

CURRICULUM VITAE



Prof Dr Thomas B. Hildebrandt
Reproduction Management
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Professorial Fellow, Dept. Zoology,
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Personal Status

Birthdate: 16th of July, 1963
Place of birth: Berlin
Nationality: German
Marital status: Married
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Education

2015- Full professor, chair wildlife reproduction medicine at the Freie Universitaet Berlin
2012- Member of the Credential Committee of the European College Zoological Medicine (ECZM) as part of the European Board of Veterinary Specialists (EBVS)
2011 Diplomate and Founding Member of the European College of Zoological Medicine, specialty Zoo Health Management, April, 26th, 2011, European Veterinary Specialist in Zoological Medicine (2011-2018)
2008 Member of Royal College Veterinary Surgeon, UK
1997 Board certification for Zoo, Wildlife and Game Medicine (Fachtierarzt)
1993 Dr. med. vet. (PhD), Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Freie Universitaet Berlin entitled: "*Studies on ovarian transplantation in golden hamsters, mice and African goats*".
1992 Veterinary registration

Employment

2015- University Professor (Full Professor) for Wildlife Reproduction Medicine at the Freie Universitaet Berlin
2012-2027 three times: Honorary appointment "Professorial Fellow"
2017-2022 Faculty of Biosciences,
2022-2027 University of Melbourne, (AUS)
1997- Head Department Reproduction Management, Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research (IZW), Berlin
1995-1997 Head Research Group Ultrasound, IZW
1992-1994 Scientific Researcher, IZW

1984-1986	Pathology assistant, veterinary pathology, Faculty Veterinary Medicine, Humboldt-University Berlin
1984-1985	Farm Worker, dairy farm, Brandenburg

Awards

2026	The Smart Wildlife Conservation Award, given by Smart Savannah, Stockholm, 26 th January 2026
2026	Top Viewed Article 2025 - Reproduction in Domestic Animals: Advanced assisted reproduction technologies in endangered mammalian species.
2026	Top Viewed Article 2025 - Developmental Dynamics: Embryology of the fat-tailed dunnart (<i>Sminthopsis crassicaudata</i>): A marsupial model for comparative mammalian developmental and evolutionary biology.
2024	"A stem cell zoo uncovers intracellular scaling of developmental tempo across mammals." Lázaro et al., Cell Stem Cell 30: 1-1 has won the prize as best research article of the German Stem Cell Network for this year.
2024	'In vitro fertilization program in white rhinoceros' published in Reproduction, Volume 166, Issue 6, October 2023 has won the prize as best research article for this year.
2024	Charter Day Lecture at the National Maternity Hospital (An tOspidéal Náisiúnta Máithreachais) Dublin, Ireland, January 25, 2024
2024	Certificate of Registration of a foreign Veterinary Surgeon, Kenya Veterinary Board, January 2 nd , 2024, Nairobi, Kenya
2022	Award for "Best Clinical Student Course" Freie Universitaet Berlin
2019	Giant panda Global Award 2019: "Human Panda Personality of the Year"
2018	Honorary Fellowship, British Society of Reproduction and Fertility (HonMSRF)
2015	Conservation Legacy Award 2015, Pittsburg Zoo & PPG Aquarium, USA, May, 28th, 2015, price money: 25,000 USD, donated for BioRescue Project – Saving the Northern White Rhinoceros
2012	Career Award Species Conservation Research, ISCFR-2012 and EVSSAR 2012, Vancouver, Canada, July, 29 th
2010	Recognition of Outstanding Contribution for 'Obstetrics in Elephants' (Theriogenology 70:131-144) as one of the 25 most downloaded articles
2008	Best Research Presentation Established Investigator 6th International Symp. on Canine and Feline Reproduction, Veterinary University Vienna, Austria
2008	Scientific Associate of Taronga Conservation Society, Sydney (AUS)
2008	ZSL-Conservation Fellow of Zoological Society London (UK)
2005	Elected veterinary Supervisor of the European captive elephant breeding program, Elephant TAG Europe
2002	Fellow of the Zoological Society of San Diego (USA)
2000	Research Associate of Smithsonian Institution, National Zoological Park (USA)

Prestigious Science Journals such as Science and Nature have reported about Thomas Hildebrandt's work "A fertile mind on wildlife Conservation's front lines." Science 294:1271-72, 2001) & "Endangered species: Sex and the single rhinoceros." Nature 485:566-569, 2012)

Research abroad

2017 – currently	Giant Panda Reproduction Research as Scientific Advisor for the Chengdu Panda Base, People's Republic of China (4 weeks, 7 visits)
2015 - currently	BioRescue - Saving the Northern White Rhino as a role model for critically endangered mammals, activities in Kenya and Europe (3 years., >40 visits)

2009, 2010, 2023	Elephant semen collection projects in Republic of South Africa “Project Frozen Dumbo I, II & III” for establishment of a rhino and elephant semen cryo-bank in Europe and USA (7 weeks, 4 visits)
2004 – currently	Sumatran rhino reproduction research in Indonesia and Malaysia (3 months, >30 visits)
2003 – 2010	Visiting scientist Taronga Zoological Society, Sydney (AUS)
2000 – 2003	Elephant research in Tanzania, satellite tracking of wild African elephants (11 weeks, 3 visits)
1995 – 1998	Elephant research at the Kruger National Park, Skukuza, Elephant Contraception Project (14 weeks, 7 visits)
1992	Primate research in Mauritius, embryo transfer in <i>Macaca fascicularis</i> (3 months, 1 visit)
1988	Ovarian transplantation research, Department of Cell Biology, Institute of Biophysical Chemistry of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Moscow, (4 weeks, 1 visit)

Academic Activities

Student lectures performed at 18 national and international universities
total amount of lecture hours: >500 hours
250 publications (peer reviewed), current h-index 55
80 publications (not peer reviewed)
29 book chapters
7 patents for reproductive medicine in non-domestic species

Fundraising

Direct acquisition or participation in more than 15 externally financed projects including organizations such as BMBF, Leibniz - Society, DFG, Smithsonian Institution, IMLS, IRF, IEF etc.
total amount: about 7 million Euros

Scientific Advisor (selection)

Chengdu Panda Base, PR China	since 2019
Colossal Biosciences Inc. USA	since 2022
ESCAR, Singapore	(2019 – 2024)

National Geographic Documentary:

<i>In the Womb</i>	(2022)
<i>Mammoths: Back from the Dead</i>	(2013)
<i>In the Womb – Extreme Animals</i>	(2008)
<i>In the Womb – Animals</i>	(2007)
<i>In the Womb – Dogs and Cats</i>	(2006)

BBC

<i>Sudan - The last of the Rhinos</i>	(2017)
<i>The Triumph of the Mammal</i>	(2013)
<i>How to masturbate an elephant</i>	(2007)
<i>Inside Animals</i>	(2005)

Prof Dr Thomas Bernd Hildebrandt is professor and chair of wildlife reproduction medicine at the Freie Universitaet of Berlin. Prof Hildebrandt and his team are world leaders in using artificial reproduction to breed rare and endangered animals such as elephants, rhinos and giant pandas. He was a founding member of the subspecialty Zoo Health Management as part of the European College of Zoological Medicine (ECZM) and served as Credential Committee of the European College of Zoological Medicine the board of veterinary specialists from 2011 to 2014.

He holds the honorary appointment of *Professorial Fellow* of the Faculty of Biosciences at the University of Melbourne (2012 to 2027) and is also the head of the Department of Reproduction Management at the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research in Berlin. Prof Hildebrandt is internationally well-known for his research on assisted reproduction in wildlife and especially the rescue project of the northern white rhinoceros (BioRescue) raised global interest. He is recipient of numerous awards such as the Conservation Legacy Award in 2015 for his substantial impact to conservation projects in the USA. Prof Thomas B. Hildebrandt (H index 52) and published more than 200 peer-reviewed scientific articles, 29 book chapters and 6 patents and gave more than 50 plenary lectures on international conferences. Prof Thomas B. Hildebrandt has supervised 12 doctoral theses all awarded with summa or magna cum laude grades.

Lectures at Universities

Lectures performed at 18 national and international universities

Total amount of lecture hours: >300 hours

Project based fund raising

Direct acquisition or participation in more than 15 externally financed projects including organizations such as BMBF, Leibniz-Gemeinschaft, DFG, Smithsonian Institution, IMLS, IRF, IEF etc.

Total amount of funding: approx. 6.5 million Euros

Scientific publications

204 publications (peer reviewed), current h-index: 45

80 publications (not peer reviewed)

27 book chapters

>50 international plenary lectures / >300 conference presentations

6 patents for reproductive medicine in non-domestic species
