



Letter from the Editors

Welcome to Edentata 18! This year's issue of Edentata includes six articles, five short communications, and a field note. Among other topics related to the conservation of xenarthrans, you will find updates on the distribution of these fascinating species in Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay; an analysis of priority areas for the conservation of giant anteaters in Colombia; a review of the effect of roadkills on the persistence of *Xenarthra* populations; an assessment of agonistic behavior of armadillos kept under controlled conditions; and a very detailed etymological review of the genus *Cabassous*.

Don't miss our News section, in which we announce, among others, the publication of a rehab manual for sloths and the creation of a state park in Brazil that will provide protection to the threatened Brazilian three-banded armadillo. We also included an abstract of a recent paper by our Specialist Group Member Flávia Miranda and colleagues on silky anteater taxonomy. It validates four species designations and describes three new species of *Cyclopes*, which increases the number of extant *Xenarthra* species from 30 to 36! As a first, we're including abstracts of doctoral and masters' theses on xenarthrans – it's great to see how many dissertations on armadillos, sloths and anteaters have been published only in 2017! Please send us your thesis abstracts so that we can expand this new section of our Newsletter.

Unfortunately, we have to inform you that Tracy Carter passed away in October. You will find an obituary in the News section. Tracy was an inspiration, and her pioneering work on giant armadillos has laid the foundation for many studies on these fascinating animals. She will be missed.

Our long-time member Erika Cuéllar has decided to resign from the Specialist Group. We would like to thank Erika for all the support she has given the ASASG over these years. Her great expertise on the *Xenarthra* of Bolivia will be missed, but we hope we can still count on her advice in future.

After having taken care of the layout of 12 issues of Edentata, Kim Meek has resigned her position as our graphics designer to focus on her new responsibilities as a vet technician. It's been a huge privilege to have her on our team for so many years, and we will miss working with her! THANK YOU, Kim, for your unconditional support; it was great fun to work with you, and we wish you all the best for your future!

Last, but not least, we would like to thank all anonymous reviewers for their excellent work.



IUCN SSC Anteater, Sloth and Armadillo Specialist Group Members 2017–2020

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