

Zoo and Wildlife Nutrition Foundation

2017 Annual Report



Letter from the President
21 August 2018



Hello Everyone!

This is our second annual report, and although it is a little late in the year, we are proud to share it with you and pleased to report that 2017 was definitely a year of growth and development for the Foundation. In our first report we shared our mission, some of our goals, and the projects on our “to do” list. We introduced our Board and gave you an outline of the finances at the time.

In this report, we are very pleased to share some our successes from 2017:

- ZWNF/NAG Conference on Zoo and Wildlife Nutrition
- Student awards for oral and poster presentations at the Conference
- Selection of the SCARF host institution
- Review of submissions for the small research grants award

As you read through this report, you will find additional details and updates on our projects, as well as background about the Foundation, its Board of Directors, and an update on our finances to date.

The most current information on the Foundation, as well as a link to donate in support of our important work can be found at: <https://nagonline.net/zwnf/>. We encourage your continued interest in the Foundation and its mission, as well as your support for the work that the Foundation does to train the next generation of zoo nutritionists! Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Henry".

Barbara Henry, MS
President, Board of Directors, Zoo and Wildlife Nutrition Foundation
Curator of Nutrition, Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden

Definition, Mission, and Focus

Zoo and Wildlife Nutrition Foundation (ZWNF) is a Texas nonprofit corporation formed by concerned individuals to promote zoo and wildlife nutrition.

Our mission is to (a) provide nutrition education and advice for captive feeding programs in accordance with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums Nutrition Advisory Group (NAG); and (b) participate in, and contribute to, global and regional nutrition research programs.

There are several ways in which we accomplish this. We maintain funds to support nutrition education and training. We administer a portion of those monies via the Sue Crissey Animal Nutrition Residency Fund which is pivotal in training the next generation of zoo nutritionists. We provide technical, financial, and administrative support for the NAG and its website (<https://nagonline.net>). At the same time, we facilitate the procurement and management of funds to support the ZWNF/NAG Conference on Zoo and Wildlife Nutrition, as well as to support research projects that further the understanding of exotic animal nutrition.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors remained composed of the same individuals through 2017 as the previous year (picture below). The bylaws of the Foundation provide for the timely rotation of Board members to cultivate new ideas and involve other zoo nutrition professionals in idea generation and development. In 2018, Barbara Toddes will rotate off the Board and we will seek another board member to replace her.

Current Members of the Board of Directors

The current ZWNF Board is pictured to the right (L to R: Mike Maslanka (Vice President), Shannon Livingston (Secretary), Barbara Toddes, Ann Ward (Treasurer), Kerri Slifka, Barbara Henry (President), Liz Koutsos)



Report on the 2017 ZWNF/NAG Conference

The 12th Biennial ZWNF/NAG Conference on Zoo and Wildlife Nutrition was held September 24-27 2017 in Frisco, TX in conjunction with American Association of Zoo Veterinarians (AAZV), American Association of Fish Veterinarians (AAFV), Association of Reptilian and Amphibian Veterinarians (ARAV) and The Association of Exotic Mammal Veterinarians (AEMV). We had a total of 84 individuals register for the conference including 11 students (a new record!), 10 corporate attendees

and 11 non-members. The conference started off with a workshop discussing produce classification and the importance of considering and managing the sugar to fiber ratios in the produce items we opt to use for our managed animals. Session topics included aquatics, assessment and laboratory operations, commissary operations, disease management, herbivores/browse, insectivores/carnivores, life stage nutrition, and primates. Social events included the Icebreaker at Dallas World Aquarium, the SCARF Fundraiser/Trivia night, and Zoo Day at Dallas Zoo.

We could not have delivered the Conference with the support of sponsors, and we received significant financial support from Mazuri, Central Nebraska Packing, Rodent Pro, Coconut Fields Forever and Milliken Meat Products, among others. We thank all of these sponsors, some of which have been supporting this conference for more than the last two decades.

The Foundation provides awards for students who attend the Conference and deliver either an oral or poster presentation of their work. These awards are given in honor of Dr. Roy McClements who, through his brief time with us, shared with and taught the next generation of zoo professionals.

The winners of the Roy McClements Student-Keeper competition were:

Jordan Wood – Oral presentation 1st place \$400
ANALYSES OF DIET AND SERUM MINERAL
CONCENTRATIONS IN AFRICAN ELEPHANTS
(*Loxodonta africana*) HOUSED AT THE NC ZOO
Graduate student, North Carolina State University



Timothy Brunner – Oral presentation 2nd place \$200
BASELINE INTAKE STUDY FOR FOUR
SPECIES OF PRIMATES IN CAPTIVITY,
Undergraduate student, Purdue University



Jasmyn Mimiko - Poster presentation 1st Place \$200
CASE STUDY: IRON IN BLACK RHINOCEROS
(*Diceros bicornis*) DIETS: THE IMPACT OF
PASTURE, Nutrition Technician, Denver Zoo



Announcing the 2019 ZWNF/NAG Conference

“Meet Me in St Louis, Louis, meet me at the NAG....” Mark your calendars now for the 13th Biennial ZWNF/NAG Conference on Zoo and Wildlife Nutrition that will be held from September 29 through October 2, 2019 in St Louis. St. Louis, the “Gateway to the West,” home of Budweiser, Purina, and Mazuri, will host this conference in conjunction with AAZV and other professional associations. More details to come, but please plan ahead to attend!

Small Grant Fund

The ZWNF has established an annual research grant for \$1,000 and an annual education/travel grant for \$500. We collaborate with the NAG to maximize the impact professional zoo nutritionists have on the care and management of current and future collections, as well as on training and leadership of the next generation of zoo nutritionists. Research to contribute to the field of zoo and wildlife nutrition, as well as funding to further education, are consistent with ZWNF goals and have been identified as NAG scientific and operational priorities, both of which will be supported by these grants.

The Foundation offered 2 grants in 2017:

The travel grant received one application, which was then withdrawn.

The research grant received 3 applications, and the \$1000 grant was awarded to Michelle Shaw (Taronga Zoo) and Mike Power (Smithsonian National Zoological Park and Conservation Biology Institute) for research conducted on nutritional needs of pangolins.



Photo Credit: Paul Fahy

Congratulations to our first grant winners! We quickly posted the announcement for the next round of grants due 1 May 2018 to increase the number of proposals received.

Susan Crissey Animal Nutrition Residency Fund (“SCARF”)



SCARF was established on November 14, 2002, by the Chicago Zoological Society and the NAG. SCARF was established to acknowledge and honor the significant impact that Sue Crissey had on the field of zoo nutrition during her fifteen (15) years at Brookfield Zoo. Sue died at 51 after an extended battle with ovarian cancer. During Sue’s time at the Brookfield Zoo, she expanded the nutrition program from one of diet purchase and preparation to a program of cutting-edge research and problem solving. She led the development of the institutional coalition called the Zoo Nutrition Network. She and her staff were

active in publishing many papers and worked to integrate zoo animal nutrition research with nutritional studies of wild-living animals. One of Sue’s greatest commitments was to train, professionally develop, and engage the next generation of zoo nutritionists. To that end, Sue participated in the training of three residents during her time at Brookfield and those individuals became successful zoo nutritionists at other AZA zoos. It is the hope that SCARF will continue to celebrate Sue’s tremendous achievements and contributions to expanding the field of zoo animal nutrition by providing support for residencies in zoo animal nutrition that will improve the welfare of animals in zoos and aquariums.

The call for qualified and interested institutions was made and the due date for applications was 5 May 2017. At that time, a small sub-committee comprised of ZWNF Board members, NAG steering committee members, and an at-large member was established to evaluate the applications, interview representatives from the facilities applying, and make the award. We received three applications to host the third residency. We are very pleased to announce the SCARF Residency grant was awarded to the **Toronto Zoo** under the direction of nutritionist Jaap Wensvoort. Funding will support a robust 2-year training experience for a future zoo nutritionist.



2016 and 2017 Financial Statements

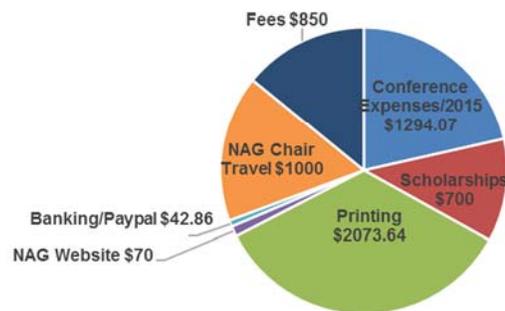
One of the main roles of the ZWNF and NAG is to host the Conference on Zoo and Wildlife Nutrition every other year. Because of this, the Foundation revenue and expense reports look very different between conference and non-conference years (due to registration fees, sponsorship donations, and the off-setting conference expenses). Because of the disparity, we have shared the previous two years of financial statements in order to highlight the importance and impact of the Conference.

2016 was not a Conference year. There were some Conference-related expenses that were paid in 2016 (which also included proceedings costs), but there were also lingering sponsor donations that were added during the year. Note the considerably smaller revenue and expense totals for the non-Conference year. Expenses exceeded revenue by \$400.57 for 2016.

**Zoo Wildlife Nutrition Foundation
Revenues 2016 \$5,630**

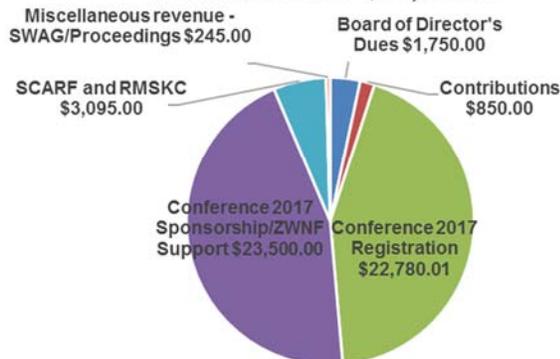


**Zoo and Wildlife Nutrition Foundation
Expenses 2016 \$6,030.57**

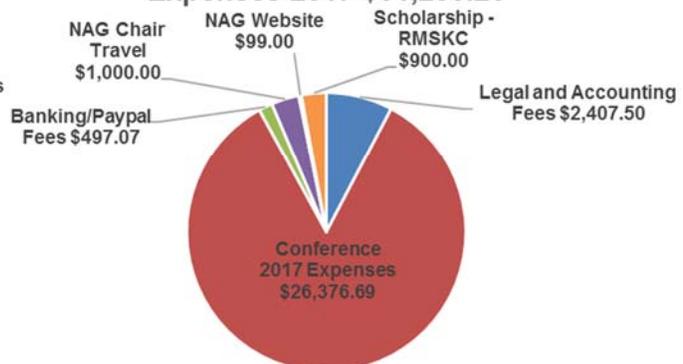


2017 was a Conference year. Sponsorships generated at this time offset conference expenses and support the goals of the foundation. Note that sponsorship donations and conference registration made up the largest portions of revenue, whereas conference expenses (meals, rooms, transportation, audio-visual, etc) accounted for the largest portion of expenses. Revenues exceeded expenses by \$20,393.75 for 2017.

**Zoo Wildlife Nutrition Foundation
Revenues 2017 \$52,220.01**



**Zoo Wildlife Nutrition Foundation
Expenses 2017 \$31,280.26**



Consider a Gift

The Zoo and Wildlife Nutrition Foundation was created to support the important work of not only the AZA Nutrition Advisory Group, but of the profession of zoo and wildlife nutrition as a whole. The more we learn about appropriate nutrition and diets for zoo-maintained wildlife, the greater our ability to manage and reproduce those animals and help maintain sustainable populations. The more we learn about their free-ranging counterparts, and the ability of habitats to meet the nutritional needs of those animals, the more we can help manage the animals and ecosystems for sustainability.

The Zoo and Wildlife Nutrition Foundation supports efforts in both realms – for the future of sustainable wildlife populations. Please consider supporting us in this critical endeavor (visit the NAG website to do so: <https://nagonline.net/287/sue-crissey-animal-nutrition-residency-fund-scarf/> or <https://nagonline.net/zwnf/>). We appreciate your support!