



OHIO ACAROLOGY SUMMER PROGRAM - 68 YEARS TEACHING ACAROLOGY

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The Acarology Summer Program (ASP) has been taught uninterruptedly for 68 years. Funded in 1951 by Dr. George W. Wharton at Duke University, was named as Institute of Acarology and remained in Duke until 1953. Then ASP moved to University of Maryland and stayed there until 1960. In 1961, Dr. Wharton moved the ASP to Ohio State University and funded the Ohio State Acarology Laboratory (OSAL) and the ASP has been there until the present year. Curators, students, and researcher associated with OSAL have the main roles of maintaining, managing and developing the scientific collection, plus organize the ASP. Donald E. Johnston was Dr. Wharton's PhD student and later became the OSAL curator after Dr. Wharton's retirement in 1976. In addition, other OSU faculty and students were associated to OSAL such as Rodger Mitchell (focus in water mites), Dr. Glen Needham (tick physiology and genetics since 1978), Dr. Dana Wrens (mite genetics), Dr. Cal Welbourn (terrestrial Parasitengona). Finally, professor Hans Klompen has been in charge of OSAL and ASP since 1995. Currently, a project that will evaluate the impact of ASP, is in process. A general matrix of data from 1955 until 2018, was built based on a matrix done by professor Klompen. It includes demographic data of participants (students and instructors) such as nationality, the country from which participants traveled, and additional variables like gender and race that were taken from pictures, lists and "shadows". Up to date, ASP has held more than 1800 participants from more than 55 countries with approximately 32% female and 68% males. Additionally, a survey is under design and will be applicated to participants and no participants of the ASP, in order to evaluate how the ASP has impacted this science globally. ASP will be moved to University of Arkansas from 2019 in charge of Dr. Ashley Dowling.

Keywords: short-term program, gender, mobility, nationality, impact.