
Letter from the Editor

Edentata is back! After three years of silence, I am proud to share this new edition with you. We are already working on our next edition and will do our best to publish one issue per year. But this will depend on you! We are looking forward to receiving your articles, thesis abstracts, notes from the field, news items, and any other information related to the conservation of xenarthrans that you would like to publish in our Newsletter.

In 2009, our Specialist Group underwent several important changes:

With the beginning of the 2009–2012 period, our Specialist Group has been renamed to the **IUCN/SSC Anteater, Sloth and Armadillo Specialist Group (ASASG)**. This new name is intended to make it more comprehensible for the general public, which will facilitate promotion of our activities.

Gustavo Fonseca stepped down as our Chair after almost 20 years. This Specialist Group would not exist without Gustavo's dedication to the conservation of xenarthrans, and I can't thank him enough for his excellent job! I am very honored that Simon Stuart, the Chair of the IUCN Species Survival Commission, invited me to take over the Chairmanship from Gustavo, and will do my best to strengthen our Group and promote the conservation of xenarthrans.

I am extremely happy that **Flávia Miranda** accepted serving as our Deputy Chair; it is a pleasure to work with her! **Agustín M. Abba** is our Specialist Group's new Red List Authority. He is of great help during daily operations of our Group, and I am delighted to have him on our team. I have no doubt that our Group will benefit greatly from Flávia's and Agustín's participation!

The list of members has been completely revised. I would like to thank our past members for their dedication to the conservation of xenarthrans. At the end of this letter, you will find a **list of the ASASG members** for the 2009–2012 period. I'm looking forward to working with all of you!

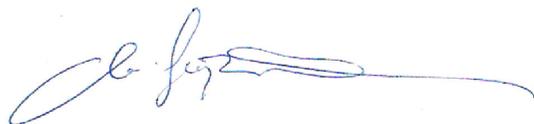
Parallel to the change in the new leadership, the ASASG's headquarters have been moved from Washington, DC to Mendoza, Argentina. I would like to take the chance to thank everyone at **Conservation International** for the invaluable logistical, administrative, and financial support our Group has received over the past years.

Edentata underwent quite a few changes. Some of them are already included in this edition, while others will follow in future volumes. The new **editorial staff** would like to thank the previous editors Gustavo Fonseca, Anthony Rylands and John M. Aguiar, for their work. Due to financial and ecological reasons, we have decided to convert Edentata into an electronic journal. Please help us spreading the news about Xenarthra conservation by sending this **electronic version** to your colleagues!

We also have a new website, <<http://www.xenarthrans.org>> — please read more about it in the News section of this edition!

And last, but not least, I would like to extend my special thanks to our former coordinator **John Aguiar**; he's been of invaluable help over all these years.

Enjoy this new issue of Edentata!



Mariella Superina, Editor in Chief