

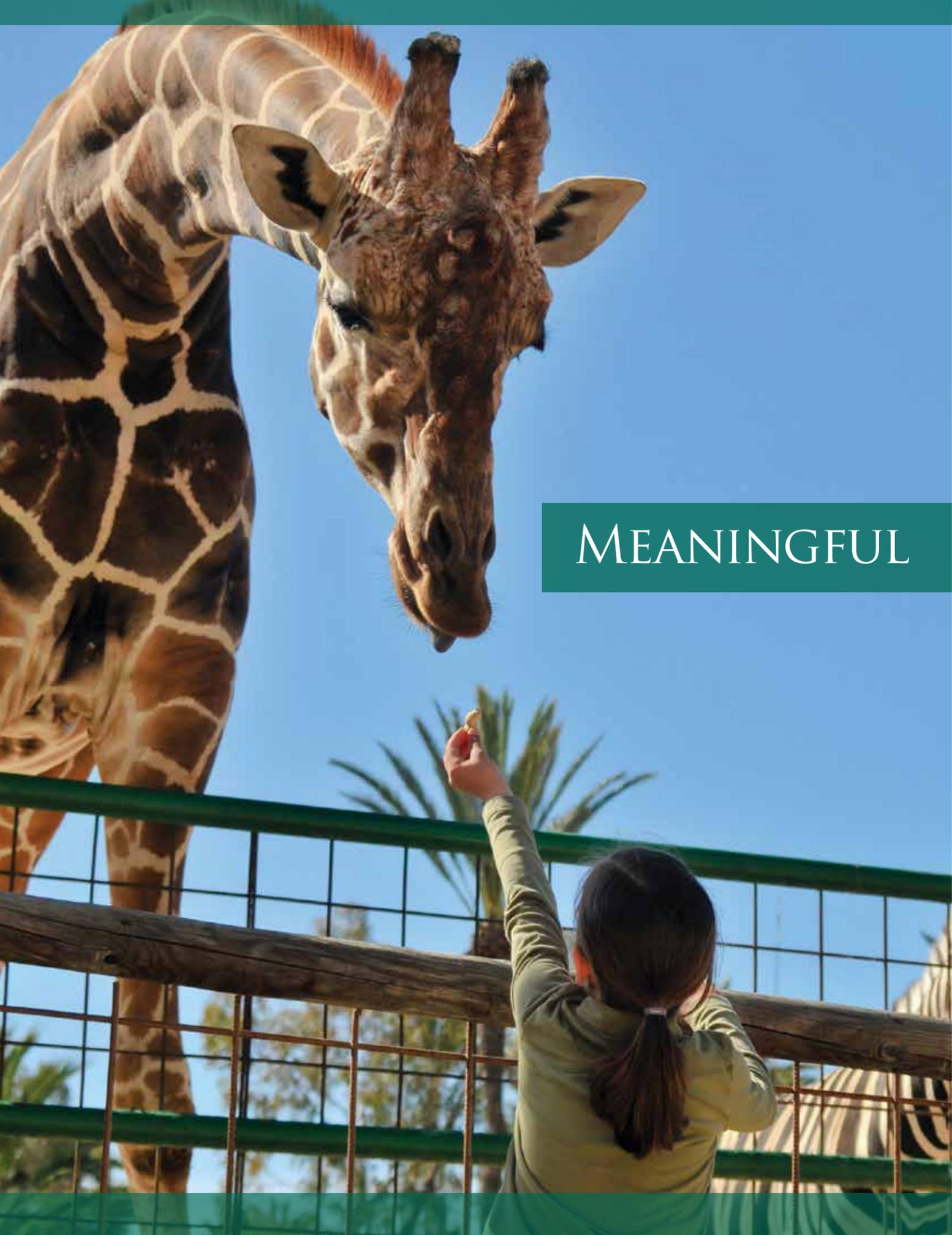
# ZOO & AQUARIUM SCIENCE

AT THE ANIMAL BEHAVIOR INSTITUTE



ANIMAL  
BEHAVIOR  
INSTITUTE

*A more personal education*



MEANINGFUL

# WHAT

## IS ZOO & AQUARIUM SCIENCE?

Zoo and Aquarium Science includes all the disciplines needed to properly manage and care for wild animals in captivity. Zoo professionals need a good working knowledge of proper nutrition, behavior, record keeping, management and conservation. Keepers and curators may be generalists, caring for all animals in the facility, or they may specialize in particular animal groups, such as carnivores or marine mammals. Alternatively, they may focus on a particular area of husbandry, such as nutrition or animal behavior.

Keepers are the primary caregivers for zoo animals; thus, they need to be careful observers of each animal and exhibit. Proper care includes feeding, cleaning, observing and enriching the animals on a daily basis. In addition, zoo keepers may actively train animals to participate in their own husbandry. For example, they may learn to voluntarily submit to injections or physical exams. At many zoos and aquariums, the keepers are expected to give regular public presentations to educate the public and encourage conservation. Consequently, those interested in zoo keeping careers should be comfortable with public speaking and environmental education.

Are you ready to get started in zoo science? The Animal Behavior Institute is the *only* institution to offer accredited, online programs in Zoo & Aquarium Science. Our specialized training will give you the skills you need to succeed in zoo keeping and embark on a new career.

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PERSONAL

# WHO

## WORKS IN ZOOS & AQUARIUMS?

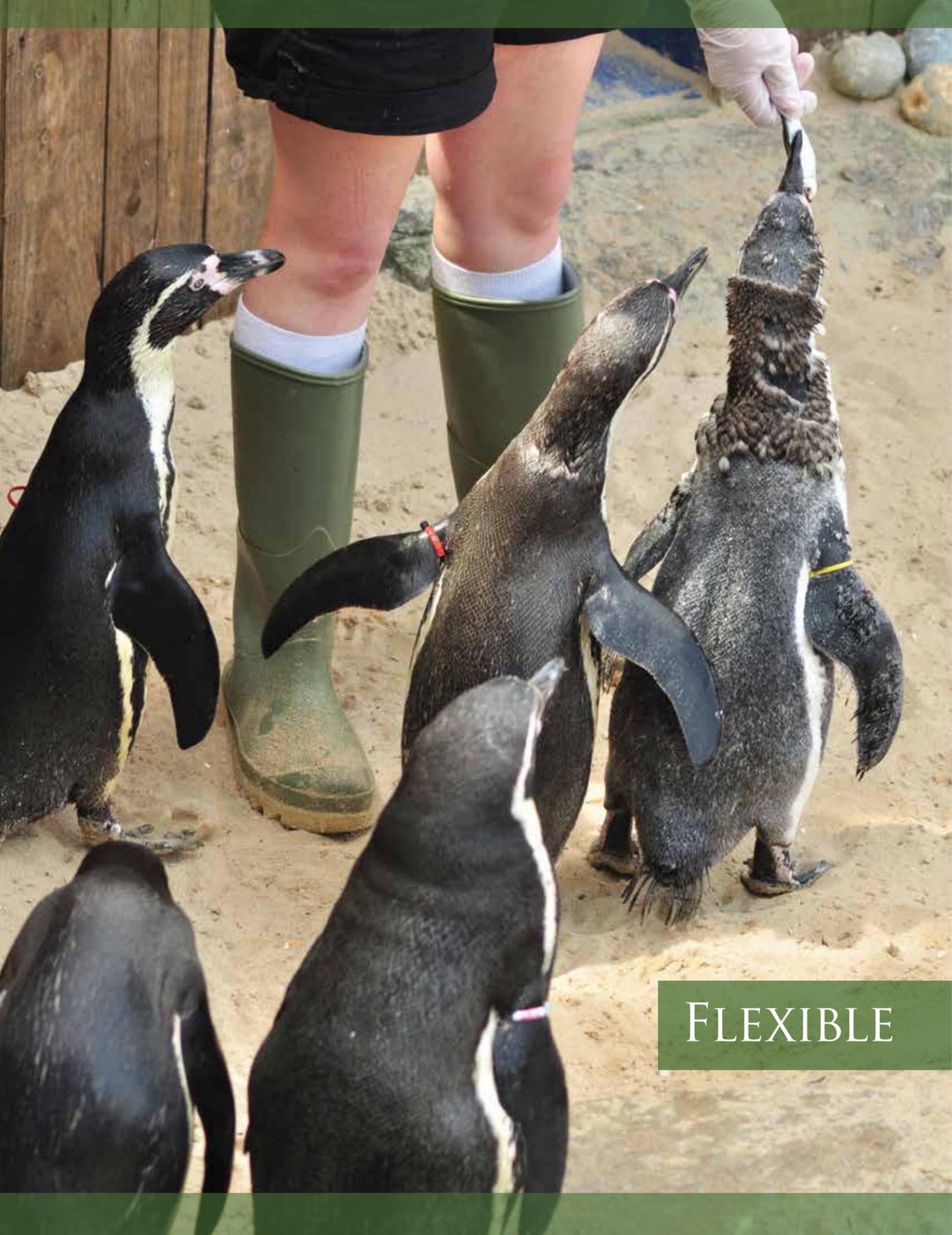
Zoo keepers and aquarists can find work at the 230 AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) accredited zoos and aquariums or more than a thousand other USDA licensed zoos, wildlife parks, marine parks, wildlife centers, museums, and education or conservation facilities. What are some of the positions available working in zoo and aquarium science?

- Zoo keeper
- Animal trainer
- Collection manager
- Curator of exhibits
- Conservation biologist
- Nutritionist
- Education specialist
- Education manager
- Outreach coordinator
- Docent
- Volunteer coordinator
- Zoo director
- Veterinarian
- Veterinary technician

The outlook for professionals in animal care and service overall is positive. The field of animal care and service workers, which includes zoo keepers and animal trainers, is expected to grow at 15% over the next decade\*. However, competition for positions as zoo keepers or aquarists is expected to remain keen. Our program in Zoo & Aquarium Science will give you the competitive edge you need to secure a position and advance in this field.

\*U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2014-15 Edition.

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FLEXIBLE

# WHEN CAN I START?

**Now!** Getting started is easy - you can apply online in minutes. Once you're ready to schedule your courses, your academic advisor can help you plan the program that best fulfills your needs. Your certificate in Zoo & Aquarium Science requires the completion of five online courses and 40 hours of relevant field experience. Most students finish their certificate in 6-12 months.

### Academic Curriculum

The coursework is designed to provide you with a rigorous education in Zoo & Aquarium Science, including the fundamentals of husbandry, record keeping, animal management, conservation, education, nutrition, health and disease. In addition, you'll choose an elective from the field of animal behavior, training and enrichment.

### The four required courses for this certificate program are:

1. ABI142 Environmental Education & Outreach
2. ABI 221 Husbandry & Record Keeping
3. ABI 242 Exotic Animal Management & Conservation
4. ABI 311 Animal Nutrition, Health & Disease

### You will also select one elective from the following:

1. ABI 222 Animal Enrichment
2. ABI 233 Animal Training
3. ABI 251 Behavior & Training of Marine Mammals
4. ABI 281 Avian Training
5. ABI 291 Carnivore Training & Behavior
6. ABI 378 Primate Behavior & Enrichment

### Field Requirement

We believe that academic training must be accompanied by real world experience to be truly effective. During your time as a student, you will complete a field requirement consisting of 40 hours of hands-on experience as an employee, intern or volunteer at an approved institution of your choice. One of the strengths of our program is that students are able to choose where they would like to complete their fieldwork; the facility is not assigned.

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## EXCEPTIONAL

**Personal Support.** We'll provide you with close personal support from the day you begin until well after you've finished your program. When you enroll at the Animal Behavior Institute, your academic advisor will help you plan your individual program and answer any questions that arise along the way. Students have the freedom to choose how many classes to take each semester, when to take them and how to pay for them. And our flexible financing makes any program affordable. Qualified students can choose to finance a single course or their entire program – it's up to you.

As an alumnus, you'll have access to the same resources you've come to enjoy as a student. This includes access to job and internship listings, advising and assistance with resumes and cover letters. We're with you before and after you graduate.



# WHY

## ANIMAL BEHAVIOR INSTITUTE?

### **Widespread Recognition & Acceptance**

You can be confident about pursuing your education with the Animal Behavior Institute. Our quality programs enjoy widespread acceptance at other institutions. We are licensed by the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges\* and accredited by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). As a result of this Accredited Provider status, the Animal Behavior Institute is able to offer IACET CEU credits. These credits are accepted by hundreds of professional associations. Credit from our courses can also be applied to meet the continuing education requirements of many educational institutions, including public and private schools.

In addition, individual courses are accepted directly for CEU credit by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards, the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants, the Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers, and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Please see our website at [www.animaledu.com](http://www.animaledu.com) for a complete listing of our educational partners. Upon graduation, students may begin using the designation CZASP, Certified Zoo & Aquarium Science Professional.

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### **Learning Partner of the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA)**

The Animal Behavior Institute is one of the few select institutions to be chosen as a Learning Partner of the AZA. Our professional relationship with the Association of Zoos & Aquariums allows you to receive dual credit for many courses. Qualified courses can be applied towards both your certificate with the Animal Behavior Institute and an AZA Professional Development Certificate.



### **LearnZIMS Teaching Partner**

The Animal Behavior Institute is proud to be a ZIMS Teaching Partner. ZIMS is the state of the art system employed by zoos all over the world – yet the Animal Behavior Institute is one of just twelve institutions globally to enjoy this exclusive teaching partnership. We incorporate the Zoological Information Management System (ZIMS) into our courses to ensure that our students learn the world standard in animal records management. You'll be graduating from ABI with a unique skill set that will set you apart from your competition.

\*The Animal Behavior Institute is licensed by the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges having met the requirements of Article 8 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes of North Carolina. Please note that the NC State Board of Community Colleges is not an accrediting agency.



# PROFESSIONAL

All courses at the Animal Behavior Institute share a common core, building a strong foundation and then applying that core to problem solving. The highlight of each week is a student-centered discussion; students work collectively to solve real world problems and case studies. Our approach helps build a strong rapport between each individual, their student colleagues, and the faculty. Small class sizes ensure that you'll know your instructors and receive the personal education you deserve.

An academic institution is only as strong as their faculty and ours are outstanding. Our faculty are selected on the basis of their education, experience, and passion for teaching. We'd like to introduce you to three of the instructors in our Zoo & Aquarium Science program. (For a complete list of instructors and their qualifications please visit us at [www.animaledu.com](http://www.animaledu.com).)



# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

## CHRIS WALDRON Professor of Zoo Science



Professor Waldron worked at the Philadelphia Zoo for over 18 years, where he began as a zoo keeper and then moved on to a variety of other positions, including the Curator of Primates, Curator of Carnivores, and Sustainable Operations Manager. His work in the design of Philadelphia's large cat exhibit earned the zoo the prestigious Association of Zoos & Aquariums Exhibit of the Year award. More recently, Professor Waldron took on a new challenge as the Director of Sustainability for Camden County, NJ, which has over 50,000 residents and covers 222 square miles. He is a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Accredited Professional through the US Green Building Council.

## KRISTEN LEWIS Professor of Zoo Science



Professor Lewis is the Director of Education at the Philadelphia Zoo and oversees all of the zoo's environmental education programs, including outreach, school and family programs, public programs and exhibits. The programs under her direction reach 1.2 million visitors a year. She also serves as the Education Liaison for both the Association of Zoos & Aquarium's Bear TAG (Taxon Advisory Group) and the Association of Zoos & Aquarium's Micronesian Kingfisher SSP (Species Survival Plan).

**Office of Admissions**

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