

ZOË TIERRA ROSSMAN

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EDUCATION

University of California, Davis 2013-2017
Bachelor of Science with High Honors
Evolution, Ecology, and Biodiversity

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Principal investigator, *When yawning occurs in elephants* June 2015-present
UC Davis Department of Population Health & Reproduction
Designed and conducted studies on yawning behavior and interspecific and intraspecific contagious yawning behavior in a group of captive African elephants.

Field assistant, *SDBs and salivary cortisol levels in African elephants* July-Aug 2017
African Elephant Research Unit
Assisted in observations of self-directed behaviors and collection of saliva samples for cortisol analysis from a group of captive African elephants.

Principal investigator, *Elephant-initiated interactions with humans* June-Sept 2015
UC Davis Department of Population Health & Reproduction
Designed and conducted a study on elephant-initiated interactions with humans and human-animal bonds in a group of captive African elephants.

Research Intern, *Why is the giant panda black and white?* May 2014-June 2015
UC Davis Department of Wildlife, Fish & Conservation Biology
Examined the evolutionary origins of panda coloration. Scored the coloration patterns of over 200 terrestrial carnivores and collected information on independent variables using NASA TERRA/MODIS and IUCN data on QGIS.

Research Intern, *Zebra Stripes* May 2014-June 2014
UC Davis Department of Wildlife, Fish & Conservation Biology
Researched a variety of different behavioral variables for Equid species to create tables for Tim Caro's book *Zebra Stripes*.

Research Intern, *Land conversion mapping project* Oct 2013-May 2014
UC Davis Department of Wildlife, Fish & Conservation Biology
Used Google Earth and GE Grids to map Eastern Africa for anthropogenic land conversion to determine prospective wildlife corridors.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Field Assistant, BBC Seven Worlds June 2018
Spotted, tracked, and monitored the behavior of several different species of birds and mammals. Recorded audio and 360 video for the production, and was introduced to equipment and techniques used in wildlife videography (long-lens, drone, time-lapse, GoPro).

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- Pacific Wildlife Care Center Mar 2018-present
Assisted in the care and rehabilitation of injured and orphaned wildlife, handled and transported wild animals, prepared and administered medications, and assisted with various medical procedures.
- African Elephant Research Unit Aug-Sept 2014
Collected and entered daily behavioral data on a group of captive African elephants, including social behavior, dietary information, and sleep studies.

PUBLICATIONS

- Rossman ZT, Padfield C, Young D, and Hart LA (2017). Elephant-Initiated Interactions with Humans: Individual Differences and Specific Preferences in Captive African Elephants (*Loxodonta africana*). *Front. Vet. Sci.* 4:60. doi: [10.3389/fvets.2017.00060](https://doi.org/10.3389/fvets.2017.00060).
- Rossman ZT, Hart B, Greco B, Young D, Padfield C, Weidner L, Gates J, and Hart LA (2017). When Yawning Occurs in Elephants. *Front. Vet. Sci.* 4:22. doi: [10.3389/fvets.2017.00022](https://doi.org/10.3389/fvets.2017.00022).
- Caro T, Walker H, Rossman Z, Hendrix M, and Stankowich T (2017). Why is the giant panda black and white?. *Behav. Ecol.* arx008. doi: [10.1093/beheco/arx008](https://doi.org/10.1093/beheco/arx008)
- Jacobson A, Dhanota J, Godfrey J, Jacobson H, Rossman Z, Stanish A, Walker H, and Riggio J (2015). A novel approach to mapping land conversion: an application to East Africa. *Environmental Modelling & Software* 72:1-9. doi: [10.1016/j.envsoft.2015.06.011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsoft.2015.06.011)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Rossman, ZT. "When yawning occurs in elephants." Presented at the UC Davis Undergraduate Research Conference, April 29, 2017 (oral presentation).
- Rossman, ZT. "Elephant-initiated interactions with humans: individual differences and specific preferences." Presented at the UC Davis Undergraduate Research Conference, April 9, 2016 (oral presentation) and at the UC Davis Veterinary Medicine Undergraduate Research Symposium, April 15, 2016 (oral presentation).

AWARDS/HONORS

- Evolution & Ecology Departmental Citation. June 2017
Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research Honorable Mention. June 2017
University Honors Program (UC Davis). 2013-2017
Dean's Honors List (UC Davis). Spring, fall 2014; winter, spring 2015; winter, spring, fall 2016

FUNDING

- Provost's Undergraduate Fellowship (UC Davis). Spring 2016

POPULAR PRESS COVERAGE

- Selected coverage of *Why is the giant panda black and white?* (Caro et al. 2017)
Science: How pandas got their patches

Time: This Is Why Pandas Are Black and White
Reuters: Scientists finally figure out why pandas are black & white
Forbes: Why Are Giant Pandas Black And White?
Washington Post: Why are pandas black and white? California biologists have a new theory
Full list of coverage available at: <https://oxfordjournals.altmetric.com/details/16898141/news>

RELEVANT TRAINING

CITI Social & Behavioral Research basic training (valid until 11/15/2018)
UC Davis Animal Care and Use 101 (valid until 5/12/2020)

SKILLS

Computer
Microsoft Office Suite
G Suite
Adobe: Lightroom and Bridge
Wordpress
Basic knowledge of QGIS
Basic knowledge of SAS9.4
Photography
zoerossman.com

RELEVANT COURSES COMPLETED

Upper division:

ANT 154A-Primate Socioecology
BIS 101-Genes and Gene Expression
BIS 104-Cell Biology
BIS 105-Biomolecules and Metabolism
CHE 118A,B,C-Organic Chemistry
ETX 198-Evolution in Human Altered Environments
EVE 100-Evolution
EVE 101-Ecology
EVE 105-Phylogenetic Analysis of Vertebrate Structure
EVE 107-Animal Communication
EVE 115-Marine Ecology
NPB 102-Animal Behavior
NPB 123-Comparative Vertebrate Organology
STA 100-Statistics
WFC 110-Biology and Conservation of Wild Mammals
WFC 152-Ecology of Human-Wildlife Conflict

Lower division:

BIS 2A,B,C-General Biology
CHE 2A,B,C-General Chemistry
MAT 17A,B,C-Calculus
PHY 7A,B,C-Physics
WFC 10-Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

*References available upon request