

# *Gorilla Doctors 2012*



25 Years of Saving Lives 1986-2011

Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project 2011 Annual Report



# Our Mission

*The mission of the Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project is to ensure the health and survival of the mountain gorilla through veterinary and human health initiatives.*

*Our vision is a thriving mountain gorilla population in the wild.*

The Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project is now celebrating its 25th anniversary. We were first established in 1986 as the Volcanoes Veterinary Center in response to Dian Fossey's request to Ruth Morris Keesling and the Morris Animal Foundation (MAF) to send a veterinarian to perform life-saving treatment of gorillas injured by man. Tragically, Fossey was murdered before she would see the successful outcome of her request: MAF sent Dr. James Foster as the first Gorilla Doctor and first veterinarian to treat individual animals in the wild. At that point, there were just 240 mountain gorillas remaining in the wild, so each individual's survival was critical to the sustainability of the population. Since then, the MGVP has grown from a staff of one veterinarian in one country to 12 veterinarians in three countries.

The MGVP is now working closely with the University of California, Davis Wildlife Health Center in a partnership called the Mountain Gorilla One Health Program. This year, thanks to this partnership and cutting-edge technologies, the Gorilla Doctors and collaborators isolated a human virus in a gorilla that died during a respiratory disease outbreak. This points to the importance of our work in remaining vigilant and protective of the health of the mountain gorillas. Through the Mountain Gorilla One Health Program, we are expanding our One Health approach to gorilla conservation including preventive health programs for all park employees who come into contact with the gorillas daily, as well as rotating UC Davis medical residents through the local hospital and clinics to help deliver health care to community members. Over the last 25 years, the MGVP has trained dozens of African veterinarians in wildlife medicine, who have gone on to fill top management and political positions in their countries and implement policies that affect all wildlife in east-central Africa.

Thanks to people like you, our hard work is having a tremendous impact: a recent study proved that veterinary care for mountain gorillas is responsible for a significant proportion of an incredible 26% increase in the gorilla population over the last seven years. We welcome your continued support in being a part of this incredible conservation success story.

*Michael R. Cranfield, DVM  
Executive Director, MGVP, Inc.*



**Dr. Mike Cranfield**  
*Executive Director*

Dr. Cranfield has led the MGVP team for 13 years, splitting his time between overseeing operations in Africa, fundraising on the road, and administering MGVP from his office at the Maryland Zoo. He is also a senior veterinarian at the UC Davis Wildlife Health Center.



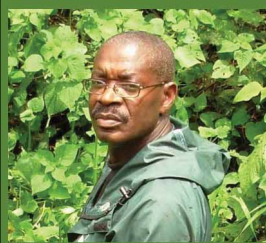
**Dr. Jan Ramer**  
*Regional Veterinary Manager*

Since 2009, Dr. Ramer has managed MGVP's programs in Africa. In addition to managing the staff and taking part in the full range of MGVP's veterinary activities, Dr. Ramer is dedicated to building capacity within the organization, mentoring student interns, and strengthening MGVP's partnerships.



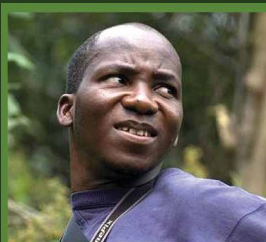
**Dr. Eddy Kambale**  
*DRC Field Veterinarian*

Dr. Kambale is one of our two Congolese field veterinarians based in Goma, DRC. Working as a Gorilla Doctor since 2004, Dr. Kambale monitors the health of the mountain and Grauer's gorillas in Virunga and Kahuzi-Biega National Parks and serves as the primary care doctor for the orphans in DRC.



**Dr. Jacques Iyanya**  
*DRC In-Country Field Veterinarian & Administrative Lead*

Along with Dr. Kambale, Dr. Iyanya has looked after the mountain and Grauer's gorillas in Virunga and Kahuzi-Biega National Parks for six years. Dr. Iyanya also provides administrative support for our Congo programs.



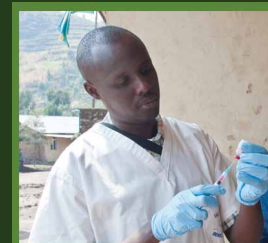
**Dr. Benard Ssebide**  
*PREDICT Uganda Coordinator*

Our Uganda in-country veterinarian for three years, Dr. Ssebide now heads up our Uganda PREDICT work. He is assisted by Dr. Mbabazi. Previously, he worked in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park for the Ugandan Wildlife Authority for six years, first as a veterinarian and then as chief park warden.



**Dr. Kirsten Gilardi**  
*MGOHP Director*

In 2009, Dr. Gilardi became director of the Mountain Gorilla One Health Program at the UC Davis Wildlife Health Center. She works with Dr. Cranfield on gorilla health research and on the PREDICT project, and helps him with running all aspects of the MGVP's U.S. and Africa-based operations.



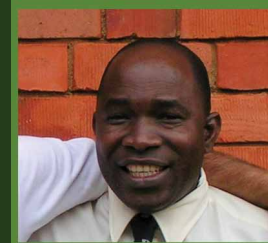
**Dr. Jean-Felix Kinani**  
*Rwanda Field Veterinarian*

Dr. Kinani has worked as a field veterinarian in Rwanda for seven years and has assisted with interventions and necropsies in Uganda and DRC. He also heads up our rabies program in Rwanda and will soon complete his Masters of Field Epidemiology at the National University of Rwanda.



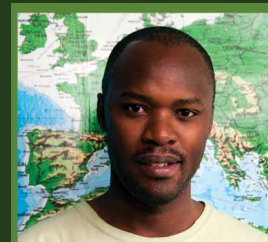
**Dr. Fred Nizeyimana**  
*Uganda Field Veterinarian*

Dr. Nizeyimana became a Gorilla Doctor in 2010 and has since been dedicated to monitoring the health of the mountain gorillas in Uganda's Bwindi Impenetrable and Mgahinga Gorilla National Parks. Previously, he was the sanctuary manager and veterinarian for the Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Sanctuary.



**Dr. Jean Bosco Nizeyi**  
*Research Veterinarian*

Dr. Bosco serves as MGVP's research veterinarian and also as a professor at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. Starting with MGVP in 1993 as a field veterinarian, Dr. Bosco now conducts research and mentors the next generation of African veterinarians at Makerere.



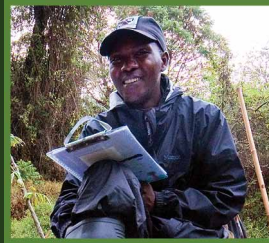
**Dr. Julius Nziza**  
*PREDICT Rwanda Coordinator*

Since 2010, Dr. Nziza has overseen our PREDICT projects in and around Rwanda's national parks. He is assisted by Dr. Nsengimana. For three years prior to joining MGVP, Dr. Nziza was the Rwanda Development Board veterinary warden in Nyungwe National Park.



**Jean-Paul Lukusa**  
*Gorilla Conservation Employee*  
*Health Program Manager*

Jean-Paul manages the GCEHP, coordinating health screenings, health education, and laboratory sample processing for hundreds of workers and their families. Prior to joining MGVP in 2003, he worked as a medical school professor.



**Dr. Jean Bosco Noheri**  
*Regional Laboratory Technician*

Dr. Noheri works primarily as the laboratory technician at our Musanze headquarters. He also assists in clinical interventions and necropsies. He joined us in 2009 after completing his veterinary medicine degree at the Higher Institute of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry ISAE-Rwanda.



**Schadrack Niyonzima**  
*Administrative Assistant*

Schadrack works as the administrative assistant at our Musanze headquarters and has been a vital member of the team since joining us in September 2009. Thanks to his management skills and political and business savvy, MGVP's local operations run smoothly.



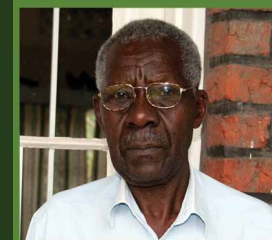
**Dr. Olivier Nsengimana**  
*PREDICT Rwanda Field Assistant*

Since 2010, Dr. Nsengimana has served as Dr. Julius' field assistant for the PREDICT project in Rwanda. Olivier, a native of Gitarama, Rwanda, graduated with a degree in veterinary medicine from the Higher Institute of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry ISAE-Rwanda.



**Dr. Rachael Mbabazi**  
*PREDICT Uganda Field Assistant*

Dr. Mbabazi assists Dr. Ssebide in carrying out our PREDICT work in Uganda. Before joining MGVP in late 2010, Dr. Ssebide graduated from Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, with a degree in veterinary medicine.



**Leon Ntahobavukira**  
*Rwanda House Manager & Cook*

MGVP's second longest standing employee, Leon has served as the house manager and chef at our Rwanda headquarters for 16 years. Leon's homemade meals have given a whole series of Gorilla Doctors the energy needed for long days in the field and office.



**Dr. Linda Lowenstine**  
*Veterinary Pathologist*

Dr. Lowenstine is a board-certified veterinary pathologist at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine and a world-renowned expert in primate pathology. She has worked as MGVP's primary pathologist since 1987 and is a member of the MGOHP Science Advisory Committee.



**Molly Feltner**  
*Communications Officer*

Molly is dedicated to publicizing the work of MGVP through photography, multimedia, writing, and social media. She also manages our website and public relations efforts. Molly began volunteering for MGVP in Rwanda in 2009 and was hired as a staff member in 2010.



**Allison McCurdy**  
*Development and Program Assistant*

Since January 2011, Allison has supported fundraising and donor relations for MGVP and the Mountain Gorilla One Health Program from her base at the UC Davis Wildlife Health Center (WHC). Allison brings to the WHC expertise in stakeholder relations.



**Nina Storch**  
*Project Assistant*

Serving as Dr. Cranfield's assistant in Maryland for more than 14 years, Nina works to ensure that MGVP's Executive Director is supported to successfully manage the organization. Nina's favorite part of the job is communicating with MGVP staff and partners locally and internationally.



**Jennifer Sohl**  
*Bio Bank Manager and Registered Veterinary Technician*

Jennifer manages the storage of all mountain gorilla biological specimens at the MGVP's bio bank at The Maryland Zoo. She also assists Dr. Cranfield with research and supplies procurement. She has been an employee since 2002.



**Gorilla Orphan Caretakers**

MGVP employs a team of dedicated caretakers to look after confiscated gorillas held at our quarantine facility in Kinigi, Rwanda. The caretakers include Innocent Kabendera, Fabian Bahati, Amiel Bapfakwita, Dieu Donne Muyambabazi, and Jean Baptiste Bisenigamana.



## Guards

Felicien Mulinda, Faustine Nemeye, and Samuel Nshimiyimana work as guards and grounds staff at our regional headquarters in Rwanda. Jean-Claude Rusengamihigo, Michel Mwemezi, and Innocent Barimemshi perform similar duties at our orphan gorilla facility in Kinigi.

## On-site Volunteers *July 2010 to June 2011*

Ali Silver  
Dr. Tanya Fancher  
Dr. Agnieszka Witkowski  
Dr. Steven Gelber  
Andrea Brownstein  
Dallas Wentz  
Kris Abbott  
Jimmy Johnson  
James Hassell  
Jennifer Hogan

Shannon McCook  
Dr. Kathy Wheeler  
Christine DePiero  
Claire Welsh  
Dr. Donna Shettko  
Dr. Dale Smith  
Dr. Cyprian Momanyi

*If you are interested in volunteering, visit [www.gorilladoctors.org](http://www.gorilladoctors.org)*

## Rwanda-based Interns *July 2010 to June 2011*

Savio Hakurumume  
Ernest Rukundo  
Enoch Uwimana

Accountant  
*July 2010 to June 2011*

Quinlan Business Services

## Administrative Headquarters *UC Davis Wildlife Health Center*

Dr. Jonna Mazet, Co-Director  
Dr. Walter Boyce, Co-Director  
Courtney Chambers  
Kathy Collins  
Lavonne Hull  
Alison Kent





**25 Years of Saving Lives** – “There are 248 gorillas in the world, and they’re all going to die,” Dian Fossey told Ruth Morris Keesling of the Morris Animal Foundation in 1984. “Would you help me save them and send a vet for them?”\* In 1986, the Foundation sent Dr. James Foster, the first Gorilla Doctor, to Rwanda. Beginning as the Centre Veterinaire des Volcans (CVV), the MGVP has grown to employ 12 veterinarians working in all three countries where mountain gorillas live. In the face of war, genocide, financial downturns, and other setbacks, the MGVP has performed more than 150 life-saving clinical interventions on gorillas. During this special anniversary, join us in celebrating our successes over the last 25 years. *\*Mountain Gorilla Conservation Fund*



# January

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29	30	<div><div><div>FIRST</div></div></div> 31	<div><div><div></div><div><div>Ruth Morris Keesling</div><div>A life-long animal lover and daughter of Dr. Mark Morris, founder of the Morris Animal Foundation (MAF), Ruth established MGVP in 1986 at the request of Dian Fossey. She recruited Dr. James Foster to be the first gorilla veterinarian in Rwanda. MAF served as MGVP's parent organization through 2006.</div></div></div></div>	<div><div><div>December 2011</div><table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr></table></div><div><div><div>February 2012</div><table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></div></div></div>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		12	13	14	15	16	17	18		19	20	21	22	23	24	25		26	27	28	29				
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**A Remarkable Population Increase** – A 2010 census, published in 2011, shows that over the previous seven years the number of mountain gorillas living in the Virunga Volcanoes Massif of Uganda, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo grew by an incredible 26.3%. These results highlight the effectiveness of the conservation work carried out by National Park authorities and non-profits like the MGVP. Although the overall number of these animals remains critically low, mountain gorillas are the only great ape whose numbers in the wild are increasing. This species has a fighting chance for survival if we continue to work to address conservation challenges.



# February

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	<b>Dr. James Foster</b> Dr. Foster was the first Gorilla Doctor, serving as program director from 1986 until his death in 1997. He spent two years in Kinigi, Rwanda, building the CVV, MGVP's first clinic, and then returned to the U.S. where he divided his time between working in Rwanda and administering the project from his home in Washington state.		1	2	3	4																																																																																				
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**Our “Extreme Conservation” Works** – A 2011 study\* of the gorillas living in the Virunga Massif revealed that over a 22-year period the number of habituated gorillas—about 70% of the overall population—increased by 4.1% annually while the number of unhabituated gorillas decreased by 0.7% annually. The difference in the growth rates was attributed to the fact that habituated gorillas benefited from “extreme conservation” practices such as veterinary care. In fact, the MGVP’s veterinary program may be responsible for up to 40% of the difference between the growth rates of the two subpopulations. \**PLoS One* 6(6) e19788



# March

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**Ground-Breaking Research** – The MGVP formed a partnership with the UC Davis Wildlife Health Center called the Mountain Gorilla One Health Program to further investigate gorilla health issues. In 2011, using biological samples collected during medical procedures and analyzed by our UC Davis partners, we published the results of a study\* linking mountain gorilla deaths to a human virus, the first solid proof that gorillas can become ill and die as a result of contact with pathogens from people. While troubling, this research helps us to make recommendations for improved preventive health measures and wildlife management practices. In addition, we maintain a bio bank for researchers and support the Mountain Gorilla Skeletal Recovery Project. \**Emerging Infectious Diseases* 17(4): 711-713

# April

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1  April Fool's Day Palm Sunday	2	3	4	5	6 FULL	7																																																																																				
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29 FIRST	30	 <p><b>Dr. Liz Macfie</b> Dr. Macfie served as director of the CVV in Rwanda from 1989 to 1992. In May 2011 she joined the Wildlife Conservation Society's Species Program in Nairobi, Kenya, working as their Gorilla Coordinator.</p>			<p>March 2012</p> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	<p>May 2012</p> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
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**Healthy People, Healthy Gorillas** – Through our flagship Gorilla Conservation Employee Health Program, we continue to support human health initiatives to mitigate the risk of disease transfer between people and gorillas. The MGVP facilitates health screenings, follow-up care, and health education for those people who frequently come into contact with gorillas: National Park staff, trackers, porters, researchers, and their families. Hundreds of individuals participated in our program last year. As part of the Mountain Gorilla One Health Program, third-year residents from the UC Davis Medical Center join staff at Ruhengeri Hospital near Volcanoes National Park, Rwanda for one-month rotations to help treat patients and train staff members.

# May

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	<b>Dr. Mel Richardson</b> Dr. Richardson worked as a project veterinarian for seven months in 1992 and 1993 until he was evacuated due to the turmoil that preceded the 1994 genocide. Despite being in the region during a very dangerous time, he was able to perform several interventions to treat injured mountain gorillas.	1  May Day	2	3	4	5  Cinco de Mayo																																																																																				
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**Tackling Infectious Disease Outbreaks** – 2011 marked the second year of PREDICT, the USAID-funded project investigating emerging infectious diseases in wildlife in Uganda and Rwanda led by the UC Davis Wildlife Health Center. Our PREDICT staff, who are dedicated to finding new diseases that could transfer from wildlife to humans, have collected thousands of samples from rodents, primates, and other animals living in and around Rwanda and Uganda's national parks. Through partnerships with the Ugandan and Rwandan governments and Makerere University, the MGVP has helped improve the capacity to store, process and test wildlife samples in in-country laboratories. The MGVP also helped the Government of Uganda respond to human cases of yellow fever and Ebola virus by examining the role of wildlife in these two outbreaks.

*June*

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**Care for Confiscated Gorillas** – Over the past 12 months, the Gorilla Doctors have assisted in the treatment and care of five new infant gorilla orphans confiscated from poachers—an all-time high for rescues in one year. The four Grauer's gorillas and one mountain gorilla were poached from the DRC and required medical attention for ailments including respiratory disease, malnutrition, parasites, and wounds caused by restraints. Dr. Kambale took the lead on medical care for the Grauer's gorillas orphans in the DRC while female mountain gorilla Ihrwe, who was confiscated in Rwanda in August 2011, is residing at MGVP's orphan quarantine facility in Kinigi, Rwanda. Once DNA tests confirm that Ihrwe is in fact a mountain gorilla, she will be transferred to the Senkwekwe sanctuary in DRC to be with other mountain gorillas.

# July

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29	30	31	<div><div></div><div><div>Dr. Jonathan Sleeman</div><div>Dr. Sleeman worked for MGVP from 1995 to 1998, first as field director and then as interim project director after Dr. Foster passed away. He is now Director of the USGS National Wildlife Health Center.</div></div></div>		<div><div>June 2012</div><table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr></table></div> <div><div>August 2012</div><table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr></table></div>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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**Empowering African Veterinarians** – We aim to employ outstanding African veterinarians and mentor the next generation of wild animal health experts. In order to help our veterinarians in their quest for professional growth, we sponsor continuing education for staff members. This past year, Dr. Noheri trained at the Indianapolis and Maryland Zoos in February, while Dr. Kambale spent the month of July working at the California National Primate Research Center at UC Davis. In November, Dr. Kinani will complete his Masters of Field Epidemiology at the National University of Rwanda, also sponsored by MGVP. Our Research Veterinarian Dr. Nizeyi will soon embark on his 15th year teaching at Makerere University in Kampala, where he has mentored more than 70 veterinary and wildlife health students, several of whom are now on our staff.

# August

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**Building Relationships with Partners** – The Gorilla Doctors work in close partnership with national park and wildlife authorities including the Rwanda Development Board, L'Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature, and the Uganda Wildlife Authority, all of which conduct daily health monitoring of the gorillas, anti-poaching patrols, and provide support during interventions. In addition, MGVP also works with other gorilla conservation groups, especially the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International's Karisoke Research Center and the International Gorilla Conservation Programme. This past year, the success of these partnerships has been highlighted by the results of the mountain gorilla census and the confiscation and care of multiple orphan gorillas.

# September

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<div></div> <div>30</div>	<div></div> <div><b>Dr. Kenneth N. Cameron</b></div> <div>Dr. Cameron worked as field director from 1997 to 1999, providing urgent health care and conducting important gorilla health research. He returned from 2005 to 2007 as part-time field veterinarian. He is a MGOHP Conservation Advisor.</div>			<div></div> <div><b>Dr. Innocent Rwego</b></div> <div>Dr. Rwego worked as a regional field veterinarian with Drs. Whittier and Nutter between 2001 and 2005. Now based in Kampala, Uganda, he works as a technical advisor for the East Congo Basin USAID RESPOND project.</div>																																																																																						





**Domestic Animal Health** – The MGVP supports several initiatives for improving the health of dogs, cats, and livestock living near the national parks, because domestic animals can potentially transfer infectious diseases to gorillas. The MGVP administered more than 1,000 free rabies vaccines to pets this past year, led by Dr. Kinani. Our Rwandan and Ugandan staff offer veterinary consultation to cattle, sheep, and goats living on partner farms, while numerous MGVP interns have conducted livestock health research projects. In 2010, the MGVP agreed to provide veterinary care for Virunga National Park's six poacher-tracking bloodhounds. Dr. Ramer even saved the life of the bloodhound Stella, who developed severe respiratory disease shortly after arriving in DRC.

# October

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28	 FULL             29	30	31	 <div> <p><b>Dr. Chris Whittier</b></p> <p>Dr. Whittier worked with MGVP from 2001 to 2006, becoming regional field veterinarian in 2003. Dr. Whittier, along with his wife, Dr. Nutter, greatly expanded the program, notably hiring four new African veterinarians, guiding MGVP's gorilla orphan care program, and establishing a health program for Grauer's gorillas.</p> </div>																																																			
			Halloween			<p>November 2012</p> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30								
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**Succeeding With Your Help** – The Gorilla Doctors have been able to save the mountain gorilla from extinction thanks to the generous support of people like you. As a non-profit, all of our work is funded through grants and private donations. We receive no funding from the governments with which we work or from the other major gorilla conservation groups. Your support in 2012 will help to maintain the momentum of our gorilla health programs and One Health initiatives. As the holiday season approaches, we hope you'll consider making a gift to the Gorilla Doctors. Donations of any size make an impact: just \$1 means a life-saving dose of antibiotics for an infant gorilla. You can make a tax-deductible donation on our website, [www.gorilladoctors.org](http://www.gorilladoctors.org).

# November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>October 2012</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6</p> <p>7 8 9 10 11 12 13</p> <p>14 15 16 17 18 19 20</p> <p>21 22 23 24 25 26 27</p> <p>28 29 30 31</p>	<p>December 2012</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 3 4 5 6 7 8</p> <p>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</p> <p>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</p> <p>23 24 25 26 27 28 29</p> <p>30 31</p>		<p>Dr. Felicia Nutter</p> <p>From 2002 to 2006, Dr. Nutter was a regional field veterinarian responsible for much of the project's regional management. She oversaw MGVP's domestic animal research, started the orphan gorilla care program with Dr. Whittier and helped start the employee health program. She is an MGOHP Science Advisor.</p>	<p>1</p> <p>All Saints Day</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Daylight Saving Time Ends</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>U.S. Election Day</p>	<p>7</p> <p>LAST</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Veteran's Day</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>NEW</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>FIRST</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>FULL</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p>30</p>	





**Ensuring a Bright Future for Orphan Gorillas** – The MGVP and its partners have been working to prepare the five mountain gorillas and 13 Grauer's gorilla orphans in captivity for potential release in the wild, providing the governmental wildlife authorities decide to do so. The MGVP believes that in order for the gorillas to survive in the wild, it would be best to release them as cohesive family groups. With that in mind, mountain gorilla orphans Maisha and Kaboko moved to the Senkwekwe sanctuary at Virunga National Park last November where they joined Ndeze and Ndakasi. The Gorilla Doctors and national park staff worked to successfully integrate the four into a family. In July, the MGVP worked with partners to transfer the six Grauer's gorillas at our quarantine facility in Rwanda to the new GRACE sanctuary in DRC, where they joined the other captive Grauer's gorillas.



# December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Hanukkah Begins						
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Hanukkah Ends						First Day of Winter
23	24	25	26	27	 28	29
		Christmas Day				
30	31	 <p><b>Dr. Magdalena Braum</b></p> <p>Dr. Braum volunteered for MGVP in 2002 and returned from 2008 to 2011 as regional field veterinarian. She performed interventions on sick and injured gorillas in Rwanda, Uganda, and DRC, and had a particular interest in respiratory disease cases.</p>				<p><b>Other Veterinarians</b></p> <p>Dr. Barclay Hastings 1988</p> <p>Dr. Ute Eilenberger 2000</p> <p>Dr. Jo Ann Garbe 2001</p>
	New Year's Eve					



# Grants and Gifts, Fiscal Year 2010–2011

## **\$10,000 or more**

Aid for Africa  
Arcus Foundation  
Canadian Friends of MGVP  
Ged Caddick, Terra Incognita  
Ecotours  
Billie Grieb and Duke Lohr  
Houston Zoo, Inc.  
Cleve & Patsy Moler  
Orr Family Fund  
David and Lucile Packard  
Foundation  
Partners in Conservation,  
Columbus Zoo  
Pfizer, Inc.  
Tapeats Fund  
Boris and Inara Teterov Foundation  
UC Davis EPT/PREDICT

## **\$9,999 to \$5,000**

Gregory Barnhill  
Erkiletian Family Foundation  
Kim Hammond, Falls Road  
Animal Hospital

## **\$4,999 to \$1,000**

Raemonde Bezenar  
William Boyd  
Ava Carter  
Gail H. Hall  
Ernest & Frances Mazet  
Jonna & Jeff Mazet  
Drew Nichol  
Tom & Catherine Peddy  
Laura Perry

Sandra de Roulet  
Christian Sandrock  
Judith Stamper  
Ray & Nancy Wack  
Bruce & Deborah Wagman

## **\$999 to \$500**

Cynthia Baker  
Linda & Chris Ball  
Paul Balle  
Rebecca E. Barchas, M.D. & John  
A. Gehrs  
Franca Boag  
Robert Braddock  
Ann Clapp  
Richard & Katie Cunningham  
Jeanna French  
Robert Greenawalt & Elizabeth Brock  
James Harper  
Barbara Hollweg  
Tim Kolen  
Barbara Larkin  
Dyan Mckie  
Adam Moroze  
Oakland Zoo Conservation &  
Education Staff  
Jacqueline Oostenbrug-Verspuij  
Ortega School PTO, Pacifica, CA  
Roger & Anne Powell  
Stephen & Linda Quinn  
Richard Reckmeyer  
Lynn Savarese  
Chris Siciliano  
Thomas Smith  
Bryan Thomas

## **\$499 to \$100**

Carol Abrahams  
Beth Axelrod  
Sarah Bachman  
Delia Bartlett  
Amy Beatty  
Patricia Beck  
Adrienne Beene  
Amy Bevis  
Jonathan Beeton  
Jennifer Bonilla  
Lauren Boos  
Edward Brittingham  
Doug & Constance Brooker  
Maria Buffington  
Phyllis J. Cadwalader  
Lillian & H. Ballentine Carter  
Christine Chen  
Christine Cichetti  
Gary & Joan Clark  
Robert & Catherine Coleman, III  
Lester & M. Lupe Compson  
James D. Constantine  
Richard Cook  
James Craig  
Jenine Cranston  
Richard Curley  
Gary Curcio  
Debra Daue  
John & Julie Descamp  
Nickolay Dolgikh  
Paul R. Dumas, Jr.  
Tamera Easterday  
Brooks Friedland  
Elizabeth Furse

Laurie Gage  
Kirsten & James Gilardi  
Karen Goelst  
Robert Grieb  
Otto Guenther  
Kimberly Haas  
Laurie Habel  
Michael & Kristan Halaiko  
The Orvis Company, Inc.  
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Denise Selleck  
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Duane Sickert  
Patricia Simpkins  
Gary Simpson  
Patricia Stein  
Kelly Stewart  
Nina Storch  
Daniel Stroud  
Susan Studd  
David & Bonnie Sudduth  
Susan Smith & Associates  
Jessica Taublib-Kiriat  
Terry Wildermuth & Lynn Taylor  
Terrence & Judith Tucker  
Lyndsey Vandament  
Janet Weaver  
William Weller  
Shea Welsh  
Lane White  
Lillian White  
Douglas Wicinski

Catherine Willis  
James & Barbara Winborn  
Susan Wolfe  
Trisha Yarde  
Dani Yogatama  
Jo Ellen Young  
Bill & Mary Zerkel

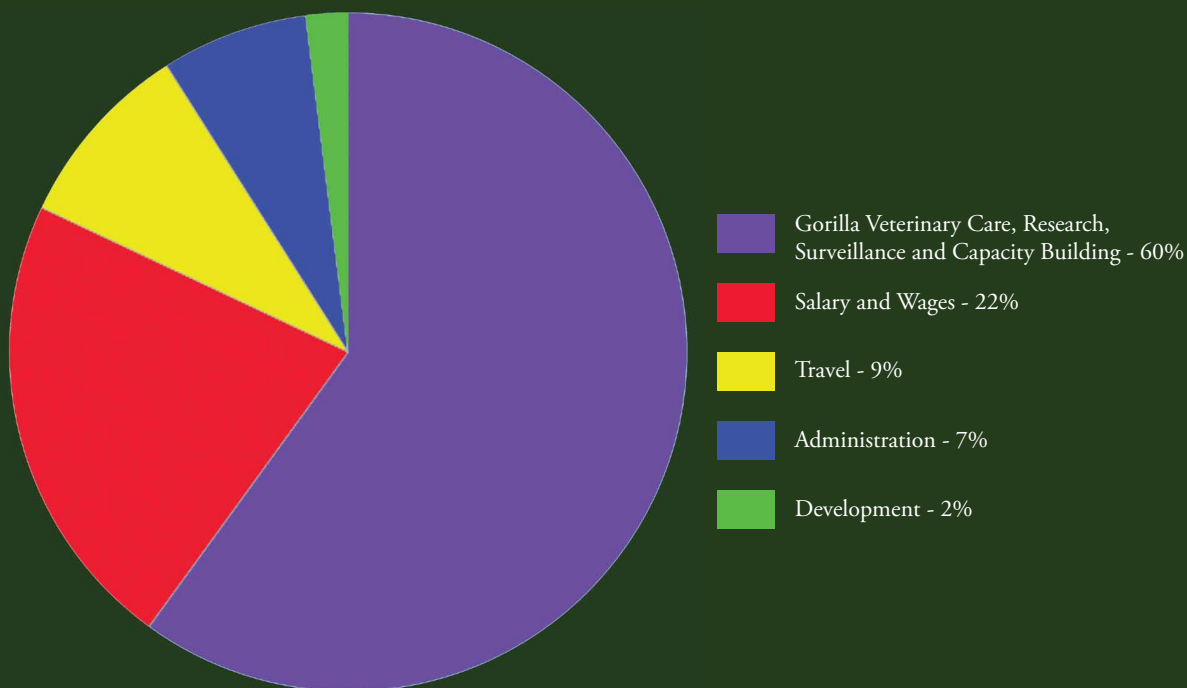
## **In-Kind Donations**

Patti Brownstein  
Allan Cooke, Atlantic Biomedical  
Company  
DLA Piper, Baltimore  
Kim Hammond, Falls Road  
Animal Hospital  
Gearing Up 4 Gorillas  
Nina Storch  
Oakland Zoo  
Peterborough Animal Hospital  
Project VETS  
Silent Heroes Foundation  
Virunga Artisans

Donations of any size  
make an impact. This year,  
an additional 199 donors  
contributed a total of  
\$7,210.82 through gifts  
ranging from \$1 to \$99.

# Fiscal Spending 10/11

In FY 2010/11, MGVP, Inc. and the UC Davis Wildlife Health Center together raised \$1,475,493 in financial support for the Mountain Gorilla One Health Program: 61% of funds raised were in grants, corporate donations, and private-sector giving; 39% was governmental in origin. \$1,475,078 was spent on the following core operational components.



## Mountain Gorilla One Health Program Advisory Board

Roger Powell, Chairman\*  
Billie Grieb, President\*  
Robert Hilsenroth, DVM\*  
Greg H. Barnhill  
Ged Caddick  
Richard Cunningham  
John Dick  
Deborah Dunham  
Senator Bill Frist, MD†  
Annie Graham  
Kim Hammond, DVM  
Michael Hankin  
Jack Hanna  
Jonna Mazet, DVM, PhD  
Peter Riger

\* Also member of MGVP, Inc. Board of Trustees  
† Emeritus

## Conservation Advisors

Ken Cameron, DVM  
Pasteur Cosma Wilungula  
Katie Fawcett, PhD  
Alexander Harcourt, PhD  
Martha Robbins, PhD  
Rosette Chantel Rugamba  
Eugene Rutagarama  
Tom Sengalama  
Kelly Stewart, PhD

## Science Advisors

Patrick Atimnedi, DVM  
Lynne Gaffikin, DrPH  
Muamba Tshibasu Georges, DVM  
Nicholas Lerche, DVM, MPVM  
Linda Lowenstine, DVM, PhD  
Richard Minnis, PhD  
Tony Mudakikwa, DVM  
Felicia Nutter, DVM, PhD  
Christian Sandrock, MD  
Lucy Spelman, DVM  
Dominic Travis, DVM  
Nathan Wolfe, PhD

## Photo Captions and Credits

**Cover:** Counterclockwise from upper left, Drs. Nutter and Whittier performing an intervention (Credit: Chris Whittier); Dr. Ssebide performing an intervention (Credit: MGVP, Inc.); Drs. Kambale and Braum performing surgery (Credit: MGVP, Inc.); Dr. Kinani and Caretaker Fabian with Ihirwe (Credit: Jan Ramer/MGVP, Inc.); Dr. Foster with a silverback (Photo: Ruth Morris Keesling), Dr. Nizeyimana (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.), Center image, Baby gorilla in Bwindi (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.)

**Staff Biographies Page 1:** From left to right, Dr. Cranfield (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.), Dr. Gilardi (Credit: WHC), Dr. Ramer (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.), Dr. Kinani (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.), Dr. Kambale (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.), Dr. Nizeyimana (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.), Dr. Iyanya (Credit: Mike Cranfield/MGVP, Inc.), Dr. Ssebide (Credit: Mike Cranfield/MGVP, Inc.), Dr. Nziza (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.)

**Staff Biographies Page 2:** From left to right, Jean-Paul Lukusa (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.), Dr. Noheri (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.), Schadrack Niyonzima (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.), Dr. Nsengimana (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.), Dr. Mbabazi (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.), Caretaker Innocent Kabendera and Ihirwe (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.), Dr. Lowenstine (Credit: UC Davis), Molly Feltner (Credit: LuAnne Cadd/Virunga National Park), Allison McCurdy (Credit: WHC), Nina Storch (Credit: Maryland Zoo), Jennifer Sohl (Credit: Maryland Zoo), Leon (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.), Guards (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.)

**January:** Dr. Ramer holding hands with silverback Mukunda (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.); Ruth Morris Keesling (Credit: MGVP, Inc.)

**February:** The Hirwa twins (Credit: Jan Ramer/MGVP, Inc.); Dr. Foster (Credit: Ruth Morris Keesling)

**March:** Dr. Kinani performing an intervention (Credit: Mike Cranfield/MGVP, Inc.); Dr. Anderson (Credit: Suzanne Anderson)

**April:** Dr. Noheri examining samples in the laboratory (Credit: Don Boroughs); Dr. Macfie (Credit: Liz Macfie)

**May:** UC Davis Resident Dr. Brooks Kuhn visits with patients at the Ruhengeri Hospital (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.); Dr. Richardson (Credit: Mel Richardson)

**June:** Dr. Nziza examines a bat (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.); Dr. John & Mrs. Margaret Cooper (Credit: John & Margaret Cooper)

**July:** MGVP Caretaker Fabian Bahati, DFGFI Caretaker Jean De Dieu Ngilira, Dr. Kinani, and Dr. Ramer with Ihirwe (Credit: Jessica Ellis/CNN); Dr. Sleeman (Credit: Jonathan Sleeman)

**August:** Drs. Kinani and Noheri perform an exam on Ihirwe (Credit: Jan Ramer/MGVP, Inc.); Dr. Tony Mudakikwa (Credit: Mike Cranfield, MGVP, Inc.)

**September:** Volcanoes National Park Ranger Damascene Hakizimana shows poachers' snares removed from gorilla habitat (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.); Dr. Hilsenroth (Credit: Rob Hilsenroth); Dr. Cameron (Credit: Ruth Morris Keesling), Dr. Rwego (Credit: Mike Cranfield/MGVP, Inc.)

**October:** Dr. Ramer, Wildlife SOS Host Simon Cowell, and Dr. Kambale with Stella (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.); Dr. Whittier performing an intervention (Credit: Chris Whittier)

**November:** Silverback in Sabyinyo group (Credit: Mike Cranfield, MGVP, Inc.); Dr. Nutter performing an intervention (Credit: Chris Whittier)

**December:** Ndeze, Maisha, and Kaboko at the Senkwekwe Center (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.); Dr. Spelman (Credit: MGVP, Inc.); Dr. Gardner (Credit: Mike Cranfield/MGVP, Inc.); Dr. Braum (Credit: MGVP, Inc.)

Final Page: Dr. Ramer and Shamavu (Credit: Molly Feltner/MGVP, Inc.)

Calendar design and text by Molly Feltner. Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project, Inc. © 2011



# Publications

## Refereed Papers

Gustavo P, Lowenstine LJ, Cranfield MR, Gilardi KV, Spelman L, Lukasik-Braum M, Kinani JF, Mudakikwa, A, Nyirakaragire E, Bussetti AV, Savji N, Hutchison S, Egholm M, Lipkin WI (2011) Human Metapneumovirus Infection in Wild Mountain Gorillas, Rwanda. *Dispatch* 17(4).

Mugisha L, Bwangamoi-Okot, Cranfield MR, Graczyk TK, Dranzoa C, Gaffikin L (2010) Cross-transmission of gastrointestinal helminths and protozoan parasites between habituated chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii*) with humans in Budongo Forest Reserve, Uganda. *Afri. J. Anim. Biomed. Sci* 5 (3).

Nizeyi JB, Monfort SL, Taha NM, Cranfield MR, Gilardi K (2011) Non-invasive sampling strategy for monitoring free-ranging Mountain Gorilla (*Gorilla beringei beringei*) fecal corticoid excretion in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, South-Western Uganda. *International Journal of Animal and Veterinary Advances* 3(2): 93-102.

Nizeyi JB, Czekala N, Monfort SL, Taha NN, Cranfield MR, Linda P, Gilardi K (2011) Detecting Adreno Cortical activity in Gorillas: A comparison of Faecal Glucocorticoid measures using RIA versus EIA. *International Journal of Animal and Veterinary Advances* 3(2): 103-115.

Nizeyi JB, Mbabazi R, Cranfield MR, Byarugaba DD, Ssebide B, Gilardi K, Mugisha L (2010) Tourist willingness to update vaccination status as a prerequisite for visiting free-ranging habituated great apes in Uganda. *Afri. J. Anim. Biomed. Sci.* 5(3):66-78.

Robbins MM, Gray M, Fawcett KA, Nutter FB, Uwingeli P, Mburanumwe I, Kagoda E, Basabose A, Stoinski TS, Cranfield MR, Byamukama J, Spelman L, Robbins AM (2011) Extreme Conservation leads to Recovery of Virunga Mountain Gorillas. *PLoS ONE* 6(6): e19788. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0019788.

Whittier CA, Cranfield MR, Stoskopf MK (2010) Real-time detection of *Campylobacter* Spp. in free-ranging mountain gorillas (*Gorilla beringei beringei*). *J Wildl Diseases* 46(3):791-902.

Whittier CA, Milligan LA, Nutter FB, Cranfield MR, Power ML (2010) Proximate composition of milk from free-ranging Mountain Gorillas (*Gorilla beringei beringei*). *Zoo Biology* 29:1-10.

## Posters

Mbabazi R, Rwego IB, Robbins M, Hauser N, Cranfield MR, Gray M, Gillespie TR (2010) Parasitic Threats to Mountain Gorilla Health and Conservation. Morris Animal board meeting.

McFarlin SC, Eriksen AA, Bromage TG, Fawcett KA, Hunt D, Nawrocki SP, Cranfield MR, Mudakikwa A (2010) Skeletal pathology in mountain gorillas (*Gorilla beringei beringei*) from Parc National des Volcans, Rwanda. *American Association of Physical Anthropologists*. New Mexico, April.

## Abstracts

Cranfield MR, Gilardi K, Benjamin K, Hilsenroth R (2011) The Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project: 25 years of Medicine Research and Conservation. 60th-Annual International Conference of the Wildlife Disease Association, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada.

Gilardi K, Whittier C, Cranfield, MR (2011) Serological Surveys for Virus Exposure in Wild and Confiscated Mountain and Grauer's Gorillas in East Central Africa. 60th-Annual International Conference of the Wildlife Disease Association, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada.

Hassell J, Hogan J, Bosco Noheri J, Ramer J, Cranfield MR, Waters M, Mermosilla M (2011) Gastro-intestinal Helminths in Three Sympatric Species sharing the Boundary of the Volcanoes National Park Rwanda. 60th-Annual International Conference of the Wildlife Disease Association, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada.

Hogan J, Hassell J, Bosco Noheri J, Ramer J, Cranfield MR, Miller W, Gilardi K (2011) Giardia in sympatric wildlife in the Volcanoes National Park. 60th-Annual International Conference of the Wildlife Disease Association, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada.





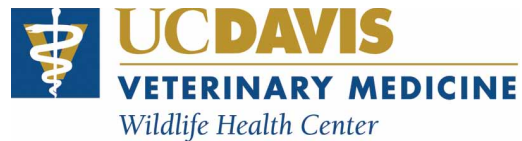
After spending two and a half years in Africa leading the Regional MGVP team, Dr. Jan Ramer is returning to the U.S. to be with her family and resume her position at the Indianapolis Zoo. The staff, community, and gorillas will all miss her. We wish her the best!





MGVP, Inc.  
1876 Mansion House Drive  
Baltimore MD 21217  
[www.gorilladoctors.org](http://www.gorilladoctors.org)

Mail Donations to:  
MGVP, Inc.  
PO Box 356  
Davis CA 95616



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One Shields Avenue  
Davis CA 95616  
[www.wildlifehealthcenter.org](http://www.wildlifehealthcenter.org)