

## Legislation and Regulation Committee

**Committee Members:** R. T. Bowyer, V. Brack, Jr., A. W. Ferguson (Chair) R. W. Kays, D. Kresja, V. Mathis, T. J. McIntyre, D. Odell, E. A. Rickart, R. Rodriguez, S. R. Sheffield, D.W. Sparks, E. W. Valdez

### **Mission:**

The Legislation and Regulations Committee was formed in 1976 to monitor and provide input into the state and federal regulation and legislation process on such issues as endangered species, trapping and harvesting regulations, and the use of animals for experimental purposes.

### **Information Items:**

(1) We continued to work with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to develop guidelines regarding importation of potentially infectious biological material, most notably bats. The launch of the electronic-Import Permit Program (eIPP) has made applying for import permits a bit easier although confusion still remains as to what and how certain kinds of material are to be regulated. Together with Meredith Pyle, Glen Degruy, and Thomas Cremer from the CDC's Division of Special Agents and Toxins and IPP and Mr. Neal Suchak of the DOT's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, we hosted a workshop entitled "Importation of potentially infectious specimens: Striking a balance between safety and research" at the 2019 Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections in Chicago, Illinois on 29 May 2019.

(2) Adam Ferguson joined the USA Nagoya Protocol Action Group, a consortium of scientific societies including Ecological Society of America, Botanical Society of America, and Natural Science Collections Alliance, universities, and the Department of State, aiming to demystify the Nagoya Protocol as it applies to research and collections. The first step is developing an informative, community-led website which is in the beta phase: <https://learnagoya.com/>

(3) The Committee continues to try and keep tabs on changes to laws and regulations that might negatively impact mammals and/or research on mammals, which proves to be quite a difficult task. Building upon past efforts to promote collaboration across Committees, we worked to improve communication between other relevant Committees, such as the Marine Mammals, Resolutions, and Conservation Committees. Proposed changes to the Waters of the United States (WOTUS), the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and the John D. Dingell Jr Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act were all noted during 2018.

### **Action Items:**

(1) The Committee would like to request \$1,000 USD to support ASM as an official sponsor of the Nagoya Protocol website (<https://learnagoya.com/>). These funds are crucial to establishing this community-monitored site and other societies such as ESA and NSCA are also considering contributing. The funds would enable us to place the ASM logo as an official sponsor of this important and proactive site. The Committee would like to request a small amount of funding to offset costs of sending representative(s) of ASM to Atlanta, Georgia to meet with the CDC

regarding importation regulations. We request that \$2,000 USD be allocated to the committee to cover travel costs to and from Atlanta for at least 2 Committee members.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Adam W. Ferguson, Chair  
([aferguson@fieldmuseum.org](mailto:aferguson@fieldmuseum.org))