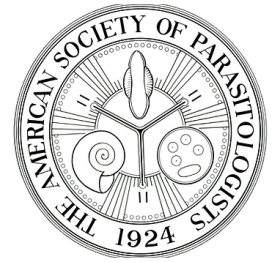


NEWSLETTER

Edited by Dr. Kelly Weinersmith | Layout by Dr. Joanna Cielocha



The President's Corner

By Vasyl Tkach

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the Fall 2020 edition of the President's corner. First of all, I would like to welcome new ASP members as well as new elected officers and appointed members of various ASP committees who agreed to give their precious time to Society service. I particularly welcome our new Scientific Program Officers, Maria Castillo and Judith Humphries, who took over after our long time Program Officers Kelli Sapp and Herman Eure announced their retirement from that role.

Saying that the year has been different or difficult would be an understatement. None of us envisioned the year to turn out the way it did. The Covid-19 pandemic affected every aspect

of life and the ASP was impacted as well. Despite all the issues out of ASP control, it remained a fully functioning scientific society. We had our annual business meeting and the Council and committees continued to work. Parasitologists proved to be as resilient and adaptive as our study objects. Although most travel and expeditions have been canceled and many of us were not even able to come to our laboratories for significant stretches of time, ASP members continued conducting terrific research and publishing fascinating works on every aspect of parasitology, from ecology, evolution and systematics to molecular aspects of host-parasite interrelationships, genomics, metagenomics, and a variety of other subjects. Most recently, ASP members authored publications that raised the questions of parasite conservation (intrinsically connected with that of their hosts and environment) and published a work on what would it take to describe the global diversity of multicellular parasites, with a focus on helminths.

Our regional affiliate societies were the first to adapt to the Covid-imposed constraints, and organized virtual meetings. I had a privilege to attend the Rocky Mountain Conference of Parasitologists in September and the meeting of the Helminthological Society of Washington in November. Both were virtual and went smoothly. It was wonderful to not only learn about new studies, but also about adapting parasitology education to the Covid realities, including field classes, as presented by the team of colleagues from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. That said, our education committee has been doing a great job gathering useful resources and making them available to membership.

From the beginning of my term as the President, the ASP leadership had to take care of some urgent business and overcome unique challenges. Despite the obvious reasons for the cancellation of the 2020 meeting, we still had contractual obligations with the Intercontinental hotel in Kansas City which had to be resolved in order to avoid potential financial losses and move forward. I would like to emphasize the role and effort by our long time Meeting Planner Donald Duszynski, who used his experience and knowledge of the industry to help negotiate a cancellation of the 2020 contract without any losses for the ASP. I also thank the immediate past President Julian Hillyer for being a member of the negotiation team all the way until the completion of the process. As a part of the talks, it was proposed that ASP will use the same venue for our next available meeting. A new contract, friendly to the ASP, has been negotiated and I am happy to announce that we will have a meeting in lovely Kansas City in 2023. With the cancellation of the 2020 meeting the previous Local Organizing Committee (LOC) has completed its mission, therefore we need a new LOC and the ASP is looking for committee members. Please step forward if you would like to serve. Of



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Be sure to check out the [The Journal of Parasitology](#) website for new papers, and information on how to submit your paper. With the continuous publication model, manuscripts go online as soon as formatting is complete. ASP members do not pay page charges for publishing in the *JP*. Open Access rates are \$750 for members, and \$1000 for non-members.

If you'd like to review for the Journal and have not already signed up to be a reviewer, please consider signing up [here](#)."

President's Corner cont'd

course, members of the 2020 LOC are most welcome to join the 2023 LOC. Their experience would be invaluable.

The next order of business was/is our 2021 meeting. As the pandemic did not show any signs of slowing down and the numbers of Covid-19 cases continued to rise in the U.S. and most other countries, it has become clear that having an in-person 2021 meeting in Baltimore as originally planned, was unrealistic. Donald Duszynski has stepped up again. He was able to contact the management and negotiate the cancelation of the contract at no loss to the ASP. At a virtual meeting, ASP Council has decided in favor of a fully virtual ASP meeting in 2021. I sent a call for new LOC members, and based on the feedback formed a LOC chaired by ASP Vice-President Tamara Cook. The committee includes a total of 9 members (Tamara Cook, Reginald Blaylock, Maggie Doolin, Donald Duszynski, Olwyn Friesen, Timothy Geary, Majid Harandi, Amit Prasad, Bruna Trevisan) and comprises colleagues at different stages of their careers from 5 different countries and 3 continents. I greatly appreciate their willingness to serve in this role. The committee is currently working on defining dates and the selection of an online meeting platform suitable for our needs.

Thus, we will have an ASP meeting in 2021. Stay tuned and start preparing your abstracts. We hope to distribute relevant information as soon as possible. This brings me to what I feel excited about. While the online format cannot replace an in-person meeting with its direct communication and conversations with colleagues in session rooms and informal settings, it definitely has its pluses and brings new opportunities. The biggest of them is the nearly universal accessibility. It is not a secret that many of the ASP members, including established professionals and especially students, could not attend our annual meetings for various reasons (expense, dates, logistics, visas, etc.). The virtual format removes many of these barriers, therefore, I hope that we will be able to bring together a number of colleagues who are often sorely missed at our meetings, and expand domestic and international participation.

Let us work together to turn the otherwise very unfortunate situation into the opportunity to broaden the participation and share our research. I encourage you to spread the word about the 2021 ASP meeting among your colleagues and, when possible, members of other scientific societies you belong to.

Another part of my obligations during this time was to appoint new members of regular (and some ad-hoc) ASP committees to replace colleagues who completed their service. I have appointed 30 new committee members. While writing this, I did some quick counting and found out that among appointed members of our regular committees, 33 are women and 34 are men (or 38:38 if the Local Organizing Committee is counted). Five of the committee chairs

are men and three are women. The priorities committee is chaired by the President-elect (currently Matthew Bolek) by default, therefore Tamara Cook will be the chair next year. Among elected ASP officers 10 are women and 8 are men. As a Society we try to be as equitable, welcoming and inclusive as we can. We definitely still have work to do, especially recruiting and promoting minority members, which starts with students in each of our respective labs. However, the above numbers say that over the last several years the ASP has made some significant, positive steps in the right direction which was passionately promoted by the past ASP President Susan Perkins and continued to be emphasized by the Presidents after her. I would like to add that about a third of both elected officers (33%) and appointed (35%) committee members are early career members, which is something I personally care about.

Due to several steps undertaken by the ASP Council under leadership of the recent ASP Presidents, the state of ASP finances has improved and the ASP came out of the 2019 financial year with a positive balance. ASP Secretary-Treasurer Lee Couch provided more details in her annual financial report. I would like to use this opportunity to remind everyone that Lee, who does an amazing job as our Secretary-Treasurer, will be stepping down at the end of 2021 after two 3-year terms in office. She is a part of everything we do, and the ASP has tax exempt status largely thanks to her effort. ASP is in a search of a new Secretary-Treasurer. If you are interested/motivated to do it please contact Lee Couch for any information that may help your decision.

The recent financial stability of the ASP was partly due to the strong performance of the Journal of Parasitology under the leadership of the Chief Editor Richard Clopton. The current model of article publication in the Journal of Parasitology ensures that papers are published online in their final form with pages, which in many other journals it may take months upon months. I personally enjoy publishing in the Journal of Parasitology and do it regularly. Submission of quality manuscripts to the Journal of Parasitology is a great way to promote your research while increasing the general quality and ratings of the journal.

To finish this first installment of my President's Corner, I would like to emphasize that the strength of our Society is in its members. ASP membership proves a lot of value, including journal access, no publication charges, and most of all, a platform for the exchange of results and ideas, and establishing potential collaborations. The membership for colleagues in most countries is very reasonable/low. Make a New Year gift to yourself by renewing your ASP membership, if you have not yet done so. Motivate your students to continue their membership or become new members. You may also give a gift of associate membership (the cost is low) to a colleague from a country where it is too difficult financially or impossible due to logistical reasons. Hope to see you next year at our meeting. Happy Holidays!

A Note from the Student Rep

By Maggie Doolin
Student Representative to ASP Council 2020-2021

Hello fellow ASP members. I write to introduce myself as the 2020–2021 ASP Student Representative to Council, and to share my goals for the upcoming academic year. I am a third-year doctoral candidate studying parasite-microbiome interactions, working with Dr. Denise Dearing at the University of Utah. This is my fifth year as an ASP student member, and throughout my membership, I have found the ASP community to be exceptionally welcoming and encouraging for student members. It is a society small enough to offer student members a chance to connect with legends in their own field, and big enough to develop a far-reaching professional network. This is a special balance for developing scientists. I am taking over the position of student representative after an excellent year by Kaylee Herzog, and I hope to follow her lead in providing student members with stimulating parasitology content and consistently advocating for student interests to Council.



This is a unique time in the world, and since I began my term, it has already been a Council experience unlike any other. We are facing an extended length of pandemic-related restrictions, and Council has accordingly voted to hold a virtual meeting this coming summer. My goals as student representative center around communication and flexibility to ensure that I am able to help students have the best possible virtual meeting experience. To that end, I will be a member of the “local” organizing committee (LOC) for the virtual meeting, and will push to incorporate as much interactive programming as possible. I have attended a few virtual meetings that I will use as reference points for helping to develop an effective meeting, and I am open to suggestions via email. I understand the value of annual meetings for student research development, and I want all student members to feel included as a plan develops for how to share their research and connect with other members in 2021. Since we have several months to plan the 2021 meeting, I am confident that we will be able to host excellent programming, including social and networking opportunities with ASP members at every career stage. I

am looking forward to working with Council and the other LOC members to ensure that students have the opportunity to connect with the society. Our student members are making excellent contributions to parasitology research, and they should be shared with the Society via official presentations and more informal networking opportunities. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with comments about student interests in ASP or suggestions for virtual student programming. I'm looking forward to serving the society through July 2021!

Below are excerpts from our Member Spotlight on ASP's Blog. Interviews conducted by [Abigail Kimball](#). [Check out the ASP blog for the full spotlight.](#)

Member Spotlight



Dr. William Campbell

by Abigail Kimball

For this month's ASP Member Spotlight we had the privilege to speak with Dr. William Campbell. Dr. Campbell received the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 2015 for his work on the novel drug ivermectin, which is used in the treatment of many important parasitic diseases such as onchocerciasis and elephantiasis. However, Dr. Campbell is much more than just a brilliant scientist, he is also a passionate history lover, a recently published author, and a very talented painter. While working at Drew University he taught the course “History of Biomedical Science” and has extensively researched and written about the doomed [Terra Nova Expedition](#). His memoir [Catching the Worm](#) was released this month, and recounts his lifelong work in parasitology as well as incredible life experiences. Dr. Campbell was kind enough to provide us with some pictures of his artwork, all of which highlight his love for parasites. Dr. Campbell is beloved by his students, peers, and community, so much so that a life-sized bronze statue of him is being sculpted and will be erected in his [hometown of Ramelton in Donegal, Ireland](#).



Campbell Spotlight cont'd

Q: What qualities make a good scientist?

A: I am in a better position to speak from the point of view of “an OK scientist with luck.” Off-hand, I would suggest to the young scientist that the essential qualities – apart from a basic knowledge of the particular scientific field, would include ‘curiosity’ (don’t worry, it will be strengthened by research experience); and ‘industriousness’ (it will be easier if you have found stimulating work); and ‘honesty.’ Valuable, if not essential, is a sensitivity to the opportunities offered by luck and a willingness to take advantage of them.

Q: If you could have dinner with anyone alive or dead, who would it be?

A: It would be fun to think about possible dinner companions from whom one could learn great things; but today your question happens to make me think about dinner with people to whom I would like to say something. Specifically, I would like to speak to Vincent Van Gogh -- because I desperately want to tell him that he was a success. I want to tell him that his paintings opened people’s eyes and minds to a new experience of visual art; and (of less importance) that apparently there would no limit to what people would pay for them; and (sadly) that his paintings became so popular that to declare a liking for them became rather ‘lame’ and was likely to be met with a shrug. I would also assure him that even today there are people who find that looking at stars on a dark night is literally (not idiomatically) awesome—an experience that can bring people to the brink of the transcendental. The artist himself, after all, had been compelled, on the night before his suicide, to go out and gaze at the starry sky in search of such an experience. It is excruciatingly painful to think that he never knew that he was, most profoundly, a success in a world in which he found torment. Before rising from the dinner table, I would say “If you happen to see Paul Cezanne, tell him that after his death many people actually paid good money for his paintings -- and became rich by selling them.” I think Paul C. really, really deserves to know that



Field Notes: My War with the Raccoons

By Mike Kinsella

[First published on ASP's Blog on 24 Sep 2020](#)

In 1973, I was attempting to study the community of parasites in three species of deer mice at Archbold Biological Station in the scrub of southern Florida. Populations were low and live trapping success was usually only 1 or 2%. But the real problem was that the raccoons (*Procyon lotor*) at ABS had become habituated to the peanut butter bait we used and adept at opening the traps. On one memorable night, I found 122 of 124 traps had been robbed by these furry bandits. The only solution seemed to be to first trap the raccoons and put them in a holding cage. The station field tech, Chet Winegarner, and I soon had 7 raccoons in the cage, sometimes using a live trap inside a large mammal trap as bait. They just couldn't resist it. Then we went back to trapping the mice until we had a sufficient sample. The plan had gone like clockwork until the time came to release the raccoons back into the habitats where they were caught. They were all in a wire enclosure about 6 by 12 feet with a corrugated tin roof. Chet's idea was that I would stand in the center of the cage holding the door of a large mammal trap open. He would chase the raccoons around the cage, pin them to the side with a piece of two by four, grab them by the tail, sling them into the trap, and I would slam the door shut. For reasons that elude me to this day, I agreed to this insane plan. As we entered the cage, a hail storm started pounding on the tin roof. It was instant bedlam as Chet chased the snarling raccoons around the cage and I cowered in the center with my trap. But somehow, one by one, the raccoons went into the traps and we emerged a half hour later without a scratch between us. Unfortunately, this was the 70s and there was nobody around with a smartphone to record it. I eventually got over my nightmares and this was the paper that resulted: [Kinsella, J. M. 1991. Comparison of helminths of three species of mice, *Podomys floridanus*, *Peromyscus gossypinus*, and *Peromyscus polionotus* from southern Florida. *Canadian Journal of Zoology* 69:3078-3083.](#)



Field Notes: Zombie Ant Research from Field to Fridge: Learning to Expect the Unexpected in Graduate School

By Chenhua Li, PhD candidate
[First published on ASP's Blog on 26 Oct 2020](#)

Co-advised by Dr. James Wasmuth (University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada) and by Dr. Cameron Goater (University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada)

I work on the zombie ants system. These ants are 'zombified' by the lancet liver fluke *Dicrocoelium dendriticum* on a daily basis. From late evening to early morning, when the temperature is low, the infected ants climb and cling to the top of vegetation. This corresponds to the time when ruminants feed, and thus likely facilitates the transmission of the larval flukes inside the ants into their definitive ruminant hosts. When the sun rises and the temperature increases, the infected ants detach from the vegetation



and return back to their normal behavior. For my PhD I'm using an -omics approach to figure out how the parasites achieve this temperature-dependent zombification.

After the early morning you can't easily tell the zombified from the non-zombified ants. In order for this early bird to catch the worm(s), I had to spend the night at the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park in southeast Alberta, get up before sunrise, and crawl through the fields on my hands and knees looking for zombie ants. I trained my eyes to observe the details on top of the grass and



flowers, in order to pick up those with ants attached on top. I then needed to isolate the brains from my field-collected ants. And, yes! They do have brains, and they are tiny! I often get the question: "What machine are you using for ant brain dissection?"

"Emm...myself?"

The challenge of using myself as the 'machine' is that I need to keep my hands perfectly steady, which means feeding myself constantly to avoid shakes caused by low blood sugar. When dissecting with a pair of super fine tweezers, any level of shaking would be highly exaggerated under the scope.

When I first started, it took me more than 15 minutes to dissect a single brain, but 'practice makes perfect'. After hundreds of dissections during my first field season, I can now dissect out an ant's brain in 2-10 seconds!

We used walk-in plant growth chambers set at different temperatures to recreate the temperature-dependent zombie behaviors in the lab. Because I wanted brains from ants that were attached to vegetation and those that were not, and because these behaviors are temperature dependent, I needed to collect my ants and dissect them at certain temperatures. One of those temperatures was 10C (50F).

So how does one maintain and dissect ants at such a low temperature? Here, creativity comes into play. Ideally, I wanted to have a customized small glass cube, with the inside of the cube held at 10C, and two holes on the sides with sleeves so my hands could access the ants. The glass cube also needed to be small enough to fit under a dissection scope. We just couldn't make this work in the end.

Zombie Ants cont'd



Then, two of my labmates in Dr. Cameron Goater's lab had a great idea. What if we could build an insulated addition to a growth chamber held at 10C, so I could stand outside of the chamber and reach inside to do the dissections? We were trying to figure out what equipment we could use to build this set-up, and we settled on the equipment we had at hand, which in this case was kid toys. We then put a tarp over this setup to hold the required temperature. With this setup I needed to lean forward into the growth chamber for the entire dissection period. Unfortunately, this was not a comfortable position to hold for a long time. Cam and I came to the conclusion that I should walk in the walk-in growth chamber (just as the name indicates), and do my dissections inside of it.

Once inside the growth chamber, there was cold air constantly blowing toward my face. Not surprisingly, it literally felt like being inside a fridge. I had to go outside of the growth chamber and jump around every hour to warm myself up, and then go back to my dissections.

Another problem was that the chamber door only opens from the outside! To avoid spending a night alone in a freezer in the basement, I needed someone to accompany me from outside of the chamber.

Here, I need to introduce my heroic secret personal research assistant – my mom, Xiaoli Wang. She came to visit me from China, and she was involved in so many ways. For many hours and days of dissections, my mom sat outside



de the growth chamber. Because the dissecting area inside the growth chamber was too small for me to keep a pen and paper, my mom kept her ears close to the ajar chamber door to record the information as I shouted it out to her.

Besides the note taking and making sure I wasn't locked inside the chamber, my mom also helped collect ants in the field, and fed me from time to time. When I had to work late nights and weekends, my mom cooked a meal and brought it to me in a pot right to the school, along with a bottle of coke! We ate in a corner of the floor together. Then, she joined me for dissections and took notes until 2 A.M. several times!

I had to employ a lot of unscientific methods, and recruit willing volunteers to help me with my field and lab work (even providing me with meals). I anticipate these unexpected experiences as a PhD student will all be worthwhile when we understand how the parasite zombifies ants in the end!

Have a story you want to share or a member you'd like us to spotlight? We'd love to hear your ideas!
Email Kelly.Weinersmith@gmail.com.

Regional Society News

Annual Midwestern Conference of Parasitologists (AMCOP)

Update by Vasyl Tkach

AMCOP will take place at the St. Norbert College, De Pere, Wisconsin, close to the end of July. The meeting will be organized by Dr. Anindo Choudhury. The exact dates will be announced separately. This is traditionally a 2-day meeting. We are looking forward to seeing all AMCOPers, sharing our research findings and beginning the return to normalcy.

Southwestern Association of Parasitologists (SWAP)

Update by Joanna Cielocha

The Southwestern Association of Parasitologists is planning to hold a virtual spring meeting April 23-24th. Call for abstracts and registration will be forthcoming in February.

Regional Societies cont'd

Southeastern Society of Parasitologists (SSP)

Update by John Stokes (SSP Program Chair and President-elect)

The 2021 Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Society of Parasitologists will be held April 8 through 10, 2021. In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its associated public health challenges, the Executive Committee voted to host a virtual meeting this year. We are currently exploring different avenues and options to make this a productive and engaging forum for showcasing and sharing your research.

Please Save the Date, April 8-10, 2021 on your calendars and plan to attend. More information describing the meeting details, registration, abstract submission, and other program requirements will be forthcoming in another e-mail early in 2021. Until then, good luck with the rest of your semester. Take care and stay healthy.

Northern California Parasitologists (NCP)

Update By Mike Moser

The Northern California Parasitologists (NCP) will have their Spring Meeting on Saturday, May 1 2021. We will have an invited speaker (TBD) and the student competition papers. Hopefully by then the students are back in their labs and have some results to report.

On September 9 NCP had an online seminar presented by Dr. Pascale Guiton, Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences at the California State University East Bay. The title of her seminar was "How does *Toxoplasma gondii* initiate infection in a new host?" Dr. Guiton was trained as a molecular microbiologist at Washington University in St. Louis and at Stanford University School of Medicine. Her research focuses on uncovering novel differentiation and virulence determinants of *Toxoplasma gondii*. She is a strong advocate for Black voices in academia. She co-founded a Faculty advocacy group (Alliance for the Black Community, ABC) this summer to improve their experiences on campus. The seminar was hosted by Dr. Judy Sakanari, University of California, San Francisco.

Southern California Society of Parasitologists (SCSP)

Update By Ralph Appy

Fall Meeting: Our Chapter decided that we are going to have a virtual social on December 9 from 2 to 5. This will be a chance for the parasitology labs and parasitologists to get reacquainted after being penned up for such a long time. We have invited the Northern California Chapter to participate.

Spring Meeting: It is anticipated that the Spring Meeting of SCSP will be held in conjunction with the Southern California Academy of Sciences. The meeting is going to be virtual and we will have a contributed papers section. Will be giving awards to the best student presentations. [While still a ways off, a virtual meeting is needed because all of the venues (e.g. Universities) are closed to such events.]

Helminthological Society of Washington (HelmSoc)

Update By Kelly Weinersmith

The Helminthological Society of Washington held our 724th meeting virtually on November 14, 2020. This one day event included synchronous (live) and asynchronous (pre-recorded) talks, and we were thrilled to have broad participation (including folks from other ASP regional societies, and folks joining us internationally).

We received positive feedback on the format, and are considering including one virtual event each year so we can keep in touch with non-local parasitologists. We strive to provide a friendly environment in which students can present, and hope that future virtual conferences will expand the opportunities for parasitology students to present their work.

Traditionally, all attendees at a HelmSoc event sign our "green book". In lieu of in-person signing, we all signed a virtual whiteboard. This gave us all the opportunity to be a bit more creative, and a bit sillier than usual. Below you'll find our silly trial run, and our official attendance sheet.

Many thanks to Dr. Anne Vardo-Zalik for organizing this event.



Other ASP News

The American Society of Parasitologists has an ongoing effort to further increase our diversity and become even more inclusive by recruiting colleagues, domestic and foreign, who for various reasons can not join ASP. Some cannot afford even the modest Associate Membership or online student dues. Others have political issues in foreign countries. We have instituted the Sponsor Membership category to help these colleagues become members. Members can also gift a membership to one of their students or a domestic colleague. A member can be a sponsor for any of the membership categories shown on the ASP Membership link which is on the ASP Home page. The most common category for foreign sponsorship is the Associate Membership. All sponsorships are tax deductible.

The current economic situation and restrictions have made it difficult for many members. But we hope you see the value of becoming a sponsor and will consider supporting a colleague if you can. These memberships have proven to be mutually beneficial. The person being sponsored has the full benefits of ASP membership. The sponsor has a new colleague who may have interesting and valuable experiences and expertise to share. These connections can lead to future collaborations. In addition, the sponsor has helped make ASP an even richer resource for parasitology. For this, both ASP and a new colleague will thank you.

If you desire to establish a Sponsored Membership, you may do so by contacting ASP's membership administration office by phone (785-865-9405) or email (asp@allenpress.com). Thank you for your consideration.

ASP Public Relations: Outreach Opportunities

By Joanna Cielocha, PR Committee Chair

Are you looking for outreach and community involvement opportunities? The ASP Public Relations Committee will once again host Parasite Week in March. We will be soliciting volunteers to host virtual presentations about parasites to students ranging from elementary to high school. If you are interesting in presenting to a classroom or if you know of a teacher who would like a guest presentation, please contact [Christina Anaya](#).

We are also looking for parasitologists who would like to "take-over" our social media pages for a week each month. Recruit a handful of colleagues in the same research focus area and create a series of tweets about your parasitological area of expertise. Ideally, we would like to include at least 7 posts, with a new post being re-

PR Outreach cont'd

leased each day of the week. You generate the content for the posts and the PR Committee will take care of scheduling them to be released on Facebook and Twitter. This is a great opportunity to amplify your work and that of others in the field! Please contact [Joanna Cielocha](#) if you are interested in participating in this opportunity.

In Memoriam

With a heavy heart we share news of the passing of Chilean parasitologist Dr. Daniel González-Acuña. Please see below a message we received from one of his mentees:

"I am María Carolina Silva de la Fuente, and I am writing to you from Chile to share with you a photo of Dr. Daniel González and the context in which it was taken.

Dr. Daniel was my mentor, he guided me from undergraduate to graduate (master's and doctorate), I was also his laboratory assistant for several years, coming to consider him as a friend. I work in the taxonomy of parasitic mites and it was thanks to him that I discovered this amazing microworld.

This photo was taken in Isla Mocha, Biobío region. This photo was a very happy moment, since in that field we could find a species of rodent *Octodon pacificus* (Degu de la Mocha), a species that 57 years ago had not been reported and was believed to be extinct.

Photo taken in December 2015. From left to right: Sebastián Muñoz Leal, Lucila Moreno, Marcela Martínez, Daniel González and Carolina Silva. (All those who appear in the photo were trained by Daniel).

I hope to be able to make a contribution to the outstanding scientific and academic work that Daniel carried out in the development of Chilean research."



We were also made aware that long-time ASP member and Past-President (1992), Dick Seed, died on Friday, Dec. 18, 2020, in his Chapel Hill, NC home. An In Memoriam is being written and will appear in a future issue of *The Journal of Parasitology*.

Support the ASP

Support ASP by shopping through AmazonSmile. Go to smile.amazon.com, pick “American Society of Parasitologists Inc A New Mexico Nonprofit Corpo” as the group you’re supporting, and we’ll get 0.5% the cost of your eligible purchases.

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