Dr. Francis L. Rose is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Texas State University. He received a BS (1960) and a MS degree (1962) in Zoology from the University of Georgia, and a PhD in 1965 from Tulane University. He obtained a NIH postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Florida (1965-66) and joined the faculty at Texas Tech University in 1966. He accepted the departmental chair position at Texas State University in 1991 and retired from teaching in 2009 but maintained an active research program involving the study of freshwater turtles at Spring Lake. His primary research dealt with environmental cancer induction in neotenic *Ambystoma tigrinum*. While at Texas State, he also completed a 40-year study of the Texas tortoise (*Gopherus berlandieri*) and an 11-year study of Cottonmouths at Honey Creek. At Spring Lake, the research took several tracks: elucidating issues associated with space use, reproductive phenology, and the concepts of indeterminate versus determinate growth. Please bear in mind that this work was not done in a vacuum but required the efforts and dedication of numerous individuals.