Preservation of Native American and Historical Natural History Collections Contaminated with Pesticide Residues: A Report from the Organizing Committee

DR. JUDITH BISCHOFF, Conservation Scientist, National Park Service
SCOTT CARROLL, Conservator, Alaska State Museum
CATHARINE HAWKS, Private Conservator, Falls Church, VA
JESSICA JOHNSON, Senior Objects Conservator, National Museum of the American Indian
JIM PEPPER HENRY, Repatriation Program Manager, National Museum of the American Indian
Dr. STEPHEN WILLIAMS, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Museum Studies, Baylor University

During the past two years there have been growing efforts to publicize issues related to pesticide residues on museum collections. SPNHNC has taken an active role in this topic by agreeing to publish the papers from a conference held in San Francisco in Fall 2000, and by acting at the request of an ad hoc organizing committee to apply for funding of a symposium on Preservation of Native American and Historical Natural History Collections Contaminated with Pesticide Residues."

From April 6-9, 2001, scientists, conservators, curators, epidemiologists, industrial hygienists, medical professionals, representatives of various Native American tribal organizations, legal specialists, policy manager/administrators, and students participated in the Symposium at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. The purpose of the Symposium was to jointly address issues related to the use and repatriation of museum objects that may be contaminated with pesticides. This initiative was hosted by SPNHNC, the National Park Service, and the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. Funding was provided by the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, with additional support from the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, and the Department of Anthropology of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

The objectives of the Symposium were to address:
- Current status of surveys performed on Native American and historical natural history collections contaminated with pesticide residues
- Risks posed by groups requesting objects for repatriation and groups involved with treating or handling contaminated objects,
- Current methodology for identification of pesticide residues,
- Legal issues in repatriation efforts, and
- Training needs for those involved in handling and treating collections.

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John Simmons Receives National Award

The American Association of Museums has announced that John Simmons, Collections Manager, Division of Herpetology, Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, has received the award for Superior Voluntary Service as an AAM Peer Reviewer from the American Association of Museums (AAM) at its annual meeting in St. Louis in May. This distinguished award honors individuals who have shown outstanding professional
Presidential Profile

SUZANNE B. McLAREN
Section of Mammals, Carnegie Museum of Natural History,
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The 16th Annual SPNHC Meeting, hosted by the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco, was the perfect venue for the Living Collections theme. From the comfortable facilities for technical sessions and committee meetings to the friendly and helpful staff members, the Academy provided a welcoming setting in beautiful Golden Gate Park. Host Committee Chair Jean DeMouthe started the week by leading one of two pre-conference field trips. That may have been the only day that Jean didn’t seem to be in more than one place at the same time. It is my pleasure to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone on the Host Committee for an enjoyable meeting. The 2002 Host Committee has been actively organizing and planning for nearly a year already. It promises to be a meeting not to be missed. I look forward to seeing you in Montreal next May for the 17th Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting is the time when newly elected Members-at-Large take office. During the winter, the SPNHC membership elected Ann Pinzl and Susan Woodward to serve as Members-at-Large on Council for the next three years. Following the Annual General Meeting, Susan and Ann took office and Rynthia Johnson and Bill Gannon concluded their terms as Members-at-Large. We thank them both for their service to the Society. I’d also like to thank Rich Rabeler and the rest of the Election Committee for their hard work. We can all appreciate a well-run, undisputed election. Please don’t forget to submit nominations for this year’s election.

In May, I was notified that SPNHC has been selected by the American Institute for Conservation of Artistic and Historic Works and Heritage Preservation to receive the AIC-HP Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections. It is a tremendous honor for us to receive this Award, and to be in the company of three other, very deserving institutions that were chosen this year. Our selection is particularly significant because we do not fit the usual profile of Award recipients. Virtually all other awardees are institutions with paid staff, working at a single address. By contrast, SPNHC is an all-volunteer organization with members spread over several continents and many countries. Often our projects are done long-distance, by committee, and always in the extra hours our members can provide beyond those devoted to their own collections. The recognition that this Award brings to the Society is a testament to all the efforts of current and Previous Committee Members.

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Treasurer’s Report

LISA F. PALMER
Division of Fishes, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560 USA

In 2000, the Society’s total net assets increased to $202,021 from a total of $184,342 in 1999. Income was generated from three main sources: membership dues, publication sales, and grants. Over $26,000 was received in membership dues. For the 2000 calendar year, 109 library subscribers and 517 individuals and associates renewed their membership or joined SPNHC. More and more of our members are becoming life members. We currently have eleven life members, with an additional three in the process

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Conservation Committee Report

The Conservation Committee has had a very productive year and much was resolved and accomplished at the committee meeting.

After much deliberation, the Committee agreed that the Fluids-Assessment Subcommittee had achieved its original goals as closely as possible and was ready to set new directions and goals. The Subcommittee members have worked hard toward two goals: to determine quantifiable sample characteristics that will be good indicators of future deterioration rates of specimens; and to develop protocols for assessing the state of a collection with regard to establishing an expected rate of deterioration. A large data set has been generated from a survey accomplished at University of Kansas; however, there is a great need for more data from other collections to be generated in order to develop any significant correlations between pH ranges, acidity, residual formaldehyde, and specimen preservation. The amount of work necessary to accomplish this is beyond the capabilities of a volunteer subcommittee. The Subcommittee members drafted the following statement:

"Most collections of zoological material are comprised of parts of animals (e.g. skin or bones) that are preserved in isolation. Fluid preserved collections are unique in the way that they preserve sequences of whole animals. They are immensely valuable in this regard. From a preservation science perspective, they provide an opportunity to assess large numbers of individual preservation environments (e.g. fluids in containers).

The Fluids Assessment Subcommittee of the SPNHC-CC has drafted a prototype survey and conducted test applications of the survey to evaluate the state of fluid preserved collection. The objectives were to correlate specimen environment with specimen condition characteristics and highlight collection risk factors. Although data evaluation is still underway, it is evident that the scale of the work required is much greater than can be achieved by a volunteer subcommittee. We recommend that SPNHC-CC work toward finding an agency that could take on the responsibility of evaluating the effectiveness of fluid preservation techniques and how to assess the state of fluid preserved collections."

David Von Endt has agreed to look into possible funding sources to continue this important research transferring the assessment activities to the Research Subcommittee. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people

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Conservation Committee.....
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involved in Fluids-Assessment Subcommittee, especially John Simmons, Rob Waller, Gene Hess and Arnold Suzumoto.

Cathy Hawks and Steve Williams gave a brief summary to the Committee on the outcome of the NCPTT-funded Residual Pesticide symposium. The symposium (a report of which appears on page 1) was a great success and a more detailed briefing was given at the general session. Proceedings from the symposium will hopefully be included in the fall issue of Collection Forum and a stand alone publication will be developed for Native American communities. In addition, a website is being developed through the National Park Service. Great thanks go to Cathy, Steve and all the other organizers and participants for developing a very important and successful symposium.

David Von Endt has stepped down from his post as the chair of the Research Subcommittee. David has done an incredible amount of work for the Conservation Committee in his chair tenure and though he will continue being active on the Committee, he will be missed. We thank him for all his hard work. The committee is currently seeking a new chair for the Research Subcommittee and is open to suggestions or volunteers.

A proposal was made to the Conservation Committee by Lisa Kronthal, Carrie Herbel and Chris Collins for an Adhesives, Consolidants and Coatings workshop to be held at SPNHC 2003 in Texas. This was originally proposed as a oneday workshop that would cover ethics and standards, classes of adhesives and resins and the effects these treatments have on the scientific utility of specimens. It was to be a general, introductory approach to the topic and was believed would have widespread interest. The committee received the proposal with great enthusiasm, ideas were expanded upon and it was agreed that a two-day workshop with the second day focusing on specific disciplines/applications would be more appropriate.

Lisa Kronthal, Co-Chair
American Museum of Natural History

Jude Southward, Co-Chair
Denver Museum of Nature & Science

SPNHC Publications
Committee Report

SPNHC Newsletter
We were sorry to receive Tim White’s resignation after four years as Newsletter Editor. This issue marks Chris Norris’ inauguration. Welcome aboard Chris!!

SPNHC Website
Jon Greggs continues to manage www.spnchc.org with his usual efficiency. Check it out for job postings, current SPNHC news, committee activities and useful links.

Collection Forum
There is a real need for ongoing submission of quality manuscripts. CF 16(1-2) is in press and will comprise the papers presented at a working conference on the Contamination of Museum Materials and the Repatriation Process for California Indians held in San Francisco from 29 September to 1 October 2000. The proceedings of the Symposium on Preservation of Native American and Historical Natural History Collections (6-9 April 2001 in Shepherdstown, Virginia) sponsored by SPNHC, NPS, and NMAI will also be published as a special issue of Collection Forum, which should bring our production back on schedule. Note: since Collection Forum has been running behind schedule, everyone who was a member for any of 1998, 1999, or 2000 has received all CF volumes 14, 15, and 16. You will only get CF17 if you are a current, paid-up member of SPNHC for 2001. Please check your membership status. CF17 is the volume for 2001.

Three regular associate editors, Mary Anne Andrei, Jenny Paduan, and Jim Solomon have also resigned because of changing work demands. We are grateful for their help. We also welcome Rynthia Johnson as Associate Editor, Collection Forum; Leslie Skibinski as SPNHC Leaflets Editor; and Robin Panza as Assistant to the Webmaster.

Other SPNHC Publications
We are delighted to announce that University Products, Inc. will shortly be the official distribution center for all SPNHC special publications. Check the Publications section on the SPNHC website for updated ordering information.

Managing the Modern Herbarium has been translated into Chinese, and we are in discussion with the Chinese over distribution issues.

Janet Waterston, Chair
Royal Ontario Museum
They just keep getting better and better, don’t they?

I am so glad I joined this organization in 1986, and I can truthfully say that each and every meeting I have attended is unique. This year’s meeting, the Departments of Invertebrate Zoology and Geology at the California Academy of Sciences, did an excellent job. Special thanks are due to Jean DeMouthe, and her local organizing committee, as well as the administration group of the California Academy of Sciences, the SPNHC Education and Training Committee, and all SPNHC attendees.

This meeting was well attended with some 130 delegates, representing more than four countries. The meeting sessions went well and on schedule. David VonEndt gave both the opening and closing papers, which I think is a first. I thoroughly enjoyed the keynote speaker, Dr. David Jenkins, who is the Head of the Steinhart Aquarium at the Academy. His presentation on “Living Collections: their evolution and future,” was very thought provoking. I for one had never considered the complexity of accessioning and deaccessioning living specimens, particularly those that are raised onsite rather than captured in the wild. Living specimens require the overseer to take responsibility not just for acquiring the specimen, but also for its eventual disposal. How many museum staff know anything about the Animal Welfare Act, or quarantine, or overseeing the daily maintenance and care of animals? The breadth of Dr. Jenkins talk was wide, including animal auctions, animal shows, “canned” hunts, species concerns/population management, private ownership, as well as a new ethical dilemma; crossing species to produce hybrids such as a tigon and liger.

The technical sessions covered some familiar topics such as chemistry of consolidants (David von Endt, NMNH), information technology (Marie LaRicca, Redpath Museum), digitising collections (Rob Huxley, Natural History Museum, London), and the storage of fragile specimens (Ann Molineaux, Texas Memorial Museum). There were also newer topics; Julian Carter (National Museum of Wales) looked at the integrity of DNA preservation in fluid preserved invertebrate material, addressing factors such as the effects of death and autolysis on DNA, as well as the importance of preservation history, storage environment, and the age of the material. Tim White (Peabody Museum, Yale University) moderated a lively discussion on the issues and costs associated with moving collections.

The SPNHC Education and Training workshops on Living Collections and Identifying Risks to Collections were both well attended by more than 50 people for each half-day session. Congratulations are due to Roberta Brett, Laura Abraczinskas, and Lori Benson for their hard work and dedication in arranging these sessions.

The next Annual Meeting, the 17th, will be a double billing by the Redpath Museum/McGill University and the Canadian Museum of Nature, from May 8-13th, 2002. See you in Montreal!

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Announcing SPNHC 2002 – Hazardous Collections and Mitigation

Montreal, May 8-13, 2002

The 17th Annual Meeting of the Society will take place at the Redpath Museum, McGill University, Montreal, from May 8-13, 2002. The theme of the meeting will be “Hazardous Collections and Mitigation.” Your Call for Papers and registration form are enclosed with this newsletter. For further information, visit the conference website at www.sphnc.org/2002/.
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The Symposium was facilitated by Eunice and Sherwood Shankland, Shankland & Associates, Fairfax, Virginia. The Shanklands are internationally known for their work as facilitators for multicultural groups. Participants were selected based on their individual experience and expertise. In addition to the members of the Organizing Committee, the participants were:

Antonio R. Chavarria, Curator of Ethnology, Museum of Indian Arts and Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology (tribal affiliation - Santa Clara); Yolanda Chavez, Ukiah, CA (tribal affiliation - representing Robinson Rancheria of the Pomo Indians); Billy Cypress, Executive Director, Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, Seminole Tribe of Florida (tribal affiliation - Seminole); James Decoteau, Undergraduate Student, Turtle Mountain College (tribal affiliation - Chippewa); Dr. Douglas E. Evelyn, Deputy Director, National Museum of the American Indian; Natalie Firnhaber, Conservator, Anthropology Conservation Lab, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution; Dr. David Goldsmith, Associate Research Professor, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, The George Washington University; Harold Jacobs, Sitka, AK (tribal affiliation - Tlingit); G. Peter Jemison, NAGPRA Representative, Seneca Nation of Indians, (tribal affiliation - Seneca); Marian Kaminitz, Head of Conservation, National Museum of the American Indian; D. Bambi Kraus, President, National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO); Leigh Kuwanwiwma, Director, Cultural Preservation Office, The Hopi Tribe, (tribal affiliation: Hopi); Micah Loma’omvaya, Hopi – EPA Pesticides Program Coordinator, The Hopi Tribe (tribal affiliation: Hopi); Kathryn Makos, Senior Industrial Hygienist, Office of Environmental Management and Safety, Smithsonian Institution; Dr. Daphne Moffett, Environmental Health Scientist, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry/Tribal Office, US Department of Health and Humans Services; Dr. James D. Nason, Professor and Curator of American and Pacific Ethnology, Thomas Burke Memorial Washington State Museum, University of Washington (tribal affiliation – Comanche); Dr. Nancy Odegaard, Conservator and Associate Professor, Arizona State Museum, The University of Arizona; Dr. Ana Maria Osorio, U.S. Public Health Service, detailed to: US Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pesticide Programs; Bill Peters, Director General, Canadian Conservation Institute; Peter Reuben, Graduate Student, Buffalo State College (tribal affiliation – Tonawanda Band of Senecas); Dr. Timberley Roane, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, University of Colorado at Denver (tribal affiliation – Lumbee, Cherokee Nation); John Robbins, Assistant Director, Cultural Resources Stewardship and Partnerships, National Park Service; Alyce Sadongei, Assistant Curator for AASLH (tribal affiliation: Allegheny Seneca); Mr. Ronald C. Wilson, Museum Policy Manager, U.S. Department of the Interior; Ms. Sara Wolf, Conservator, Museum Management Program, National Park Service.

Symposium format

In addition a blessing by Peter Jemison, opening remarks by Douglas Evelyn, and a keynote address by James Nason, the Symposium format featured presentations in which 12 speakers collectively addressed five broad topics. The categories and some of the salient points under each are noted below.

Sampling and Testing (Nason and Siros)
- There are various methods to identify pesticide residues, but great difficulty in determining meaningful quantitative assessments from any of these methods.
- Testing has found that contamination varied from 23-70% of objects sampled by the speakers but was generally under 50%.
- Contamination affected material from cultures around the world.
- There is strong evidence that many treatments were applied by private collectors/dealers prior to acquisition of the objects by museums.

Communication and Training (Kuwanwiwma and Secakuku)
- Knowledge of the way objects are used is often highly restricted within a tribal group and sharing that knowledge may incur spiritual as well as cultural consequences.
- It is difficult to vest authority for repatriation/contamination decisions in a single individual or small group within a tribal community.
- Training for tribal groups about contamination and museums about cultural issues has been conducted, but good models for on-going training are needed, along with support for participation in workshops.
- There are questions about proprietary rights to the results of testing both of objects and people. Models addressing these and other issues would foster training for both Native Americans and museum staff.
- Some tribal communities store sacred objects in homes or in poorly vented structures and handle objects extensively during ceremonial use. The Hopi response to contamination has been to work with museums to test and store objects on museum premises, but under tribal custody, and to conduct training for their people and others by invitation. Other tribal groups have reached other solutions. None are viewed as ideal.
Legal, Ethical and Regulatory Issues
(Loma'omvaya and Tsosie)

- Applicable statutes include: NAGPRA legislation, which mandates disclosure of known treatments; the 1910 Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA); and the 1976 Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).
- There is a legal (tort) liability (potential for suit for damages) if museums do not take steps to warn of contamination.
- Ethically, museums must know that many sacred objects will be used because that is a requirement under NAGPRA.

Exposure and Risk Assessment (Goldsmith, Makos and Osario)

- Exposure assessments (i.e., methods determine true risk from exposure to a hazard) must be modified for use with museum employees and tribal groups in order to derive useful information.
- Lack of standardization for methods in either hazard identification or exposure assessments undermines efforts to acquire reliable data.
- Current occupational limits for various hazards are not appropriate for either tribal groups or museum staff.
- There is a lack of standards for methods of reporting data from studies.
- Medical monitoring and epidemiological studies, beginning with museum personnel, could provide important data for understanding potential exposure by tribal groups.

Mitigation and Decontamination (Kaminitz, Odegaard and Sadongei)

- Concepts of object use by Native American groups can be categorized in 3 ways:
  - Physical (object is worn, handled)
  - Symbolic (loans to tribes, confirm artistic traditions or as models for replication)
  - Life Ending (ritual disposition, to end sanctified attributes)
- These concepts can inform the process of repatriation of contaminated materials without requesting that tribal groups divulge detailed knowledge of specific practices.
- Currently available remediation/decontamination methods all have disadvantages and most are in the preliminary stages of testing. They include:
  - Replacement of objects
  - Containment of the object or construction of barriers between user and object
  - Cleaning (washing, physical removal, chemical removal or alteration, microbial detoxification)
- Current methods to mitigate risks include:
  - Research to determine histories of pesticide use by various institutions
  - Pragmatic handling guidelines that incorporate PPE
  - Labeling of objects
  - Containment to avoid cross-contamination
- Some mitigation methods may be at odds with the beliefs and practices of tribal groups.

After each set of presentations, participants met in small groups to roughly outline issues and develop recommendations. Collectively, these issues and recommendations served as the basis for creating five working groups. Each working group defined objectives and identified appropriate action steps related to overarching issues that had been identified through the presentations and subsequent discussions.

Results

The action plans formed the basis of an Executive Summary for the Symposium. There was a remarkable level of consensus among the participants on methods to address the problems associated with contaminated collections, particularly collections covered by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

The Symposium was characterized by mutual respect, as participants dealt with uncomfortable issues in a non-confrontational manner, by a great deal of humor and hospitality, and by a strong sense of camaraderie that could be described as a ‘we’re all in this together, let’s fix it approach.’ Participants demonstrated an eagerness to collaborate on implementation of the Symposium recommendations and take part in future activities. Although the weekend was intense, it was immensely productive and, based on their reviews, a highly positive experience for the participants. During the meeting, Peter Jemison provided a synopsis of the findings and a personal perspective on the importance of the effort. The proceedings closed with a blessing by Billy Cypress.

Immediate Products

By late 2001, the proceedings of the Symposium will be published simultaneously as a dedicated issue of the SPNHC journal, Collection Forum, and as a separate publication for distribution to Native American groups and other interested parties outside the SPNHC membership.

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Presidential Profile......
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past members whose work has helped SPNHC grow and remain focused on its mission. Special thanks to Beth Merritt, whose application, a couple of years ago, was instrumental in bringing our accomplishments to the attention of AIC and HP.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the extraordinary efforts that were put forth by Cathy Hawks and Steve Williams in collaboration with colleagues from the National Museum of the American Indian and the National Park Service. In particular, Cathy Hawks was instrumental in the efforts to organize and execute a most successful symposium on "Preservation of Native American and Historical Natural History Collections Contaminated with Pesticide Residues." Details of that symposium, funded largely by an NCPTT grant to SPNHC, are covered elsewhere in this Newsletter. However, I cannot over-emphasize the cooperation among the organizers, the careful attention to detail concerning all facets of the meeting, and the unanimously positive feedback that we received from all participants. Thanks also to Lisa Palmer for administering the grant.

In the last Newsletter, I reported on my attendance at a meeting of the White House Millennium Council during December 2000. With the change of administrations in Washington the Council has been dissolved, but the interest of those attending the December meeting has remained strong. On 19 July I attended a meeting, hosted by AAM, with a cadre of people who are now calling themselves the "Preservation Working Group." At its core, this Group is still focused upon the Save America's Treasures" program (SAT). We were advised that Laura Bush has embraced the SAT idea and were instrumental in having funding added to next year's budget to keep the program alive. There were several big take home messages from the July 19th meeting. A) SAT will be funded for 2002. Funding still begins at $50,000 and must be matched. B) More and more of these funds are being "earmarked." Therefore, involve your Congressmen and Senators to get your project earmarked. Don't depend on funds left over for competitive grants. This year, less than half of the available money was left after earmarking. C) Within the Group there is a considerable amount of analysis going on about "needs" and available programs, not just at the federal level but at state and local levels, too. Several different projects are underway to quantify the fact that not enough funding exists to cover the needs. They also want to make sure that people know about the types of funding that does exist. D) Those who administer the SAT grants are keenly aware of the problem of the very limited application period in past years. They are working to expand the application period and encourage all applicants to be in active contact with the administering agencies. They want to provide

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Treasurer's Report......
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of committing to a life membership. Sales of all of our publications brought in approximately $9,500, down from previous years. Restricted and unrestricted donations totaled $665, with $300 donated specifically for the SPNHC Newsletter. SPNHC received $3,000 in repayment of the 2000 local committee loan.

SPNHC was awarded a $22,170 grant from the US National Park Service to support a symposium on the preservation of Native American and historical natural history collections with pesticide residues. The American Institute for Conservation contributed $1000 towards the symposium, with $500 received from the Research and Technical Studies (RATS) Group and $500 from the Objects Specialty Group. The Symposium was held April 2001 (see report on page 1).

Major expenses for the Society in 2000 were $7,723 to publish Collection Forum 14(1&2), and $5,068 for the two issues of SPNHC Newsletter. Other expenses included $1,309 for the membership directory and brochures; $2,665 for postage, contractual support, and supplies for the Treasurer's Office; $1,715 for insurance; and $997 in bank and merchant fees. SPNHC spent $1,500 to review the 1999 local committee financial records and $3,500 for the 1999 financial review, tax preparation and filing.

Other 2000 financial activities operated smoothly. The terms of the 1999 US National Park Service NCPTT grant were met and completed. Per Council approval, $75,000 was transferred from operating funds to long-term investment funds. For additional information concerning the 2000 finances, please contact the SPNHC Treasurer.

The first part of 2001 has seen moderate activity. Income for the 2001 membership season has been received from approximately 105 library subscriptions, and 476 individual and associate members. Second notices were mailed in April 2001. Publication sales remain down. Our sales should improve once Storage of Natural History Collections, Ideas and Practical Solutions vol. 2 is reprinted. Currently the "Storage" books are sold directly by SPNHC, while Managing the Modern Herbarium is sold by a fulfillment service. The SPNHC Managing Editor is exploring the idea of consolidating the sales of our publications. We will keep you posted on developments.

Expenses incurred in FY 2001 thus far include $6,856 for Collection Forum 15 (1&2); $2,294 for the Spring issue of SPNHC Newsletter; $209 for postage, contractual support, and supplies for the Treasurer's Office; and $300 in bank fees. Financial reviews of the 2000 SPNHC financial records have been performed and the 2000 taxes filed. Once again,
the Society expects to have an aggressive publication period over the next 2-3 years, reflected in the FY2001 and upcoming budgets.

For their help throughout the year, I would like to extend thanks to Judy Bischoff (National Park Service), Julia Golden (University of Iowa), Cathy Hawks (Falls Church, VA), Jane MacKintosh (Cincinnati Museum Center), Sue McLaren (Carnegie Museum of Natural History), Jane Mygatt (University of New Mexico), Janet Waddington (Royal Ontario Museum), Tim White (Yale University), and last, but never least, Steve Williams (Baylor University). General office support for the Treasurer is provided by the Smithsonian Institution Division of Fishes.

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Simmons.....
Continued from page 1

dedication and service to the museum field through the Museum Assessment Program and Accreditation Program. The Museum Assessment Program and Accreditation Program are tools provided by the AAM to assist museums in achieving excellence in their operations and service to communities. Both programs depend on Peer Reviewers for their success. In order to serve as a Peer Reviewer, one must possess a broad knowledge of current standards and best practices in the museum field, and demonstrate a willingness to share that expertise and help advance the profession.

“We are tremendously proud of recipients of this third annual award,” said Edward Able, Jr., President and CEO of AAM. “We know their dedication and professionalism make a difference in their own museums. How fortunate for the field that they have made this commitment to help strengthen museums in communities across the country.”

“Serving as a peer reviewer is a very rewarding experience,” says Simmons. “Participating in the process sharpens your ability to evaluate how museums function, develops your creative ability to solve problems, and gives you a much broader appreciation of the profession. I have learned something useful from every assessment I have done. Being a peer reviewer will make you a much better museum professional. It is an excellent professional development activity.”

Mr. Simmons and four other museum professionals were selected to receive this honor from a list of 79 individuals, nominated from a total of more than 1300 Peer Reviewers. The recipients were selected for their exceptional level of professionalism, dedication, diplomacy, and service to the field.

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Cincinnati Museum Center Opens New Collections Storage Facility

In late August 2001, Museum Center opens its new 70,000 sq ft collections storage facility called the Geier Collections and Research Center, which is located approximately a mile from the main Union Terminal building. For the first time, all natural history collections and three-dimensional history artifacts will be housed in a secure, climate-controlled environment.

The move is the culmination of 10 years of effort to relocate collections storage into suitable space. The new facility includes expanded storage areas for paleontology, archaeology, zoology, history artifacts, and fine arts. The new building has the capacity to be expanded to accommodate a compactor system for future growth. For the first time, the museum will have a quarantine area for new acquisitions and pest management. Paleontology and archaeology staff have specialized lab areas. These include a paleontology lab for preparing large vertebrate fossils; a separate lab for working on invertebrate fossils that includes a clean area for microscope and photographic work; and a wet lab for processing sediment samples. The fluid collections storage and preparation area will be brought up to safety standards that were impossible to achieve in the old facility. The history objects collection will be consolidated into a unified storage area for the first time. As a result of the consolidation of collections storage, Museum Center will gain nearly 15,000 sq ft in Union Terminal for the expansion of exhibit and public use space. All collections and staff should be in the new facility by the end of 2001.

Museum Center was able to undertake this project through creative planning and good timing. The $8 million project is the result of a unique partnership between Museum Center and the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio. Since 1990, when the natural history exhibits moved to Union Terminal, the old Cincinnati Museum of Natural History building had been used for collections storage and offices for the natural history staff. However, it was never climate controlled and lacked other amenities. Over the years, various organizations have expressed interest in purchasing the building. Unfortunately, the appraised value of less than $1M for the building was insufficient for Museum Center to acquire a suitable facility and move the collections. In 1999, Museum Center President Douglass W. McDonald proposed to the community that the museum would "exchange" the old building for one that conformed to museum standards and provided adequate space for the collections. Meanwhile, the Diocese had developed plans to open a school and found

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assistance and they encourage applicants to seek their input. This was a very informative meeting. If you would like to receive a copy of the minutes I took during the two-hour meeting, please contact me.

You may recall that last fall I convened a Sessional Committee on Student Participation. In its first year this committee, chaired by Cathy Hawks has come up with quite a few suggestions to encourage greater student participation in our meetings, our publications, and our membership. The Committee's Annual Report details these ideas and will appear on our website later this year. The Committee will spend the upcoming year pursuing many of these ideas, but other suggestions may take a bit longer to investigate and put into motion. As the median age of SPNHC members continues to rise, this is an important initiative. Thanks to everyone on this committee for their efforts this year.

The Membership Committee has completed an analysis of a survey that was conducted through an insert in the SPNHC Newsletter more than a year ago. All details of the analyses were presented in the Committee's Annual Report. Since the presentation of those results is quite extensive, we plan to make that information available in its entirety on the website. In fact, we plan to post the annual reports of all the SPNHC Committees on our website this fall and generally expand our coverage on the committees. Some committee reports will be updated before being posted on the web to reflect Council action anticipated in the original reports.

The Natural Science Collections Alliance, formerly known as the Association of Systematics Collections, is in the process of developing media tools that can be used by any institution or individual to promote understanding of the value of collections. This campaign is called "Keys to the Living Planet." NSCA plans to incorporate anecdotes about how collections are of benefit to society. They seek input from our membership to maximize the coverage of this topic.

Following many discussions at this year's meeting, I decided that it is advisable to create a Sessional Committee on Best Practice Protocol. The purpose of this committee is to address the issue of protocol in developing best practices that might be published or presented through SPNHC venues. The committee's goal is to have a set of parameters that the SPNHC Managing Editor can assess when (s) he receives a manuscript entitled, "Best practices in the care of ....". The committee is NOT developing a best practice project, but rather criteria that a project should address during the development of the best practice. Ideally, anyone reading a journal article or special publication with "best practice" in the title will then have a level of confidence in the basis for the publication and claim to "best practice". The drafted criteria will be available for comments by the annual SPNHC meeting in Montreal. Paisley Cato has agreed to serve as Chair. If you have questions, please contact Paisley (cato@pe.net). Further details will also be posted on our website.

At this year's meeting Council took action to address a misconception about the Faber Award by changing its title to the "Faber Grant." The Faber Grant, named in honor of one of our founding members, makes funds available to support research on collection related topics. Our CPA, and perhaps many others, has been unclear about the fact that funds received via this program are specifically applied to research projects and should not be taxed. It was felt that the best way to resolve the misconception was to make the name more clearly reflect just what it is – a grant not an award. This name change also led to a change in the name of the Committee from Awards and Recognition to the Recognition and Grants Committee. This change not only reflects the committee's duties better, but it places the committee last alphabetically. Thus, its report can now naturally be held until last on our meeting agenda.

One of the nicest duties the President of this Society is called upon to execute is the presentation of awards at the Annual General Meeting. It hardly seems fair because the Recognition and Grants Committee members do all the work of seeking nominees for the SPNHC Award and President's Award and reviewing applications for the Faber Grant. Lori Benson and Rose Kubiatowicz are the recipients of this year's Faber Grant. Their project is titled, "The Storage and Handling of Poisonous and Hazardous Ethnographic Artifacts in Natural History Collections." Prior to the meeting, Council voted to fund the project and a check was presented at the AGM. In addition to the Faber Grant, it was my pleasure to recognize the special efforts of Tim White as our Newsletter Editor for the past four years. I was also very pleased to be able to present a Special Service Award to David von Endt for his efforts in organizing the 1999 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC and Jean DeMouthe as Chair of the 2001 Host Committee for our meetings in San Francisco. This year, we also had a nominee for the President's Award and we saved the presentation of this Award to close the AGM. It was difficult to hide the identity of this year's awardee. Her contributions were easily recognized by most of the members in attendance. The testimonial letters, in support of her nomination for the Award, were filled with details too numerous to cover here. Beginning as a Charter Member of the Society, through her service as Chair of the Conservation Committee, instrumental work in the organization of the Madrid Meetings, and co-editing of our two most successful books, there could be few members as deserving of the President's Award as Carolyn Rose.
Call for 2002 Award Nominations

The Recognition and Grants Committee is accepting nominations for the SPNHC Award and the President's Award for 2002. These awards are given only when an appropriate candidate is identified, and neither award may have more than one recipient per year. Final decisions are based on documentary information and approval from the SPNHC Council. The Committee is also accepting nominations for Special Service Awards.

The **SPNHC Award** recognizes an individual's life-time achievements that have served as a significant contribution to the objectives of the Society. Nominees for the SPNHC Award may be members, previous members, or non-members of the Society.

The **President's Award** is given in recognition of a SPNHC member's distinguished service to the development and continued success of SPNHC. This would normally involve superior, prolonged service to appointed offices, committees, and/or ongoing activities of SPNHC. Nominees must be current or previous members of SPNHC. **Nominations for the SPNHC and President’s Awards must be submitted by 30 November 2001.**

**Special Service Awards** recognize individuals for any special effort leading to the success of an important event or activity of the Society. The award is essentially a certificate of appreciation. The nomination process for this award is less formal, and names of nominees may be submitted in writing or verbally at any time before the second meeting of Council at the 2002 Annual Meeting.

Nominations should include the name of the nominee, name of the award proposed, a description of important contributions of the nominee, and other information supporting consideration of the nominee for the award in question. Nominations and related questions should be directed to Steven Krauth, Chair of the SPNHC Recognition and Grants Committee, Department of Entomology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706-1598: tel. (608) 262-0056; fax (608) 262-3322; email krauth@entomology.wisc.edu

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Call for the 2002 Faber Grant Proposals

The Recognition and Grants Committee is requesting proposals for the Faber Grant, a cash grant of up to $1000, to support the best project addressing issues on the management, care, conservation, or use of natural history collections. Applicants for the Faber Grant must be SPNHC members in good standing for at least one year prior to the award date. The successful applicant will be expected to 1) present a final or interim report at the 2003 Annual Meeting of the Society and 2) publish the results, with the understanding that the manuscript will be sent first to the SPNHC Publications Committee for first right of refusal. Each applicant may submit only one proposal per funding period. The cover sheet should include a project title, name(s) of project personnel (including title, address, and phone/fax numbers), and a single-line spaced 100-word abstract describing the proposed project. The proposal text should include a statement of purpose, project plan (e.g., participants, methods, materials, schedule of completion, etc.), and proposed use of funds. The text should have one-inch margins, 10-12 characters per inch, and double-line spacing. The application, including cover page, should not exceed 10 pages. Curriculum vita of the principal investigator and letters of commitment may be single-line spaced and attached as an appendix. Proposals and questions regarding proposals should be directed to Steven Krauth, Chair of the Recognition and Grants Committee, Department of Entomology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, 53706-1598: tel. (608) 262-0056; fax (608) 262-3322; email krauth@entomology.wisc.edu. **Proposals must be postmarked before 30 November.**

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Applications are being sought from those interested in the Visiting Fellowship program at the Canadian Museum of Nature. Up to $1500 (Canadian) will be available to each successful applicant of this collection and research effort. The Canadian Museum of Nature (CMN) is Canada's national natural history museum. Approximately ten million specimens are housed within the new research/collection facility, the Natural Heritage Building, in Aylmer, Quebec. The intention of the Visiting Fellowship Program is to increase researcher access to the resources at the CMN facility, and to add to the value of natural history specimens through enhanced curation. Proposals will be accepted in three general categories: collection-based research; collection.
enhancement; and collaborative research with CMN staff involving use of CMN laboratories.

Awards are up to $1500 each. The funds are to be used to offset the cost of travel and accommodation related to the work at the Museum. It is expected that each Visiting Fellow will provide a scientific seminar at the Natural Heritage Building on their research interests, and that the CMN will be appropriately acknowledged in all publications that result from the work. These funds are available to university faculty, graduate students, other research scientists and collection managers.

Proposals must include the following information: applicant’s name, title, organization, e-mail address, postal address, fax and phone numbers, and a clear indication of the name to appear on the Fellowship check. Applicants should include a curriculum vitae and a list of all scientific publications in the last 5 years. Applications from graduate students should also include a letter of recommendation from their supervisor. A list of names, titles and organizations of any collaborators in this work must be provided. The proposal should be detailed, but concise (no more than 1000 words), and include the following information: the proposal category; a description of the research and, if applicable, how it relates to research projects at the CMN; a list of the taxa of interest; expected results (manuscripts, monographs, keys, etc.) and a timetable of when these can be expected; a timetable of completion, including the time to be spent at the Natural Heritage Building (CMN Research Building); and a detailed budget including the travel and accommodation costs that the Visiting Fellowship will be used against.

Applicants may wish to discuss their proposal with CMN Research or Collection Staff before submission. A full list of staff can be found at http://www.nature.ca in the Research/Collection Sections of the site; this list includes e-mail and phone numbers. Completed applications can be submitted, preferably by e-mail, to Kieran Shepherd, (kshepherd@mus-nature.ca) Collection Services, Canadian Museum of Nature, P. O. Box 3443, Station D, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 6P4, Canada. The deadline for proposals is September 30, 2001. Successful applicants will be notified by October 7, 2001.

**Coming this Fall- a 4th Choice: MAP Governance Assessment**

The Museum Assessment Program (MAP) can help your museum improve its operations through a three-phase process consisting of self-study, peer review, and implementation. Grants to underwrite most of the costs of an assessment are available from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The next deadline for IMLS MAP funding is November 1, 2001. Grants are non-competitive and are available on a first-come, first serve basis. Contact MAP staff at the American Association of Museums for an application (Tel. 202-289-9118; email map@aam-us.org) and access more detailed information on the AAM web site at www.aam-us.org. There are four Assessments available:

**Institutional Assessment** - provides an overview of the management and operations of the entire museum.

**Collections Management Assessment** - reviews collections stewardship in the context of overall museum operations; primarily focuses on collections planning, policy and procedure.

**Public Dimension Assessment** - reviews the entire operations of the museum and how they serve the museum’s audience; looks at the organization from the outside in while focusing on the public’s perception of, experience with, and involvement with the museum.

**Governance Assessment (New in 2001)** - helps the museum’s governing authority examine their structure, roles, and responsibilities. Enhances their ability to advance the museum’s mission and engage in effective planning. Can result in:

- Clearer understanding of the responsibilities of the governing authority
- Improvements in board recruitment, retention, and engagement
- Increased ability to obtain and manage resources

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**Announcing the 5th International Conference on Biodeterioration of Cultural Property (ICBCP-5)**

**Sydney, Australia, November 12-14, 2001**

The fifth International Conference on Biodeterioration of Cultural Property (ICBCP) will take place at the Australian Museum, Sydney, Australia from 12 to 14 November 2001. The conference will be held under the auspices of the International Council for Biodeterioration of Cultural Property (ICBCP) and jointly hosted by the Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Material (AIICCM) and the Australian Museum Research Centre for Materials Conservation and the Built Environment.

For detailed information, a list of papers, or to download a registration form, please visit http://www.amonline.net.au/icbcp5/ or contact Vinod Daniel, Head, Research Centre for Materials Conservation and the Built Environment, Australian Museum, 6 College Street, Sydney, NSW 2010, Australia (Tel. 612-9320-6115; fax: 612-9320-6070; email vinodd@ausmuse.gov.au.)
Course Opportunities at the University of Victoria

The Cultural Resource Management Program at the University of Victoria is pleased to offer a 6-day immersion session on “Heritage Conservation Project Management” and an innovative distance education course in “Conserving Historic Structures” for professionals in museums and related organizations. Please contact the University if you wish any further information on this session offered on the University of Victoria campus or visit the website at http://www.ucvs.uvic.ca/crmp

Heritage Conservation Project Management

October 22 - 27, 2001

The conservation of heritage properties is a complex process, involving an understanding of both conservation principles and thoughtful management strategies. This course focuses on principles, techniques, experiences, and resources in the management of heritage conservation projects, from the point of view of both the owner/client and the professional/consultant. Project management theory and practice are addressed, with a pragmatic bias, through the discussion of case studies that emphasize conservation projects at the municipal level in Canada and abroad. The course includes:

- Recognizing the distinct phases of the project management process
- Building a team with an appropriate range of professional expertise
- Planning, scheduling, and budgeting the project
- Breaking down the work into components and illustrating them graphically
- Implementing, controlling and monitoring projects, and preparing reports
- Identifying community perspectives and achieving meaningful public consultation
- Appreciating the roles of the various communities of interest
- Addressing code and other legal requirements, ethical issues
- Managing risk
- Writing requests for proposals

Instructor: Harold Kalman, Ph.D., is Principal, Commonwealth Historic Resource Management Limited, Vancouver, BC, an international consulting and management firm. He is an urban heritage planner, cultural resource manager, and cultural tourism planner. Please register by: October 1, 2001 (late registrations accepted if space permits). Fee: $560 (Canadian funds, credit or non-credit options). Program staff are pleased to provide information on local B&B, hotel, and on-campus options.

Conserving Historic Structures

October 15, 2001 - February 1, 2002

While historic structures range from modest to monumental and encompass a remarkable variety of materials and uses, approaches to their conservation are governed by core principals and determined by well-developed standards of practice. Enhance your understanding of the complex characteristics of heritage structures, systems and materials. This course provides frameworks for planning appropriate conservation processes. Using a combination of print and text materials, CD-ROM and Web resources, participants will interact with the instructor and other participants from across North America and beyond to develop their ability to:

- Identify commonly encountered building materials and systems
- Analyze the nature and extent of deterioration in building materials and systems and identify its causes
- Analyze the environmental factors that contribute to deterioration
- Investigate and document the physical condition and history of a structure and its materials
- Select conservation strategies for a range of materials, based on the condition and intended use
- Plan the conservation process and develop an historic structure report

Participants must have completed senior level course work in heritage conservation or have two year’s practical experience in conservation or preservation. Please register by: September 21, 2001 (late registrations accepted if space permits). Fee: $560 plus $50 text fee=$610, shipping fee of $60 outside Canada and the US (Canadian funds, credit or non-credit options)

For more information about both courses, please contact:

Lisa Mort-putland,
Program Coordinator,
Cultural Resource Management Program,
Continuing Studies, University of Victoria,
PO Box 3030 STN CSC Victoria, BC, Canada V8W 3N6.
Tel: 250 721-8462; Fax: 250 721-8774; Email: Imort-putland@uvcs.uvic.ca. Web site: http://www.uvcs.uvic.ca/crmp.
To receive monthly email updates, contact crmp@uvcs.uvic.ca
“Holy Smokes, the House Is On Fire!”

National Institute of Standards and Technology, Washington DC

October 30, 2001

The Washington Conservation Guild is once again offering its unique and popular disaster workshop, formerly known as “Burn, Baby, Burn.” This year they are focusing on fire recovery in historic houses. They will set up a 12 foot by 12-foot room to recreate an interior of an historic house and will set it on fire. To add to the realism, no sprinklers will be used during the suppression phase. After the fire has been extinguished and the room has cooled, participants will develop a plan of attack, and will salvage what’s left.

This is a one day workshop that runs from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm and will include lectures on the nature of fires and fire suppression systems, methods of developing disaster recovery plans and real life experiences in disaster recovery in the wake of a fire. The afternoon session will focus on experiencing the aftermath of a fire. The organizers anticipate a wet, dirty, smelly and psychologically action-packed several hours. Participants are therefore asked to wear comfortable clothing and shoes they don’t mind getting wet. Many participants in the past have brought clean dry clothes to change into at the end of the day.

This workshop is ideal for anyone responsible for the care of historic collections. The workshop takes place at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, just north of Washington DC, and is supported by the American Institute for Conservation. Registration for WCG members is $150 and for non-WCG members, $180. Registration for non-members includes a one-year membership in WCG. For more information and registration forms, at http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/wcg

Contributions from personal collections to burn as part of the demonstration are being solicited at this time.

Please contact Michele Pagan (tel. 202-546-5439, email: michele_johnpagan@yahoo.com) if you have items to donate, or if you need to request registration form though the mail.

New Biology Curators Group Website

The Biology Curators Group (BCG) has set up a new website. It can be found at www.bcg.man.ac.uk.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you would like to submit job descriptions, please send postings to the Newsletter Editor. See the SPNHC website, www.sphnc.org, for current postings.

Assistant/Associate Curator, Missouri Botanical Garden. To work in collaboration with Washington University in St. Louis to initiate a modern taxonomic treatment of Manihot (Euphorbiaceae) using morphological, anatomical, and molecular characters to assess evolutionary pathways and to define sections within the genus for later detailed revision. Evolution and domestication of Manihot esculenta will be of particular interest, including ethnobotany and the role of human mediated evolution. Qualifications include a Ph.D. in botany, along with experience in field collection and morphological and molecular analyses. Position will be filled at Assistant level with individuals who have up to 7 years experience or at the Associate level for those with more than 7 years experience. Requires familiarity with herbarium routines and botanical literature, ability to obtain funding, exceptional written communication skills, and strong computer skills. Candidates should have an established publication record, Portuguese and/or Spanish language skills desired. Missouri Botanic Garden offers a comprehensive benefits program, including medical, dental, and life insurance, retirement plan, and 403(b) with generous match. To apply, send curriculum vitae along with names and addresses of three references to Missouri Botanical Garden, Human Resource Management, Box 299, St. Louis, MO 63166-0299 or to jobs@mobot.org. Visit the MBG website at www.mobot.org. Review of resumes begins immediately. Positions are open until filled.

Collection Manager, Entomology, Bishop Museum. The Bishop Museum seeks a talented and experienced collection manager to take charge of the third largest collection of insects and related arthropods in the United States. The collection includes 13 to 14 million specimens in pinned, ethanol-preserved, and slide-mounted collections. Focus of the collection is Hawai’i and the Pacific, with a strong historical emphasis on Hawai’i, New Guinea, Philippines, and SE Asia. Specimens in the collection are < 1% computerized (type specimens 100% computerized) with continual computerization ongoing with supplemental funding. Duties include active, hands-on curation of the collection, including identification of specimens, processing and cataloging of incoming material. Maintenance of adequate curatorial supplies, database authority files, and organization of the collection. Routine care and conservation, tracking statistics on collection use and growth, and interaction with the Museum’s other collection managers and the centralized transaction system. Interaction with international scientific community including managing loans, responding to inquiries, hosting visitors, and promoting maximal use of the collections. Supervision of several collection technicians and volunteers assigned to tasks associated with the responsibilities listed above. Cooperation with the Information Services Database Manager [position to be filled] to ensure integrity of the Entomology database and efficiency of data-entry procedures. Collaboration with appropriate Museum staff to ensure proper maintenance of Museum facilities allocated to the Entomology collection. Interaction with the public through creative and engaging use of the collections to support the Museum’s public education mission. Applicants should have a Master’s degree in biology or equivalent experience required. Fluency in English (required) and one or more of the non-English languages prevalent in the entomological literature (e.g. Chinese, French, German, Japanese, or Russian) is desirable. Applicants should have demonstrable insect collections-care experience (three to five years preferred); knowledge of insect taxonomy and associated literature and world geography, especially with reference to Hawai’i and the Pacific; ability to identify insects to species level and field experience collecting insects; and familiarity with database management. Desktop and electronic publishing and digital imaging skills are desirable. Applications, including a cover letter with salary requirement, a curriculum vitae / résumé, and contact information for at least three and no more than five references should be sent to Marcia Bolton, Bishop...
Curator of Mollusks, The Delaware Museum of Natural History. The DMNH, whose Mollusk collection is among the top 10 in the USA and includes all 7 classes from around the world, seeks a Curator of Mollusks. Responsibilities include: collection-based and field research on mollusks, including aspects of systematics, natural history, ecology, or behavior (local relevance preferred); assisting in development of exhibits and public programs; curation of the invertebrate collections and research library; and general administration of the Mollusk Department. Requirements: Ph.D. with a specialty in molluscs, 1 year of curatorial experience and 1 year of molluscan systematics experience required, demonstrated research, publication, and grant writing record. Good benefit package. For additional details please see the job posting listed on the DMNH web site (www.deimnh.org). Send statement of research interests, C.V., and the names and contact information for 3 references to Human Resources Department, DMNH, Box 3937, Wilmington, DE 19807-0937 by October 5, 2001. Please include position title with application. The DMNH is an equal opportunity employer.

Collection Manager The Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium, St. Johnsbury, VT. The Fairbanks Museum has reopened the search for an experienced full-time Collections Manager who will participate in a phase of active institutional growth and reorganization. The museum’s collections currently total over 185,000 specimens and objects, including northern New England’s with all aspects of collections management. S/he will have a working knowledge of computer-based cataloguing systems, and experience supervising staff, volunteers and/or student interns. Specific knowledge or experience with natural history collections is a plus. Will report to the Curator of Collections. Position requires a B.A. in museum studies or a related field, and a minimum of three years of museum experience. For more information on the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium, please visit http://www.fairbanksmuseum.org. Salary information is available upon request. To apply, please send a résumé and cover letter to: Stephen H. Amos, Curator of Collections, Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium, 1302 Main Street, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819-2248, or e-mail: steve.amos@connriver.net.

Mammalogist/Museum Curator, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Biology and the Museum of Southwestern Biology, University of New Mexico. A temporary, non-tenure track position as Assistant Professor/ Curator of Mammals to begin in Fall 2001. Potential applicants are encouraged to consult the Department of Biology website: http://biology.unm.edu and the Museum of Southwestern Biology website: http://www.unm.edu/~museum for background information. Minimum requirements: Ph.D. in relevant field of biology by the start date, record of teaching experience, scholarly research record, and experience in curation at an accredited natural history museum. Preferred characteristics: Strong academic record, experience in teaching at the university level, experience in curation of a nationally recognized mammal collection, and interest in interacting with colleagues working in a broad array of disciplines and organisms. Teaching responsibilities will include courses in Mammalogy and Systematics. The successful applicant will be encouraged to continue an active research program. It is anticipated that this position will be funded for a minimum period of two years. To apply for the Mammalogist/ Curator position, the following material must be provided: complete curriculum vitae, reprints of significant publications, a brief description of research interests and teaching philosophy, and three letters of reference sent to Dr. Timothy Lowrey, Chair, Mammalogist/Museum Curator Search Committee by the closing date. E-mail address for information: tclowrey@unm.edu. Application materials are to be sent to: Dr. Timothy Lowrey, Chair, Mammalogist Search Committee, Department of Biology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131-1051, Tel: (505) 277-3411; Fax: (505) 277-0364. Completed applications must be received at the above address by September 28, 2001. UNM is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educator.

Paleontological Preparer, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County has an opening for a Paleontological Preparer. The successful candidate will collect, prepare, stabilize, mold, cast, and restore fossils for curation and scientific study. He/she will participate in national and international paleontological expeditions, and will train and supervise volunteers. Requirements include at least three years experience in the collection and preparation of fossils, preferably with completion of college courses in geology, biology, or relevant technical arts or fine arts. Must be able to demonstrate knowledge of comparative anatomy and taxonomy, geological field operations, casting and molding techniques, and standard museum conservation and curation practices. Also required are excellent oral and written English skills plus the ability to operate manual transmission, 4-wheel drive vehicles. Salary starts at $29,700. Applications should be mailed by September 21 to: Search Committee Vertebrate Paleontology, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90007. The Natural History Museum of the Los Angeles County is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access/Affirmative Action Institution, which has a commitment to cultural, racial, and ethnic communities and encourages women and minorities to apply.

Paleontology Preparer/Technician, McWane Center. Alabama’s 21st century science and technology center is searching for a vertebrate paleontology preparator to complete preparation, molding, and casting of a theropod dinosaur in a laboratory that is visible to the museum’s visitors. The preparator will share information and answer questions concerning the lab and specimen preparation with the public. The preparator will train and work with volunteers and participate in public programs. Temporary, full-time. The position to begin mid-May, 2002. Bachelor’s degree in geology or biological anthropology with emphasis in vertebrate paleontology 3 to 5 years relevant job experience, or demonstrable experience as a preparator. Knowledge of comparative anatomy, casting and molding techniques, and standard museum conservation and curation practices. Qualified applicants are invited to send a letter of interest, resume and three references to Human Resources, McWane Center, 200 Nineteenth Street, North, Birmingham, Alabama 35203; FAX (205) 714-8400; OR e-mail to gsvajge@mowane.org. Resumes accepted through March 31, 2002. McWane Center is an equal opportunity employer.

Post-Doctoral Researcher, Missouri Botanic Garden. Will conduct research in Asteraceae systematics primarily using traditional methods and leading to a floristic treatment of the family for Flora Mesoamericana. Works as part of the Flora Mesoamericana project at the Garden, which is part of the cooperative, multinational project led by the Garden, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and The Natural History Museum, London. Attracts financial support for fieldwork, edits submitted treatments, contributes to the Mesoamerican floristic database and publishes results on the Internet as part of the web version Flora Mesoamericana. Qualifications include a Ph.D. in botany, familiarity with herbarium routines and botanical literature, the ability to obtain funding and database management experience. Strong written communication skills needed. Knowledge of Spanish and an interest in conducting tropical fieldwork desired. Missouri Botanic Garden offers a comprehensive benefits program, including medical, dental, and life insurance, retirement plan, and 403(b) with generous match. To apply, send curriculum vitae along with names and addresses of three references to Missouri Botanical Garden, Human Resource Management, Box 299, St. Louis, MO 63166-0299 or to jobs@mobot.org. Visit the MBG website at www.mobot.org. Review of resumes begins immediately. Positions are open until filled.
Publications of Interest

This section is from the Conservation Committee and chaired by Paula T. Work of the Citations Subcommittee. Prices and availability are cited when available. Annotations are provided by Diana Dicus [DD], Jessica Johnson [JJ], Rob Waller [RW] and Paula Work [PW]. Contributions and comments may be submitted to Paula Work, Grier Collection Research Center, 1720 Gilbert Avenue, Cincinnati OH 45202; 513-345-8506 (voice); 513-345-8501 (fax); pwork@cincinnatimuseum.org (email).


Includes current lighting technology, effects of light on collections, minimizing light damage, conservation standards, and successful exhibit lighting applications. Also bibliographies.

AIC 1717 K Street, NW, Suite 200. Washington, DC 20006. (2020 452-9545. info@aic-faic.org


Contains sections on prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery. Appendixes. A recovery section with immediate salvage procedures for archival materials, textiles, furniture, paintings, bone, paleontology, taxidermy, tanned skin, study skin, botany, mineral, and fluid-preserved specimens in natural history collections.

Clavir, M. in press. Preserving What is Valued: Museums and First Nations

Explores relationships between conservation practice and the views of First Nations people on preservation.


[DD] Diana Dicus
[JZ] Jackie Zak

Cincinnati.....
Continued from page 9

the old natural history building the ideal location. The Diocese took up Museum Center's proposal and, in consultation with the museum, purchased a suitable replacement building. The church also provided $4.5 million to Museum Center for renovation and expansion for the new facility. In exchange, Museum Center provided the old natural history building and raised $1.5 million for construction and moving costs.

Pesticide Residues.....
Continued from page 7

During Summer 2001, a Web site hosted by the NPS will be available to facilitate further efforts by the working groups to implement the action plans. The Web site will link to other sites as information resources. The NCPTT has agreed to prepare an Internet compatible version of the Symposium proceedings for distribution through the Web site. During the Symposium, participants prepared a calendar of upcoming events relevant to the Symposium topics. This will also be available through the site. Those with an interest in any of the issues will be able to contact various working groups through the Web site and become involved in the implementation efforts.

SPNHC Website:

www.spnhc.org
Calendar of Events

The Calendar of Events is maintained by Christine Chandler of the Documentation Committee. Application deadlines, conferences, and symposia relevant to collection management, computerization, and conservation of natural history collections are listed. Notices may be submitted to Christine at Putnam Museum of History and Natural Science, 1717 W. 12th St. Davenport, IA 52804; tel. (563) 324-1054 ext. 226; email chandler@putnam.org or dinoceras@juno.com

August 2001


August 20 - 24, 2001. Wood Anatomy and Identification, SCMRE Course. Contact: Francine Lewis, SCMRE Education Program, Museum Support Center, 4210 Silver Hill Road, Suitland, Maryland 20746 USA; (301) 238-3700 ext. 102 (phone); (301) 238-3709 (fax); etp@scmre.si.edu (email).

August 23 - 24, 2001. Accessible Practices Workshop, co-hosted by the Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC) & the Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA. Contact: Jessica Stricker, Carnegie Science Center; (412) 237-1806 (phone); stricker@csc.clophg.org (email).

August 26 – 31, 2001 (tentative). 3rd International Meeting on Mesozoic Fishes, Systematics, Paleoenvironments and Biodiversity, Serpiano, Switzerland. Contact: Prof. Andrea Tintori, Dip. Scienze della Terra, Universita degli Studi di Milano, Via Mangiagalli 34, I-20133 Milano; +39.02.23698202 (phone); +39.02.70638261 (fax); andrea.tintori@unimi.it (email).

August 28, 2001. The Fundamentals of Digital Projects, a free, one-day workshop offered by the Illinois Digitization Institute (IDI), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Registration can be completed on-line at: http://images.library.uiuc.edu/projects/IDI, or contact: Trevor Jones, Project Coordinator, IDI; (217) 244-9236 (phone); trevorj@uiuc.edu (email).


September 2001

September 1, 2001. NEH, Collaborative Research (Research Programs); Fellowships Programs and Independent Research Institutions (Research Programs) deadlines. National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Rm. 402, Washington, D.C., 20506 USA; (202) 606-8400 (phone); www.neh.gov.

September 7 - 9, 2001. AAM Professional Education Seminar: Current Issues in Museum Management, San Francisco, California, USA. For more information visit the AAM website at www.aam-us.org or contact AAM Meetings and Professional Education; (202) 289-9114 (phone); seminars@aam-us.org (email).


September 14, 2001. Accessible Practices Workshop focusing on facilities and visitor services at the St. Louis Science Center. Contact Elana Yellen for brochure at (314) 289-4426 (phone) or eyellen@slsc.org (email).

September 20, 2001. The Fundamentals of Digital Projects, a free, one-day workshop offered by the Illinois Digitization Institute (IDI), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Registration can be completed on-line at: http://images.library.uiuc.edu/projects/IDI, or contact: Trevor Jones, Project Coordinator, IDI; (217) 244-9236 (phone); trevorj@uiuc.edu (email).

September 20-22, 2001. Assembling the Tree of Life, an International Symposium to be held at the AMNH, New York City, New York, USA. Sponsored by the American Museum of Natural History, Yale University, & the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS). For more information, please send an email with your name & mailing address to tolsymposium@amnh.org (email).

October 2001


October 9, 2001 - January 25, 2002. Curatorship and Community, a distance education course from the University of Victoria. For further information, contact: Lisa Mort-Putland, Program Coordinator, Cultural Resource Management Program, Continuing Studies, Univ. of Victoria, P.O. Box 3030 STN CSC, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada V8W 3N6; (250) 721-8462
November 2001

November 1, 2001. IMLS Museum Assessment Program grant application deadline. For more information see: http://www.imls.gov/grants/museum/mus_map.asp (website).

November 1, 2001. BRIT Distinguished Lecturer Series, The Role of Natural History Museums in Modern Human Society, Fort Worth, Texas, USA. Featuring Dr. George Gummerman, Director, Arizona State Museum; sponsored by the Botanical Research Institute of Texas & the Fort Worth Museum of Science & History.

November 1 - 10, 2001. 2001 Geological Society of America Annual Meeting & Exposition, Boston, Massachusetts USA. For more information: (303) 447-2020 or 1 (800) 472-1988 (phone); (303) 447-0648 (fax); meetings@geosociety.org (email); http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2001/index.htm (website). Check out http://www.geosociety.org/sectdiv/sections.htm for GSA Section meetings.

November 2, 2001. Accessible Practices Workshop focusing on facilities and visitor services at the Science Museum of Minnesota. Contact Renee Rude for brochure at (651) 221-4558 (phone) or rrude@smm.org (email).

November 2 - 4, 2001. Selecting and Planning for Traveling Exhibits, hosted by the Liberty Science Center, Jersey City, New Jersey, USA. Registration deadline is 12 October. For more information and to register, contact: Libby Lewis at (201) 451-006 ext. 372 (phone); llewis@lsc.org (email).

November 4 - 14, 2001. The Winedale Museum Seminar on Administration & Interpretation. For details, information or an application contact: Kit Neumann, seminar Coordinator, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas, USA; (512) 463-5756 (phone); kit.neumann@thc.state.tx.us (email).

November 9, 2001. Identification and Care of Video Tapes, SCMRE Course. For further information, contact: Francine Lewis, SCMRE Education Program, Museum Support Center, 4210 Silver Hill Road, Suitland, Maryland 20746 USA; (301) 238-3700 ext. 102 (phone); (301) 238-3709 (fax); etp@scmre.si.edu (email).

November 9 - 12, 2001. 2nd European Symposium on Bird Collections in Europe - Promotion of Science in Ornithology: The Challenge of Mutual Cooperation, Bonn, Germany, will focus on collection based research in avian biodiversity. Organized by the Alexander Koenig Research Institute and the Museum of Zoology (ZFMK).

November 12 - 13, 2001. Setting Standards and Making It Real, the VRD(SM) 2001 Annual Digital Reference Conference, Orlando, Florida USA. Contact: Marilyn
Schick, Virtual Reference Desk (SM) Project; (800) 464-9107 (phone); vrdconf@vrd.org (email); http://vrd.org/conferences/VRD2001/ (website).

November 13, 2001. The Fundamentals of Digital Projects, a free, one-day workshop offered by the Illinois Digitalization Institute (IDI), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Registration can be completed on-line at: http://images.library.uiuc.edu/projects/IDI, or contact: Trevor Jones, Project Coordinator, IDI; (217) 244-9236 (phone); trevorj@uiuc.edu (email).

November 16 - 18, 3-Day UCLA Extension course in Document Imaging - Document Management, World Trade Center, Los Angeles, California, USA. See http://www.ArchiveBuilders.com (website) for a copy of the course description. All of the printed class materials are available at the same site.

November 2001. Partnerships in Paleontology: Involving K-16 Classroom and the Public in Collaborative Research, Topical session T14 at the Geological Society of America meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, USA.


December 2001

December 2 - 9, 2001. 4th World Congress of Herpetology, Colombo, Sri Lanka. Contact: CDC Conventions at cdcl@cdcconv.slt.lk (email).


December 4, 2001. The Fundamentals of Digital Projects, a free, one-day workshop offered by the Illinois Digitization Institute (IDI), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Registration can be completed on-line at: http://images.library.uiuc.edu/projects/IDI, or contact: Trevor Jones, Project Coordinator, IDI; (217) 244-9236 (phone); trevorj@uiuc.edu (email).


December 14, 2001. AAM Awards for Excellence Application deadline. Further details can be found at www.aam-us.org (website). For assistance call Patrick Gossett (202) 289-9101 (phone); awards@aam-us.org (email).

January 2002

January 2 - 6, 2002. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB) Meeting, Anaheim, California, USA.


February 2002

February 2, 2002. BRIT Distinguished Lecturer Series, The Role of Natural History Museums in Modern Human Society, Fort Worth, Texas, USA. Featuring Dr. John McCarter, President & CEO, Field Museum of Natural History; sponsored by the Botanical Research Institute of Texas & the Fort Worth Museum of Science & History.

February 8 - 10, 3-Day UCLA Extension course in Document Imaging - Document Management, World Trade Center, Los Angeles, California, USA. See http://www.ArchiveBuilders.com (website) for a copy of the course description. All of the printed class materials are available at the same site.

March 2002

March 7, 2002. BRIT Distinguished Lecturer Series, The Role of Natural History Museums in Modern Human Society, Fort Worth, Texas, USA. Featuring Dr. Gregory Long, President, New York Botanical Garden; sponsored by the Botanical Research Institute of Texas & the Fort Worth Museum of Science & History.

April 2002

April 4, 2002. BRIT Distinguished Lecturer Series, The Role of Natural History Museums in Modern Human Society, Fort Worth, Texas, USA. Featuring Dr. Art Wolf, Director, Museum of Northern Arizona; sponsored by the Botanical Research Institute of Texas & the Fort Worth Museum of Science & History.

May 2002

May 2, 2002. BRIT Distinguished Lecturer Series, The Role of Natural History Museums in Modern Human Society, Fort Worth, Texas, USA. Featuring Dr. Doug Sharon, Director, San Diego Museum of Man; sponsored by the Botanical Research Institute of Texas & the Fort Worth Museum of Science & History.

May 12 - 16, 2002. AAM Annual Meeting, The Community of Museums: Seeking the Common Good, Dallas, Texas, USA.

May 8 - 13, 2002. 17th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections, Redpath Museum, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Co-organized with the Canadian Museum of Nature. For more information, contact: Ingrid Birker, Redpath Museum,
New WHO Pesticide Documents

The WHO Recommended Classification of Pesticides by Hazard was approved by the 28th World Health Assembly in 1975 and has since gained wide acceptance. When it was published in the WHO Chronicle, 29, 397-401 (1975), an annex (which was not part of the Classification) illustrated its use by listing examples of classification of some pesticide active ingredients and their formulations. Later suggestions were made by Member States and pesticide registration authorities that further guidance should be given on the classification of individual pesticides. Guidelines were first issued in 1978, and have since been revised and reissued at 2-yearly intervals.

The document is arranged as follows:

Part I: The Classification as recommended by the World Health Assembly. This part is not subject to periodic review and the classification table and text can only be changed by resolution of the World Health Assembly.

Part II: Guidelines to Classification. Individual products are classified in a series of tables, according to the oral or dermal toxicity of the technical product, and its physical state. The tables are subject to review periodically.

The toxicity values are intended to be a guide only. Formulations should be separately classified using the methods set out on pages 3 (single technical product) and 6 (mixtures) and the table in Part I. To assist in the classification of formulations, an annex is now provided giving numerical tables from which the classification may also be derived.

Comments on Part II of the document are welcome, together with proposals for new entries. These should be addressed to the International Programme on Chemical Safety, World Health Organization, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland, and should include supporting data on the compound being commented on or proposed.

This document is a revision of the document previously issued as WHO/PCS/98.21 and is available on-line as a PDF at:

http://www.who.int/pcs/docs/Classification%20of%20Pesticides%202000-01.pdf
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Future Sites of SPNHC Annual Meetings

2002 - Redpath Museum - McGill University - Montreal - Quebec
2003 - Museum of Texas Tech University - Lubbock - Texas