Sharon Deem, DVM, PhD, DACZM

Dr. Sharon Deem is a wildlife veterinarian and epidemiologist. Sharon has conducted conservation and research projects in 30 countries around the world. A few of her research projects include a health-monitoring program for gorillas in central Africa, health assessments of sea turtles in Africa and the Americas, health and ecological studies of maned wolves in Bolivia, health care of working elephants in Myanmar, and avian and tortoise studies in the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador. Her interests in wildlife veterinary medicine focus on the spread of disease between domestic animals and wildlife and the health impact of environmental changes and human contact on wild species. During her veterinary career, she has been fortunate to work as a private practitioner, zoological clinician, wildlife veterinarian, and epidemiologist. Sharon has worked for the Wildlife Conservation Society, Smithsonian National Zoo, and the Saint Louis Zoo WildCare Institute, prior to her current position as the Director of the Saint Louis Zoo Institute for Conservation Medicine. She is the author of over 75 referred articles, 15 book chapters, and numerous non-referred papers. Sharon has a special fondness for elephants, sea turtles and jaguars!
David Jessup, DVM, MPVM, DACZM

Though Dr. Jessup has worked briefly in a major zoo, a primate center, and spent one year as a pathology resident, the majority of his career has been in free-ranging wildlife medicine, epidemiology, and conservation. In 1977, he was the first veterinarian hired by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). About half of his 33-year career with CDFG involved work with mountain and desert species (elk, deer, bighorn sheep, bear, mountain lion, waterfowl, wild turkeys, and other birds) and about half of his career involved working with marine species (sea otters, other marine mammals, and marine birds). He has also worked on oil spill responses and the effects of various, more subtle forms of pollution, on wildlife. During this time, he has maintained strong ties at University of California, Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine. Working with Dr. Walter Boyce and Dr. Bill Lasley, he helped found the Wildlife Health Center, and with Dr. Jonna Mazet, the Oiled Wildlife Care Network. He has also performed work in Mexico, Africa, and India. For the last four years, he has been the Executive Manager of the Wildlife Disease Association.
Other Symposium Speakers Include:

Bruce Christensen, MS, DVM, DACT

Greg Frankfurter, DVM

Tara Harrison, DVM, DACZM

Dr. Tara Harrison is a graduate from Michigan State University's College of Veterinary Medicine in 2000. She received her Masters of Preventive Medicine degree from UC Davis in 2002. In 2008 she became board certified in the American College of Zoological Medicine, and in 2014 she became board certified in the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine. She has done internships at the Toledo Zoo and Wildlife Safari in Oregon. She was employed at Potter Park Zoo and Michigan State University's College of Veterinary Medicine until 2014, when she then started at UC Davis as an Assistant Professor and clinical veterinarian at the Sacramento Zoo. Her research focus is on neoplasia and treatments in carnivores and vaccines in exotic zoo felids.

Marina Ivancic, DVM

Jonna Mazet, DVM, MPVM, PhD

Adrian Mutlow, DVM

Olav Oftedal, PhD

Jeff Zuba, DVM