

Dr. Susan Stevens Suarez Memorial Announcement

Announcement by Dean Lorin D. Warnick, DVM, PhD, Austin O. Hooey Dean, Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine; submitted to SSR with memorial materials.

Dear colleagues,

I write to share the sad news that Dr. Susan Suarez passed away on June 11, 2026. Dr. Suarez was professor emeritus in the Department of Biomedical and Translational Sciences and an accomplished faculty member in the Department of Biomedical Sciences for many years. I extend my sincere condolences to her family, friends, colleagues, and students.

Dr. Suarez's research in reproduction, particularly the movement of sperm through the reproductive tract, had immeasurable scientific impact. She earned her bachelor's in biology at Cornell in 1971, her master's in marine biology at the University of Miami in 1974, and her Ph.D. in biology at the University of Virginia in 1981, followed by a postdoctoral appointment at U.C. Davis in reproductive biology. After professorial positions at Davis and the University of Florida, Dr. Suarez joined Cornell in 1994, where she spent the bulk of her professional career, retiring in 2017. A talented, dedicated scientist with years of authoritative, published research, Dr. Suarez was a consistent invited speaker across the world and obtained more than 30 research grants. She also contributed to staple reference material such as Knobil and Neill's Physiology of Reproduction, which can be found on faculty and library shelves everywhere.

Dr. Suarez was known for collaborations across campus and for mentoring many students through thought-provoking research projects. She was a member of Women in Science at Cornell and participated in exchange programs for college-level students, as well as for younger learners through the Minority High School Student and Teacher Summer Program and similar initiatives. Thanks to enthusiasts of her early graduate student research in Florida, she has a fish named after her, *Ogilbia suarezae*, a unique legacy to the impact of her work.

My thoughts are with Dr. Suarez's husband, Wayne Gottlieb, their two children, and their extended family, friends, colleagues, and students who feel her loss. Susan was a dedicated member of the College of Veterinary Medicine community. I enjoyed working with her on committees and in all our interactions, I appreciated her thoughtful and collegial approach. We will share more information about memorial services as we receive it.

Sincerely,
Dean Lorin Warnick
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