One Health Social Sciences Initiative
Leadership Team - 2021

The CO-CHAIRS

Séverine Thys, MSc, PhD
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Dr. Séverine Thys graduated as Master in Anthropology and in Public Health. She also obtained her PhD degree in Veterinary Sciences from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Ghent (Belgium) for her dissertation on “The added value of Anthropology for integrated control of Neglected Zoonotic Diseases in the One Health movement.” During her 9 years working as an academic assistant at the Institute of Tropical Medicine of Antwerp (ITM), she was involved in the study of perceptions of zoonotic diseases in rural communities to assess cultural, cognitive and social drivers explaining people’s knowledge, perceptions and behaviour with regard to animal husbandry, zoonoses and their control in their specific ecosystem as well as how to foster interdisciplinarity research in such field. Drawn from her ethnographic observations and first field experiences in a context of epidemic during the Ebola Virus Diseases epidemic in West Africa, she got further interested in the role of anthropology in addressing outbreak interventions and narratives around them. Séverine also worked at the Centre for Evaluation of Vaccinations and the Global Health Institute at the University of Antwerp for the European EBOVAC3 project.
Since February 2022, she has a permanent position as Health Anthropologist at CIRAD, the French agricultural research and international cooperation organization working for the sustainable development of tropical and Mediterranean regions.
Since 2021, she is one of the co-leaders of the OHSS.

Wendy J. Rib, DVM, PhD
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Wendy Rib is a professor, veterinarian, and anthropologist that has dedicated her career to animal health and education. She earned her veterinary degree from University of Florida and her PhD in applied anthropology from University of South Florida. Retired from equine practice, she currently works at St. Petersburg College, where she teaches, and mentors advanced veterinary technicians. She guides her students to consider the relationship between animal health and human health. Her interest in One Health includes how livestock production methods impact the health of the environment, the animals, the producers, and the consumers. Her ambition is to combine her social science skills with her veterinary experience to work toward improving current food systems.
# The ADVISORY TEAM

**Bernardo Moreno, MD, MSc**  
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Bernardo Moreno is a medical doctor and social scientist working at the intersections of public health and anthropology. He received his medical degree from the National Autonomous University of Mexico and is currently a medical anthropology PhD student at the University California Berkeley/San Francisco. He holds a master’s degree in medical anthropology from the University of Edinburgh.  

His interest in the One Health approach emerges from work on the epidemiology of dengue along the Mexico-US border region and his current PhD project on the multispecies relations driving the surge of autochthonous Chagas Disease in the United States. He is an enthusiast of integrative approaches to health that engage seriously with science, technology, culture, ecology, politics, economics, and ethics.

**Helena Chapman, MD, PhD, MPH**  
hjchapman@gmail.com  
Trained in medicine, epidemiology, and environmental health (One Health), Dr. Helena Chapman is passionate about strengthening global health education, practice, and research related to the prevention and management of tropical infectious diseases in Latin America and the Caribbean. By integrating social science concepts and the One Health approach, her research and practice activities have examined the health determinants that influence risk associated with tuberculosis and dengue transmission in Cuba and the Dominican Republic. In her current professional role, she promotes the use of Earth observations in One Health applications related to air quality management and infectious disease control. She received her PhD in Public Health (One Health) and MPH in Epidemiology from the University of Florida, and her MD from the Iberoamerican University in the Dominican Republic.

Helena is enthusiastic to build capacity for health professions education and training programs that prepare the global health workforce to better understand and mitigate environmental health risks across all communities. Over the past few years, she has been an active leader with the One Health Initiative (One Health Initiative Autonomous pro bono Team), One Health Commission Social Sciences Initiative (Publications and Mapping Stakeholders Work Groups), and *One Health Newsletter* editorial board. She aims to further empower the One Health community to develop transdisciplinary collaborations that integrate innovative methods, technology, and data to advance our scientific knowledge about the global ecosystem.
Verónica Ormea DVM, MSc
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Doctor Ormea is a Peruvian veterinarian with expertise in tropical medicine and zoonotic diseases. Her DVM thesis was entitled: “Knowledge and preventive practices of toxocariosis in schoolchildren and their parents trained on the disease in 2006. District of San Juan De Lurigancho. Lima-Peru, 2010”, in which Toxocariosis infection was applied as a research model to investigate preventive practices towards helminth and zoonotic diseases in vulnerable population (children living in poorest areas of LMICs) using educational materials as intervention strategies to evaluate KAPs. Later, her master degree dissertation was on the Assessment of One Health education in Peru obtained from the Institute of Tropical Medicine, Belgium (ITM). In addition, she holds a second master in Animal Health Management and a Certificate on Global One Health both from Wageningen University, the Netherlands. Currently she is lecturer at the Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas in Lima, Peru. General interests: parasite zoonotic diseases, Livestock health, AMR stewardship, stakeholder analysis, and understanding people behaviors towards diseases (specially working on rural and remote areas).

Verónica is enthusiastic on working on the side of One Health and communities whenever they related to parasite zoonotic diseases and wellbeing. She is leader of the One Health Social Sciences Initiative (OHSS) from the One Health Commission, in which she has coordinated and organized past webinars and presented OHSS activities to international congresses. She is also founder and member of the professional network “One Health Latinoamerica, Ibero y el Caribe” (OHLAIC) in which we promote One Health with different activities and in different languages (Spanish and Portuguese) with the purpose to strengthen the fraternal and old ties of friendship, partnership and research between the countries and researchers of the network.

**The Subcommittee directors**

Coming soon...

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