



Centre ValBio Newsletter

July 2025

CVB News

Pre-Congress at Centre ValBio for 30th IPS Congress

Centre ValBio hosted Pre-Congress of the 30th International Primatological Society (IPS) Congress, which was in Madagascar this year.

Fifteen students of primates from 12 countries attended five days of field classes at Centre ValBio on community involvement in conservation, primate field methods and ethics, new technology such as Minions to test DNA in the field, thermal drones, ultrasonic field acoustic monitors, and programmable GIS collars.

Tatyana Humle (France) and Zimbo Boonratana (Malaysia) supervised the Pre-Congress group. This was the first time most of the participants saw lemurs in the wild.



Photo credit: Dr. Patricia C. Wright

Centre ValBio at the 30th IPS Congress in Antananarivo

Centre ValBio attended the 30th International Primatological Society (IPS) Congress with an informational table. Artist-in-Residence Alain Rasolo's artwork was also featured on the wall.

Choosing Madagascar to host IPS highlighted the critical importance of this unique island nation, which is home to 112 species of lemurs – all of which are found nowhere else on Earth.

“This prestigious event is a cornerstone in the field of primatology, bringing together leading scientists, conservationists, educators, and policymakers from around the globe to discuss and advance primate research and conservation efforts.” — IPS Madagascar 2025



Photo credit: Alain Rasolo

Dr. Patricia Wright Earns Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Patricia C. Wright, Founder and Executive Director of Centre ValBio, has been selected for a Lifetime Achievement Award by the International Primatological Society (IPS). She is being recognized for her extensive work in the field of lemur research and protection as well as for all her efforts in the areas of primatological and conservation science.



“I’m thrilled to be chosen for this award and it’s wonderful to receive this honor at the IPS Congress in Madagascar,” said Dr. Wright. “I’m happy that so many of my students will be at the IPS meetings and we will celebrate together!”

[Read the Stony Brook University News article here.](#)

Photo credit: Alain Rasolo

"Ivohiboro: the lost forest" Film Screening in Westerly, RI

See the new documentary film, *Ivohiboro: the lost forest*.

Wednesday, August 20, 2025
at 7:00 p.m.

Weekapaug Yacht Club
3 Spray Rock Road, Westerly,
Rhode Island

Meet Dr. Patricia Wright, world renowned primatologist and first woman to win the prestigious Indianapolis Prize for Conservation.

In the fall of 2023, Dr. Patricia Wright led a team of young scientists on a daring 30-day expedition into a remote forest, known to a few local communities but otherwise undocumented by the global scientific community. A French film crew accompanied the expedition, capturing breathtaking footage of world that has remained untouched by humans and where unknown species have thrived for millions of years.



Admission is free; register here.

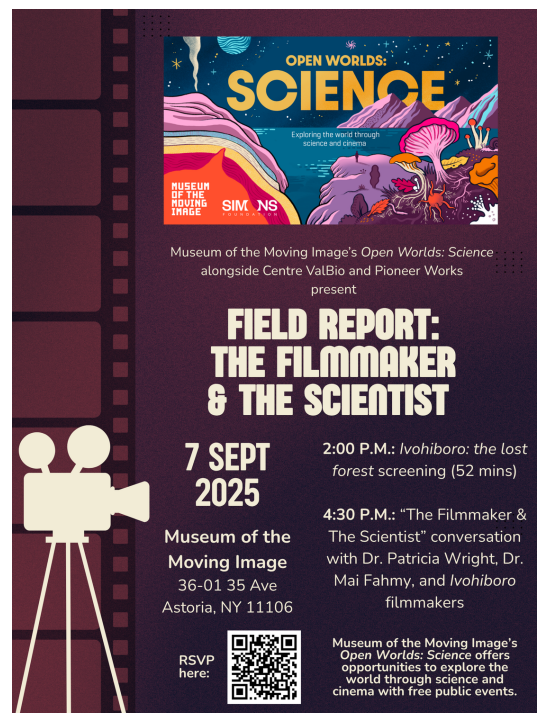
"Ivohiboro: the lost forest" Film Screening in Queens, NY

Museum of the Moving
Image's *Open Worlds:*
Science alongside Centre ValBio
and Pioneer Works present
**Field Report: The Filmmaker &
The Scientist**

Sunday, September 7, 2025

2:00 p.m.: Film screening (52 mins)

3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.: "The Filmmaker & The Scientist" conversation with Dr. Patricia



Wright, Dr. Mai Fahmy,
and Ivohiboro filmmakers

Museum of the Moving Image
36-01 35 Ave, Astoria, New York

Museum of the Moving Image's *Open Worlds: Science* offers opportunities to explore the world through science and cinema with free public events.

Space is limited; RSVP [here](#).

Hiring Interim Chief Operating Officer at Centre ValBio

Stony Brook University seeks an Interim Chief Operating Officer for the Institute for Conservation of Tropical Environments (ICTE)/Centre ValBio (CVB).



As this position is responsible for overseeing various areas of operation at the Centre ValBio campus in Ranomafana, Madagascar, the successful applicant is expected to be a dynamic leader with a proven track record in the development, implementation and execution of programs, activities and services under their management.

This is an interim, 1-year position. This position is 100% based in Ranomafana, Ifanadiana, Madagascar, home to Centre ValBio and the Ranomafana National Park.

[Follow this link](#) for more information. Application deadline is August 19, 2025.

Photo credit: Johanna Mitra

Forest Corridor Project

The Forest Corridor Project includes a research component in addition to its community engagement and reforestation activities. This past month, a team of 13 people traveled to the remote village of Ampitambe to meet with Conservation Club members and villagers involved in tree planting.

An important addition to this expedition was soil sampling, which was carried out both within the Ambaromena forest fragment, a 40-minute hike from Ampitambe, and at the reforestation sites. Biodiversity surveys focusing on insects, plants, and herpetofauna were also conducted under the lead of CVB researchers, including soil expert Ellasun Chamberlain, and CVB staff, including Rajerison Emile and Razafindrabe Dominique.



Photo credit: Lovasoa Razafindravony

Soccer Club in Ranomafana

Play soccer and learn English was Sylvin Rakotomanantsoa's idea, who now works at Centre ValBio and is a former Ecosystem Steward (front row, second from right).

[Save The Ball Soccer For Africa](#)

turned it into reality by sending two soccer balls, a soccer ball pump, a soccer net, and 28 soccer jerseys to Ranomafana. The organization was born out of the dream of Negus Kloehn, a young Ethiopian boy who was adopted into the U.S. and fell in love with soccer. Before his untimely passing in 2020, at the age of fourteen, Negus envisioned giving children in Africa access to proper soccer equipment.



Photo credit: Sylvin Rakotomanantsoa

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- Madagascar -

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Ranomafana, Ifanadiana 312

