

TWS Council Candidate Biographic Sketch

Northeast Representative - 2023

Valorie R. Titus

Education

May 2013, PhD, Biology, Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY

May 2006, Master of Science, Biology, Murray State University, Murray, KY

May 2001, Bachelor of Science, Liberal and Professional Studies: Science and Society, All College Honors, Summa cum laude, Cazenovia College, Cazenovia, NY

Present Position

- Associate Professor, Natural Resources Conservation and Management, Paul Smith's College, January 2023.

Former Positions

- Program Manager, Wildlife Resources Management, Hocking College, August 2021-December 2022.
- Assistant Professor, Program Director, Wildlife and Environmental Sciences, Keystone College, August 2019-July 2021. Adjunct Instructor 2021-present.
- Assistant Professor, Program Director, Natural Resources Management/Wildlife and Forestry Conservation, Green Mountain College, August 2014-June 2019
- Adjunct Lecturer, State University of New York, Cortland, 2013-2014
- Post-Doctoral Contractor, Wildlife Conservation Society, 2012-2014
- Curatorial Science Fellow, Herpetology, Bronx Zoo/ Wildlife Conservation Society, 2010-2012

The Wildlife Society Activities: Member since 2003

- certification (hopefully this year);
- chapter: NY and OH, (formerly PA),
- section: Northeast (current) and North Central (2021-present).
- Northeast Council Representative, 2020-2021
- North Central Section President 2023-2024 (elect 2022-2023)
- The Wildlife Society Fellow 2016
- New York Chapter Editor NYS Chapter Newsletter 2005-2018, NYS Chapter Secretary 2008-2010, NYS Chapter Treasurer 2010-2011 NYS Chapter Vice-President 2011-2012, President-Elect NYS Chapter 2013, President NYS Chapter 2014-2016
- Northeast Section TWS Field Course Volunteer Instructor 2009-present.
- Hunting and Trapping Management Working Group 2015-present, chair-elect 2019, secretary-treasurer 2021-present, Urban Wildlife Working Group 2011-present, Wildlife Diseases Working Group 2011-present, Molecular Ecology Working Group 2012-present
- Leadership Institute 2012
- Northeast Student Affairs Co-Chair 2015-2021
- Advisor Green Mountain College Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society 2014-2019 Conclave host 2018, Keystone College Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society 2019-2021, Co-advisor Hocking College Student Chapter 2021-2022

Other Professional Affiliations

- 2015-present: Instructor for Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow
- 2015-2019: Member of the Vermont Herpetological Species Advisory Group
- 2002-2021: Society for the Study of Reptiles and Amphibians
- 2002-present: Partners for Amphibian and Reptile Conservation; Northeast Steering Committee 2005-2012; 2014-2021, Social Networking Coordinator 2010-2015, Northeast Co-chair 2010-2012, Liaison for The Wildlife Society 2012-2019, Member-At-Large National Steering Committee 2012, Northeast Meeting Host 2010, 2014, and 2016, Ohio Steering Committee 2021-2022

Leadership Experience:

- New York Chapter Editor NYS Chapter Newsletter 2005-2018, NYS Chapter Secretary 2008-2010, NYS Chapter Treasurer 2010-2011 NYS Chapter Vice-President 2011-2012, President-Elect NYS Chapter 2013, President NYS Chapter 2014-2016. Having served the NY Chapter for over 10 years in a number of capacities, I was able to learn the different skills necessary to effectively run a state chapter. Northeast Council Representative, 2020-2021, North Central Section President-elect (2022-2023), President (2023-2024).
- TWS Leadership Institute class of 2012. This was one of the best leadership experiences of my professional life. I was able to really dive deep into what it means to be a leader in the wildlife field and meet and learn from a number of professionals and peers. I have continued to be involved with the Leadership Institute at Annual Meetings and on different LI Committees.
- Program Director, Green Mountain College and Keystone College, Program Manager Hocking College. Through these positions, I have become very familiar with the certification requirements, having re-designed 2 majors to guide students to certification. I am advising current students at my new position to choose coursework that will enable them to be certified upon graduation.
- Instructor, Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow. This program has been an amazing opportunity to reach out to young professionals in the field of natural resources and educate them on the rich culture of hunting and trapping in the United States. Working with like-minded professionals at all stages of their careers has really added to my skills and knowledge of wildlife management and conservation.

Principal Professional Interests

Conservation, management, wildlife health, anthropogenic impacts on wildlife, student involvement

Views: Limit of 250 words.

I feel that the wildlife field is ever-changing. We are developing new techniques and technologies and attracting a more diverse professional base. While still maintaining our rich history and culture as wildlife conservationists, we need to adapt to the changing world around us. We need to work to encourage and engage our young professionals (and students) and listen to their concerns and needs while expanding our professional development opportunities for all levels of the profession. Wildlife professionals need to take a strong stance on preserving and conserving our wildlife and wild lands so that future generations can learn and live better than we did. We need to strive as professionals to reach out to the public and our youth to continue the love of the outdoors and all it has to offer. It's a challenge, in this time of technology, to express the importance of nature, but we are at a critical turning point ecologically. As a member of council, I will work to create ways to open up our field to a diversity of talents and cultural backgrounds and strive to creatively support all the professionals in this field that want to make the world a better place for all.