three grants (two included Community Conservation Initiatives in their applications).

2023 Awardees:

**Marcela Oliveira.** Project: *Que mico é esse? Taking Rondon's marmoset (*Mico rondoni*) to public schools in Porto Velho, Rondônia.* Country: Brazil

**Samara Albuquerque Teixeira.** *Raising awareness for the conservation of Bearded Capuchin Monkeys through environmental education at Brasília National Park, Brazil.* Country: Brazil



**Randriamanantenaso Herilalaina.** Project: *Protecting Primates through education and community art in Lavavolo, Madagascar.* Country: Madagascar

#### Charles Southwick Conservation Education Commitment Award

The Education Committee members also helped with evaluating the nominations for the Charles Southwick Conservation Education Commitment Award in 2022 and 2023. In 2022, we received ten nominations and awarded US\$ 10,000 in five awards to Hantanirina Rasamimanana, from Madagascar, Martin Kowalewsky (Argentina), Jingyu Chen (China), Alfred Bongadu (Cameroon), and Jesus Martinez (Bolivia). I am grateful to Carlos Ruiz-Miranda, Laura Marsh, Valentina Truppa, and Zarin Machanda, members of the Education Committee that helped with evaluating the nominations in 2022. In 2023, we received twenty-one nominations! It was very exciting to see so many primatologists willing to bring recognition to people from local communities for their efforts in conservation education. We awarded US\$ 8,000 in four awards to: Mrs. Comfort Davies, from Liberia, the Seasea Indigenous people from Indonesia, Mamy Razafitsalama, from Madagascar, and Mr. Henry Didier Camara, from Guinea. I am grateful to Adrian Barnett, Alejandra Duarte, Inza Kone, Martin Kowalewsky, and Zarin Machanda, that helped with evaluating the nominations in 2023.

#### IPS Prizes for best student's presentation

The Education Committee, with the aid of invited reviewers from the membership, evaluated the 78 abstracts submitted to the IPS 2023 student's competitions (regular and middle/low income countries) and pre-selected the top posters and oral presentations to be judged during the meeting. I am very grateful to Adrian Barnett, Alejandra Duarte, Alison Behie, Amanda Tan, Andrea Presotto, Anindya Sinha, Baoguo Li, Bernardo Urbani, Dorothy Fragaszy, Filippo Aureli, Francesca de Petrillo, Gladys Zikusoka, Goro Hanya, Inza Kone, Ítalo Mourthé, Jean-Baptiste Leca, Kim Bard, Kristin Wright, Jessica Lynch, Jessica M. Rothman, Joanna Setchell, João Pedro Souza-Alves, Laurence Culot, Leonardo Oliveira, Liliana Cortes-Ortiz, Marilyn Norconk, Martha Robbins,

Mewa Singh, Mike Huffman, Misato Hayashi, Ramesh Boonratana, Sam Shanee, Tiago Falótico, Valentina Truppa, and Zarin Machanda for their invaluable collaboration in this task. The best student's presentations will be announced at the end of the meeting in Kuching.

Patrícia Izar

VP for Education

## VP for Ethics, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

IPS Council meeting 2023

Submitted by Susana Carvalho

The new VP role started officially in January 2022 (IPS Quito). Key work to report so far, includes:

1. **Formation/chairing of two IPS AD-HOC Committees** (Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion Committee & Ethics Committee). The composition of the two committees is listed below.
  2. **Development/Creation of a Code of Conduct, and reporting policy**, for the 2023 IPS Meeting, in Malaysia.
  3. **Implementation of the roles of Welfare Officers at IPS meetings**, starting with 2023 IPS Malaysia. In collaboration with the organisers, assisted with suggestions for accommodating more diverse needs (e.g., childcare; lactation room; private room; etc).
  4. **Organisation of the IPS 2023 round table “Key Issues to Tackle in Primatology”**. (Synopsis: A new IPS role focused on Ethics, Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion was formally created in 2022. It is a large umbrella that aims to tackle the most pressing problems affecting our profession. The goal of this roundtable is to discuss key issues and incorporate contributions into subsequent actions. Topics include (but are not restricted to!): 1) Recruitment and retention of diverse scholars; 2) Accessibility of primatology, particularly for individuals from range countries, with disabilities and/or caring responsibilities; 3) Diversity within the membership; 4) Language and financial barriers to publication; 5) Key challenges for underrepresented groups including LGBTQ+; 6) Variation in academic realities and expectations between the Global North/South; 7) What decolonising ‘really’ means for us as a discipline; 8) Needs and challenges of designing and implementing ethical collaborations with colleagues across different first languages, theoretical training, educational and funding opportunities; 10) Need for natural history approaches and diverse perspectives; 11) Open research and data: exclusivity of field-sites, need for more open access databases, and building trust in these sharing processes; 12) Agism; 13) Recognising and amplifying the voices of primatologists and local communities: building long-term partnerships and integrating the perspectives and knowledge of indigenous communities into primatological research and practice. In this roundtable, many primatologists will come together and focus on one topic at the time, using ~10-minute slots to discuss and collect feedback on suggested actions. Each topic will be led by one main discussant. A final 30-minute slot will be used to for an all-topic general discussion).
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***Additional information (goals, members) regarding the two new Ad-Hoc Committees to function under the umbrella of the VP for EDEI. More members may be joining the committees in 2023:***

*"The Diversity, Equality and Inclusion committee will assess and report on diversity in IPS, serve as an umbrella organization within IPS to develop programs that increase the recruitment, participation and retention of diverse scholars within the field of primatology, advocate for diversity within the membership, congresses, committees and leadership of IPS, develop and maintain a Code of Conduct for IPS congresses"*

*IPS AD-HOC COMMITTEE FOR DIVERSITY, EQUALITY, AND INCLUSION (12 members)*

Susana Carvalho  
Liliana Cortés Ortiz  
Himani Nautiyal  
Stella De La Torre  
Thalita Sacramento  
Joanna Setchell  
James Bukie  
Christopher A. Schmitt  
Andie Ang  
Stephanie Poindexter  
Patrícia Izar  
Susan Cheyne

*"The Ethics committee will promote our ethical responsibilities to the primates we work with in captivity and in the wild, human participants, the natural environment, the people we work with and alongside, and the research process itself. The VP for Ethics, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion will work with the VPs for Research and Welfare and Captive Care to develop, revise and maintain IPS policy statements and guidelines relating to ethics, including the existing Best Practices for Field Primatology"*

*IPS AD-HOC COMMITTEE FOR ETHICS (10 members)*

VP for Welfare and Captive Care  
Susana Carvalho  
Erin Riley  
Giuseppe Donati  
Leandro Jerusalinsky  
Janette Wallis  
Katarina Almeida Warren  
Marina Cords  
Tatyana Humle  
Karen B Strier

## Report of IPS Past President's Activities, January 2022-August 2023

Submitted by  
Karen B. Strier  
IPS Past President  
July 20, 2023

- 1) Attended post-congress Council meeting in Quito and helped provide continuity with incoming president, Jonah Ratsimbazafy.
- 2) Provided advice to new President about procedures for setting up the Elections and Awards committees.
- 3) Participated in a non-voting, advisory role on email communications and decision-making involving IPS Officers.
- 4) Continued to encourage donors to the IPS Heritage Fund, which was established in 2021 and currently (as of 20 July 2023) has \$38,000 including mostly paid and a some pledged funds.
- 5) At IPS President's request, served as Vice chair of the Elections committee and then as Acting chair to coordinate nominations, communications with potential nominees, and Election committee members. Election committee members (appointed by the President) were: Ramesh (Zimbo) Boonratana, Nancy Caine, Peter Kappeler, Johannes Refisch, Jonah Ratsimbazafy (Committee chair), Christoph Schwitzer, and Karen Strier (Vice chair and Acting chair).
  - a. Process: All current officers who were eligible to stand for a second and final term of office opted to do so (VP for Conservation, VP for Research, VP for Membership and Treasurer, and Secretary General). There were no contenders for these positions. The call for nominations and subsequent follow-ups for the one vacant position of VP for Welfare and Captive Care yielded five candidates. Committee members independently ranked the candidates, which were then collated and submitted for approval by the Elections committee and then by the IPS Elected officers. I then contacted the candidates, beginning with the first ranked, until we had a slate of two candidates to run on the ballot for the position.
  - b. Election: Once the slate was established, candidates were provided an example of statements from past years. Voting was completed in April 2023, with 216 members voting. I contacted all individuals on the ballot with the outcome and then the outcome (including voting numbers) was sent by email to all IPS members.
  - c. Results: All continuing officers were re-elected for a second and final term of office, and Mollie Bloomsmith was elected as the incoming VP of Welfare and Capive Care.
- 6) Assisted the Awards committee chair and vice chair with procedures and communications involving selection of Lifetime Achievement and Outstanding Achievement award winners.