

2022-2023 Faculty Colloquium Series

Friday, February 10, 2023, 12-1 pm Escalante Hall, Room 128

"Chimpanzee Health Checks"

Dr. Anneke Moresco Program Director and Instructor of Veterinary Technology



Most people go to their health care provides for regular health checks and chimpanzees need health checks too. The International Primate Health & Welfare Group has been working with African sanctuaries to support regular health checks during to perform comprehensive evaluations of chimpanzees. The evaluations include general health, disease surveillance, heart and reproductive assessment, contraception if needed. Each expert on the team takes on an area to evaluate, Dr. Moresco's area is reproduction. We use all the same tools that human medicine uses: ultrasound, radiography, ECG, blood sampling, and archiving. The big challenge with the interpretation of results is that for many of these tests normal ranges are not established, so each evaluation contributes data to the normal ranges. The project is working in Africa, the US and Latin America to compare to data in zoos and sanctuaries. The ultimate goal is to learn enough so that we can continually improve the health of the individuals under human care and to better protect the ones in the wild.