



Minnesota State Zoological Board.
Zoo-Related Organizations Files.

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AAZPA/MZG AGREEMENT

BACKGROUND

The International Species Inventory System (ISIS) was developed by Drs. U.S. Seal and D.G. Mackey because of the immediate and long-term needs demonstrated from within the zoological community for reliable, accurate, comprehensive and objective information on captive wildlife collections.

During 1973, the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums (AAZPA) agreed to endorse ISIS and provide the System with some development monies. The AAZPA also agreed to urge its member institutions to actively participate in ISIS and to pay ISIS for the entry of data and production of reports. The Minnesota Zoological Garden (MZG), acting under authority of the Zoological Board of the State of Minnesota, established the ISIS project on site; final operational authority for the project remains, for the present, vested with the Zoological Board.

Over the past several years, the AAZPA provided substantial funds to the Minnesota Zoological Garden (MZG) for the operation of ISIS to underscore its commitment that the System survive and to enable the System to expand its capabilities. The MZG provided office space, equipment and administrative overhead from 1975-1980 to ISIS without reimbursement from other sources. Several grants have been received by ISIS from foundations which were convinced that data storage and retrieval were essential to the long-term survival of wildlife in captivity. Other organizations and federal government agencies have also provided funds to ISIS, primarily for specific programs and services.

In 1980, the AAZPA Board of Directors voted unanimously that conservation become the Association's highest priority. In so doing, the Board committed substantial funds for a conservation program that included continued support for ISIS. It noted that the appropriate development of ISIS was an integral part of the Association's commitment to the long-term management of endangered, threatened and other selected wildlife species in captivity. Additionally, the Association's Board of Directors began the development of the Species Survival Plan, which will require technical information from ISIS that is beyond that currently available; and it is therefore appropriate that the Association's increased interdependency with the MZG regarding the operation of ISIS be formalized by agreement.

AGREEMENT

This Agreement is made this 24th day of September 1981 by and between the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums (AAZPA) and the Minnesota Zoological Garden (MZG) with reference to the operation of the International Species Inventory System (ISIS).

1. AAZPA and MZG will work cooperatively to establish a Policy Advisory Group to achieve the appropriate management policies and establish the physical location to assure the long-term success of ISIS. The Policy Advisory Group shall include representatives from AAZPA and MZG and may include representatives from other organizations and agencies which have demonstrated interest and participation in the growth of ISIS. Once established, the Policy Advisory Group will advise and recommend policies on the administration, physical shelter, access to and distribution of ISIS data, fees and other matters concerning the operation of ISIS.

2. Policy decisions concerning ISIS operations/development and appropriate changes thereto will be made with opportunity for full and timely participation of the AAZPA.
3. AAZPA agrees to reimburse MZG for ISIS costs beyond those covered by participation fees of AAZPA members when such costs are incurred on behalf of AAZPA and/or its membership and when such costs have been approved by the AAZPA in advance.
4. The ISIS annual report, including projected budgets, will be provided to the AAZPA. Quarterly updates on budgets, finances, operations, and development will also be distributed to AAZPA. Such updates will include estimates of the costs incurred by ISIS on behalf of AAZPA. ISIS will initiate an appropriate financial reporting format to be developed with AAZPA.
5. AAZPA will be consulted prior to changes in the ISIS Project Directorship. The ISIS Project Director will be responsible for liaison to AAZPA for all ISIS operations and for the implementation of the terms of this Agreement.
6. All grant proposals submitted by MZG on behalf of ISIS will be provided to AAZPA for its review, information and consideration of endorsement.
7. AAZPA will be kept fully apprised of the impact on AAZPA/ISIS programs from grants received by ISIS from other agencies.

The terms of this Agreement shall remain in effect for 12 months from the date of this Agreement. Continuation of, or amendments to, this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be signed by both parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have set their hands on the dates indicated below:

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOOLOGICAL PARKS
AND AQUARIUMS

MINNESOTA ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN

BY:

Paul Chatter DM
(President)

BY:

James M. Allen
(Minnesota Zoological Board Chairman)

DATE:

12 August 1981

DATE:

29 Sept. '81

BY:

John O. Wagner
(Executive Director)

BY:

Edward K. ...
(General Director)

DATE:

12 August 1981

DATE:

24 September 1981

AAZPA/1515 cc: N. K. F. 9d

FRESNO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

ROEDING PARK ZOO
894 WEST BELMONT AVENUE
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93728



August 11, 1981

Mr. Edward Kohn, General Director
Minnesota Zoological Garden
12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124

Dear Mr. Kohn:

Thank you for your letter of July 31, 1981.

Dr. Chaffee is presently on a safari to Africa and will not return to the office until August 24. When he returns he will review his correspondence and make his responses.

Hope the delay will not inconvenience you.

Sincerely,

PAUL S. CHAFFEE, D.V.M.
ZOO MANAGER

By:

Mrs. Frances A. Amoruso

Mrs. Frances A. Amoruso
Typist Clerk II

FAA:ms

AAZPA ACCREDITED INSTITUTION



AAZPA/ISIS



12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124
612/432-9010

July 31, 1981

Paul S. Chaffee, D.V.M.
President, AAZPA
Roeding Park Zoo
894 West Belmont Avenue
Fresno, California 93728

Dear Paul;

On behalf of Nate Flesness and the ISIS project I submit to you a draft agreement adjusted following discussions with counsel and with fellow members of the ISIS Management Committee. On Robert Wagner's instructions, copies are being provided directly to members of the AAZPA Board.

After a year of considerable dialogue and exchanges concerning the relationship between MZG, ISIS and the AAZPA, a draft agreement has evolved reflecting the needs and legal realities governing the parties.

Following upon the work of the ISIS Management Committee, subsequent drafts became more ambiguous on the issue of current management authority. This was recognized by Robert Wagner in his cover letter of July 8, 1981, submitting a draft to the AAZPA Board. He was concerned that the meaning of the agreement would not be clear to reviewers.

In gaining necessary review of the final draft by the State of Minnesota's Office of the Attorney General, I was advised that counsel could not recommend signing unless clarity on the essential point of current authority was re-included in the document, not just related to in a cover letter.

Our enclosed draft consequently includes changes of two sorts from the 8 July draft. One, it inserts a sentence in the "BACKGROUND" section confirming that management authority for the project continues to remain, for now, with the State of Minnesota. In Items 1. and 2. language is adjusted to give AAZPA the strongest policy input now possible. The termination clause is clarified also per counsel's recommendations. In Bob's revision we would have been left, in effect, with the possibility of only a 60 day agreement.

The MZG has borne operating responsibility for the ISIS program since its inception. This burden has not been light. In my view, the agreement correctly charges the Policy Advisory Group with review of this circumstance and with making recommendations for the further sharing or complete transfer of this burden to some appropriate entity, with or without physical relocation.

All who have followed Nate's efforts the past two years know how hard we are working to maintain responsible growth and development of ISIS in complete association with our fellow zoos side by side with growing independence from the state shelter under which ISIS has been kept alive.

I believe I share with you all the wish and need to get on with collective focusing on the role and products of ISIS in the service of informed captive management.

Sincerely,



Edward Kohn
General Director

EK:gd

cc: ISIS Management Committee
Robert Wagner, AAZPA Executive Director
AAZPA Board of Directors
Chairman, Minnesota Zoological Board

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE AAZPA AND THE MINNESOTA ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN

ISIS AAZPA

2/24/81

PREAMBLE

The International Species Inventory System, "ISIS", grew out of a system of zoological laboratory data on blood chemistry and hematology called SEAMAK, which was developed by Drs. U.S. Seal and D.G. Makey during 1971. Dr. Seal presented this system, and its potential, to the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums (AAZPA) and the American Association of Zoological Veterinarians (AAZV) during 1971. In 1973, both organizations separately agreed to endorse and sponsor the founding of ISIS, in each case as a program of the particular association.

At the same time, the Minnesota Zoological Garden also agreed to sponsor ISIS. The MZG provided office space, equipment and administrative overhead from 1975-1980 without reimbursement, in addition to significant services.

ISIS, under multiple sponsorship, was created because of the immediate and long-term needs of the zoological community for reliable, accurate, comprehensive, and objective information on captive animals. The information to be collected was determined by committees of the AAZPA and AAZV, representative zoos, and in collaboration with the ISIS systems designers. This process continues to govern the evolution of services to meet the needs perceived by its users. Besides the zoological community, other important users of ISIS-compiled information include the U.S. Department of Interior Agencies, International Convention Advisory Commission (ICAC), Office of the Scientific Authority (OSA), and Office of Endangered Species (OES), who have found the objectivity and currency of ISIS reports an aid in the permit review process, benefiting them and the participants. U.S.D.I. financial support played a major role in ISIS development.

Since the first years, other important zoological institutions outside the AAZPA and AAZV have participated, including primate centers and European zoos. Although providing lesser volume, such participation is significant in the context of goals for worldwide captive animal management.

The foresight of those individuals and organizations who founded ISIS becomes clearer as the need for active captive population management becomes commonly recognized. Such management absolutely requires good information, and computer-assisted analysis. Development of the AAZPA's Species Survival Plan will require technical information services from ISIS beyond those now available, and it is appropriate that this increased interdependency be formalized by agreement:

AGREEMENT

This agreement is made this _____ day of _____ 1981, by and between the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums (AAZPA) and the Minnesota Zoological Garden (MZG) with reference to the following facts concerning the International Species Inventory System (ISIS).

- A. ISIS is, at the present time, a project of the Minnesota Zoological Garden and a service commission with the primary purpose of performing as a resource program of the AAZPA. In addition ISIS serves the AAZV, other cooperating zoological institutions and conservation agencies.
- B. ISIS receives substantial operating support from the AAZPA, the AAZV, Inter-agency Primate Steering Committee, and other participating institutions.

- C. AAZPA has continually encouraged its members to increase their support and participation in ISIS programs.

- D. The AAZPA, as the primary and most significant organization supporting the ISIS program, has growing needs for information and analysis in support of the AAZPA's Species Survival Plan and other programs.

- E. The MZG provides administrative and physical shelter for ISIS, and is now recovering identifiable costs from all participants as well as from grant and contracting agencies.

- F. ISIS receives additional support through grants to the MZG from other agencies and organizations, and encourages participation by other institutions with common goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties of the agreements herein contained do hereby agree as follows:

1. That policy decisions concerning ISIS operations and development will not be made without full participation of the AAZPA.

2. That the ISIS Annual Report, including projected budgets, will be provided to all supporting parties, that quarterly updates on budget, finance, operations, and development will also be distributed to them, and that estimates of the costs incurred on behalf of AAZPA will be included as part of fiscal reporting.

3. That the AAZPA will be consulted in advance of pending changes in ISIS Project Directorship. The ISIS Project Director will be responsible for liaison to the AAZPA for ISIS operations and for implementation of the terms of the agreement.
4. That grant proposals submitted by the MZG on behalf of ISIS will be provided to the AAZPA for review, information, and appropriate endorsement.
5. That the AAZPA will be kept thoroughly aware of the impact on the development of AAZPA ISIS programs of grants received for ISIS from other agencies.
6. That the AAZPA agrees to reimburse the MZG for operating costs directly related to the AAZPA-ISIS Programs.
7. That the AAZPA and MZG will work cooperatively, with other interested parties, to establish a Policy Coordination Group and to achieve the appropriate management structure and physical location to best assure the long-term conduct and success of ISIS.

_____	_____
AAZPA President	Date
_____	_____
AAZPA Executive Director	Date
_____	_____
Minnesota Zoological Board Chairman	Date
_____	_____
Minnesota Zoological Garden General Director	Date



5515 AAZPA
FEB 17 1981
American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

February 12, 1981

OFFICERS

President
PAUL S. CHAFFEE, D.V.M.
Director
Roeding Park Zoo

President-Elect
LOUIS R. DISABATO
Director
San Antonio Zoological
Gardens and Aquarium

Vice-President
PETER KARSTEN
Director
Calgary Zoo

Immediate Past President
DON D. FARST, D.V.M.
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Gladys Porter Zoo

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ROBERT O. WAGNER
Oglebay Park
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Zoological Society of San Diego

WILLIAM G. CONWAY
General Director
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Superintendent
Tulsa Zoological Park

LOUIS E. GARIBALDI
Curator
New England Aquarium

PALMER E. KRANTZ, III
Director
Riverbanks Zoological Park

ELVIE TURNER, JR.
Director
Fort Worth Zoological Park

GEORGE R. FELTON, JR.
Director
Greater Baton Rouge Zoo

GERALD S. LENTZ
Manager/Zoological Operations
Busch Gardens - Tampa

WARREN D. THOMAS, D.V.M.
Director
Los Angeles Zoo

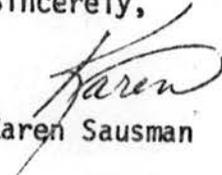
Dr. Paul Chaffee
Roeding Park Zoo
894 West Belmont Avenue
Fresno CA 93728

Dear Paul:

Enclosed is a very rough, raw outline of a draft of a potential agreement between the AAZPA and Minnesota State Zoo. Please consider this to be a starting point. We can all take red pens in hand and hopefully come up with a workable document which, in final form, may not resemble this one at all. Copies of this draft have been sent to Palmer Krantz, Ed Kohn, Nate Flesness, Tom Foose and Robert Wagner.

I have not sent the draft to the AAZPA Executive Committee or other AAZPA Board members because I feel there will be yet another draft for them to review at the March meeting.

Sincerely,


Karen Sausman

KS/bm

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE AAZPA AND THE MINNESOTA STATE ZOO

P R E A M B L E

The International Species Inventory System, "ISIS", grew out of a system of zoological data storage, retrieval and analysis call SEAMAK developed by Dr. U. Seal and Dr. D. G. Makey during 1971. Dr. Seal presented this system to the AAZPA at its Annual Conference in 1971. President Gary Clarke established a committee on computer applications, chaired by Nate Gale, to review the system. At the October 1973 Annual Meeting in Houston, the census, inventory and statistic project (now termed ISIS) was proposed to the AAZPA and adopted by the Board and membership as a project of the AAZPA. At that time facilities were made available by the Minnesota Zoological Gardens. Mrs. Linda Murtfeldt was hired as Program Manager. At its conference in Philadelphia in 1974, the AAZPA voted to provide \$10,000 and supported an ISIS operating charge of \$1.00 per animal per year. Since that time ISIS has been on the agenda of every AAZPA Board meeting. Because of its active involvement in the development of ISIS, the Board of Directors and membership of the AAZPA consider ISIS a project of the AAZPA. Based on the above, the following agreement has been drafted:

A G R E E M E N T

This agreement is made this ____ day of ____ 1981, by and between the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums (herein sometimes referred to as AAZPA) and the Minnesota State Zoo (herein referred to as MSZ) with reference to the following facts concerning the International Species Inventory System (herein referred to as ISIS).

- A. ISIS is a project of the AAZPA .
- B. ISIS receives substantial operating support from the AAZPA and from its member institutions.
- C. AAZPA has continually encouraged its members to increase their support of ISIS programs.

- D. ISIS will become an increasingly necessary part of the Species Survival Program, a major project of the AAZPA.
- E. ISIS is now housed at the Minnesota State Zoo. The MSZ is now being reimbursed for operating overhead.
- F. ISIS accepts grants from other agencies and organizations.
- G. The Board of Directors of the AAZPA wishes to establish procedures for the continued operation and development of ISIS.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties of the agreements herein contained do hereby agree as follows:

- 1. That the AAZPA will review and approve the Annual Operating Budget of ISIS.
- 2. That the AAZPA will review all extraordinary operating expenditures in relation to the budget.
- 3. That the AAZPA will receive quarterly financial and development reports concerning AAZPA-ISIS programs.
- 4. That the AAZPA will be involved in policy decisions concerning ISIS operations and development including the employment of the ISIS Operations Manager.
- 5. That the ISIS Operations Manager will be responsible to the AAZPA for the daily operation of ISIS in accordance with AAZPA policies and the needs of the MSZ.
- 6. That the AAZPA will review all grant proposals prepared by ISIS.
- 7. That the AAZPA will be kept thoroughly aware of the impact of grants received by ISIS from other agencies on the development of AAZPA-ISIS programs.
- 8. That the AAZPA agrees to reimburse the MSZ for operating costs directly related to the AAZPA-ISIS programs.
- 9. That the AAZPA will continue to search for a permanent location for the ISIS office.

10. That the ISIS Operations Manager will be responsible for making every effort possible to move ISIS information currently housed in the Minnesota State's computer system to a computer system available for AAZPA-ISIS use.

This agreement may be terminated by either party by written notification within 30 days.



American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

February 12, 1981

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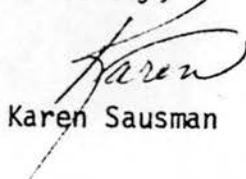
Dr. Paul Chaffee
Roeding Park Zoo
894 West Belmont Avenue
Fresno CA 93728

Dear Paul:

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Sincerely,



Karen Sausman

KS/bm

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE AAZPA AND THE MINNESOTA STATE ZOO

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A G R E E M E N T

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- C. AAZPA has continually encouraged its members to increase their support of ISIS programs.

- D. ISIS will become an increasingly necessary part of the Species Survival Program, a major project of the AAZPA.
- E. ISIS is now housed at the Minnesota State Zoo. The MSZ is now being reimbursed for operating overhead.
- F. ISIS accepts grants from other agencies and organizations.
- G. The Board of Directors of the AAZPA wishes to establish procedures for the continued operation and development of ISIS.

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5. That the ISIS Operations Manager will be responsible to the AAZPA for the daily operation of ISIS in accordance with AAZPA policies and the needs of the MSZ.
6. That the AAZPA will review all grant proposals prepared by ISIS.
7. That the AAZPA will be kept thoroughly aware of the impact of grants received by ISIS from other agencies on the development of AAZPA-ISIS programs.
8. That the AAZPA agrees to reimburse the MSZ for operating costs directly related to the AAZPA-ISIS programs.
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10. That the ISIS Operations Manager will be responsible for making every effort possible to move ISIS information currently housed in the Minnesota State's computer system to a computer system available for AAZPA-ISIS use.

This agreement may be terminated by either party by written notification within 30 days.

Genny —

this one was

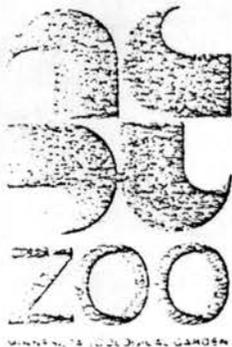
the last edition

2/24/81 — 4 ³⁰ PM

original —

was mailed to

Bob Wagner



12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124
612/432-9010

December 1, 1980

Paul S. Chaffee, D.V.M.
President
American Association of Zoological Parks & Aquariums
c/o Roeding Park Zoo
894 West Belmont Avenue
Fresno, California 93728

Dear Dr. Chaffee:

During our national meeting, I assured the AAZPA Board that, on behalf of the Minnesota Zoo, I would present within two months a plan for more directed policy administration of the International Species Inventory System. I propose the establishment of an ISIS Policy Advisory Board in order to assist us with the management of the project.

The International Species Inventory System, a service to long term captive management worldwide, is a project of the Minnesota Zoological Garden, created jointly for and responsive to the needs of the member zoos and aquaria of the AAZPA and the members of the AAZV. In addition, ISIS provides one of the very few mechanisms for information sharing by zoological institutions worldwide.

I recognize clearly the need for a mechanism whereby the primary constituency -- our zoos -- may trust in and exercise their leadership role for the project. The primary source of operating support has been the participation of the AAZPA members and their association, although significant additional support has been provided by the AAZV, as well as by other institutions.

For the purpose of enabling the continued close support and guidance by the AAZPA, as well as that of the AAZV and other institutions nationally and worldwide, the Minnesota Zoo invites and would welcome the establishment and guidance from an ISIS Policy Advisory Board. For such purposes, the composition of the Advisory Board should reflect the primary support and role of the AAZPA membership, while enabling a significant level of contribution by other participatory institutions.

In addition, a director of a European zoo would be invited to participate and would serve to represent European participants and their needs. As General Director of the host institution, I would be willing to serve also and would perform host responsibilities to the Policy Advisory Board.

Paul S. Chaffee
December 1, 1980
page 2

I believe this board should not replace or substitute for the work of the AAZPA-ISIS Liaison Committee, nor would it substitute for the work of the AAZV-ISIS Liaison Committee. The purpose of the Board would be to assure that ISIS policy formulation, long-term goals, and fiscal strategies will meet the needs of the supporting associations and institutions.

I propose that an initial task of the Policy Advisory Board be the formulation of a policy statement identifying the purposes served currently by the continued tenancy by ISIS at the Minnesota Zoo, and consideration of the proposed duration of such tenancy. Other tasks include (2) a review and evaluation of the steps toward independence taken this last year, including budgeting for office rent and indirect expenses as well as reduction of dependence on the State of Minnesota computer system, (3) policy review of proposed new ISIS report capabilities, (4) consideration of the need for ISIS to function as the hub of a data network in relation to within-zoo computer systems, and (5) policy review of ISIS fee structure and data access policies.

In the service of these needs I propose, with your guidance, to invite the assembly of an ISIS Policy Advisory Board as follows:

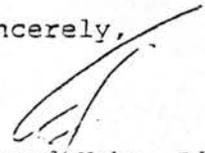
AAZPA Board Liaison to ISIS, Palmer Krantz III; Director of Riverbanks Zoo
William G. Conway, Director of the New York Zoological Park
Don D. Farst, D.V.M., Director of the Gladys Porter Zoo
George B. Rabb, Ph.D, Director of the Chicago Zoological Park
Lee Simmons, D.V.M., Director of the Henry Doorly Zoo
John Eisenberg, Ph.D., Species Survival Plan Committee Chairman
AAZV President William Rapley, Metro Toronto Zoo
Michael Brambell, Ph.D., Director of the Chester Zoo
Edward Kohn, Director of the Minnesota Zoological Garden.

The Executive Secretary function for the Board would be provided by Nathan Flesness.

We all understand that our commitment is to assure the continuation and growth of the International Species Inventory System as a service integral to the future success of national and global strategies for the conservation of captive animal populations. This goal is paramount over other considerations such as tenancy and will guide our hand at the Minnesota Zoo as we foster the project's independence from us, growth, and strong interdependence with the zoological institutions and their association.

For now, ISIS continues to a legal management responsibility of this zoo, seeking to be responsive to the needs of the zoo community. I would hope that the ISIS Policy Advisory Board would continue the progression of the project to the status of an operation and responsibility of the community of zoos under some continuing appropriate institutional shelter.

Sincerely,



Edward Kohn, Director
Minnesota Zoological Garden

EK:gd

cc Robert O. Wagner

ISIS

International Species Inventory System ^{ISIS}



Minnesota Zoological Garden
12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, Minnesota 55124
Telephone (612) 432-9010

7 November 1980

A Program of the American Association
of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

Dear Ed,

Here are a couple of options for the ISIS Board composition. "Satch" Krantz called this AM to ask how we were coming - I said next week we will probably be ready to submit it.

We had decided at the AAZPA Meetings, at Satch's suggestion, that he ought to come up and visit the ISIS offices sometime before Christmas. He said this AM that he "and several of the others" were waiting for the proposal of board composition before they all came.

I presume that several board members may come. I think this is fine, as it is very much easier to discuss ISIS when surrounded by it. There are still widespread myths about large computers and 40 story buildings.

Call and set a time next week for us to discuss board options.

Nate

In the service of these needs & propose, with your guidance, to initiate the assembly of an ISIS Policy Advisory Board as follows:

1. Satch Krantz, AAZPA Board Liaison to ISIS
2. Bill Conway
3. Don Farst
4. Ed Maruska
5. George Rabb
6. Lee Simmons

7. Bill Rapley, AAZV President (in lieu of their ISIS Board Liaison who also happens to be a Minnesota Zoo staff person and is therefore inappropriate).

8. Michael Brambell (or another European Director if he is unable to participate)
9. Ed Kohn, Director of ISIS' host institution

Other representation, either formally or ex officio may become appropriate as growth continues.

The Executive Secretary function for the board could be provided by Nolan Flesness.



12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124
612/432-9010

August 22, 1980

Paul S. Chaffee, D.V.M.
Director
Roeding Park Zoo
894 West Belmont Avenue
Fresno, California 93728

Dear Paul:

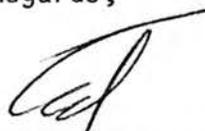
Thanks for recommending that I serve on the ISIS Liaison Committee. I repeat my assurance to you when we last spoke of my full support for the continued good development of ISIS and its relationship to AAZPA.

I believe, however, the Minnesota Zoo's service to the liaison (i.e., technical and operational planning) function is most adequately served by Nate Flesness, to say the least.

What I continue to be interested in is joining the AAZPA representation on a possible small policy advisory group for ISIS. Heaven only knows we are all committed just about into the grave and to vote for still another seems at least masochistic of me. But I believe that some of the fundamental concerns about ISIS and its purposes, its future, its relationships (spatial and otherwise) can most usefully be related to from a vantage other than that of operational liaison.

I have advised Chuck Bieler of my willingness to accept your invitation to serve him on Charter and Bylaws.

Regards,


Edward Kohn
General Director

EK:gd

cc Judith Block
Robert Wagner

bce: NF

AAZPA/ISIS Personal
** EK*



American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

August 14, 1980

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Curator
New England Aquarium

ELVIE TURNER, JR.
Director
Fort Worth Zoological Park

Edward Kohn, General Director
Minnesota Zoological Garden
12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, Minnesota 55124

Dear Ed:

At the request of President-Elect Chaffee, I am taking over the task of Chairman of the Charter & Bylaws Committee. I have agreed to accept this position, hopefully on the basis that most of the problem areas have been resolved.

In conjunction with this, Paul has asked me to utilize the good services of Warren Iliff as Vice Chairman, and appoint Bill Braker for an additional 3-year term.

Ed, he has also asked that you serve on this committee as a new member along with Bill Conway (both for 3-year terms). I certainly would appreciate your service. I think this is the make-up of a good committee. I don't think there will be too much diverse opinion as to what has to be done to complete the bylaws.

I will look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO


Charles L. Bieler
Executive Director

b1c

cc: Chaffee
Wagner

Accepted 20 Aug



American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

13 August 1980

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Mr. Ed Kohn
General Director
Minnesota Zoological Garden
12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124

Dear Ed,

The AAZPA President-Elect, Dr. Paul Chaffee, has selected you for a three-year term on the AAZPA-ISIS Liaison Committee and asked that I inform you of his appointment. You are a welcome addition to the Committee and I look forward to working with you.

The Committee will meet on Monday, 15th September at 7:30 p. m. in the Lake Huron Room at the Chicago Conference. Please try to join us at that meeting.

Enclosed are copies of the reports to the Board and memoranda to the Committee since the last meeting in October 1979. Please call me if you have any questions on these background materials or indeed any other questions about the committee (202-673-4783).

Sincerely,

*Best regards,
Judith*

Judith A. Block
Chairperson

Enclosures

Copy to: P. Chaffee, W. Conway, R. Wagner

Acknowledged 20 Aug 80



American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

5 October 1979

Reply to: National Zoological Park
Washington, D. C. 20008

MEMO TO: AAZPA - ISIS Liaison Committee (Banks, Donaldson, Flesness, Foose, Hamer, LaRue, Sausman, Sharlin, Shoemaker)

FROM: Judith A. Block, Chairperson *Judith Block*

SUBJECT: Committee Business, St. Louis, 1-4 October 1979

The AAZPA Conference in St. Louis was a busy and successful time for us. In this memo I have tried to fix some of the ideas and words before they get away.

Karen Sausman has joined the Committee. Greg Tarry sat with us as the alternate for David Banks.

I. Below is a summary of what was said at the Committee meeting on 1 October. Please let me know if you have comments or further thoughts on this (or later parts of this memo):

1. The AAZPA Board was complimentary and approved both our Committee Report and the ISIS Annual Report. The ISIS request for \$20,000 was granted in their budget.
2. Our Committee will work closely with others (especially the Wildlife Conservation and Management Committee - WCMC) to develop a Master Breeding Plan.
3. As Agenda topics were discussed, we made individual Committee assignments for followup (see below).
4. We reviewed the status of the PDS Reports. The Board developed the idea that initial species runs be paid for out of a \$1,000 kitty (funding approved) on condition that (a) requester work to fill in gaps in data and a surcharge be levied if this were not done, and (b) species selection for these "free" runs to be approved by WCMC. Subsequent copies of the report would be available at \$10/each. Reports to be double-cost to non-AAZPA members.
5. It was agreed not to send out the Questionnaire but rather to include some parts in a telephone polling and some in the 1980 User Survey.
6. Each of us will poll at least 10 people by telephone before the end of the year and write up the results. The assigned areas and questions are attached.
7. Other individual Committee assignments are as follows:
 - a. Herp Directory - J. Block (suggested reviewers include: Bacon, Bowler, Conant, Marcellini, Maruska, Murphey, Rabb)
 - b. Newsletter articles - A. Hamer
 - c. Advertisements: Directories for Sale - A. Hamer
 - d. Requests for changes in nomenclature - A. Shoemaker
 - e. AAZK specimen form comments - M. LaRue
 - f. Liason w/WCMC on requests for PDS runs - M. LaRue
 - g. Survey of Users (Feb. 1980) - W. Donaldson
 - h. Liaison w/ISIS systems revisions - K. Sausman
 - i. Liaison w/SAS programs - J. Sharlin.

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II. At the open session for the membership on 3 October we reviewed the current ISIS services and the ones which are scheduled for the immediate future. Approximately 35 people attended. Out of the discussions came several good suggestions which we should investigate further:

1. Add a code for animals acquired by "salvage", to indicate the level of zoo involvement with local wildlife problems.
2. Consider for the future how to deal with invertebrates and fishes: in lots rather than as individuals?
3. Recruit bird breeders by articles in their journals, such as "The Watchbird" of the American Federation of Aviculturists.
4. A need for quarterly Acquisition/Release Reports was expressed and this matter will be added to the telephone poll.

III. In between the meetings we discussed with Mr. Donahoo and Dr. Jachowski of FWS Wildlife Permit Office (WPO) the possibility of ISIS production of annual summaries to meet the reporting requirements under the new regulations for captive-bred Endangered Species. It looks as if ISIS could produce these reports, provided an institution requested such services in writing" and also agreed that ISIS would not be held responsible for inaccurate or incomplete data. N. Flesness will be contacting FWS/WPO in writing to follow this up.

IV. In the coming year, we must be responsive to a need clearly perceived at the Conference: to act as an information source to people who are setting up or revising animal records systems in-house.

V. Here are some guidelines for Committee work (some set by President Farst):

1. Copies of all correspondence must be sent to Dr. Farst, Mr. Wagner, and Mr. Conway.
2. I would like to review (by telephone) all correspondence that is to go outside our Committee.
3. Official liaison with federal regulatory agencies must first be approved by the President and Executive Director (we have obtained such permission for working with FWS/WPO on new Endangered Species regulations reporting requirements).
4. As each of us works on our assignments we should write periodic summaries. To keep us all informed, this might be best in the form of a memo to me with copies to all Committee members and those persons listed in (1) above.

I hope that the excitement and approval generated at the St. Louis Conference will set the tone for a productive year for ISIS and the Committee.

attachment

copy to : Mr. Conway
Dr. Farst
Mr. Wagner

5 October 1979

TELEPHONE POLLING:

Contact at least 10 people (directors, records keepers, curators) and discuss their opinions on the five topics listed below. Use the opportunity to inform them on uses and progress of the ISIS systems. Summarize (briefly) for the Committee when polling completed, if possible, before the end of the year.

1. How do you use your copy of the ISIS inventory form? Is it the base of your house records? Do you send a copy when you ship a specimen to another institution? Do you use it when applying for CITES or Endangered Species Permits?
2. What does "ISIS Number" mean to you? Is it the same as specimen identification number or accession number? Have you come across any confusion on this?
3. Have you come across any in-house problems on distribution of information about ISIS? Is everyone concerned aware of what the systems do? Are "Newsletter" announcements enough or can you suggest another avenue of communication? (In other words, is the person who fills out the forms talking with other people in your zoo and vice versa?)
4. What are the species which you have consciously chosen to omit from your ISIS inventory and why? (This information is not to discuss fees, but rather to pinpoint such problems as unidentified specimens, too-large populations, or species which are agreed to be very common. This will help evaluate the data base.)
5. If the quarterly (or more often) Inventory and Acquisition/Release Reports were free, would you need them and find them helpful?

Here are some quickly-assigned areas; contact a co-member if you want to switch; okay to poll a couple of people at one zoo; this list is very informal. For a list of ISIS participants, see Flesness' ISIS Annual Report (the one you just received). Do the best you can.

Banks: all of Canada.
Block: OH, Ind., WA, OR
Donaldson: PA, New England (north of NY)
Foose: OK, TX
Hamer: NY, IL
LaRue: KA, MO, NE
Sausman: CA, AR, NM
Sharlin: private and university facilities, including ICF, Patuxent
Shoemaker: NC, SC, GA, FL, TN, AL, MS.



American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

1 February 1980

reply to: National Zoological Park
Washington, D. C. 20008

MEMO TO: AAZPA Board of Directors
FROM: Judith A. Block, Chair
SUBJECT: AAZPA-ISIS Liaison Committee

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Following is our mid-year Committee report, with one request for special consideration by the Board at the end.

Implementation of the seven goals outlined by President Farst " (letter of 9 November 1979; attached) is mostly the responsibility of the Project Director for ISIS, with the Committee acting as support, liaison, and advisor. A letter from Nate Flesness, ISIS Project Director, outlines his progress (15 January 1980; attached).

During the first half of the year the Committee's most active role has been in the area of promoting ISIS among the zoo community:

1. Committee members telephoned over 30 zoos to poll usage and problems, taking the opportunity to make suggestions and establish a personal approach. We all found that we gave out much more information than we collected and, as a consequence, the conversations seemed to be of great benefit to the people with whom we talked. The results of these contacts appeared to be so positive that I am asking the Committee to continue this effort.
2. Committee members will attend four - and perhaps all five - of the Regional AAZPA meetings this year to conduct workshops on ISIS. There will be a short presentation on current ISIS status, procedures, reports, etc., directions of the system, and an offer of advice on in-house record systems; then the floor will be opened to questions. For the 1980 Annual Conference, Nate Flesness plans to have an ISIS information booth set up and manned, and will participate in the session on "Pertinant Issues in Animal Husbandry"; the Committee will meet and be available to answer questions throughout the Conference.
3. Information packets have been developed and improved by ISIS to describe the system and how to use it. These are mailed to prospective participants and also to users. Since the information is not always distributed through the recipient's entire staff we will, upon the advice of Mr. Wagner and Dr. Farst, start to use the AAZPA Newsletter to disseminate it.

4. Committee Member Michael LaRue has developed an idea with exciting and far-reaching consequences. His institution, the Topeka Zoo, will join with Sedgwick County Zoo and offer to enter all Kansas zoos' exotic specimens into ISIS; the offer includes travelling to these other zoos, training their personnel, and bearing the start-up costs.

Working with the Wildlife Conservation & Management Committee (WCMC) at this stage is mainly on two fronts:

1. Improvement of the data base, which the species managers and WCMC will need in their decision-making, and encouragement of the need for records and special reports are proceeding as a function of user acceptance of ISIS and increasing the numbers of participants.

2. Direct communication with Chair Dennis Meritt is primarily through our Committee members Foose and LaRue. Tom Foose' contribution concentrates on demographic and genetic analyses. Michael LaRue is the coordinator for requests for special reports using Board-donated funds. We are still in the process of establishing a smooth procedure but to date there have been no requests made for these monies.

I would ask the Board to consider the implications of the Topeka/Sedgwick offer described above and consider how it might be expanded. The "Kansas Plan" is a fine example of a commitment to records and to cooperation among zoos. By extension, it is a support of the principles necessary for the success of any Master Breeding Plan or similar concept. Perhaps the existence of the "Kansas Plan" could be made known to the AAZPA membership and presented as a challenge to other states or regions to develop similar programs.

enclosures: October memo to AAZPA-ISIS Committee from J. Block, November letter to J. Block from D. Farst, January letter to J. Block from N. Flesness, February memo to AAZPA-ISIS Committee from J. Block

(original and 19 copies of this material mailed to Mr. Wagner 1 February 1980)



American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

1 February 1980

reply to: National Zoological Park
Washington, D. C. 20008

MEMO TO: AAZPA Board of Directors
FROM: Judith A. Block, Chair
SUBJECT: AAZPA-ISIS Liaison Committee

Following is our mid-year Committee report, with one request for special consideration by the Board at the end.

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American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

Reply to: National Zoological Park, Washington, D.C. 20008

16 April 1980

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TO: AAZPA-ISIS Liaison Committee (Banks, Donaldson, Flesness, Foose, Hamer, LaRue, Sausman, Sharlin, Shoemaker)

FROM: Judith A. Block, Chair

SUBJECT: Committee Business

1) The Board accepted our Report at the Tulsa Midyear Meeting. Bill Conway informs me that they were especially impressed with the telephone surveys and with the efforts of several members to help smaller zoos become ISIS participants.

2) We arranged for ISIS workshops to be held at most of the Regionals. Would each of you who conducted such a meeting please submit a short report to me summarizing how it went: what were the common questions, what were the overall feelings about ISIS, what are your suggestions for the next workshops, etc. I would like to pass your comments out to the rest of the Committee and also use them for our next Annual Report to the Board.

3) Bill Donaldson will be contacting each of us on our telephone poll assignments. Special targets to "survey" are zoos which entered data once but have not kept them current; we would like the information updated or, failing that, removed from the data base (old, inaccurate information skews the reports). The point of these trouble spot calls would be re-recruitment and massaging rather than polling usage.

4) In St. Louis we spoke of the need to coordinate in-house records with ISIS and our polls confirm this need. Please be thinking about whether we could put together a records package and how and what it should contain. This will be an agenda item for our meeting in Chicago.

5) You will all have seen the new handouts sent with the latest Species Distribution Reports. Comments and suggestions should be sent directly to Nate Flesness who says, "it's surprising how clear something is until after you mail out 150 copies."

6) FYI: ISIS has produced the first physiological norms reports (see enclosed letter from Nate 30 January) and the chimpanzee work is going well. The structure of the ISIS data base is being reviewed and the proposed changes, while not especially visible to the user, should improve the flexibility and ease of information retrieval.

cc: Mr. Conway, Dr. Farst, Mr. Wagner



American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

Reply to: National Zoological Park, Washington, DC 20008

20 July 1980

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TO: AAZPA-ISIS Liaison Committee (Banks, Donaldson, Flesness, Foose, Hamer, LaRue, Sausman, Sharlin, Shoemaker)

FROM: Judith A. Block, Chair

SUBJECT: Committee Business

We plan to meet at the Annual Conference at the Lake Huron Room of the Radisson Hotel at 7:30 p.m., Monday 15 September (after the wine and cheese party scheduled for 5-7). Please let me know if you plan to attend or not.

The agenda will include a review of the results of the telephone polling, regional workshops, and other efforts at making the membership more aware of ISIS. We will renew or revise the Committee assignments, too, so please be thinking about what you can realistically contribute.

The main item for discussion will be how the Committee might address the problem of records in general (in-house record systems and coordination with ISIS). I think it would be helpful if you can put anything in writing now that you could mail to the Committee members in advance of our meeting.

Enclosed are the Annual Report to the Board and copies of various items received over the past few months (Reports on meetings by Flesness on Europe, 14 July; Foose on Tulsa regional; by Flesness on Cincinnati regional; by Sharlin on his activities; and by Sausman on her site visit to ISIS).

cc: Mr. Conway, Dr. Farst, Mr. Wagner



American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

Reply to: National Zoological Park, Washington, DC 20008

1 August 1980

MEMO TO: AAZPA Board of Directors

FROM: Judith A. Block, Chair

SUBJECT: AAZPA-ISIS Liaison Committee: Annual Report

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During the second half of the year, the Committee functioned in a slow but steady fashion that I think sets the tone for a future without crises.

We have continued to try to reach as many AAZPA people as possible, through a variety of approaches, to keep ISIS visible and accessible. The telephone polling has emphasized contacts with drop-outs and non-participants, while all members who deal with records directly take every animal shipment as an opportunity to exchange systems information along with ISIS identification numbers. Workshops at the Regionals were well-attended and we will hold them again next year. [The ISIS staff will man an information/workshop booth at the Chicago meeting.] The "Kansas Plan" is underway and a report on it will be given at our annual meeting in Chicago.

As more zoos begin to set up records systems, partly in response to ISIS requirements, we find that there is a need for advice on this topic. The Committee will be considering the possibility of developing a records package aimed particularly at the coordination and incorporation of ISIS records with in-house systems.

The most important direction for the coming year will be our work with the WCMC or its equivalent. If the AAZPA is able to move further in its conceptualization of the Species Survival Plans, then ISIS' role as a tool towards implementation will have more importance.

Enclosures: April and July memoranda to AAZPA-ISIS Committee from J. Block



AMAZA/ISIS
ce Mgr Syn, Flesness

American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

Jul K

25 June 1980

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Curator
New England Aquarium

ELVIE TURNER, JR.
Director
Fort Worth Zoological Park

Mr. Ed Kohn, Director
Minnesota Zoological Garden
12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124

Dear Ed:

Please accept this as an indication of my sincere appreciation for the hospitality you and your staff accorded me during my recent trip to Minnesota. I was especially pleased with the results of our meeting regarding ISIS, and I firmly believe that we are about ready to turn the corner on the continuing problem of ISIS operating on a sound financial basis.

I am looking forward to seeing you in Chicago. Special thanks for returning my calculator and appointment book.

All best regards,


Robert O. Wagner
Executive Director

ROW/ljb

Copy to: Karen Sausman

International Species Inventory System

12 June

Minnesota Zoological Garden
12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, Minnesota 55124



Enclosed is a copy of a very rough contract sketch for the continued chimpanzee project. It can serve as the basis for future discussions or formalization of a real contract. We will need to be more flexible than the sketch is.

Nate Flesner

7/9 →
Viki
① Where are we on this?
② Also we promised
AT&PT
1979-80 updated
Please prepare budget.
Note my signature!
Ed

ROUGH SKETCH: CHIMPANZEE PROJECT CONTINUATION

Dr. Seal reports strong interest on the part of the NIH Inter-agency Primate Steering Committee in contracting with ISIS to proceed further with ISIS data collection and analysis of chimpanzee data.

Dr. Seal discussed with relevant NIH staff a three-year contract, to be handled by NIH-VA interagency transfer and then MZG-VA contract for the first year, following years to be NIH contract with MZG(ISIS) directly. This contract to start as soon as possible. The contract amount would be basically \$30,000 per year, but the first year there(additionally) would be a \$10,000 "pass-through" arrangement whereby NIH would send \$10,000 on to ISIS, and ISIS would distribute it or spend it to aid clerically(in data entry tasks)those participants who couldn't handle the load without help.

CONTRACT TASKS

1. Completion of ISIS collection of chimpanzee data from holding institutions. This completion of data acquisition would emphasize historical data and also completing the "link" data for living animals whose histories are fragmentary. Completion of data acquisition is to involve not more than 10 additional holding institutions/individuals, beyond those already participating under the original contract with NIH. If more than 10 additional holding institutions are located, costs will have to be adjusted (upwards) by ISIS.
2. Assignment of unique "studbook" numbers to all living and dead chimpanzee individuals once data acquisition (1) is completed. This would be done by ISIS personnel, and would involve up to 2000 SA-type records entered by ISIS. Studbook numbers to be assigned in approximate order of birth date, and proceed from 1 to N.
3. Assessment of a corrected age-specific fecundity schedule, using the Reproductive Forms which have already been submitted by some participants, plus others which may be submitted. This is a task to be done manually, as the Repro. Forms are currently not part of the ISIS computer system.
4. Demographic analysis of the chimpanzee population. This is to include necessary changes in reproduction to arrive at a "surplus" of 100,200, or 300 1 year-old individuals per year.
5. Analysis of data to calculate the distribution of family sizes for males and females, and then to calculate the effective population size. Inbreeding incidence will also be evaluated.
6. Participation in meetings for the planning and coordination of chimpanzee breeding (Dr. Seal or Nate Flesness, as convenient and appropriate). This to include recommendations to the Steering Committee as to continuing utilization of the ISIS system for their goals to be achieved.

PROPOSED CONTRACT SCHEDULE

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 30 Sept. 1979 | Completion of data acquisition and "link" data cleanup for living chimpanzees. |
| 30 Nov. 1979 | Completion of data form submission to ISIS for all historical data on chimpanzees. |
| 31 Dec. 1979 | Completion of Reproductive Data Form submission to ISIS by Yerkes, Norman, Southwest, and (?) LEMSIP. This to include whatever data they have, and/or others might wish to add. |
| 31 Mar. 1980 | Assignment of "studbook" numbers to all individuals identified through 1 and 2 above.

Calculation of corrected age-specific fecundity schedules using Reproductive Forms, and regular data base. |
| 30 Apr. 1980 | Completion of descriptive demographic projections. |
| 31 May 1980 | Completion of descriptive demographic projections with some alternatives (harvest, changes in Fx, etc.). |
| 1 June 1980 | Completion of effective population size and inbreeding estimates, if data acquisition on schedule. |
| early June 1980 | Presentation/discussion of the products of the data acquisition and data analysis at the next annual Interagency Primate Steering Committee meeting. |

VERY ROUGH CONTRACT BUDGET

BASED ON \$30000 PRE YEAR

MZG overhead charges, at 15% of the gross contract	\$4,500.00
ISIS data entry costs, \$1 per form routine costs, est. 1000 forms per year	\$1,000.00
ISIS data entry/acquisition costs for historical data and for inexperienced users involve much additional staff time, \$5 per form, 100 forms.	\$5,000.00
ISIS manuals, minimum package for 10 new chimp participants at \$50.00 each	\$500.00
Additional personnel for ISIS operations, half-time(to full-time). To handle additional data entry tasks, form batching and filing. Figures include fringe benefits,etc.	\$9000.00 to (\$14000.00)
Direct computer costs for report production, to meet chimpanzee project needs.	\$3,000.00
Travel to major institutions participating if needed, travel to meetings	\$3,000.00
Development costs for necessary additions to ISIS-PDS subsystem	\$4,000.00
	<hr/>
	Annual Total \$30,000.00

K



American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

4 June 1979

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LOUIS R. DISABATO
Director
San Antonio Zoological
Gardens and Aquarium

Mr. Ed Kohn, Director
Minnesota Zoological Garden
12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124

Dear Ed:

Thank you very much for responding to my memo. At least communication has again been established.

Please know that I concur with you that Nate Flesness is fully capable of guiding the ISIS office. I am very much impressed with Nate and have been since I met him.

Moreover, I am most pleased to receive your opinion regarding the obligations of the MGZ with reference to ISIS. Ed, I feel very strongly that ISIS is a project that is an intrinsic part of the AAZPA. It is funded in large measure by our members' participation fees and by direct grants (and loans) from AAZPA. Therefore, I feel that AAZPA has a need and obligation to know what is transpiring with ISIS. I hope you understand that a lack of communication has been our single major problem with ISIS and one that I had hoped would be set aside with your assuming the reins as the Director of the Minnesota Zoological Garden.

I am here to help you and any member of AAZPA in any way that I can, but no one has saw fit to furnish me with a crystal ball or a magic wand.

All best regards,

Robert O. Wagner
Executive Director

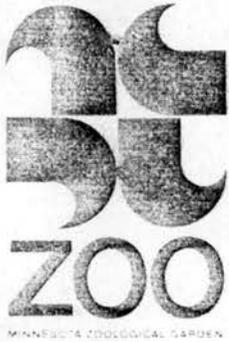
ROW/ljb

Copies to: Edward Maruska
William Conway
Judith Block
Nate Flesness

cc 15, WV, ISIS

bcc: B. House
U. S. Seal

Also copy to the
MPTA Board members
since it appears that
Wagner did so
(at meeting)



file

12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124
612/432-9000

May 30, 1979

Mr. Robert O. Wagner, Executive Director
American Association of Zoological Parks & Aquariums
Oglebay Park
Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

Dear Bob:

The Minnesota Zoological Garden and not any single one of our employees is responsible to the AAZPA for effective administration of the ISIS project. With Jan's sudden but understandable acceptance of an immediate offer elsewhere we acted in order to meet our obligations. Should our ability to perform be ever in doubt you will be advised promptly. We were fortunate last week in gaining the services of Nate Flesness who is, of course, most admirably qualified to lead the project office. He is working in close association with others elsewhere as well as here on the MZG staff.

We delivered full current annual and projected budgets to you at the time of the ISIS Committee meeting here on February 9. We will provide a revised budget with the new fiscal year beginning 1 July 1979.

Hereafter, if you are concerned ever over a matter of obligation concerning the MZG, I invite you to communicate with me rather more directly than by a copy of a memo to another city. Our phones work.

Sincerely yours,

Edward Kohn
General Director

EK:pn

cc: Edward J. Maruska
William G. Conway
Judith Block
Nathan Flesness

cc: [Handwritten signature]



American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304)242-2160

22 May 1979

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San Antonio Zoological
Gardens and Aquarium

MEMO TO: WILLIAM CONWAY, BOARD REPRESENTATIVE FOR ISIS
FROM: ROBERT O. WAGNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: JAN OLSEN'S RESIGNATION AS ISIS SYSTEM MANAGER

On 21 May, I received a 3" x 5" handwritten note from Judith Block as follows: "Jan Olsen will be sending notice of her resignation and replacement by Nate Flesness for the June issue." Further, Nate Flesness called this office on the morning of the 22nd to determine if an announcement could be made in NEWSLETTER about his replacing Jan as ISIS Systems Manager. NEWSLETTER Editor Boyd informed him that we had gone to press.

Bill, perhaps you or other members of the Board knew of Jan's departure; but this office did not. In fact, I admit that I misread Judith's note to mean that Nate was going to replace Jan on the ISIS Committee. I find it ironic that neither Jan, Ulie nor Ed Kohn informed AAZPA of Jan's departure and her replacement by Nate. I wonder what this Association must do to open channels of communication. Also, I wish to point out that my letter, sent at your request to Ed Kohn, regarding the manner with which AAZPA would make its \$20,000 payment to ISIS has not been responded to. My Goodness!

Robert O. Wagner
Executive Director

ROW/ljb

Copies to: AAZPA Board of Directors
Judith Block
Ed Kohn



MINNESOTA ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN

12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124
612/432-9010

March 3, 1979

Mr. Edward J. Maruska, President
American Association of Zoological Parks & Aquariums
Detroit Regional Meeting
Detroit Plaza Hotel
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Ed:

For six years, the International Species Inventory System has been sheltered and fostered by the Minnesota Zoological Garden as a development project in service to the zoo world and to the objective of effective shared responsibility for improved genetic and whole animal management. It is now apparent that long-range collaborative strategies in genetic custodianship must reach beyond one or a few major collections to incorporate even dispersed captive fragments.

I suggest that the ISIS costs of \$100,000 annually must continue to be considered in the context of the inestimable value of the goal served -- the success of captive management. The issue is clearly whether our zoos through our association can be ready in time to commit to shared strategies for captive animal survival. If so, then the ISIS near readiness to serve is timely. If not, then we have developed a tool for some future generation of associates to perhaps reach back for -- if there then remain species with genetic integrity to maintain.

Conditional upon assurance of a viable funding base, the MZG is willing to continue to shelter the ISIS project through FY 1981 (June of 1981).

If during that time, it becomes clear that relocation of ISIS to another institutional shelter would better insure its future, we will assist fully in such a transfer. In any event, during this term we would seek effective transition of identity for ISIS from an MZG service project supported by participating zoos and the Association to a clear identity as an AAZPA project that we are honored to host.

Mr. Edward J. Maruska, President, AAZPA
March 3, 1979
Page 2

The MZG will continue through this term to be a party to contracts of agreement with collaborators and users of ISIS services and products. Such a contract of agreement could be achieved between the AAZPA and the MZG, and I would move forward to working on its accomplishment. Incorporation, from the point of view of MZG management, is not necessary for such purposes, would increase direct costs of the program, and would not now contribute to stability.

Viable funding for ISIS has no clear long-term alternative base other than may be provided by contributing and beneficiary zoos. Other agencies, associations, and institutions may increasingly seek specialized or general services on a basis that may make for net gain rather than a drain in core resources, but such contracts can reside only upon a firm foundation. There is no alternative to the AAZPA, at this time, in these years, to achieve a viable funding base.

The latter objective would require action in the current fiscal year to convert the AAZPA loan of \$20,000 into a grant as originally sought.

In the next fiscal year, a similar grant amount will be necessary, assuming MZG success for ISIS, with our associates endorsement, in gaining an IMS grant for \$25,000 in order to continue operational systems development of ISIS. It must be clear to all that without such a continuing level of systems development, a program such as ISIS is not viable. In the past few years, program development has been achieved on a patch quilt basis stretching energy and services from varied contracts. This process must be stabilized.

In Fiscal Year 1981, continuing grant support would be required at the \$40,000 level in order to fund continuing systems development and operations.

Through each of these future years, supplementary grants and contracts for ISIS services would be expected to contribute to close the gap between the sum of zoo participation fees, AAZPA grants, and total costs.

In summary, the requirement facing AAZPA is conversion of the current year \$20,000 loan to grant, contemplation of a comparable grant for FY 1980, and contemplation of a doubling of that grant for FY 1981 in order to achieve a stable base for the program. (A simple formula for achieving this level of support may be a matching fund arrangement whereby each zoo participating fee dollar is matched by our association resources.)

Mr. Edward J. Maruska, President, AAZPA
March 3, 1979
Page 3

Can America's zoos associate effectively in the service of our
highest aims? Can we afford not to?

Sincerely yours,


Edward Kohn
General Director

EK:pn

Wagner



American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

26 February 1979

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San Antonio Zoological
Gardens and Aquarium

Ms. Judith Block, Registrar
National Zoological Park
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Judith:

I have received the original and 19 copies of your ISIS Committee report. I will take them with me for distribution to the Board on Friday evening, 2 March 1979. I have mailed an advance copy to Bill Conway in that he is the Board member representative for ISIS.

The ISIS Committee report will be heard at approximately 10:15 a.m., Saturday, 3 March. See you in Detroit.

All best regards,

Robert O. Wagner
Executive Director

ROW/ljb

Copies to: Ed Maruska
Bill Conway
Ed Kohn
Ulrie Seal
Jan Olsen