THE ROLES OF ZOOS IN CONSERVATION

SPEAKER: Debbie Colodner, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum

DATE: Wednesday, October 30th, 2019

TIME: 3:00-4:00 pm

LOCATION: ENR2, S107

ABSTRACT: The role of zoos in society has been evolving since the establishment of the first public zoos in the late 1700s. We’ll take a brief dip into the historical context, but will focus mostly on the current and rapidly evolving role of the modern zoo in saving species from extinction and fostering conservation behavior. Motivated by the global biodiversity crisis and the great responsibilities of caring for animals, zoos are working to better understand their niche in the conservation ecosystem. We’ll look at what zoos are doing now, some of the current research on their effectiveness, and discuss and share models for what zoos could be in the future.