

MEETING MINUTES

TIME: 10:00AM – 10:55 EDT

LOCATION: ZOOM

CO-CHAIRS: Dr. Amanda Duffus – Gordon State College
Dr. Debra Miller – University of Tennessee
Dr. Jennifer Ballard – Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

AGENDA:

1. Welcomed all members
2. Updates on Projects:
 - a. Bd – Dr. Rachel Goodman
 - i. Will update the sheet and then will put in contact with Dr. R. Brenes
*If you would like to get involved with updating this sheet, please contact Dr. Goodman at: rgoodman@hsc.edu
 - b. Microbiomes: Dr. B. Hardman
 - i. In progress.
 - c. Immunological Defenses of Amphibians: Dr. B. Hardman
 - i. In progress.
*If you would like to get involved with one of the sheets that Dr. Hardman is working on please email her at: Rebecca.Hardman@MyFWC.com
 - d. Sign templates for the field:
 - i. Dr. Natalie Stilwell will work on wordings needed.
 - ii. Duffus will liaise with the Education Task Team for their input when needed.
 - e. Development of photographic/video necropsy guides:
 - i. Dr. Miller will follow up with Dr. Sheley about this.
 - ii. An info brief was created by Dr. Sheley and Dr. Duffus.
 1. Formatted into the SEPARC style
 2. Just waiting for comments from the SEPARC Steering Committee
 - f. Partnering with Zoos to increase awareness of herp diseases:
 - i. Paused because of COVID-19.
 - g. Invasion Biology of Diseases: M. Atkinson et al.
 - i. In progress.
*If you would like to get involved with creating this sheet, please contact Mr. Atkinson at: msatkinson@knights.ucf.edu
 - h. Turtle Herpes: Info sheet – Dr. N. Stilwell
 - i. In Progress
 1. Duffus will contact Dr. Rachel Marschang for images
 - i. Turtle Bunyavirus Sheet – Bradley O’Hanlon et al. (and Duffus)
 - j. Mycoplasma sheet update – Dr. Natalie Stilwell
 - k. New ARC/SEPARC policies:
 - i. ARC requires all images now to be signed over via a form (donor retains all rights to the image, from what I can see from the form).

SOUTHEAST PARTNERS IN REPTILE AND AMPHIBIAN CONSERVATION

DISEASE TASK TEAM

FEBRUARY 26TH, 2022

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- ii. SEPARC is now requiring review by the steering committee of all products in addition to our internal review.
 - I. Informal meetings every few months to share findings and ask question.
 - i. These meetings would not be business meetings of the DTT, they would be for asking questions about various techniques and sharing what we are seeing in the lab and/or in the field.
 - m. Dr. Duffus created a google group called “EIDs of Herps in the SE USA”, the problem with it is you must have a Gmail account to be part of the group. Hence, we are still looking for an alternative. Was thinking of a listserv of some sort?
3. Announcements:
- a. The First Global Amphibian and Reptile Disease Conference
 - i. Knoxville, TN in August (4-10) 2022
 - ii. More information please go to: <https://utconferences.eventsair.com/gard-conference>
 - iii. Abstracts are due by March 25th at 23:59 EST.
4. New Business:
- a. How do we find out what people in the field need better?
 - b. Sample collection video? (How to avoid cross contamination of samples etc. in the field)
 - c. Disinfection video – Need to make it across pathogens if possible
 - i. Duffus will talk to NEPARC as she thinks they have something like this in the works.
5. Thanks to Dr. Debra Miller and Dr. Jennifer Ballard for their years of service on the Disease Task Team as Co-Chairs!!!!!!
6. Welcome to our new task team leaders: Dr. Rachel Goodman and Dr. Natalie Stilwell!