

Faculty Name: Diana Reiss, Ph.D.

Location: 606A Hunter North

Phone: 212-650-3432

E-mail: dlr28@columbia.edu

Updated: August , 2012

Faculty Research Area

General Area of Research

Comparative cognition, animal behavior and communication
Marine mammal cognition and communication
Vocal learning
Evolution of intelligence
Bioacoustics
Animal enrichment and animal welfare in zoos and aquariums

Description of Current Research

Investigation of cognitive abilities in dolphins and elephants (e.g., mirror self-recognition, symbolic behavior, problem solving)
Vocal repertoires and vocal learning in dolphins
Social behavior of dolphins in aquaria and in the wild
Animal Welfare Science

Requirements and Benefits for Student

Essential and Desirable Background Knowledge and Skills

Essential: Some experience in behavioral and cognitive research

Desirable: Basic computer and statistical skills, sound analysis skills, background in animal behavior, cognitive processes, and experimental or developmental psychology

Expected Responsibilities

Assisting in data collection, set-up of experiments, data analysis. Time commitment: Minimum of one full day per week, some flexibility.

Expected Benefits

Develop skills in research methodology, bioacoustic analyses, behavior and cognitive research, applied animal behavior in zoological settings