The Introduction to Conservation and Wildlife Veterinary Medicine Online Certificate Program

ABOUT:
The Introduction to Conservation and Wildlife Veterinary Medicine Online Certificate program, through the Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine, is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the latest trends and issues in the field of wildlife medicine and rehabilitation. Participants of this program will understand the intricacies of wildlife conservation efforts, understand the process of wildlife rehabilitation, learn the capture and handling techniques required for the medical care and management of wildlife, gain insight the anatomy and physiology of various species, and develop an understanding for the habits of wildlife and the environmental conditions in which they live. Taught by two of the top active wildlife veterinarians within the field, this 15-week online certificate program provides an inside look at the day-to-day operations of those who are on the front lines of wildlife conservation within their communities.

INSTRUCTOR BIOS:
Dr. Alejandro Morales: The ARCAS Wildlife Rescue Center
Dr. Alejandro Morales, adjunct faculty at Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine, is the wildlife veterinarian and assistant director of ARCAS in Petén, Guatemala. ARCAS is a non-profit Guatemalan NGO that aims to improve the chances of survival and conservation of endangered species and their habitat, as well as to assist in the national management of natural resources. Dr. Alejandro Morales received his DVM from San Carlos University in Guatemala and an MSc in One Health from Ross University. He started in conservation and education with the Natural History Museum and was the volunteer program coordinator for the largest non-government zoo in Guatemala City. He is field veterinarian for Jaguar home range research program and developed a mangrove ecosystem-monitoring handbook for a protected area in south Guatemala. Dr. Morales has been a keynote speaker in national and international wildlife medicine and rehabilitation events, and has been a lecturer at six international worships for rescue and rehabilitation centers.

Dr. Isabelle Paquet-Durand: The Belize Wildlife and Referral Clinic
Dr. Isabelle Paquet-Durand is the co-founder, director and wildlife veterinarian at the Belize Wildlife & Referral Clinic (BWRC) and has worked in international wildlife medicine for over 25 years. Dr. Isabelle received her DVM and PhD from Hanover, Germany with doctoral research at Heredia Vet School, Costa Rica. For over a decade she has been an educator teaching for several US and international universities and offering her own course through the Wildlife Institute. Her research foci and publications span species ranging from crocodiles to tamanduas. She also engages in public health and parasitology research, monitors wildlife disease outbreaks, is a government and NGO wildlife consultant, runs the veterinary component of the Scarlet Macaw Protection program, and volunteers on the Belize Surgeon's Board, and Friends for Conservation and Development BOD. Dr. Isabelle is widely recognized and respected by her veterinary peers as a wildlife medicine and conservation professional.

ABOUT THE FACILITIES:

The Belize Wildlife and Referral Clinic, Belize:

BWRC is a Belizean non-profit organization founded in 2011 with the help of a host of wildlife partners and friends. For many years, BWRC's founder, Dr. Isabelle Paquet-Durand, provided free medical care to wildlife centers and in the field without a clinic facility and only basic medical equipment. That was before a very special and severely injured monkey named Spartacus provided the impetus to seek funding to establish BWRC. BWRC is now a modern, fully staffed veterinary clinic with x-ray and gas anesthesia; for both wildlife and domestics. As of 2018, BWRC has provided free veterinary care to over 4,000 animals. BWRC continues to grow in scope while remaining focused on its core mission.

The ARCAS Wildlife Rescue, Guatemala:

ARCAS was founded in 1989 in order to help combat the illegal wildlife trade in the Petén region. Its first act was to establish the Wild Animal Rescue Center, a direct response to the fact that although the Guatemalan government was beginning to comply with the CITES treaty by confiscating trafficked wildlife, there was no adequate facility to treat and rehabilitate these animals. Under a cooperative agreement with the Guatemalan government, ARCAS is recognized as the official destination for all confiscated wildlife taken from smugglers in the Mayan Biosphere Reserve. Since 1990, ARCAS has rescued between 300 to 600 endangered species per year of more than 40 different species.

OBJECTIVES:

The goals of the Introduction to Conservation and Wildlife Veterinary Medicine Certificate Program are to:

- To gain comprehensive knowledge on the latest trends and issues within the fields of wildlife and conservation medicine through high quality online instructional delivery.
- To develop an understanding of the practice of wildlife conservation and rehabilitation medicine as well as the larger ethical and conservation issues that impact wildlife individuals and populations.
- To gain insight on various wildlife behavioral patterns and the rehabilitation processes of various species.
- To learn basic capture and handling techniques required for the medical care and management of wildlife.

STRUCTURE:
The program will consist of a series of pre-recorded online lectures, live online labs, and live online discussions on various aspects of wildlife conservation and rehabilitation veterinary medicine totaling 30hrs. Participants will also have the opportunity to access video footage of wildlife releases, surgery recovery updates, and enclosure transitions. There will be a short quiz at the end of each module. At the end of the program, participants in this certificate will be required to choose an internationally relevant wildlife topic of interest to research and present the information in a 5-minute video at the end of the program.

I. **Pre-Recorded Lectures: 12 hrs.**
The pre-recorded lectures will provide the opportunity to participants to work at their own pace throughout the certificate program. It is expected that participants write down any questions they might have and ask instructors over email. There will be 12 pre-recorded lectures totaling 12 hrs.

II. **Live Online Discussion: 5hrs.**
There is a total of 5hrs. of live online discussions in which instructors will present on relevant topics within wildlife conservation and rehabilitation medicine. These online discussions will allow participants to ask questions and engage with instructors in live discussion. For those that will be unable to attend the live discussions, each discussion will be recorded. These will take place on Sundays @ 6pm (ET).

III. **Live Online Labs: 10hrs.**
The live online labs provide an opportunity for participants to gain exposure to cases that our instructors see in the field. There will be a total of 6hrs of live online labs, with another 4hrs of pre-recorded surgeries or wildlife releases; totaling 10hrs. total. These labs will consist of necropsies, bone puzzles, as well as an inside look into the rehabilitation process. These will take place on Sundays @ 6pm (ET).

IV. **Exclusive Video Footage of Wildlife Rehabilitation Process: 3hrs. +**
Since our instructors are practitioners within the field, they are continually encountering new cases and finding innovative ways to solve them. You will have the opportunity to see them in action, as they will upload content on their day-to-day operations as well as updates on recoveries for some of their patients in their respective clinics.

Certificate completion is based on 100% completion of the following:
1. Attend a minimum of 5 live modules
2. Complete and receive a 10/10 grade for every module quiz
3. Completion of the final video project

Required Equipment: Computer with reliable, high -speed internet access; your preferred web browser; video player with ability to play MP4 videos; speakers and/or headphones and working sound; PDF reader.

Attendance: It is expected that all participants of this program review educational content at their scheduled times. All participants must attend a minimum of 5 live lectures in order to pass and complete the certificate. Participation will be confirmed at each live session. If participants are unable to attend the live online sessions, it is expected that they utilize the online platform to view lectures that were missed within the time frame provided. Attendance concerns and questions can be sent to pvmglobal@purdue.edu.

Policy on academic dishonesty: *Cheating, stealing content, duplicating content, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University are examples of dishonesty. The commitment of the acts of cheating, lying, stealing, and deceit in any of their diverse is dishonest and must not be tolerated. Moreover, knowingly to aid and abet, directly or indirectly, other parties in committing dishonest acts is in itself dishonest (from SVM Admin. Doc. #20; University Regulations, 2008-09, Part 5, Section III-B-2-a).* **Participants found guilty of academic dishonesty in any form will be withdrawn from the certificate program without refund.**

Professional Conduct: Participants are expected to behave as professionals, and consistent with the values of Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine as outlined in our strategic plan. http://www.vet.purdue.edu/about/values-and-culture.php. Less than collegial behavior, including derogatory or hateful communications, are inconsistent with these values, and will result in withdrawal from the certificate program without refund.

Policy on Make-up Examinations: Not applicable

Diversity Welcome: In this program, each voice has something of value to contribute. Please take care to respect the different experiences, beliefs and values expressed by students and staff involved in this course. We support Purdue's commitment to diversity, and welcome individuals of all ages, backgrounds, citizenships, disability, sex, education, ethnicities, family statuses, genders, gender identities, geographical locations, languages, military experience, political views, races, religions, sexual orientations, socioeconomic statuses, and work experiences.

Disruption of Scheduled Program:
In the event of a disruption, the schedule of this program may need to be modified in order to accommodate the disruption of scheduled online lectures, laboratories, or other activities for this course. If such a situation arises, please contact Addison Sheldon, PVM Director of Global Engagement (email address: asheldon@purdue.edu) for most up to date information.

Spring 2023 SCHEDULE

Module 1	Date TBD	Online Lectures	Introduction to Wildlife Conservation and Medicine (BWRC and ARCAS) 2hrs
Module 2	TBD	Live Lecture	Wildlife Traffic and Crime Forensics (BWRC) 1.5hr.
Module 3	TBD	Online Lectures	Wildlife Examination (BWRC) / Illegal Wildlife Trade (ARCAS) 2hr.
Module 4	TBD	Live Lecture	Wildlife Capture, Restraint and Immobilization (BWRC) 1hr.
Module 5	TBD	Online Lecture	Psittacine Rehabilitation and Medicine (ARCAS)/ Stabilization (BWRC) 2hrs.
Module 6	TBD	Live Lecture	Basic clinical applications in non-domestic species (Pre-Recorded Wing Wrap/IO Catheter/injection site demos (BWRC) 1 hr.
Module 7	TBD	Online Lecture	Primate and Small Animal Rescue, Rehabilitation and Medicine (ARCAS) 2hrs.
Module 8	TBD	Live Lab	Discussion and Video of Wildlife Release Process and Reintroduction (ARCAS) 1.5hrs
Module 9	TBD	Live Lecture	Conservation Successes and Failures (ARCAS) 1hr.
Module 10	TBD	Online Lecture	Reptile Medicine and Conservation Efforts/Avian Conservation efforts for Ara macao (BWRC) 2hrs.
Module 11	TBD	Live Lab	Discussion on Recorded Necropsies (BWRC) 1.5 hrs.
Module 12	TBD	Online Lecture	Wildlife Parasitology (BWRC)/ Zoonosis (ARCAS) 2hrs.
Module 13	TBD	Live Lab	Discussion on Recorded Necropsies (ARCAS) 1.5 hrs.
Module 14	TBD	Live Lecture	Tips and Tricks with Wildlife Patients (ARCAS) 1hr.
Module 15	TBD	Live Lecture	Joint Discussion on One Health within Wildlife Veterinary Medicine 1 hr.