

Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future TOPICAL LUNCH

Title: Wildlife Disease Association 2016 Planning

Host: Krysten Schuler and Elizabeth Bunting

Date: November 17, 2014 – 12:00 – 1:00pm

Summary

This topical lunch was hosted to generate interest and ideas for the upcoming Wildlife Disease Association meeting to be hosted by Cornell University July 31-August 5, 2016. The WDA is an international organization dedicated to “acquire, disseminate, and apply knowledge of the health and diseases of wild animals in relation to their biology, conservation, and interactions with humans and domestic animals.” The organizers sought out the diverse wildlife health expertise present on Cornell’s campus. The goals of the topical lunch were to: i) provide an introduction to the organization and structure of the WDA meeting; ii) to engage parties interested in participating in various capacities; iii) brainstorm ideas for theme and plenary speakers; and iv) to find ways to make Cornell stand out during the meeting through Ignite! talks, bonus activities, birding trips, or other local information.

The lunch started with participants highlighting some of the strengths of the university faculty and problems in the Northeast region. These included citizen science and disease monitoring, the perception issue of wildlife disease with “no child allowed outdoors” and possible backlashes against wildlife conservation, the Northeast as a “hotspot” and the epicenter of White-nose syndrome and tick-borne diseases such as Lyme, oral rabies vaccination programs, spillover of wildlife disease into other species, transboundary issues associated with the pet trade, and policy related issues of disease movement. There were considerable input for possible special sessions throughout the meeting including emerging pathogens, environmental contamination, fish health, climate change, challenges in managing wildlife, interdisciplinary collaboration, student career paths, and global health. Workshop ideas included student career paths, speed dating with a program officer, hands-on wildlife necropsy, and wildlife disease risk communications.

Following the lunch, participants were contacted directly and several agreed to participate in organizing workshops or special sessions. We will hold an organizing committee meeting on Jan. 8 to continue planning for the 2016 Wildlife Disease Association. We are grateful to ACSF for providing this venue to bring together faculty from 10 different departments to participate in this exciting opportunity.

Participant RSVP (attending): 20

Last Name	First Name	NetID or email	Dept (if known)	College (if known)
Blossey	Bernd		NTRES	
Buckles	Elizabeth	Elb36		Vet
Chambliss	Lauren	elc55	ACSF	
Curtis	Paul	pd1	NTRES	
Decker	Dan	djd6	NTRES	
Dhondt	André	aad4	Lab of Ornithology	
Dieterich	David	d355	ACSSF	
DiSalvo	Frank	fjd3	ACSF	
Fuller	Angela	akf34	NTRES	
Getchell	Rod	rgg4	MICIM	
Kraft	Cliff	cek7	NTRES	
Marquis	Helene	hm72	MICIM	
McComas	Katherine	kam19	COMM	
Miller	Chris	cm284	ACSF	
Mukai	Motoko	mm2295	FDSC	
Radcliffe	Robin	radclifferw@gmail.com		Vet School
Siemer	Bill	wfs1	NTRES	
Torres	Alfonso	at97		CMV
Travis	Alex	ajt32	ACSF	
Harvell	Drew	Cdh5	EEB	

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Regrets:

Last Name	First Name	NetID or email	Dept (if known)	College (if known)
Altier	Craig			
Bowman	Dwight			
Casey	Jim			
Dunn	Christopher			
Hare	Matt			
Harrington	Laura			
Hermanson	John			
Maxian	Candace			
Parrish	Colin			
Place	Ned			
Wolford	Wendy			
Zamudio	Kelly			