

Moirai Conservation and Research Inc.

February 28, 2022 Moirai Conservation and Research Inc. 34308 Ruffing Rd Dade City, FL 33523-7512 www.moiraiconservation.org

To Whom It May Concern:

Keiser University is important to our community not just as a center for learning, but as a focal point for trained professional adults who are interested in both the environment and in bettering the world around them. Moirai Conservation and Research Inc. is a local 501(C)3 nonprofit organization that is dedicated to the study and protection of long-lived animal species. To this end, our organization maintains an educational website (www.moiraiconservation.org) and we are committed to surveying the conservation status, ecological importance, habitat, physiology, general behavior, and lifespan of these species. Scientifically, we are focused on the field of conservation known as *conservation genetics*, and our board members and volunteers are working to apply this field to the study of local endangered species. Our members have served multiple times on the Keiser University advisory board for the Biomedical science department at the Tampa campus, and two of our founding members are a part of the Keiser University faculty.

The students at Keiser University have been an immeasurable help for our organization through their volunteer work. In mid-2017 a group of very dedicated Keiser University students worked with both with us and with the Keep Pinellas Beautiful organization to clean up local beaches, which was a vital service for the maintenance and conservation of local wildlife habitats. Since 2017, multiple Keiser University students have worked directly with us in various capacities, including the writing of science article for our blog, and the volunteering of computer resources for running bioinformatics analyses of animal genomes. And most recently, in 2022, a group of KU Biomedical Sciences students represented both our organization and Keiser University at a volunteer invasive species removal project at Moccasin Lake.

The faculty, staff, and student body have all been a wonderful resource for Moirai Conservation and Research Inc. We are continuously impressed by their professionalism and



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eagerness to assist us in our goals, and we look forward to continuing to work with Keiser University in the years to come.

Best regards,

Neil Copes, PhD

Moirai Conservation and research Project Director