

# EWDA STUDENT CHAPTER

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European Student Chapter of the Wildlife Disease Association

<http://www.ewda.org/studentpage.html>

## *Promoting Shared Knowledge*

### Objectives:

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1. Educate wildlife disease students about the profession and career opportunities, job qualifications and education, and externships, volunteer, and research opportunities.
2. Enhance the skills of wildlife disease students through lectures, workshops, conferences, field trips.
3. Connect wildlife disease students to mentors in WDA through the faculty advisor and guest lecturers.
4. Develop international relationships between wildlife disease students across Europe and beyond.

### Implementation:

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To aid in the achievement of these objectives, the EWDA Student Chapter proposes several tools and organizes regular events:

1. Tool #1: the EWDA discussion E-list ([http://groups.yahoo.com/group/EWDA\\_discussion](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/EWDA_discussion)), created to discuss ideas and topics related to wildlife health, disseminate news and knowledge on diseases in wild animals, and announce conferences, and job and education opportunities. Open to students and non students, EWDA members and non members, it aims at creating a bridge between students and professional researchers sharing the same interest.
2. Tool #2: the EWDA electronic journal club (<http://ewdaejc.blogspot.com>) to compile a list of most recent references on wildlife diseases and disease ecology issues as they get published in the literature.
3. Tool #3: the EWDA Student Chapter Mentor Network ([http://spreadsheets.google.com/pub?key=pau5lnp6RSL6bvjYK\\_PPoYQ&gid=0](http://spreadsheets.google.com/pub?key=pau5lnp6RSL6bvjYK_PPoYQ&gid=0)) to maintain and provide students a list of faculties and wildlife health researchers across Europe, including details concerning their research interests and contact information.
4. Tool #4: the EWDA Student Chapter Facebook Community (<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?gid=10403297125>) to keep in touch with fellow chapter members and disease ecology enthusiasts worldwide.
5. Tool #5: the EWDA Student Chapter CV Depository (<http://www.facebook.com/topic.php?uid=10403297125&topic=11042#/board.php?uid=10403297125>) so that disease ecology professionals on the look-out for new students or post-doctoral associates can go and scan for candidates
6. Tool #6: EWDA Student Chapter Science Resources based on materials from the EWDA Student Workshops, to strengthen students scientific approach from designing science to writing science to talking science.

Visit the WDA website at [www.wildlifedisease.org](http://www.wildlifedisease.org) & the EWDA website at [www.ewda.org](http://www.ewda.org)

7. Event #1: the EWDA Student Workshop organized in a European country every second year alternating with the EWDA conference on a theme related to wildlife health, to give an opportunity to wildlife disease students to get acquainted with applied state-of-the-art scientific reasoning and meet professional researchers excelling in the field of wildlife disease investigation in Europe.
8. Event #2: the EWDA Student Mixer organized the day before the first day of the EWDA conference to connect students and develop international relationships across Europe and beyond.
9. Event #3: Country-Based EWDA One-Day Student Symposia to be organized by Country Representatives in their home country on a theme related to wildlife health, to give an opportunity to wildlife disease students to meet and share the experience of wildlife health experts and fellow wildlife health students of their home country.

## Officer duties:

### Executive Board:

#### *Faculty advisor:*

1. Provide support and advice to the EWDA Student Chapter executive board.

#### *Student Workshop Coordinator:*

1. Organize the EWDA Student Workshop and coordinate the organizing committee, which consists of the other officers of the executive board of the EWDA Student Chapter and others.
2. Prepare cogent proposal, time and place plan and scientific program.
3. Prepare budget, seek and apply for funding opportunities, and monitor funds available, write checks as needed and approved, keep records and file all bank statements.

#### *Chair (EWDA Student Representative):*

1. Represent the Student Chapter and its members at EWDA meetings and conference.
2. Submit the Leader Information Update form and the Student Chapter progress report to the WDA and EWDA by deadlines.
3. Write short reports of activities for the Supplement to the Journal of Wildlife Diseases and/or website and send them via email to the editor of the News from Europe and/or WDA/EWDA webmaster (for contact details visit the WDA and EWDA websites).
4. Update information posted on the student page of the EWDA website (contact EWDA webmaster).
5. Maintain all files and membership roster.
6. Compile the nomination list and materials to be displayed on the EWDA website and report election results (contact EWDA webmaster).
7. Keep faculty advisor informed on activities, needs, problems, etc.
8. Coordinate the activities of the EWDA Student Chapter with the help of the Co-chair and Country Representatives as explained below.

*Student Workshop Coordinator and Chair may be run by a single person.*

#### *Co-chair:*



Visit the EWDA website at [www.ewda.org](http://www.ewda.org) & the WDA website at [www.wildlifedisease.org](http://www.wildlifedisease.org)



1. Run meetings in absence of the Chair.
2. Moderate the EWDA discussion E-list and make announcements related to EWDA Student Chapter activities, including announcements of meetings and conferences, posting of job and education opportunities and posting of wildlife health related news (at least 3 messages per month).
3. Maintain the EWDA electronic journal club by posting wildlife health related publications as they appear in the literature and by posting a list of posted publications once per month on the EWDA discussion E-list.
4. Maintain the EWDA Student Chapter Facebook community
5. Organize the EWDA Student Mixer at the EWDA conference.

*Duties listed under Co-chair are shared with the Chair of the EWDA Student Chapter.*

#### Country Representatives:

1. Disseminate information about the EWDA Student Chapter to wildlife disease students in the representative's country.
2. Promote the involvement of wildlife disease students from the representative's country in the EWDA Student Chapter activities and recruit members.
3. Develop a coordinative network of wildlife health mentors in Europe by compiling an annual list of wildlife health professionals including details on their current affiliations, research interests and contact information.
4. Optional: organize a Country-Based EWDA One-Day Student Symposium in their home country (see implementation Event #3).

#### **Membership:**

##### Member eligibility:

Any student (undergraduate, graduate or professional student) from Europe and beyond interested in wildlife health and diseases can become a member of the EWDA Student Chapter by filling the membership form provided on the EWDA website.

Student chapter membership shall be renewed every year or if any change in the personal information has occurred.

##### Support Members:

Any non-student WDA member willing to support the EWDA Student Chapter by any means (from kind regards to regular advisory involvement) can become a Support Member by filling the membership form provided on the EWDA website. Support membership is a lifetime membership, otherwise stated by the Support Member! A Support Member cannot participate in the officers' elections.

### **Officers Election Procedure & Timeline:**

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#### Officer eligibility:

Any European student chapter member who is also a student member of the Wildlife Disease Association (dues paid – visit [www.wildlifedisease.org/membership.htm](http://www.wildlifedisease.org/membership.htm)) can run for a student chapter office (executive board). Candidates for Country Representative Positions are highly encouraged to become a student member of the WDA.

### Nominations:

To be added on the nomination list, candidates to a student chapter office shall fill and send the nominee application form for the chosen office to the current Chair of the EWDA Student Chapter (for contact details visit the EWDA website) **between October 1<sup>st</sup> and January 15<sup>th</sup>**.

*Cover letter:* student chapter members on the nomination list running for a student chapter office / country representative position shall briefly explain why he/she wants to be an officer (motivations) – Word or PDF format, 200 words maximum.

*Student workshop proposal:* student chapter members on the nomination list running for the Student Workshop Coordinator office shall write a short and cogent proposal concerning the organization of the EWDA student workshop, including theme and preliminary scientific program, place and time proposal, and preliminary timeline – Word or PDF format.

Names of candidates and materials will be displayed to student chapter members on the EWDA website **between January 15<sup>th</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup>**.

### Elections:

**From January 15<sup>th</sup> to February 15<sup>th</sup>**, student chapter members will be invited to vote via email for offices with more than one candidate. Ballots shall be counted by one officer that will not be running for an elected office. Candidates with the highest score win. Copy of set of ballots shall be kept and filed during one year after election results have been reported.

New officers will be named by the **beginning of March** but will be officially installed at the end of the EWDA conference in **following summer/fall**. The overlapping period from March to the date of the conference will allow out-going officers to support new officers in their planning and tasks. New officers will serve the office for two years until the end of next EWDA conference.

### Student Chapter activity reports:

*Leader Information Update form* and *Student Chapter progress report* shall be emailed to both the WDA Executive Manager and the Student on Council (for contact details visit the WDA website), and to the chapter faculty advisor and EWDA President, after the EWDA conference and **before September 30<sup>th</sup>**, and every year **before April 30<sup>th</sup>** respectively.

These reports might additionally be posted on the WDA and/or the EWDA websites, as well as in the Supplement to the Journal of Wildlife Diseases – News from Europe.

