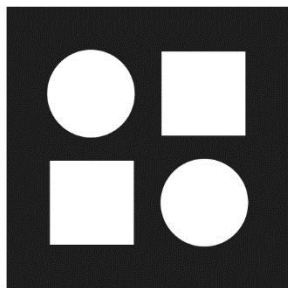


THE
2016 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
OF THE
**SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF
NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS**



SPNHC

ADVANCING COLLECTIONS CARE

“Green Museum – How to practice what we preach?”

**Museum für Naturkunde Berlin and the Botanischer Garten und
Botanisches Museum Berlin
Berlin, Germany**

June 20-25, 2016

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Agenda for the Annual Business Meeting	3
2014-2015 List of SPNHC Members Serving on Council and Committees.....	4
Minutes of the Secretary: 2014	7
Report of the President.....	11
Report of the Treasurer	13
Standing Committee Reports.....	20
Archives.....	20
Best Practices.....	20
Bylaws	21
Conference	21
Conservation	22
Documentation	22
Elections.....	22
Emerging Professionals.....	23
Legislation and Regulations.....	23
Long-Range Planning.....	24
Membership.....	24
Professional Development.....	24
Publications	25
Recognition and Grants	26
Web Site.....	26
Sessional Committee Reports	28
International Relations	28
US Federal Collections	28
Representative Reports.....	28
Alliance of Natural History Museums of Canada (ANHMC).....	29
American Alliance of Museums (AAM).....	29
American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC).....	29
American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH).....	30
American Society of Mammalogists (ASM)	29
American Society of Plant Taxonomists (ASPT)	31
Association of Registrars and Collections Specialists (ARCS)	31
Geological Society of America (GSA)	30
Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF).....	32
Integrated Digitized Biollections (iDigBio).....	32
International Council of Museums – Committee for Conservation (ICOM-CC)	33
International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER)	33
Natural Sciences Collections Association (NatSCA)	34
Natural Science Collections Alliance (NSC Alliance).....	34
Paleontological Society (PS).....	35
Scientific Collections International (SciColl)	35
Small Collections Network (SCNet).....	36
Society of Herbarium Curators (SHC).....	36
Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP).....	36
Taxonomic Databases Working Group (TDWG)	38
Appendix: Accountant’s Review Report and Financial Statements	39

Agenda for the Annual Business Meeting

Museum für Naturkunde Berlin and the Botanischer Garten und
Botanisches Museum
Berlin, Germany

22 June 2016

1. Call to order.
2. Agenda.
3. Minutes of the 2015 Annual Business Meeting.
4. Report of the President.
5. Report of the Treasurer.
6. Reports of Standing Committees.
 - a. Archives
 - b. Best Practices w. Citations Subcommittee
 - c. Bylaws
 - d. Conference
 - e. Conservation
 - f. Elections
 - g. Emerging Professionals
 - h. Executive
 - i. Legislation and Regulations
 - j. Long-Range Planning
 - k. Membership
 - l. Professional Development
 - m. Publications
 - n. Recognition and Grants
 - o. Web Site
7. Reports of Sessional Committees.
 - a. International Relations
 - b. US Federal Collections
8. Reports of Representatives.

Due to time constraints, please refer to the printed reports.
9. New Business.
10. Old Business.
11. Announcements.
12. Adjournment.

2015-2016 List of SPNHC Members Serving on Council and Committee

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President	Andy Bentley
President-Elect	Linda S. Ford
Past President	Christopher Norris
Treasurer	Ruth O'Leary
Managing Editor	Christine Johnson
Secretary	Ann Molineux

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

2013-2016	Kelly Sendall
2013-2016	Robert Huxley
2014-2017	Julian Carter
2014-2017	Barbara Thiers
2015-2018	Bethany Palumbo
2015-2018	Kelly Tomajko

STANDING COMMITTEES

Archives Committee

Linda Hollenberg	Co-chair
Meghann Toner	Co-chair
Lisa F. Palmer	
Meghann Toner	EPG liaison

Best Practices

Jessica D. Cundiff	Co-chair
Breda Zimkus	Co-chair
Fran Ritchie	EPG Liaison
Lori Benson	Alan Paton
Emily Braker	Melinda Peters
Michelle Coyne	Randy Singer
Jean-Marc Gagnon	Stephanie Tessier
Cathy Hawks	Genevieve Tocci
Gabriela Hogue	Andrew Williston
Armando Mendez	Paula Work
Amanda Millhouse	

Citations Subcommittee of Best Practices

Margaret Landis	Chair
Stephanie Allen	EPG Liaison
Mireia Beas-Moix	Catherine Riddle
Elana Benamy	John Simmons
Magdalena Grenda	Meghann Toner
Mariko Kageyama	Janet Waddington
Ann Pinzi	Robert Waller
Marcia Revelez	

Bylaws Committee

Chris Norris	Chair
Laura Abraczinskas	Ann Molineux

Conference Committee

Linda S. Ford	Chair
Tim White	Clare Valentine
Julian Carter	Cardiff 2014
Elise LeCompte	Gainesville, 2015
Christiane Quaisser	Berlin, 2016
Kelly Tomajko	Denver 2017

Conservation Committee

Armando Mendez	Co-chair
Rebecca Newberry	Co-chair
Cindy Opitz	Co-chair
Gretchen Anderson	Mark Renczkowski
Lori Benson	Jude Southward
Suzanne B. McLaren	Clare Valentine
Rebecca Morin	Robert Waller
Luci Ciperia	Environmental
Carolyn Leckie	Environmental
Andy Bentley	Fluid Collections
Richard Sabin	Fluid Collections
Bethany Palumbo	Food Policy
Fran Ritchie	Food Policy
Annette Van Aken	Resources (RDU USA)
Kelly Sendall	Resources (RDU Canada)

Election Committee

Bethany Palumbo	Chair
Kelly A. Sendall	

Emerging Professionals

Kari Harris	Chair
Meghann Toner	Archive Committee
Fran Ritchie	Best Practices Committee
Cindy Opitz	Conservation Committee
Stephanie Allen	Documentation Committee
Dani Measday	International Relations
Kari Harris	Membership Committee
Bethany Palumbo	Mentorship Committee
Colleen Evans	Professional Development
Katie McComas	Publications Committee
Katie Kirkham	Web Committee

Executive Committee

Andy Bentley	Chair
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Legislation and Regulations

Sally Shelton	Chair
Andy Bentley	TDG
Stephanie Carson	Debra Trock
James Macklin	Greg Watkins-Colwell

Long-Range Planning

Linda S. Ford	Co-chair
Suzanne Ryder	Co-chair
Laura Abraczinskas	Bethany Palumbo
James Macklin	Richard Sabin
Ann Molineux	Debra Trock

Membership Committee

Tiffany Adrain	Chair
Elena Benamy	Rachel Malloy
Mireia Beas-Moix	Ann Molineux
Kari Harris	Ann Pinzl
Talia Karim	Greg Watkins-Colwell

Professional Development Committee

Jeff Stephenson	Co-chair
Jennifer Strotman	Co-chair
Elena Benamy	Mariko Kageyama
Rich Busch	Amanda Lawrence
Christina Byrd	Traviso Marsico
Yemisi Dare	Nazreen Phillips
Colleen Evans	Rusty Russell
Kari Harris	Meghann Toner
Linda Hollenberg	Lindsay Woodruff
Bushra Hussaini	
Robert Huxley	

Publications Committee

Christine Johnson	Chair, Ed. Collection Forum
Matthew Brown	Assoc. Ed. Collection Forum
Yemisi Dare	Assoc. Ed. Collection Forum
Alana Gishlick	Assoc. Ed. Collection Forum
Janet Waddington	Assoc. Ed. Collection Forum
Liath Appleton	Editor, SPNHC Connection
Lori Schlenker	Asst. Ed. SPNHC Connection
Katie McComas	Advertising, SPNHC Conn
Lynn Jones	Bk Reviews, Collection Forum
Mari Roberts	Editor Technical leaflets
Lisa Elkin	Special Publication Editor
Christopher Norris	Special Publication Editor

Recognition and Grants Committee

Christopher Norris	Chair
Jean-Marc Gagnon	Suzanne B. McLaren

SPNHC Web Site

Liath Appleton	Co-chair
Ann Molineux	Co-chair
Lynn Jones	Social Media
Katie Kirkham	EPG Liaison
James Macklin	Technology liaison
Jessica Utrup	NH-COLL-list manager
Jean- Marc Gagnon	Bushra Hussaini
Gabriela Hogue	

SESSIONAL COMMITTEES

International Relations

Sue Ryder	Chair
Dani Measday	EPG liaison

US Federal Collections

Chris Norris	Chair
Rochelle Bennett	Scott Foss
Matthew Brown	Janaki Krishna
Carol Butler	Greg McDonald
Terry Childs	Sally Shelton
	Elizabeth Varner

ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATION

Alliance of Natural History Museums of Canada (ANHMC): Kelly Sendall
American Inst. Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC): Gretchen Anderson, Jude Southward
American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH): Greg Watkins-Colwell
American Society of Mammalogists (ASM): Suzanne B. McLaren
American Society of Plant Taxonomists (ASPT): Richard Rabeler
Association of Registrars and Collections Specialists (ARCS): Annette Van Aken
Geological Society of America (GSA): Ann Molineux
Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF): James Macklin
Integrated Digitized Biocollections (iDigBio): Deb Paul
International Council of Museums-Natural History (ICOM-NATHIST): Kelly Sendall
International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER): Breda Zimkus
Natural Sciences Collections Association (NatSCA): Roberto Portela Miguez
Natural Science Collections Alliance (NSC Alliance): Robert Gropp
Paleontological Society (PS): Jessica D. Cundiff
Registrars Committee, American Association of Museums (RCAAM):
Scientific Collections International (SciColl): Barbara Thiers

Small Collections Network (SCNet): Anna Monfils
Society of Herbarium Curators (SHC): Richard Rabeler
Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP): Matthew Brown
Taxonomic Databases Working Group (TDWG): James Macklin

Minutes of the Secretary: 2015

Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections
Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting
22 May 2015
Hilton University of Florida Conference Center,
Gainesville, FL, USA

Members Present: 93 members in attendance.

Call to order: The President called the meeting to order at 13:20.

1. Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda (found on page 3 of the ABM packet).

Moved: R. O'Leary; Seconded: D. Hardy

All in favor: Opposed:

Motion carried

2. Minutes

Motion: To accept the minutes of the last Annual Business Meeting, 27 Jun 2014, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, UK (found on page 7 of the ABM packet).

Moved: S. Ryder; Seconded: E. Benamy

All in favor: Opposed:

Motion carried

3. President's Report

See written report starting on page 10 of the ABM packet.

4. Treasurer's Report

R. O'Leary presented written report (found on page 13 of the ABM packet)

Expressed thanks to donors and admonished delinquents to pay their dues...

Reiterated by AB

Motion: To accept our new and re-instated members for 2014 and 2015.

Moved: D. Hardy; Seconded: M. Landis

All in favor: Opposed:

Motion carried

Motion: To accept the report of the Treasurer and 2015 budget as amended.

Moved: L. Benson; Seconded: L. Appleton

All in favor: Opposed:

Motion carried

5. Reports of Standing Committees:

- a. **Archives:** L. Hollenberg - See written report in ABM package
- b. **Best Practices:** T. White - See written report in ABM package. Comments on the new wiki
- c. **Bylaws:** C. Norris (not present) - See written report in ABM package
- d. **Conference:** T. White for L. Ford - See written report in ABM package.
- e. **Conservation:** R. Waller - See written report in ABM package.
- f. **Documentation:** M. Landis - See written report in ABM package.
- g. **Elections:** K. Sendall for B. Palumbo -

Welcomes new Members-at large Bethany Palumbo and Rusty Russell. Nominations will be called for soon for President Elect and two more members-at-large.

- h. **Emerging professionals:** K. Harris - See written report in ABM package.
- i. **Legislation and Regulations:** S. Shelton not present. No written report this year.
- j. **Long-Range Planning:** A. Molineux for L. Ford - See written report in ABM package.
- k. **Membership:** T. Adrain - See written report in ABM package.
- l. **Professional Development:** J. Stephenson See written report in ABM package. Notes that seeking a co-chair and thanks Rusty Russell for stepping in for Demo Camp this and next year.
- m. **Publications:** C. Johnson – See written report in ABM package. Calls for submissions for CoFo Reminds members that there are three pubs Collection Forum (CoFo), SPNCH Connection (now edited by L. Appleton), and Leaflets
- n. **Recognition and Grants:** C. Norris (not present) - See written report in ABM package
- o. **Web:** L. Appleton – See written report in ABM package. Also as newsletter editor – asks for submissions for newsletter and conference piece

6. Reports of Sessional Committees.

- a. **International Relations:** See written report in ABM package.
- b. **US Federal Collections:** See written report in ABM package.
- c. **Mentorship:** See written report in ABM package.
A. Bentley reported that the aims of the committee have been fulfilled. The international node program will be taken over by the International Relations Sessional Committee and the mentorship role by Professional Development and Recognition and Grants Committees.

8. **Representative Reports:** A Bentley: For expediency - See written reports in ABM package

9. New Business:

R. O'Leary- Print version of newsletter. Points to consideration for this change. SPNHC 2014 epub plus print \$25 and \$20. Considering that costs only 2/3 recovered SPNHC would be losing \$1000/yr. Felt if increase price would lose members. Also felt epub in line with modern publishing. Only 20% of membership requested print copy- 1/5 were library. Considering that the epub can be printed if people wish. There was a Motion 04/2015. Council voted to discontinue the printing of newsletter. It will be available as an epub only.

A Bentley-New Zealand 2018 at Otago Museum for 2018 in NZ. Gave short rundown of points for and against, new markets and broadening international presence, negative long way and expensive. Call for comments and questions. Want to get an idea if this is a viable option. Will do Survey Monkey in next few months. Concern that members might save up for NZ and not go to Berlin or Denver. Do have back-up plan. T. White is it a firm offer? A. Bentley-not yet. Need more information from L. Ford. They have had other meetings there before– recently held marine mammal meeting with 1000 attendees. R. Waller- could we change dates to our winter? A. Bentley - Problems with collision with other meetings.

a. Awards

Note that the society has the privilege to recognize individuals who make contributions to the society and our professional field:

1. Special Service Award to 2015 LOC chair Elise LeCompte (Andy Bentley)

A. Bentley- This award is for the recognition of individual(s) for special efforts leading to the success of an important event or activity of the Society.

LOC managed a flawless meeting with extremely good plenary, field trips etc. Great transport and amenities

Acceptance and reply-Elise and Donna thank the museum and volunteers, from university and community, and for adding to the wall. And thanks the group from the conference center.

2. President's Award to Susan Butts (Ruth O'Leary) – C. Norris remarks email.

Acceptance by T. White as Susan Butts not present

Award is presented to a member, or former member, whose activities have furthered the objectives of the Society through outstanding committee work, prolonged officer roles, or promotion of activities of the Society.

R. O'Leary presents C. Norris's remarks on this award. T. White will be accepting on Susan's behalf.

Managing editor has four jobs and wonder how anyone will do as volunteer. Numerous tasks. Of the SPNHC editors few have achieved more in such a short time. Few years ago thought we would close Collection Forum. Now we have furthered its reach with ePublication. All requiring huge amount of effort. Saves SPNHC \$5K/ yr in print costs. Allows the easier updates. Also copyright \$3700 (\$45k total operating budget of SPNHC). Took Health book from beginning to the end, and made available on Amazon. Active on membership- Persistence, Energy and Enthusiasm

T. White gave S. Butt's acceptance speech with emphasis on the importance of pubs. Talked about Allen Press with all the advantages, indexing w. large search engines. Considers transition to epub and resulting savings, enhance SPNHC profile. It also shows SPNHC is adaptable, and we can use that as we grow. And Thanks to Council and T. White, L. Palmer and B. Brown for help, C. Norris and R. O'Leary integral to the transition." I was a newbie so thrilled to get into the action, I am humbled"

b. **Upcoming Meetings:**

2017: Kelly Tomajko and Melissa Islam

Invites SPNHC to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science (slide show) 450/ 4.5 million /yr, 1800 volunteers and 600 in research, 70,000 hrs of their time. Collections in 49 sub-standard conditions. Complete one new wing. Thank SPNHC for support. Currently moving in, will be moved by 2017. Bring volunteers Scientist in action to UES and talk about the science and value of collections.

Denver Botanic Gardens, connect people to plants. 150 staff, 1.4 million visitor. 9000 specimens in the gardens, Chatvile includes some native habitats, final Mt Goliath, native alpine specimens at foot of Mt Evans. 2 herbaria used for educations and advocacy. Vascular plants, slime mold.

Motion: That the membership accepts the invitation from Denver Museum of Nature and Denver Botanic Gardens to host the 2017 annual conference of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections.

Moved: E. Benamy; Second: M. Peters

All in favor: Opposed: S. Ryder asks dates- K. Tomajko- probably June

Motion carried

2016: Christiane Quaisser and Peter Giere- excited about the meeting at the Museum fur Naturkunde and Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum – slide presentation. Museum fur Naturkunde and Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum independent in 2009, 30M specimens 500,000 visitors/year. Icebreaker in Museum fur Naturkunde and banquet in botanic gardens.

Dates:-June 20-25 Accommodation: Andel's Hotel in Berlin. Easy to use public transport. Program overview:

Monday Field trips and Icebreaker; Tuesday Committee and official opening; Wednesday – Thursday sessions; Saturday- more field trips. Stralsund-Hanseatic city on Baltic Sea; Messel Pit, Senckenberg; Biosphere ice age; south to canals rich nature and known for pickles; Berlin history. Interesting other museums and other cultural features.

Theme: Green Museum-how to practice what we preach- sustainability-botanic garden-day-to-day business-ethical collections fieldwork, Sponsorships- which should we accept. Ethical vs reality.

Will post through NHColl and their own web site.

10. Old Business: None

11. Announcements:

Elise- birthday.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn.

Moved: Donna Rule

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Molineux, Secretary

Report of the President

It is hard to believe that my two year presidential term is almost at an end and that I will be handing over the presidency to the more than capable hands of Linda Ford at the end of the Annual Business Meeting in Berlin. The time seems to have flown by and I feel I have not achieved as much as I had hoped. That being said, I think we have made progress in various key areas that can hopefully be built on by future presidents. As always the job of the president is not one of individual effort and it is thanks to the hard work and dedication of committee chairs, executive council and you the members that we have been able to make progress and forge a great future for our society.

In my original presidential vision statement I penned during the election process I mentioned three key areas that I wished to make progress on – the expansion of SPNHC into a truly international organization, bringing new, emerging professionals into the fold and integrating SPNHC more fully and dynamically into the broader community. This was not only my vision but dovetailed with the core principles articulated in our strategic plan and it is with guidance from this document that I hoped progress would be driven and has been realized.

With international relations in mind, it is with great anticipation that I look forward to our upcoming meeting in Berlin. By the time you read this we will probably be part way through the meeting. The local organizing committee has done a fantastic job of organizing a packed program of events and registration is now open on their website (<http://www.spnhc2016.berlin>) – see elsewhere in this newsletter for more details. I would encourage all to register before the early bird deadline of March 15. I would also bring to people's attention that committee meetings will be held during the meeting once again, on Tuesday June 21st, so keep that in mind when planning your itinerary. We would love to have more active involvement in our committees. This meeting will follow on from the international meeting in Wales two years ago in cementing and increasing our international membership in Europe. Our planned meeting in Otago, New Zealand in 2018 will hopefully expand SPNHC's reach into new parts of the world and broaden our base of active membership of the society. Thanks to all of the local organizing committees who make these meetings so valuable and fun.

One of the accomplishments I am most proud of is our Emerging Professionals group which has grown from strength to strength under leadership of Kari Harris and her team. Going from an idea Kari and I had in 2013 to a fully-fledged committee on SPNHC Council, they have brought an infectious enthusiasm, new ideas and new faces to our society. The proliferation of young members in the society sets us up for a stable future with some of these members already beginning to engage in committees and other roles in the society. Once again, they will have a number of events aimed at emerging professionals at the Berlin meeting. I would encourage members to apply for the travel grants available to assist with expenses and hope to see many new faces at the meeting.

SPNHC has been engaging the broader community on a number of fronts, with MoU's signed between us and various other organizations (NSCA, NatSCA, GCG and iDigBio). We have just completed signing off on a similar MoU with ICOM-NatHist, the natural history arm of the International Council of Museums, with a view to closer ties and collaboration on issues of mutual benefit. I will be working with the President of ICOM-NatHist to find areas where we can make substantive inroads for collaboration. We will also continue to seek out similar agreements with other groups.

SPNHC is also a major partner in the Biological Collections Network (BCoN) NSF Research Coordination Network (RCN) grant tasked with building a broader community to advance and sustain digitization of collections. Slow progress is being made in the initial phase of this grant with successful workshops having been held and others in the works. One of these focuses on the initiation of an Isobank for isotopes, much like Genbank. The Advisory Council of BCoN is

seeking further input from the community and more information can be found on the website <http://bcon.aibs.org/>. Please get involved to further the aims of this ambitious project. SPNHC has been involved in advocating for at risk collections (Illinois State Museum and USGS) and supporting collections specific initiatives. Most recently I responded to US Fish and Wildlife on behalf of SPNHC regarding their proposed ban on state to state trade in salamander specimens due to chytrid fungus worries. Hopefully we can successfully lobby for a scientific specimen exemption.

We have been working on some of the recommendations made by the Governance Sessional Committees report on our committee structure. One of these involved the merger of the Best Practices and Documentation committees due to overlap in mandate and membership. I am pleased to announce that, with approval from Council, we have successfully merged these committees into a single all-encompassing committee that will henceforth be known just as the Best Practices Committee. The committee will be jointly chaired by Breda Zimkus, Jessica Cundiff and Margaret Landis. Now that the merger has been finalized they will begin the process of evaluating their role and the various projects they have going.

Talking of best practices, we (the Best Practices Committee, Rachael Arenstein of AIC and I) have been hard at work laying the groundwork for the much anticipated release of the SPNHC Best Practices wiki. We are pleased to announce that the wiki is now live and can be accessed at the following URL - <http://spnhc.biowikifarm.net/wiki/>. See elsewhere in this newsletter for the Best Practices Committee report in which they outline more details.

The aim of the wiki is to provide content on Best Practices to the community while allowing for discussion and contribution by SPNHC members. It will also be used to provide information on committee work through committee specific pages that will function in much the same way. Rachael has been employed to put the infrastructure in place, begin to populate some content and create training materials for potential users. There are various example pages to showcase what is possible while there are also lots of blank pages to provide some ideas regarding content, request members to provide content for these sections and thereby make this wiki the one stop arena for collections best practices. We hope that members or groups of members with the expertise in these areas will take ownership of these pages and work with the Best Practices committee to provide the necessary content. In some cases this will be an accumulation of existing content while in others it will be newly created content. If you have a specific page or subject in mind, above and beyond what is already there, please contact the Best Practices Committee who will be the gate keepers to this very important resource. I believe that this could become one the most important benefits to the community that SPNHC has ever embarked on. Related to this we have also recently created a SPNHC YouTube channel for video content. We have accumulated some existing content but once again would encourage members to create or identify existing content that relates to SPNHC or Best Practices for the channel. The channel is being managed by the Web Committee through Liath Appleton. I hope that all members will consider getting involved in this initiative.

We have also had a change in leadership in the Legislation and Regulation Committee with Sally Shelton stepping down. We thank her for her efforts but also welcome on board two new co-chairs of the committee. Dirk Neumann is the Ichthyology Collection Manager at the Zoologische Staatssammlung in Munich and also involved in CETAF with regard to the Nagoya Protocol and Access and Benefit Sharing while Stephanie Carson is the Senior Museum Registrar at the American Museum of Natural History. They will be leading the committee from both sides of the pond which will provide us with a great opportunity to tackle some of the international issues at hand. They have both indicated that Nagoya and CITES will be high on their list of priorities but are eager to engage other members interested in joining the committee and helping out. If you are interested or know of others who may be please let them know.

SPNHC recently held elections for President-Elect, Secretary and two Members at Large. I am pleased to announce that the following positions have been filled:

President-Elect – Barbara Thiers (New York Botanical Garden)
Secretary – Cindy Opitz (University of Iowa, Museum of Natural History)
Members at Large – Miranda Lowe (Natural History Museum, London) and Kelly Tomajko (Denver Museum of nature and Science)

Please join me in congratulating them on their election to SPNHC office and thank you for voting.

I would like to end with my standard plea to all members. We all have large demands on our time and are continually being asked to accomplish more with less. Given this we need to find ways to optimally utilize our resources and benefit from the experiences of others. One of the things that has been foremost in my mind of late is a concept of continual engagement - compelling myself to keep SPNHC a part of my daily routine. During my activities I am constantly asking myself – is this technique or technology I am using something I should share with the community? Are there other items (emails, documents, etc.) that come across my desk I should be sharing with the broader community through our listserv, NHCOLL-L? Does what I am doing overlap with some other initiative in which SPNHC is involved? Should I be collaborating or communicating with one of our committees? Are there people I communicate with who could benefit from knowing about or joining SPNHC? The aim is to get ourselves out of a pattern of sporadic, short cycles of SPNHC activity around deadlines (newsletter, meeting, etc.) with periods of inactivity in between, to a pattern of being continually engaged in society business through our own day-to-day activities. I am hoping that the new wiki system will greatly assist our membership, committees and partners in remaining engaged in their activities and that this will also prompt more of our members to get involved and stay involved. I would encourage anyone interested to join the committees work by contributing your time and expertise. The society is member run and the more people that get involved, the more we will be able to accomplish.

It has been an honor and a pleasure representing the society these last two years and hope to see you all in Berlin.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Bentley, President

Report of the Treasurer

In 2015, the Society's total net assets increased to \$246,600 from a total of \$242,613 the previous year. Liabilities and net assets for 2015 totaled \$279,002. Operating income was generated from three sources: membership dues, advertising in the Newsletter, and publication sales. A total of \$34,507 in membership dues was received. Advertising in the Newsletter generated \$5,330 in income. Sales of our six publications plus royalty payments brought in \$6,529. A total of \$3,101 in donations was received.

Sixty-three subscribers and 512 individuals, institutional, corporate and student members were active for the year 2015. Of the 607 SPNHC members in 2015, 137 joined for the first time.

Major expenses for the Society in 2015 were \$8,745 for Collection Forum Vol 28 (2014), \$4,758 for the Christine Allen grant and the Fitzgerald Travel grants, \$3,527 for two issues of the SPNHC Newsletter, \$1,480 for membership booth accessories and transportation to meetings, \$1,345 in expenses related to the upcoming Storage book, and \$1,235 for annual hosting fees for the SPNHC website plus preparations for upgrades to the website database.

Additional expenses include \$750 to sponsor a meeting to address Biological Informatics Workforce issues, \$570 for printing extra copies of SPNHC books, \$400 for the 2015 election, and \$275 for the annual fee to Cross Ref. The Treasurer's Office incurred the following expenses:

\$5,000 for the 2014 financial review, tax preparation and filing, \$3,356 for insurance, \$842 in merchant fees, and \$150 in annual fees for QuickBooks.

Long-term investment funds were consistent with the market; SPNHC investments saw a market value loss of \$6,913 while the money market account earned \$6,644 in dividends and interest. The CD account earned \$39 in interest.

The first part of 2016 has seen good income activity. By April 30, \$28,145 has been received from membership dues, including deferred dues paid in 2015. As of April 30, 2016 we have 550 active members, including Life members.

Membership renewals included 22 student, 334 individual, 52 library/subscriptions, 31 institutional and 5 corporate renewals. As of April 30, 74 new members have joined in 2016, of which 14 are student memberships, 7 are institutional, and the remainder are individual. By April 30, 157 members who paid in 2015 had yet to renew for 2016. Please pay your dues on time.

In the first quarter of 2016 sales of all our publications total \$2,143. Additionally, by April 30, we received \$1,650.23 in royalties from Copyright Clearance Center and \$300 in page charges for Collection Forum Vol. 29. We have received \$305 in unrestricted donations and \$865 in restricted donations. A sincere thank you to all.

Expenses incurred in FY2016 as of April 30 include \$8,400 for changes to the online membership database, \$6,919 for publishing and printing Collection Forum Vol. 29, \$5,500 to Burdette, Smith & Bish for the 2015 Financial Review, a \$5,000 loan to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science who are hosting the SPNHC annual meeting in 2017, \$3,520 for the Best Practices Wiki, \$1,300 for membership booth rental at meetings, \$591 for reprinting the Storage: Ideas volume and \$518 for online hosting of the Fall 2015 Newsletter. The Society anticipates expenses related to publications, travel grants, insurance premiums, the Best Practices Wiki, the trade show booth, and 2016 online election.

Please contact the SPNHC Treasurer for further details.

For their help throughout the year, I would like to extend thanks to Andy Bentley (University of Kansas), Chris Norris, Susan Butts, and Tim White (Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History), Linda Ford (Museum of Comparative Zoology), Ann Molineux (University of Texas at Austin), and Christine Johnson (American Museum of Natural History). The American Museum of Natural History, Division of Paleontology provided general office support for the Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth O'Leary, Treasurer

For the 2014 financial review please see the [Appendix](#).

FY2015 Donations

Since April 1, 2015

Anonymous
Kathryn Ahlfeld
Ayesha Burdett
Boudicca Buteau-Duitschaeffer
Jennifer Doubt
Shirley Harpham
Teresa Mayfield
Ann Molineux
Robert Morris
Lisa Palmer

Deborah Paul
Caitlin Richeson
Arnold Suzumoto
Barbara Thiers
Jacob Van Veldhuizen
Janet Waddington
Robert Waller
Wendy Zomlefer
University Products

Thank You

FY2016 Donations

As of April 30, 2016

Tiffany Adrain
Janet Bala
Margot Brunn
Gaylord
Lisa Goldberg
Hollinger Metal Edge
Sarah Huber
Thomas Labeledz

Rebecca Morgan
Chris Norris
Fran Ritchie
Trine Sorensen
Jeff Stephenson
Mark Wetter
Breann Young

Thank You

**FY 2015 SPNHC Operating Budget
01 January –31 December 2015**

As of April 30, 2015

INCOME	Projected	Realized	Variance
(1) Dues @ \$20, \$45, \$55, \$75, \$350	\$30,000	\$34,507	\$4,507
(2) Life Members @\$1,125	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
(3) Publication Sales	\$6,500	\$6,529	\$29
(4) Collection Forum Page Charges	\$100	\$0	(\$100)
(5) Mailing List Sales	\$150	\$0	(\$150)
(6) Unrestricted Donations	\$300	\$530	\$230
(7) Temporarily Restricted Donations	\$2,000	\$2,571	\$571
(8) Operating Account Interest	\$4	\$8	\$4
(9) Advertising in Newsletter	\$3,000	\$5,330	\$2,330
(10) Merchandise sales	\$850	\$0	(\$850)
(11) Transfer from Future Publication Fund	\$46,170	(\$13,967)	(\$60,137)
TOTAL INCOME	\$89,574	\$35,509	(\$54,065)
EXPENSES	Projected	Realized	Variance
(12) Archives Committee	\$125	\$0	(\$125)
(13) Election Committee	\$500	\$400	(\$100)
(14) Executive Contingency Fund	\$999	\$0	(\$999)
(15) Membership Committee	\$5,000	\$1,480	(\$3,520)
(16) Publication Committee	\$57,100	\$17,285	(\$39,815)
(17) Recognition and Grants Committee	\$5,250	\$4,758	(\$493)
(18) Treasurer's Office	\$13,350	\$9,539	(\$3,811)
(19) Web Committee	\$5,000	\$1,247	(\$3,753)
(20) President's Contingency Fund	\$2,100	\$801	(\$1,299)
(21) Society Business: Heritage Preservation Fees	\$150	\$0	(\$150)
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$89,574	\$35,509	(\$54,065)

**FY 2016 SPNHC Operating Budget
01 January –31 December 2016**

As of April 30, 2016

INCOME	Projected	Realized	Variance
(1) Dues @ \$20, \$45, \$55, \$75, \$350	\$28,000	\$28,145	\$145
(2) Life Members @\$1,125	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
(3) Publication Sales	\$5,000	\$3,794	(\$1,206)
(4) Collection Forum Page Charges	\$100	\$300	\$200
(5) Mailing List Sales	\$150	\$0	(\$150)
(6) Unrestricted Donations	\$300	\$305	\$5
(7) Temporarily Restricted Donations	\$2,000	\$865	(\$1,135)
(8) Operating Account Interest	\$4	\$3	(\$1)
(9) Advertising in Newsletter	\$5,000	\$2,060	(\$2,940)
(10) Transfer from Future Publication Fund	\$32,105	(\$17,307)	(\$49,412)
TOTAL INCOME	\$73,159	\$18,165	(\$54,995)
EXPENSES	Projected	Realized	Variance
(11) Annual Meeting Loan	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
(12) Archives Committee	\$125	\$0	(\$125)
(13) Election Committee	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
(14) Executive Contingency Fund	\$999	\$0	(\$999)
(15) Membership Committee	\$2,500	\$1,300	(\$1,200)
(16) Publication Committee	\$34,495	\$10,077	(\$24,418)
(17) Recognition and Grants Committee	\$5,250	\$0	(\$5,250)
(18) Treasurer's Office	\$10,350	\$6,244	(\$4,106)
(19) Web Committee	\$9,300	\$0	(\$9,300)
(20) President's Contingency Fund	\$2,100	\$544	(\$1,556)
(21) Best Practices Committee	\$7,540	\$0	(\$7,540)
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$73,159	\$18,165	(\$54,994)

New Memberships Received in 2015

Since April 1, 2015

Institutional Members

Henry Bart; Tulane University Biodiversity Research Institute, LA, USA
Henry Choong; Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium, VT, USA
Daniel Distel; Ocean Genome Legacy at Northeastern University, MA, USA
Beth Mantel; National Research Collections of Australia, Australia
Michelle Waycott; State Herbarium of South Australia, Australia

Library Members

Ditsong National Museum of Natural History, South Africa

Regular Members

Katie Ahlfeld
Rebecca Bray
Courtney Brennan
Michelle Burton
Boudicca Buteau-Duitschaeffer
Melissa Casarez
William Godwin
Kate Hanser
Alaina Harmon
Peter Konstantinidis
Erica Krimmel
Daryl Lafferty
Marc Lambruschi

John R Lynas
Rachel MaKarrall
Justin Mann
Kelly McCauley
Rebecca Morgan
Hannah Owens
Jessica Pace
Gregory Riccardi
Courtney Richenbacher
Anna Spotted Bear
Lien Tran
Dion Tulk
Jacob Van Veldhuizen

Student Members

Lindsay Campbell
Juan Pablo Carrera
Mariana Di Giacomo
Ruben Isaí Madriz
Jess Miller-Camp
Ruth Murgatroyd
Erika Range
Barbara Welch
Breann Young

New Memberships Received in 2016

As of April 30, 2016

Institutional Members

Bob Campbell Geology Museum, United States
Cook Museum of Natural Science, United States
Natural History Museum of Denmark, Denmark
Oman Botanic Garden, Oman
Randolph College, United States
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, United Kingdom
Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung, Germany

Regular Members

Jack Ashby	Christina Gebhard	Sarah Phillips
Deborah Ault	Aurelie Grall	Ben Price
Melissa Bavington	Laura Green	Brian Rankin
Oulfa Belhadj	Jonathan Gregson	Caitlin Richeson
Emma Bernard	George Grigonis	Douglas Russell
Alexandra Bezerra	Lawrence Hudson	Nina Rønsted
Angela Bond	Suellen Jacob	Ben Scott
Brad Bredehoff	Claudia Kamcke	Duncan Sivell
Alyssa Caywood	Sarah King	Mariah Slovacek
Matthew Collins	Björn Kröger	Hilary Margaret Swain
Oliver Crimmen	Paige Langle	Trine Sørensen
Natalie Dale-Skey	Holly Little	Sean Thackurdeen
Tannis Davidson	Silvia Lobo	Jennifer Thomas
Heather Davies	Jacqueline	Deborah Tober
Nina Davies	Mackenzie-Dodds	Casey Tucker
Andrew Doran	Verity Mathis	Nathalie Van Uden
Clare Drinkell	Alan McDonald	Jeffrey Weatherston
Gaelle Duffau	Holly Morgenroth	Rihab Yousif

Student Members

Jessamy Doman	Brittney Oleniacz
Shelby Haggerty	Sara Oser
Brianna Jones	Nicole Ridgwell
Michael Joyce	Charles Stephen
Katie Kime	Jennifer Strong
Suzie Li Wan Po	Tara Templeman
Nicole Neu-Yagle	Kristin Walovich

Standing Committee Reports

Archives

BACKGROUND

The Smithsonian Institution Archives (SIA) houses the archives of SPNHC. SIA currently holds 16 deposits of SPNHC material totaling 23.5 cubic feet. Examples of this material include Collection Forum, SPNHC newsletters, documentation of annual meetings, financial files, election ballots, member-at-large files, various committee files, videos, CDs, and photographs.

PROCEDURE

The committee chair acts as liaison between SIA and SPNHC. The committee receives, lists, and transfers material to the Smithsonian Institution Archives when sufficient quantities accumulate. All material that is deposited within a fiscal year (October 1 through September 30) is assigned the same accession number and housed in the same storage box/unit. Some SPNHC archives need to be rehoused in archival materials prior to transfer to SIA. All material that has been received since the last deposit is being held by the committee.

CURRENT WORK

Although SPNHC is publishing electronically, printed copies of the SPNHC newsletters and Collections Forum are being deposited in SPNHC's archives. No requests for archived information were received by the chair in the past year. Images from the SPNHC annual meeting in Gainesville were provided by Linda Hollenberg and Meghann Toner. Material for deposit was received from Ruth O'Leary. Meghann Toner and Carol Kelloff will photo document the SPNHC annual meeting in Berlin. As per SIA protocols, both electronic and physical materials are being prepared for deposit in SIA.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Hollenberg, Chair

Best Practices

SPNHC council has approved a proposal to merge the Best Practices and Documentation Committees, which was written and submitted together by the chairs of these two committees. As both committees are focused on assembling documentation relating to natural history policies and procedures with the goal of developing and disseminating best practices and the history of past practices in natural history, a merger will allow optimal efficiency, reduce redundancy, and allow the committees to better work together towards shared goals. With the merger, the integrated committee (retaining "Best Practices Committee" name) will be tasked with assembling and disseminating best practices associated with natural history collection care and providing infrastructure that allows the development and evolution of best practices in response to innovations within the field. A Citations Subcommittee will assemble and distribute relevant literature related to best practices and the history of past practices in natural history. All current projects will continue as planned, including the development of the Wiki and collection of natural history references. Each project will be evaluated individually to help ensure better alignment with the new committee goals and guidelines, especially in technology-based ways.

As part of the merger proposal, the Best Practices and Documentation Committees have recommended that the NHCOLL-L List fall under the purview of the Web Committee, rather than the new Best Practices Committee. Although this discussion list allows dialogue associated with best practices, it has become a manner by which many types of announcements (e.g., annual meeting details, available grants/funding, job opportunities, and updated laws/regulations) can reach the SPNHC membership. As the Web Committee is integrating all web and social media services, this change will ensure that information is posted via all platforms simultaneously and to the best effect.

The Committee Co-chairs are excited to report that the SPNHC wiki is now live at: <http://spnhc.biowikifarm.net/wiki>. A select number of committee members have received SPNHC wiki training from Rachael Arenstein, who has been contracted to assist with continued development of this platform. User Guidelines for the wiki have been completed and example best practice content has been included for the following topics: Food Management, Genetic Resources, Invertebrate Paleontology Curation, and Shipping and Handling of Dangerous Goods. These pages will

display how to format text, display images and link to other content. Additionally, there is a list of desired best practice topics, which are areas that have been highlighted for development by the Best Practices Committee but are awaiting member contribution and discussion. The Committee Co-chairs are actively working with SPNHC members, including Best Practices Committee members, to identify and populate the wiki with content.

The Best Practices Committee has also created a YouTube channel with assistance from the Web Committee. A video recording of the first SPNHC wiki training is included on the YouTube channel, which will answer many questions regarding how to add and edit content in a manner consistent with SPNHC guidelines. In the future, video content related to best practice topics can be included on the YouTube channel and linked from the wiki. Other committees are welcome to include content on the YouTube channel and should contact the Web Committee, who is managing this platform.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Cundiff and Breda Zimkus, Co-chairs

Bylaws

The Bylaws Committee is responsible for the continued development of the Society Bylaws as needed, monitoring Society activities to ensure agreement with the Bylaws, and for periodic updates to the Leadership Manual of the Society.

There were no issues referred to the Bylaws Committee this year.

Committee member Laura Abraczinskas has been working on a review of the Leadership Manual, standardizing entries to a consistent format, including checking headings and calendar items. Committee chairs will be contacted regarding updates during the summer.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Norris, Chair

Conference

Arrangements for the 2016 meeting in June, to be held at the Museum für Naturkunde and the Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum, Berlin Germany are progressing smoothly under the leadership of Christiane Quaiser. Updates are being provided via the conference website at <http://www.spnhc2016.berlin> and Local Organizing Committee (LOC) submissions to NHCOLL-L. For future meetings, SPNHC formally accepted the meeting venue offer from Denver, CO for the 2017 meeting and, in addition, has an offer for the 2018 meeting from Dunedin, New Zealand, including potentially combining efforts with TDWG. There also have been preliminary discussions for meeting venues for 2019 and beyond.

Feedback was solicited from the LOCs in Cardiff, Wales (2014) and Gainesville, FL, USA (2015) for the *SPNHC Policies and Guidelines for Planning and Conducting Annual Meetings* document. In addition, SPNHC members submitted feedback, all resulting in important updates including a Diversity and Inclusion statement under the document's Planning Activities/ Commitments from Special Speakers as follows: SPNHC Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion (D&I). SPNHC recognizes the need and responsibility to develop current and future members. As part of this responsibility, it is suggested that special attention be paid to the invitation list for invited/plenary speakers. LOC are encouraged to seek diversity when looking for potential speakers. These guests are setting the tone for each year's meeting, but also for the organization. SPNHC welcomes any discussions with the LOC to help maximize diversity and inclusion support across SPNHC for all SPNHC activities. All relevant changes were immediately incorporated and the Planning document on the SPNHC website was updated accordingly throughout the year.

The Leadership Manual for the Conference Committee was updated as well and posted on the SPNHC website.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda S. Ford, Chair

Conservation

Cindy Opitz has resigned as Co-Chair of the Conservation Committee to take upon the role of SPNHC Secretary. Congratulations to Cindy on the appointment and our gratitude for her kind help towards the Conservation Committee.

Projects:

Food in Museums

The food sub-committee has published Best Practices for Food in Museums to the SPNHC Wiki. Please visit the Wiki to join the discussion. A paper describing the process of developing the best practice is in review with Collections Forum. The sub-committee will lead a Connecting to Collections Care webinar on the topic in November 2016. Contact Bethany (bgpalumbo@hotmail.co.uk), Rebecca (newberry@smm.org) or Fran Ritchie (franritchie@gmail.com) with questions or comments.

Resource Display Unit

The Resource Display Unit (RDU) project needs volunteers to update the displays to make them more accessible. The current unit is bulky, out of date and expensive to ship, . The committee is seeking creative thinkers to build upon the work that Tim White, Lori Benson, Annette Van Aken, Gretchen Anderson and Cindy Opitz started to update the unit. A combination of the digitized information on a tablet, physical samples, and links to suppliers through the STASH (Storage Techniques for Art, Science, and History) website has been proposed. The committee also seeks volunteers from Europe and the Southern hemisphere to develop regionally specific RDU versions. Please contact Armando Mendez (a.mendez@nhm.ac.uk) or Rebecca Newberry (newberry@smm.org) if you are interested in helping.

Loss in Value

The Museum Victoria, Australia currently taking this project forward with Dr Robert Waller and the Natural History Museum London are to pool photographic resources to be used as a shared resource for anyone undertaking risk work as evidence. The majority of the images in the beginning were collected during both Museums microscope slide condition surveys so will be focussed on microscope slides. These will show general deterioration discovered but then also more in depth focus on handling experiments, water degradation and Bynes disease. This can then be extended out, if considered useful, to all areas of collections management and be added to by the whole community.

If you have any questions on the project or are indeed interested to help please contact Dr Robert Waller (rw@protectheritage.com) or Armando Mendez (a.mendez@nhm.ac.uk)

Looking forward to see everyone at Berlin, bring your enthusiasm and ideas towards SPNHC Conservation and Sustainability!

Respectfully submitted,
Chairs of the Conservation Committee

Documentation see Best Practices

Elections

Total ballots returned = 205

Fee = \$400.36

Total number of eligible voters 544

Percent of ballot return = 37.68%

A decrease of 8.97% in voter turnout from last year.

PRESIDENT-ELECT Barbara Thiers, New York Botanic Gardens, NY, US
SECRETARY Cindy Opitz, University of Iowa Museum of Natural History, Iowa, US
MEMBER AT LARGE Miranda Lowe, The Natural History Museum, London, UK
MEMBER AT LARGE Kelly Tomajko, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Colorado, US

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Sendall on behalf of Elections Chair, Bethany Palumbo.

Emerging Professionals

As of SPNHC 2014, the Emerging Professionals Group is an official committee. We now run in two sections: the Emerging Professionals Committee and the Emerging Professionals Group. The committee members are responsible for coordinating and completing tasks and events for the group members. These include the *Cracking the Collections* blog, the [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts, the t-shirt design competition and upcoming events at SPNHC 2015.

The *Cracking the Collections* blog celebrated its one year anniversary on February 19, 2015. The blog team recently introduced a new layout to make it easier to browse past articles and expanded the scope of our blog series descriptions to include a greater breadth of collections management topics. During its first year, we had 16 posts showcasing the diversity in natural history collections work, from field collection and exhibits to education and archives. We're looking forward to another great year and are seeking guest post authors!

Our plans and goals for the upcoming year are to:

- 1) Publish a comprehensive international list of all Museum Studies or Museum-related programs, both graduate and undergraduate. I took out the reference to the blog simply because presumably that will be only one of the ways we will publish the museum studies list.
- 2) Hold a T-shirt competition open to all SPNHC members. The prize will be a banquet ticket generously sponsored by iDigBio. Stay tuned for details!
- 3) Host an Emerging Professionals session at the SPNHC Annual Meeting in Gainesville, FL. This session will give emerging professionals an opportunity to gain valuable experience presenting at an international conference in a collaborative and supportive environment.
- 4) Host an Emerging Professionals luncheon at the SPNHC Annual Meeting in Gainesville, FL. This event will be a great way for emerging professionals to network with others new to the field of natural history collections. Tickets will be \$5 and there are only a limited number available so pay close attention for more information!

We will be live tweeting SPNHC 2015 - follow us [@SPNHCEPG](#)

Respectfully submitted,
Kari Harris, Chair

Legislation and Regulations

The chair of the SPNHC Legislation and Regulation Committee changed: it will be co-chaired after the SPNHC meeting in Berlin by Stephanie Carson (scarson@amnh.org) and Dirk Neumann (dirk.neumann@zsm.mwn.de). We are currently revising and restructuring the organisation and committee work. We plan to reach out on specific topics to people who can support the committee with their particular knowledge and to form small sub-committees. In Berlin, we will present our plans and look forward to receive your input.

Respectfully submitted,
Dirk Neumann and Stephanie Carson, Co-chairs

Long-Range Planning

The general consensus of the SPNHC Strategic Plan, including during the committee meeting in Gainesville, FL, was that good progress has been made, and that a follow-up document noting specific deliverable items would be helpful to help measure the success. A Strategic Plan Deliverables document was initiated and feedback has been solicited from a broad range of sources, including current and former Committee Chairs of key committees, and current and past Presidents. The next step will be to send the Strategic Plan deliverables document to all current Committee Chairs to update for this year's progress.

In addition, feedback from the Gainesville, FL committee meeting, as well as SPNHC members in general, have indicated various items perceived as concepts missing from the original Strategic Plan. These items are being gathered as future recommendations to the plan, including:

- Public engagement
- Public face for SPNHC
- Citizen science
- Volunteer opportunities
- Tour of collections
- Exhibits
- YouTube channel (addressed this year by the Best Practices Committee)

In addition, the make-up of the LRP committee changed since several committee members stepped down, including Clare Valentine the long standing co-chair of the LRP for several years. Clare's presence on the committee will be sorely missed. The new co-chair of the Committee is Suzanne Ryder of the Natural History Museum, London.

The Leadership Manual for the Long-Range Planning Committee was updated and posted on the SPNHC website. We also thank Ann M. Molineux, who skillfully proxy chaired the 2015 committee meeting in Gainesville, FL.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda S. Ford and Suzanne Ryder, Co-Chairs

Membership

The Membership Committee focuses on ways to promote the Society and retain existing, and attract new, members. We are working on advertising, and are interested in hearing from members about what SPNHC does for you, or how you benefit from being a SPNHC member. Please contact Ann Pinzl (apinzl@sbcglobal.net) to contribute a sound-bite or quote. We are looking into ways to increase membership booth display at meetings. In the past year, the booth was displayed at Botany 2015, and annual meetings of the Geological Society of America Annual, Colorado-Wyoming Association of Museums, and Association of Materials and Methods in Paleontology. Thank you to everyone who organized the booth at these events and/or interacted with booth visitors. The committee is especially grateful to Greg Watkins-Colwell and Tim White for handling shipping for the last few years. Talia Karim has offered to assist with shipping and booth storage in the future. If you are going to a meeting and are willing to set up the booth, please contact Tiffany Adrain (tiffany-adrain@uiowa.edu). You may be eligible for **free full conference registration**. Please look out for the Membership Profile in the Newsletter (you are welcome to suggest a member for Ann Pinzl to interview) and don't forget to renew your membership!

Respectfully submitted,
Tiffany Adrain, Chair

Professional Development

DemoCamp

Planning for the DemoCamp at the 2015 Gainesville, Florida SPNHC Conference is under way.

Committee

The Professional Development Committee will be working on a few projects in spring 2015. The Committee looks forward to collecting more information on workshop format and content ideas generated by our members, and sharing this with Local Organizing Committees and the SPNHC membership.

Mentorship

The PDC has helped to coordinate the SPNHC mentorship program including this year's Fitzgerald Travel Grant awardees and the second Christine Allen Travel Grant. We look forward to working with all of the mentors and mentees and to hearing what they gained from the Conference and the mentorship experience.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Stephenson, Chair

Publications

Serial Publications

SPNHC Leaflets

Congratulations to Mari Roberts for taking over as Editor of *SPNHC Leaflets*. She will be revamping the style and converting former leaflet publications to this new style. If you are interested in publishing a piece with a particular natural history collection focus, please contact Mari at mariaalexandriaroberts@gmail.com

SPNHC Connection

SPNHC Connection is only available digitally to counter rising costs due to the increase in size. Members may access the newsletter through the *Collection Forum* digital system ("e-CoFo"). Please send *SPNHC Connection* newsletter submissions to Liath at newsletter@spnhc.org

Collection Forum

Collection Forum Volume 29 will be printed this autumn. We have had some outstanding submissions, and I look forward to sharing these works with the collections community. *Collection Forum* has a full editorial team with Associate Editors Matt Brown, Yemisi Dare, Alana Gishlick, and Janet Waddington, all of whom have done a spectacular job in ensuring the submissions are well-prepared for publication. We also thank the various reviewers, whose commitment to quality peer review in the collections community is appreciated greatly. There will be a page acknowledging the reviewers in each *Collection Forum* volume.

To assist with issues regarding membership online access to *SPNHC Newsletter* and *Collection Forum*, Courtney Richenbacher has offered to liaise between Treasurer Ruth O'Leary and Allen Press Pinnacle access for members. If you are having access issues, please contact Courtney at crichenbacher@amnh.org

We hope to have better guidelines regarding how a manuscript should be submitted, with examples for figure plates, tables and writing style. Please send *Collection Forum* submissions to Christine Johnson at editor@spnhc.org. Please remember, in order to increase the probability that your manuscript will be published in the next calendar year, to submit your manuscripts by August 15.

Past Journal & Newsletter Issues

Past Journal volumes and newsletters, excluding the current edition, will continue to be available at spnhc.org. Because many institutions require that publications by employees be placed in the public forum at some point as a condition for publishing, we are adopting the RoMEO blue self-archiving policy, which states we archive post-print publisher's version/PDF and will be listed as such. See here for information: <http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/search.php>

Books

Preventive Conservation: Collection Storage

The anticipated publication date for the new book *Preventive Conservation: Collection Storage*, by Lisa Elkin and Chris Norris, Special Publication Editors, is February 2017. We have a new website, where you can take a sneak peek at the chapter abstracts and pre-order your copy. <http://resources.conservation-us.org/collection-storage/>

2016-2017 Publications Budget

	2016	2017
Collection Forum		
CrossRef Annual Fee	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00
CoFo, Online Content Hosting, 1 vol/yr	\$ 2,823.00	\$ 2,823.00
CoFo, Publishing Digital, 1vol/yr	\$ 6,529.00	\$ 6,529.00

CoFo, Online Content Hosting, 1 vol/yr Carry-over	\$	2,823.00	
CoFo, Publishing Digital, 1vol/yr Carry-over	\$	6,529.00	
Subtotal	\$	18,979.00	\$ 9,627.00

Newsletter

BrightCopy, Online Content hosting, 2 issues/yr	\$	1,258.00	\$ 1,258.00
Subtotal	\$	1,258.00	\$ 1,258.00

Publications/Managing Editor

Operating budget	\$	1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Subtotal	\$	1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00

Publications

Publication printing	\$	263.00	\$ 600.00
<i>Preventive Conservation: Approaches to Collection Storage</i>	\$	12,995.00	\$ 29,365.00
Subtotal	\$	13,258.00	\$ 29,965.00

Sum	\$	34,495.00	\$ 41,850.00
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Respectfully submitted,
Christine Johnson, Chair

Recognition and Grants

The Committee received and assessed two nominations for the Carolyn Rose Award. Following the recommendation of the Committee, Council voted to make bestow the Award on David Pinniger, in recognition of his lifetime work on pest management in cultural institutions, which has had a worldwide impact on our profession. A full appreciation of David's work will be made at the Annual Business Meeting.

Special Service Awards will be made at the Annual Business Meeting

Two enquiries were received regarding Faber Grants. Unfortunately, they were received too close to the deadline to allow for submission of applications. The individuals concerned were encouraged to submit their proposals in 2017.

Following a recommendation from the Committee, Council voted to approve the creation of a new category of award, intended to recognize long-term support of the Society and/or the Society's annual meetings by commercial organizations. The Vendor Recognition Award will be given for repeated and/or substantial acts of support towards the Society. Further details will be announced in the fall edition of SPNHC Connection.

The Committee also received a nomination for an Honorary Membership. After discussion within the Committee and the Society's Executive, it was agreed that the nomination would make an excellent candidate for the first of the new Vendor Recognition Awards in 2017. After discussion with the nominating party, it was agreed that the matter would be tabled until next year to allow this to take place.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Norris, Chair

Web Site

This year the web committee released a new blog that allows people to subscribe to our latest news and job postings (<https://spnhcnews.wordpress.com/>). We are currently working on a plan (to be submitted for approval at the Berlin conference) to revamp the entire site which we hope to unveil later this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Liath Appleton and Ann Molineux, Co-chairs

Sessional Committee Reports

International Relations

In 2013 SPNCH set out its strategic plan with four main goals for the Society, one of the goals was to work internationally. In the last few years great effort has been made to achieve this and we can definitely see evidence that the society has a more international scope, especially in Europe. More of the annual meetings are now held outside of North America, Cardiff in 2014 and this year in Berlin. We can also see new committee member joining from further afield.

In the past year the international relations committee have explored the possibilities of a meeting in South America which is an area of great interest and expertise so we hope in the future may be possible. More exciting news on the international theme is that Dunedin, New Zealand has offered to host the 2018 SPNHC meeting. This would open up the potential for membership and knowledge sharing to a large new audience.

We have continued to work with the NatSCA and GCG in the UK to advance the aims of the three organisations through collaborating on issues of joint concern and mutual benefit.

An idea to expand and enhance web content for international members is to produce a world map of members. This map would plot the members with their details and expertise. However, this is not possible with the current SPNHC website but with time and the right expertise this may be feasible so the international committee will further explore the feasibility of this in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Ryder

US Federal Collections

The Sessional Committee on Federal Collections is tasked with identifying ways to improve communication between U.S. Federal agencies and non-Federal repositories regarding the development of policies and procedures for the management of Federal Collections.

The Committee has undergone some changes in membership this year. Tim White (Yale University) has stepped down; we thank him for his efforts in this area, including the promotion of the idea of the Committee itself. The Committee also acquired two new members, Janaki Krishna (Utah Museum of Natural History) and Elizabeth Varner (Department of the Interior).

Following on from the session on Federal Collections held at the 2015 Annual Meeting, a number of members of the Committee participated in a second session on partnerships between Federal and non-Federal institutions in the management of Federal Collections, which was held at the annual meeting of the Geological Society of America in November 2015. The Committee is currently working on a positional paper reviewing current challenges and potential solutions in this area, which is due for publication later this year. Finally an article in this copy of Collection Conversations by Committee members Terry Childs and Elizabeth Varner will discuss current efforts by the Department of the Interior.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Norris

Representative Reports

Alliance of Natural History Museums of Canada (ANHMC)

No written report from Kelly Sendall –pending discussion at Council

American Alliance of Museums (AAM)

The position of SPNHC representative to any Committee of the AAM is currently vacant.

American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC)

Emergency! Preparing for Disasters and Confronting the Unexpected in Conservation was the theme for the joint Canadian Association for Conservation of Cultural Property (CAC-ACCR) and the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC) annual meetings. Held at the Palais de Congrès, Montreal, Canada from May 13-17, this was the 42nd annual conference for CAC-ACCR and the 44th annual meeting for AIC.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the 1966 Florence flood. The theme of the assembly focused on emergency planning and preparing for the unexpected in conservation. International in scope, presenters shared insights on how past and recent disasters had impacted cultural property, and addressed how emergency planning can help to lessen the risks of future disasters. Encountering the unexpected in either treatment of artifacts or during natural disasters was also discussed in many sessions. Examples of presentations include using heat and cold in the treatment of a Lakota Winter Count, examining preventive conservation in changing times, dealing with the aftermath of fire at the Glasgow School of Art, recovering from floods in Alberta, and documenting and protecting cultural heritage during armed conflict in Syria and Iraq. Five concurrent tracks at the general session helped attendees chart emergency preparedness and response. These tracks included: *Confronting the Unexpected; Get Ready, Get Set. Emergency Preparedness; Go –Emergency Response; Hearing from a Group – Two Panels on Collaborative Efforts Following Recent Disasters; and Lead by Example, Models to Follow.*

Pre-conference workshops included *IMLS Grant Proposal Consult Appointments with Connie Bodner; Gap-filling for Ceramics; Identification of East Asian Paper for Conservation; Building Emergency Response & Salvage Decision Making Skills; Gellan Gum Applications for Paper-based Objects; Ferrous Attractions, The Science Behind the Magic; Digital Assessment Techniques for Video Works; and Respirator Fit Testing Lecture. Also the third annual STASH presentations.*

Attendees participated in tours and business meetings, dinners and receptions, and 'lunch & learns'. The opening reception was held at Musée des beaux arts de Montréal, with a full array of food and drink, and the exhibit galleries open to all participants. This meeting hosted one of the largest North American gatherings of suppliers in the conservation profession and attendees could view new products and equipment. There were a wide range of posters that attendees could read at their leisure or discuss with the author(s) at the Author in Attendance session.

The General Closing Session included a shared recognition and congratulations to AIC and CAC-ACCR's 2016 award recipients. Many outstanding career achievements were honored in this award celebration, including several 'mud angels' who had traveled to Italy to assist with the recovery from the impacts of the 1966 Florence flood. And Robert Waller was given a life time achievement award.

Next year, CAC-ACCR's 43rd annual conference will be held in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada from June 6-10, 2017. AIC's 45th annual meeting will be held in Chicago, Illinois from May 29-June, 2017.

For more information about the 2016 conference and the upcoming 2017 meetings, please visit the following websites:

<http://www.conservation-us.org/>
<https://www.cac-accr.ca/home>

Respectfully submitted,
Jude Southward

American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH)

Greg Watkins-Colwell did not attend the 2015 meeting of the ASIH held in Reno, NV 15-19 July 2015. Report of the ASIH Collection Committee meeting was provided to Greg Watkins-Colwell by ASIH Collection Committee Chair, Mark Sabaj Perez. At this conference, ASIH met jointly with the Herpetologists' League (HL) and the American Elasmobranch Society (AES). The Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR) met separately in Lawrence, KS 26 July-4 August 2015 with the International Society for Herpetological Bibliography and History (among other societies). The ASIH Collections Committee met during the ASIH conference. The Collections Committee discussed multiple subcommittees and committee structure. The committee is resurrecting the subcommittee on "Curatorial Supplies and Practices" which had become dormant in recent years. The new subcommittee will be co-chaired by Randal Singer (FLMNH) and Greg Watkins-Colwell (YPM) and will be charged with generating/updating a list of supplies and best practices for the management of ichthyological and herpetological collections. This subcommittee intends to work closely with the SPNHC Best Practices Committee. Gil Nelson and Larry Page discussed a 1-day workshop to follow the 2016 Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (JMIH) to be held in New Orleans 6-10 July 2016. The workshop will pertain to digitization and best practices of herpetological and ichthyological collections and will be sponsored by iDigBio. The workshop will be the day after the JMIH officially ends. The committee was provided an update on the proposed ASIH Spiritus Award to be given annually to a deserving person who has demonstrated commitment to collection stewardship. The proposal appears have been caught up in procedural issues within ASIH, but progress is anticipated. The group also discussed writing letters in support of the Illinois State Museum.

Respectfully submitted,
Greg Watkins-Colwell

American Society of Mammalogists (ASM)

Since 1972, the American Society of Mammalogists (ASM) has had a standing committee called the Systematic Collections Committee as an outgrowth of an *ad hoc* committee formed at the request of the National Science Foundation. The Society has defined this committee's responsibilities as follows: (1). Advising curators worldwide in matters relating to collection administration, curation, and accreditation; (2). maintaining a directory of mammal collections and conducting a survey of existing collections approximately once each decade; and (3). maintaining a list of curatorial standards for mammal collections and managing a collection-accreditation program under the auspices of the Society.

Once the evaluation process has been completed, the Committee forwards its recommendations for accreditation to the ASM President for review. The President then notifies the collection's administration of the Committee's decision. If accreditation is to be conferred, the President sends a letter to that effect as well as an Accreditation Certificate and a copy of the Final Report. Final Reports generally contain both positive observations and recommendations for improvement. The latter rarely comes as a surprise to collection staff. Rather, the Committee works with the staff to articulate areas for which they need greater administrative support. It is hoped that the Committee's recommendations will highlight the importance of the collection to the mammal research community and help to leverage greater institutional support for the collection.

During the 2015-2016 annual ASM cycle the committee received one request for accreditation but the site visit has not been scheduled yet.

President Lacey asked the Committee to draft a response letter to the NSF announcement that the Collections in Support of Biological Research program was to be placed on hiatus for 2017. The Committee (spearheaded by B. Coyner, J. Dunnum, E. Rickart, C. Thompson, and R. Dowler) prepared a letter documenting the potential impact of this action on systematic collections. President Lacy submitted the official response to the National Science Foundation on 25 April 2016.

The Committee continued to work on a survey of mammal collections of the western hemisphere, planning to complete a report for publication in 2017. Projected costs for publishing the report as a supplement to the *Journal of Mammalogy*, have been submitted to the proposed 2017 budget for Board approval in late June.

For recent listings of *Mammal Collections of the Western Hemisphere*, a copy of the *Basic Curatorial Standards* used by the Committee during the accreditation process or a list of currently accredited collections, see the Systematic Collections Committee page on the ASM website: <http://www.mammalogy.org/committees/systematic-collections#tab3>. A link to *Cost of Collecting and Preparing Mammal Voucher Specimens for Natural History*

Collections by Robert D. Bradley, Lisa C. Bradley, Heath J. Garner, and Robert J. Baker (2012) also can be found at the same link.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne B. McLaren

American Society of Plant Taxonomists (ASPT)

I serve as an ex-officio member of the ASPT Systematics Collections Committee. The chair of the committee leads a Curator's meeting during the annual Society meeting.

One of the committee goals is to promote regional networking of US herbaria, interfacing with participants in the United States Virtual Herbarium, Global Plants Initiative, and the NSF-ADBC program.

The Committee has been a bit more active than in recent years. We attempted to resurrect an effort to revise a Best Practices document for herbarium operations, first proposed in 1958 and last revised in 1978, but still are awaiting information from APHIS on revisions to permitting requirements for shipping herbarium materials. We crafted the ASPT response to the news that the NSF Collections in Support of Biological Research program was placed on hiatus in early 2016. On behalf of ASPT, the Committee participated with the Society of Herbarium Curators in planning a half-day symposium on herbarium management, sustainability, and visibility to be held immediately following the Botany2016 meeting.

The 2016 Annual meeting of the Society will be held in conjunction with Botany2016 in Savannah, Georgia on July 31 – August 3, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
Rich Rabeler

Association of Registrars and Collections Specialists (ARCS)

I was unable to attend the ARCS meeting this year. John Simmons, however, made a short presentation introducing SPNHC at the ARCS Annual Meeting in November 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Van Aken

Geological Society of America (GSA)

AM was unable to attend the 2015 annual meeting in GSA in Baltimore, Maryland, November 1-4. There were two exciting sessions sponsored in part by SPNHC.

Special thanks go to Tiffany Adrain, Jessica Cundiff, Talia Karim and others, who ensured that the booth arrived, was manned, and booked the booth for next years' GSA which will be held in Denver, Colorado, Sept 25-28. We will welcome any help from SPNHC members nearby.

Deadlines: Abstracts: 12 July 2016 Early Registration: 22 August 2016 Housing (discounted lodging): 31 August 2016

Spring GSA Associated Societies meeting on 7 April was very interesting this year. GSA adopted a webinar format which enabled many more participants to attend, myself amongst them. There was much of interest and I target a couple that could be of interest to us, namely their recent membership demographic survey, and new open access.

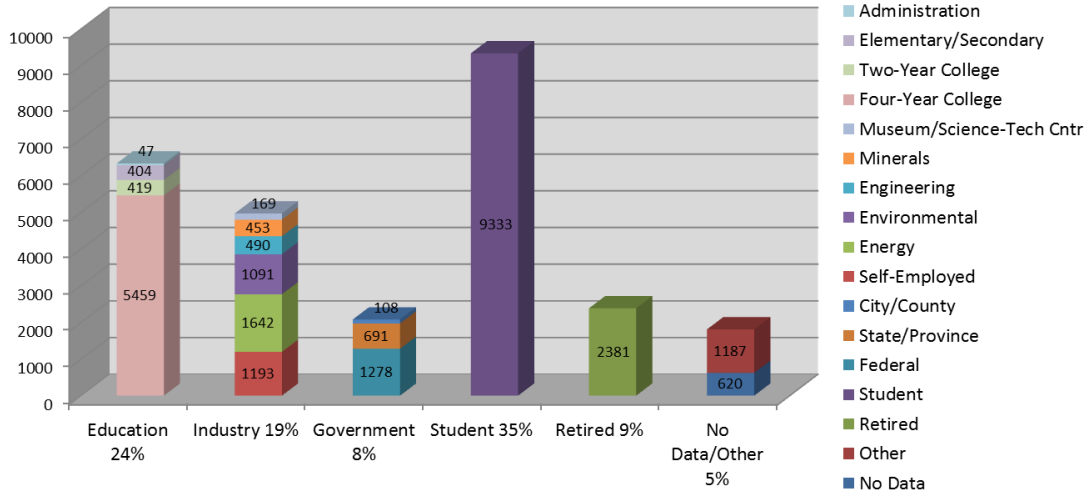
Membership demographics: Total Membership as of 31 December 2015 - 26,767

Member type

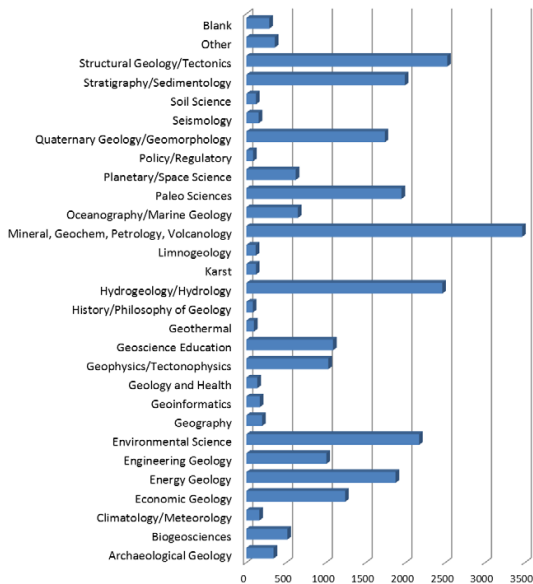
Member Type	Male	Female	No Data
Professionals	72%	27%	1%
Seniors (70+age/30+mbrshp)	94%	6%	0%
Seniors (65+age/25+mbrshp)	88%	12%	0%
Honorary Fellows	92%	4%	4%
Early Career Professionals	51%	49%	0%

Students	50%	49%	1%
K-12 Teachers	53%	42%	5%
Affiliates	74%	24%	2%
Totals:	64%	35%	1%

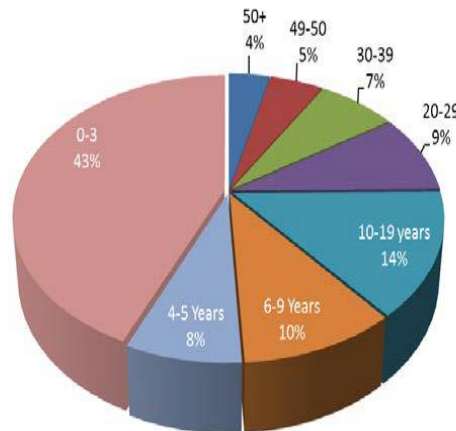
Employment type



Professional interest



Length of membership (years)



Open access journals: “Beginning in 2017 and phased in over the following three years, all GSA journals will be freely available online, i.e., open access”. [*Geology, Geosphere, Lithosphere and GSA Bulletin*]
 “GSA journals will retain their high quality; there will be no change in current editorial or peer-review policies and procedures. The major impact of this change for GSA will be a loss of subscription revenues that currently underwrite many GSA programs. To offset these losses, a publication fee will be instituted along with the designation of some strategic funds to assist authors who lack resources to pay these fees. GSA leadership is reviewing all existing programs to find savings by modification or elimination of non-mission critical activities and seeking other financial options for the transition. In addition, annual membership dues will modestly increase and Council will restrict new strategic initiatives until the implementation process is completed. The GSA Foundation will increase its activity in support of GSA programs.”

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Molineux

Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)

SPNHC is an organizational Associate Participant in The Global Biodiversity Information Facility. James Macklin is the GBIF “Head of Delegation” for SPNHC and also currently serves as the Canadian Node Manager.

GBIF has made several improvements to their cyberinfrastructure over the past year which improved searching and added some functionality. GBIF's current focus is on updating all of the data sets it harvests with a Creative Commons license including CC-zero (public), CC-BY (sharable with attribution) and CC-BY-NC (sharable with attribution; non-commercial use only) to simplify reuse and machine-readability. If you have not looked at the country-level pages I encourage you to as they can be very informative. Numerous opportunities are also available for training at various scales as well as competitions for funding to develop new tools and methods for data mobilization, quality control, and dissemination. I encourage all members to get involved and support this critical organization!

Please let James know if you have ideas for future collaborations between SPNHC and GBIF.

Respectfully submitted,
James Macklin

Integrated Digitized Biocollections (iDigBio)

It's exciting to look forward to the next 5 years and beyond at iDigBio. You can expect more Thematic Collection Networks (TCNs), more international collaborations and a new emphasis on research use of biological and paleontological collections data. At upcoming conferences, please come see us in our new booth and discover new features in our data portal. And speaking of booths, iDigBio and SPNHC materials are shared in our respective organizations' booths – emphasizing the integral relationship.

Digital transformation. For natural history collections, the theme of digital transformation runs through many of our current efforts whether we are involved in specimen preparation, data transcription, imaging, education and outreach, sustainability, museum administration, or research. At SPNHC 2016 in Berlin, SYNTHESYS3, GBIF, CETAF, iDigBio, and others created a symposium aimed at realizing global digitization and data access for biological collections. We received a large number of abstracts (example: 27 abstracts for 9 slots in one of these symposia)! So we put together another symposium to fit the demand and the talks. SYNTHESYS3 and iDigBio, organized a *Digitization Software Training Workshop*, filled to capacity, focusing on Inselect, Symbiota & ABBYY FineReader and hosted by the Berlin Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum (BGBM).

Capacity building. Another SPNHC 2016 symposium, sponsored by iDigBio and SCNet, looks at the biodiversity informatics skills needs for current and future museum professionals. The 2016 Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG) Conference also has a symposium on this same topic, convened by iDigBio, the NHMUK and the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv). At SPNHC 2016, I'm hoping we can work together (worldwide) on a road map to develop a common skills list (across our museums), and a resources list for where our workforce might acquire the skills on the list. Certainly, this also means compiling the work of others that have tackled parts of this subject already. I'm thinking the SPNHC Professional Development and Emerging Professionals Committees might like to get involved with this.

SPNHC 2017, TDWG, and beyond. I've been asking around to gauge interest in a Data Carpentry workshop at SPNHC 2017. What do you think? Let me know soon, what you might like to collaborate on. For example, how are your institution's curation practices changing as digitization is integrated into your collection? Through Andy Bentley and Ellen Paul, plans are underway for an iDigBio-hosted, SPNHC-moderated webinar on the ramifications of the Nagoya Protocol (tentative date October 2016). SPNHC 2017 events already include plans for two workshops on collections' data use (more details soon). And with the possibility of some future SPNHC meetings being co-located with Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG) meetings, imagine what we can do!

Digitization trends. In my last annual report, I mentioned the [GBIF Task Force on Accelerating Discovery of Biocollections Data](#). A huge thank you, to all of you that took the time to contribute to our recent survey. Worldwide, over 800 individuals completed at least a portion of the survey, resulting in 617 usable surveys. Respondents

represented nearly 2000 collections distributed over 72 countries! Our Task Force Interim Report should be released about the same time as this yearly report.

To-do: as SPNHC Members, please, make sure your collections and institutions are listed at the [Global Registry of Biodiversity Repositories \(GRBio\)](#), and if you are a US Collection, please check the [US Collections List at iDigBio](#). Your institution, your specimens and data, can't be found if you're not in these lists. Not digitizing yet? Then, it's even more important to get your collection metadata online – for discovery. Spread the word, please.

Who's using your data? If your collection data is being used in scientific publications, education and outreach, public policy – [iDigBio wants to know!](#) iDigBio is Looking for Data Use Stories. Have you used the iDigBio Portal (or other data aggregators or portals) to aid in research or education? Do you know someone who has? Please contact us to tell us about your experience, so we can share your data use stories with the community and highlight your collections. [Pensoft is making it easier to publish and use identifiers from iDigBio, PlutoF, GBIF, and BOLD.](#) *This means it will be easier for you to document when your specimens are being used in research.*

Start spreading the news. Do you get [the iDigBio Spotlight](#)? Our newsletter keeps you up to date on all things iDigBio, but also community-related initiatives and the latest about what new features are enabled for using our data (over 60 million records as I type). We're also sharing current research-in-progress – being done with collections data. If you'd like to contribute, iDigBio would love to see your stories about your digitization efforts and your collections data in action. We've got a place for your blog posts, and wiki pages ready for your contributions. Check out [Upcoming events at iDigBio](#).

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Paul, iDigBio

International Council of Museums – Committee for Conservation (ICOM-CC)

No written report from Kelly Sendall –pending discussion at Council

International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER)

The ISBER Environmental-Biological (Enviro-Bio) Working Group, which includes the SPNHC representative, represents the biodiversity biobanking community and provides a forum for international collaboration on all non-human samples (e.g., animal, microbe, plant, and environmental samples) and associated data. The current goals of this working group are to:

- Define and Integrate Enviro-Bio terminology into ISBER products, including Best Practices
- Contribute Enviro-Bio elements and content to ISBER educational material and training programs
- Increase ISBER & EBWG membership with targeted campaigns for Veterinary Medicine and Agricultural/Biological sectors

Members of the ISBER Enviro-Bio Working Group are currently creating a webinar entitled: “The Accidental Collector: Managing Incidental Samples for Long-Term Research Benefit.” This webinar will outline the processes and procedures required to create a biospecimen collection in a way that will enhance research, save time, and maintain sample quality for long-term use. The webinar is tentatively scheduled for July 14, 2016, at 11:00 am. The webinar will include a presentation with case studies, and there will be time for questions. The webinar is open to non-ISBER members, and we encourage all SPNHC members with an interest in biobanking to attend. Details will be posted on NH-COLL.

The ISBER 2016 annual meeting (*Breaking Down Walls: Unifying Biobanking Communities to Secure our Sustainability*) was held in Berlin, Germany from 5-8 April. The meeting program highlighted the values of biobanking for human and environmental health and focused on the exchange of knowledge between the different biobanking communities (i.e., pharmaceutical, medical and environmental), technology developers, and users. ISBER's first regional meeting will be held in Bethesda, Maryland, on 7-8 November 2016. The 2016 Regional Meeting theme is *Quality Biobanking for Precision Research and Medicine: Overcoming Scientific, Information Technology and Policy Challenges*. The 2017 annual meeting will be held in Toronto, Canada from 9-12 May.

Respectfully submitted,
Breda M. Zimkus

Natural Sciences Collections Association (NatSCA)

Secretary report 20/04/2016 AGM NatSCA

The funding situation for museums continues to be an issue of concern for NatSCA and we have been working more closely with other Subject Specialist Networks (SSNs) to explore ways of building resilience in the sector. As part of this we have been involved in planning and delivering training to help support museum professionals whose role has broadened to encompass collections outside their areas of expertise, such as the Curating Human Remains workshop organised in collaboration with the Museum Ethnographers Group (MEG), the Society for Museum Archaeology and the Human Remains SSN. We have also delivered training for other SSNs, such as the Identifying Natural Materials course held in Exeter by MEG. Of course, we have also been delivering training more specifically for natural sciences collections professionals, such as the NatSCA Bone Day held in Cambridge. We will continue to run more over the course of the year, so for updates on the events programme consult the relevant section in the NatSCA website. <http://www.natsca.org/events-and-workshops> .

Skills and knowledge transfer is something that we see as being key to building resilience in the sector, so at the moment we are working on a joint funding application to Arts Council England (ACE) in partnership with the Geological Curators Group, to develop further training resources for professionals responsible for natural science collections. If all goes to plan we will be rolling out these resources over the next 18 months.

Finally, our current chair, Paolo Viscardi wants to offer a vote of sincere thanks to the volunteers that keep NatSCA running and to offer congratulations to two members of the NatSCA committee, Clare Brown and Isla Gladstone, on the new additions to their families.

Our elected committee spend a huge amount of time and effort on making things happen, in particular our Treasurer Holly Morgenroth, who ends up being at the core of everything that we do. Of course, we also rely hugely on less visible, but no less important volunteers from the general membership. In particular I want to thank Justine Aw who has been both working for NatSCA in a paid capacity with funding from ACE and supporting us extensively in her own time, lending a hand with pretty much everything we do; Glenn Roadley, who has been supporting the committee by updating the jobs page on the NatSCA website (natsca.org/jobs) and helping with electronic bookings; Rachel Jennings who has been editing the NatSCA blog and Facebook page, with Emma-Louise Nicholls and Sam Barnett who have also been working hard to keep the blog regular and active; as well as David Notton, who works hard to support our Editor Jan Freedman in producing the Journal of Natural Science Collections.

Respectfully submitted,
Roberto Portela Miguez

Natural Science Collections Alliance (NSC Alliance)

The NSC Alliance has remained active in efforts to promote sustained and new investments in collections. This has involved working independently and in collaboration with partners, particularly SPNHC and AIBS, to oppose NSF efforts to reduce investments in collections via the suspension of the Collections in Support of Biological Research program. On this issue, the NSC Alliance continues to work with its members to gather information that can form the basis for a more compelling campaign to not only restore this program, but to pursue new investments.

Related to funding for collections, the NSC Alliance has this year provided testimony to Congress urging increased appropriations for collections-related initiatives at the National Science Foundation, Department of the Interior (including US Geological Survey), Smithsonian, and other federal agencies. The Alliance also continues to play a role in national policy coalitions, such as the Coalition for National Science Funding and USGS Coalition.

NSC Alliance remains committed to uniting collection institutions in coordinated campaigns to promote collections-based research and education. Toward this goal, the NSC Alliance has developed an organizational strategic plan to help guide its efforts in the years to come. As an outgrowth of a Biodiversity Collections Network workshop last year, the NSC Alliance was approached by one of its member institutions to gather current data on how institutions are or are not investing in research. A survey is being developed and SPNHC will soon be invited to participate/sign onto this effort.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Gropp

Paleontological Society (PS)

The 2015 meeting of The Paleontological Society (PS) was held during the Geological Society of America (GSA) meeting in Baltimore, Maryland November 1-4. Technical sessions co-sponsored by PS and SPNHC, included a session on "Specimen-Based Research and the Reality of Paleontological Resource, Specimen and Data Management: Strengthening Partnerships among Federal Land Managers, Repositories, and Researchers" and two sessions on "Using Digitized Data in Geological and Paleontological Research". In conjunction with these sessions, a Collections Happy Hour was organized by STEPPE, SPNHC, and iDigBio to connect colleagues working in geological and paleontological collections.

The next meeting of The Paleontological Society will be held during the Geological Society of America (GSA) meeting in Denver, Colorado September 25-28, 2016.

For more information on The Paleontological Society go to: <http://www.paleosoc.org/>

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Cundiff

Scientific Collections International (SciColl)

Both Andy Bentley and Barbara Thiers were invited to a workshop co-sponsored by NSF and SciColl on the Global Registry of Scientific Collections (GRSciColl). I was not able to attend, but Andy Bentley attended to present the findings of the first workshop which was devoted entirely to GRBio, the biodiversity registry. Other workshop participants included researchers, collections managers and curators, administrators, professional associations, specialists in collection databases, research informatics and data publication, as well as representatives of U.S. federal government agencies. The goal of the workshop was to familiarize the group with GRSciColl, discuss how it can complement existing resources and practices, collect feedback on the current system and gather input on additional desirable functionality.

Andy Bentley suggests that there is the possibility of future collaboration with GRSciColl with regard to database cleanup and augmentation by regional node managers, who may be SPNHC members.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Thiers

Small Collections Network (SCNet)

SCNet has been active in recruiting, retaining and supporting small collections in the last year. The SCNet webinars (co-sponsored by iDigBio) continue to garner interest, with topics centered on supporting small collections and establishing SCNet as a collaborative resource for small collections and the professionals who manage them (recorded webinars can be found on the SCNet webpage: <http://smallcollections.net/>). SCNet's webinar series will continue in fall 2016.

In conjunction with iDigBio and SEINet, SCNet has also expanded its digital data mobilization efforts by expanding the nodes within the North American Network of Small Herbaria (<http://nansh.org/portal/>) to include a variety of small herbaria from academic institutions and biological field stations. In collaboration with iDigBio and Arizona State University, we have also launched the new Consortium of Small Vertebrate Collections web site (<http://csvcoll.org/portal/>), a Symbiota-driven network that supports the mobilization of digital specimen data from vertebrate collections.

SCNet has also built a strong relationship with the Organization of Biological Field Stations (OBFS), participated with iDigBio in a digitization workshop at the OBFS 2015 conference, and is participating in an OBFS/iDigBio/SCNet working and interest group focused on collections digitization and collections education.

SCNet has represented the interests of small collections on several educational initiatives (e.g. NSF RCN-UBE AIM-UP, Collectionseducation.org, NSF Workshop: 3dNaturalists, and AIBS Workshop: Addressing Biological Informatics Workforce Issues) and participates in the iDigBio Education and Outreach working group.

SCNet is also collaborating with the [Natural Science Collections Alliance](#) (NSCA) and the Biodiversity Collections Network (BCoN) in NSCA's and BCoN's efforts to ensure the continued involvement of small collections within the mainstream of the natural history collections community.

[iDigBio](#), NSCA, and SCNet, and were pleased to sponsor a small collections symposium at the [SPNHC 2015 conference](#), with 22 invited talks on the three themes: Small collections - the key to educating future generations of scientists, Digitization practices and challenges in small collections and museums, and Reaching out to small collections.

Looking ahead to SPNHC 2016 in Berlin, plans are in place to host another SCNet and iDigBio sponsored symposium titled, "Blending the educational resources of small and large collections for training the next generation of museum professionals." Ten talks have been accepted for the symposium. Speakers from small and large institutions will cover a range of topics that include museum-based educational and workforce training initiatives, novel educational or training modules and resources, the involvement of graduate and undergraduate students and early career professionals in collections digitization initiatives, graduate and undergraduate internships and courses focused on experiential learning in collections management and curation, and future directions for natural history museum workforce development.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Monfils

Society of Herbarium Curators (SHC)

The Society focuses on promoting the importance of herbaria in teaching, research, and service to the community at large. Members are active in the continued development of regional and/or state-level consortia and are participating in both regional efforts and the US Virtual Herbarium project.

I am currently serving a 3-year term as a Member-at-Large on the Executive Board of SHC as well as being a member of the Membership Committee. I worked with the SHC President to compose a letter on behalf of the Society in response to the news that the NSF Collections in Support of Biological Research program was placed on hiatus in early 2016.

The major event for this year will be the half-day symposium on herbarium management, sustainability, and visibility to be held immediately following the Botany2016 meeting.

The 2016 meeting will be held at Botany2016 in Savannah, Georgia on July 31 – August 3, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
Rich Rabeler

Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP)

The 75th Annual meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology was hosted 14-17 October in Dallas, TX, and was attended by numerous SPNHC members. The annual Preparators Session focuses on topics related to paleontological collections conservation and care. The 2016 meeting is planned for 26-29 October in Salt Lake City, and August 2017 in Calgary, Alberta. The SVP wishes to remind SPNHC members that it offers several awards and grants that might have relevance to those interested in paleontology. These include grants [<http://vertpaleo.org/the-Society/Awards.aspx>] to promote student research and fieldwork, like the Estes, Patterson, and Wood awards. The Jackson Student Travel Grant and Scientists from Economically Developing Nations grant both help support travel to the SVP annual meeting. The Hix Preparators Grant is awarded to advance fossil research, standards, and training in preparation and collections disciplines. Not all of these awards limit eligibility to current members of SVP, check the requirements carefully.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Brown

Taxonomic Databases Working Group (TDWG)

The 2015 annual meeting of the Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG) was held in Nairobi, Kenya in late September. The theme of the meeting was "Applications, Standards and Capacity Building for Sustaining Global Biodiversity" and an archive of the meeting website, which includes the program and links to the abstracts can be found at: <http://www.tdwg.org/conference2015/> Highlights included a pre-meeting set of training sessions on biodiversity informatics tools for our African colleagues, and symposia on capacity building, conservation, and citizen science. Recordings of key symposia were made by iDigBio and are available at: https://www.idigbio.org/wiki/index.php/TDWG_2015_Annual_Conference

Of note this past year has been an update to our infrastructure including our wiki and a new GitHub repository. We are also currently considering revisions/updates to the governance of TDWG to address issues that come with being a successful and growing international body. We are also attempting to define a process for updating and maintaining our standards along with better documentation with more detailed definitions and examples to aid users in implementing our standards. If you are interested in biodiversity standards, I would urge you to sign up for the TDWG-content mailing list as this is where the core discussion on standards takes place.

As I continue to stress: "the standards being evaluated by TDWG, and the applications that implement them, have a direct impact on many SPNHC members involved with specimen data capture and curation." Thus, I would suggest participating in the many topical Interest and Task Groups found on the TDWG wiki. Finally, TDWG is making a strong effort to expand its base membership and I would encourage anyone who has interest in standards and informatics tools to join.

The 2016 meeting will be held in Santa Clara de San Carlos, Costa Rica from December 5th to 9th with the theme "Standards Supporting Innovation in Biodiversity Research and Conservation." Please join us!

Respectfully submitted,
James Macklin

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF
NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS**

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

DRAFT

CONTENTS

	Page
Independent Accountants' Review Report	1
Statements of Financial Position December 31, 2014 and 2013	2
Statements of Activities For the Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2013	3
Statements of Cash Flows For the Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2013	4
Notes to the Financial Statements	5 - 9

DRAFT

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections
New York, New York

We have reviewed the accompanying statements of financial position of The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (a non-profit organization) as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of Society personnel. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.

Our responsibility is to conduct the reviews in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements. We believe the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our report.

Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Fairfax, Virginia
February 10, 2015

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF
NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS**

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

DRAFT

(REVIEWED)

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
ASSETS		
<hr/>		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 157,022	\$ 121,363
Inventory	<u>28,349</u>	<u>28,885</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>185,371</u>	<u>150,248</u>
 INVESTMENTS	 <u>83,872</u>	 <u>82,480</u>
 INTANGIBLE ASSET		
Website design, net of amortization	 <u>-</u>	 <u>600</u>
	 <u>\$ 269,243</u>	 <u>\$ 233,328</u>
 LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
<hr/>		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 14,213	\$ 3,600
Deferred revenue	<u>12,417</u>	<u>10,492</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>26,630</u>	<u>14,092</u>
 NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	238,756	214,416
Temporarily restricted	<u>3,857</u>	<u>4,820</u>
	<u>242,613</u>	<u>219,236</u>
	<u>\$ 269,243</u>	<u>\$ 233,328</u>

See accompanying notes and independent accountants' review report.

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF
NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS**

DRAFT

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

(REVIEWED)

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
<u>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS</u>		
Revenue		
Membership dues and subscriptions	\$ 31,040	\$ 27,438
Publication sales	18,306	9,528
Contributions	1,420	35,296
Investment income	10,209	20,827
	60,975	93,089
Net assets released from restrictions	3,878	717
	64,853	93,806
Expenses		
Program	29,335	40,796
General and administrative	11,178	14,878
	40,513	55,674
 INCREASE (DECREASE) IN UNRESTRICTED ASSETS	 24,340	 38,132
<u>TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS</u>		
Contributions	2,915	320
Net assets released from restriction	(3,878)	(717)
 INCREASE (DECREASE) IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	 (963)	 (397)
 TOTAL INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	 23,377	 37,735
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	219,236	181,501
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 242,613	\$ 219,236

See accompanying notes and independent accountants' review report.

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF
NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS**

DRAFT

**STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013**

(REVIEWED)

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
<u>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</u>		
Cash received from members and customers	\$ 55,606	\$ 71,214
Cash paid for program and support services	(28,764)	(48,049)
Interest and dividends received	8,817	2,192
Net Cash Provided By (Used In) Operating Activities	<u>35,659</u>	<u>25,357</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	35,659	25,357
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>121,363</u>	<u>96,006</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 157,022</u>	<u>\$ 121,363</u>
RECONCILIATION OF CHANGE IN NET ASSETS TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Increase (decrease) in net assets	\$ 23,377	\$ 37,735
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	600	4,324
(Gain) loss on valuation of investments	(1,392)	(18,635)
(Increase) decrease in inventory	536	(299)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	10,613	3,600
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue	<u>1,925</u>	<u>(1,368)</u>
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	<u>\$ 35,659</u>	<u>\$ 25,357</u>

See accompanying notes and independent accountants' review report.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

DRAFT

(REVIEWED)

NOTE 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (the Society) was formed in 1985, and then incorporated in 1988 under the laws of the state of Pennsylvania. The Society seeks to improve the preservation, conservation and management of natural history collections to ensure their continuing value to the society. Substantial support is received from approximately 600 members, representing 21 countries, who are interested in the development and preservation of natural history collections.

Support and Expenses

Contributions are recognized when the donor makes a promise to give to the Society that is, in substance, unconditional. Contributions that are restricted by the donor are reported as increases in unrestricted net assets if the restrictions expire in the fiscal year in which the contributions are recognized. All other donor-restricted contributions are reported as increases in temporarily or permanently restricted net assets depending on the nature of the restrictions. When a restriction expires, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets.

Member support received in advance of the membership period is recorded as deferred in the accompanying statements of financial position.

Expenses are recorded when incurred in accordance with the accrual basis of accounting.

Fair Value Measurements

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States established a framework for measuring fair value, clarifying the definition of fair value within that framework and expanding disclosure about fair value measurements. U.S. GAAP established a three-tiered fair value hierarchy with Level 1 representing quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market, Level 2 representing quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market that is non-active or with other than directly or indirectly observable inputs, and Level 3 representing estimate values based on unobservable inputs. Related disclosures are segregated for assets and liabilities measured at fair value based on the level used within the hierarchy to determine their fair values.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Society considers all short-term non-restricted investments to be cash equivalents.

Inventory

The Society maintains an inventory of professional books for sale to members and to the public. Inventory is recorded at lower of cost or market.

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF
NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

DRAFT

(REVIEWED)

NOTE 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

Investments

Investments are reported at market value using level 1 methodology. Contributions of marketable securities are recorded at their fair market value at the date of donation.

Intangible Asset

The Society capitalized expenditures related to long-term functional website building and design fees. Expenditures for ordinary maintenance and updates are charged to operations as incurred. When management deems the property to be impaired beyond further use, the remaining unamortized balance is expensed in the current year. The cost and related accumulated amortization are then eliminated from the accounts. Amortization is provided for under the straight-line method over a period of three years.

Classes of Assets

To ensure the observance of limitations and restrictions placed on the use of resources available to the Society, resources for various purposes are classified for accounting purposes into the following classes established according to their nature and purpose.

Unrestricted net assets are the net assets that are neither permanently restricted nor temporarily restricted by donor-imposed stipulations and includes Board designated funds, i.e.: funds that have been segregated by the Board to be spent only on specified purposes.

Temporarily restricted net assets result from contributions whose use is limited by donor-imposed stipulations that either expire by passage of time or can be fulfilled and removed by actions of the Society pursuant to these stipulations. Net assets may be temporarily restricted for various purposes, such as use in future periods or use for specified purposes. The Society has no permanently restricted net assets.

Tax Exempt Status

The Society has been granted exemption from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended and is classified as other than a private foundation. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been made.

Management evaluated the Society's tax positions and concluded that the Society had taken no uncertain tax positions that require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements. With few exceptions, federal and state information returns for the years prior to 2011 are no longer subject to examination by tax authorities.

Subsequent Events

The Society evaluated its December 31, 2014 financial statements for subsequent events through February 10, 2015, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF
NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

(REVIEWED)

DRAFT

NOTE 2 – Inventory

Inventory, at cost, consists of the following at December 31:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Ideas and Practical Solutions - Vol 1	\$ 876	\$ -
A Preventive Conservation Approach - Vol 2	912	781
Managing the Modern Herbarium	2,313	2,598
MuseumWise: Workplace Words Defined	5,558	5,976
Museum Studies	522	584
Health and Safety	18,168	18,946
	<u>\$ 28,349</u>	<u>\$ 28,885</u>

NOTE 3 – Investments

Investments, at market value, consist of the following at December 31:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Mutual funds	\$ <u>83,872</u>	\$ <u>82,480</u>

Fair market values for certificates of deposit and mutual funds, which are the amounts reported in the statements of financial position, are all based on the quoted market prices, Level 1 methodology, less any dividend and interest income earned but not yet received. Carrying value approximates fair market value.

Investment income for the years ended December 31, is comprised of the following:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Unrealized gain (loss) on market value	\$ 1,392	\$ 18,635
Interest and dividends	8,817	2,192
	<u>\$ 10,209</u>	<u>\$ 20,827</u>

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF
NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

DRAFT

(REVIEWED)

NOTE 4 – Intangible Asset

Website building and design fees incurred in 2010 for long-term functionality purposes, and the related accumulated amortization as of December 31, are summarized as follows:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Gross carrying amount	\$ 17,300	\$ 17,300
Less: accumulated amortization	<u>(17,300)</u>	<u>(16,700)</u>
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 600</u>

Amortization expense for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 was \$600 and \$4,324, respectively.

Expenditures related to maintenance and updates are charged to operations as incurred. See Note 6.

NOTE 5 – Temporarily Restricted Net Assets

Temporarily restricted net assets consist of the following at December 31:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Award fund	\$ -	\$ 125
Christine Allen travel grant	905	-
Fitzgerald travel grant	-	50
Founders fund	-	145
Storage book	<u>2,952</u>	<u>4,500</u>
	<u>\$ 3,857</u>	<u>\$ 4,820</u>

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF
NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

DRAFT

(REVIEWED)

NOTE 6 – Program Expenses

Program expenses for the years ended December 31 are as follows:

	<u>2014</u>		<u>2013</u>
Membership and miscellaneous	\$ 2,703	\$	4,411
Printing and publication	20,448		25,227
Shipping and mailing	718		55
Research grant	-		1,105
Travel grants	4,516		1,848
Website	950		8,150
	<u>\$ 29,335</u>	\$	<u>40,796</u>

NOTE 7 – General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses for the years ended December 31 are as follows:

	<u>2014</u>		<u>2013</u>
Amortization	\$ 600	\$	4,324
Bank and merchant charges	777		606
Election expense	421		794
Insurance	3,273		3,244
Office supplies	607		910
Professional fees	5,500		5,000
	<u>\$ 11,178</u>	\$	<u>14,878</u>