

SPNHC NEWSLETTER

www.spnhc.org

President

Jean-Marc Gagnon

President-Elect

Christopher Norris

Past President

Richard Rabeler

Treasurer

Barbara Brown

Secretary

Judith Price

Managing Editor

Susan Butts

Editor

Andrew Bentley



SPNHC

ADVANCING COLLECTIONS CARE

**Society for the Preservation
of Natural History Collections**

September 2011
Volume 25, Number 2

Developing a Collections Management Best Practices Website: The First Steps

Melissa Barton ¹, Elizabeth Leith ² and Marcia Revelez ²

¹ University of Colorado Museum of Natural History, 265 UCB, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309; melissa.barton@colorado.edu

² Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, 2401 Chautauqua Ave., Norman, OK 73072, USA; etereba@ou.edu; mrevelez@ou.edu

INSIDE...

Best Practices website.....	1
Presidential report.....	3
Committee reports	4
Sessional Committee reports.....	11
SPNHC Representative reports	11
Membership profile	13
News from around the world	15
SPNHC 2012	18
New SPNHC website.	22
SPNHC 2011 report ...	24
TDWG 2011	28
Positions	29
Pubs of interest.....	30
Calendar	33

..... and much more!

With the unveiling of the new and improved SPNHC website, an additional element has been added to the Resources tab, entitled, "Best Practices." This portion of the website (referred to unofficially as the Best Practices Website) is intended to be a resource on best practices, standards, and guidelines for natural history collections management of all types, from incidental collections in small historical museums to large collections in national museums. Initial work on this project was performed by an intern, Melissa Barton, supported by the CollectionsWeb Research Coordination Network (RCN) and SPNHC, and hosted by the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History (SNOMNH) during the summer of 2010. The internship was supervised by Liz Leith and Marcy Revelez, co-chairs of the Documentation Committee.

Best practices are defined as consensus-based, peer-reviewed ideals for the best way to work, perhaps comprising both standards and guidelines (Cato 2001). The content on this webpage will provide print and online resources for "standards" (as they become established) and guidelines. Best practices will be provided where they have been established by the profession, but if no best practice exists, we hope to provide at least examples of the most common ways museums tend to do things today. It is our hope that SPNHC can rally its membership into identifying gaps and addressing these issues and/or topics in the voids that persist in the natural history community. Many resources are well established, for example, www.museumpests.net, and these will be included as links to our visitors.

Published resources on registration and collections management, such as *Museum Registration Methods 5th Edition*, eds. R.A. Buck and J.A. Gilmore, often focus on the policies and issues related to art and history museums, with little application toward natural history collections. The Best Practices Website seeks to identify and address issues specific to natural history collections not already covered elsewhere. The website will also include example forms and checklists specific to natural history institutions and collections.

Continued from page 1:
Best Practices Website

The internship began as an opportunity to develop and publish content for this website. However, the contract for redesigning the SPNHC website as a whole was still ongoing, postponing the publishing of anything until after the internship was over. Instead, the internship focused on gathering resources and identifying knowledge gaps, beginning with issues pertaining to registration in natural history museums. The website outline also includes topics such as legal and ethical issues, permits, and hazardous materials.

On July 20, 2010, we released a survey on best practices to several museum- and natural history-focused email lists: ANTHRO-L, AVECOL, ECN-L, HERBARIA, MAMMAL-L, NHCOLL-L, PALEOBOT, RCAAM-L, and VRTPALEO. This survey, distributed through SurveyMonkey®, sought to identify gaps in best practices knowledge and available information, as well as common collections management challenges. Preliminary results of this survey, combined with interviews from registrars and collections managers and a review of the literature, identified several areas where resources and new avenues of research need to be developed:

- Repository collections - As federal and state agencies seek to formalize agreements and collections space and museum budgets become tighter, several issues related to repository collections become more pressing. Regulations are not always clear or consistently applied. For the U.S. government, federal curation guidelines have been only published for archaeology collections, although many institutions reposit biology and earth science collections. Many institutions identified U.S. National Park Service regulations as a challenge, or in some cases a reason not to accept repository collections. Other issues related to repository collections included concerns about storage space, lack of formal agreements, expense of curation, and lack of clarity on how to handle loan and destructive sampling requests.
- Laws and regulations - Lack of centralized and clearly written sources about laws and regulations relevant to museum collections was also identified as an issue, with the acknowledgement that laws and regulations change. Areas of concern included collecting permits (particularly international), import/export permits, and safety and health codes (particularly fire).
- Working with health and safety regulatory agencies - Several institutions indicated that they had difficulties working with local fire marshals and other regulatory bodies, par-

- ticularly if they had large specimen collections in alcohol. Difficulty in finding information on disposing of hazardous materials within a museum budget was also an issue.
- Databases and digitization - Very few natural history collections surveyed in the preliminary results were completely databased. Natural history collections often consist of objects numbering in the millions, which may require specialized knowledge for data entry and/or normalization. Many institutions also use multiple databases as, in most of these cases, each discipline has its own database (because consolidation is complicated, or because the main collections database is too complex to use for daily collections management tasks). This means staff must export data to a spreadsheet or simpler database for management tasks. Data consolidation, normalization, and quality control were all frequently expressed concerns. Many museums also lack dedicated IT support.
- Communication with curators and board members - Several survey respondents indicated frustration with curators and board members with issues on documentation, and both legal and ethical topics, such as permits for collecting and ethics related to accessioning and deaccessioning.
- Hazards in collections - Materials for communicating potential hazards and safety procedures comprehensively and clearly to staff, students, researchers, and volunteers would be useful. Manufacturer's published tests for protective equipment do not account for museum working conditions and often do not test resistance to many chemicals found in museums (such as organic pesticides).
- Scale - Many published guidelines for museum collection registration and management are difficult to apply to very large collections. This seems to be a particular concern for entomology collections. What concerns and solutions apply for collections numbering in the millions of objects?

Some of these concerns cannot be fully addressed by the Best Practices Website. Many of the issues with repository collections are ones where guidelines and best practices have yet to be defined, and will probably vary according to each institution involved. How to effectively communicate the importance of best practices, ethics, and legal compliance with curators or board members is also something that cannot be addressed by a website or article. However, bringing these issues to the forefront in the museum community is paramount in developing a solution. Knowing other professionals are dealing with the same problems can bring about informal conversations or topics for discussion at the annual SPNHC meeting.

Some resources which could be developed to address the knowledge gaps previously mentioned might include:

- A dedicated forum at the annual SPNHC meetings hosting representatives from various federal agencies to open

This space could be yours.....

SPNHC Newsletter is looking for articles, news items, etc., for the next edition. Articles of 1000 words or less considered. Contact Andy Bentley (abentley@ku.edu) for information. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is February 1, 2012.

Presidential Report

Jean-Marc Gagnon

Chief Collections Manager
Invertebrate Collections
Canadian Museum of Nature
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada



As Chief Collections Manager at the Canadian Museum of Nature, I have been formally involved in collections management for the past 15 years. Prior to that, my academic training (M.Sc., Université de Montréal; Ph.D., Memorial University of Newfoundland) and postdoctoral research (Fisheries & Ocean Canada, Mont-Joli & University du Québec à Rimouski) provided great opportunities to get well-acquainted with taxonomy and basic collection management principles. My specialty group is soft-bottom marine invertebrates, with particular interest in deep water polychaetes, bivalves and crustaceans.

As many of you who have attended a SPNHC Annual Meeting can probably attest, these events are wonderful opportunities to refocus and recharge our batteries. This year's meeting in San Francisco was certainly no exception. The Local Organizing Committee at the California Academy of Sciences put together an excellent conference and great series of workshops. And of course, we greatly enjoyed visiting their impressive new museum facility in Golden Gate Park. A wonderful experience and a great way to start the year in the company of our colleagues.

Of course, preparations are already well underway for next year's meeting in New Haven, at the Peabody Museum/Yale University. But, why bring this up so early? Well, it not only takes time to put together a conference, but it also takes time for you to plan attending, to prepare presentations and be ready to submit abstracts. Therefore, it is not too early to get ready. The theme of that conference is "Emerging Technology and Innovation in Natural History Collections Management" (see announcement in this issue of the Newsletter). You can also follow their progress on Facebook under the group "2012 SPNHC meeting". And, if you think it is too late to get a presentation ready for 2012, then you can start planning for the 2013 meeting in Rapid City, South Dakota. Their Facebook group is "SPNHC 2013 and 10th CFR". And beyond 2013, well, we might just have another opportunity to visit Europe; who knows?

Coinciding with the 2011 annual meeting was the exciting release of the new SPNHC/AIC publication entitled "Health and Safety for Museum Professionals"; the timing could not have been better. It had been awhile since SPNHC produced a book and, thanks to the enormous work of the editors, the many authors and SPNHC's Publication team led by Susan Butts, the final product is a real must for all collection-based institutions and museum professionals (see advertisement in this issue of the Newsletter).

Also new, after several months of adjustments and testing before its official launch, is the SPNHC website, which now includes a membership database. The fresh new look is undeniably professional and provides so much more flexibility. Members are now able to logon, access and update their profile and renew their memberships online; new members will be able to register online, too. Check it out at www.spnhc.org. The next stage of development for the site will involve regional content; we'd like to see how we can better serve regional needs outside North America. Obviously, there will be more to come.

Continued on page 4



The **Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections** was formed in 1985 and is recognized as a non-profit organization [501(c)(3)] in the United States. SPNHC members receive *Collection Forum*, a biannual journal of reviewed technical information, and two issues of the *SPNHC Newsletter* each year. The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC) is a multidisciplinary organization composed of individuals who are interested in development and preservation of natural history collections. Natural history collections include specimens and supporting documentation, such as audio-visual materials, labels, library materials, field data, and similar archives. The Society actively encourages the participation of individuals involved with all aspects of natural history collections.

The **SPNHC Newsletter** (ISSN 1071-2887) is published twice a year, March and September, by the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections, c/o Division of Ichthyology, Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas, Dyche Hall, 1345 Jayhawk Boulevard, Lawrence, KS 66045-7593, USA.

Changes of address should be directed to SPNHC Treasurer, Planetarium Station, PO Box 526, New York, NY 10024-0526, USA.

Submissions are welcome. Please forward announcements, articles and notes to the Newsletter Editors by mail or email.

Deadline for the next Newsletter is February 1, 2012.

*Continued from page 3:
.....Presidential Report*

Another aspect of our operations moving into the “electronic age” is the Elections. For the first time this year, we will not be sending paper ballots by snail mail. Therefore, make sure your email address is up-to-date by accessing your web profile. We look forward to your participation in electing a new President-elect, Secretary and two Members-at-Large.

Naturally, with the many activities we all get involved with and so many demands placed upon our time these days, it is always a good thing to set some priorities and goals at the beginning of each year and follow a plan of action. For SPNHC, since its capacity to meet goals and objectives is based on the very finite amount of volunteer time, we need to be particularly strategic in what projects we take on and which are most beneficial to our membership and for the field of natural history collection management and conservation in general. To help us better direct our energies, we have made significant strides toward the development of a Strategic Plan. Thanks to Chris Norris’ dedication, a White Paper is now circulating (available in this issue of the Newsletter) for your comments.

Finally, I would like to reiterate that all the great work done by SPNHC is actually the result of many individuals’ willingness, effort and dedication. And speaking of dedication, I want to take a moment to congratulate John Simmons (recipient of the Carolyn L. Rose Award) and Andy Bentley (recipient of the 2011 President’s Award); their hard work and commitment to advancing our profession is what makes our job a lot easier. I certainly encourage anyone who would like to get involved with SPNHC projects to contact us (see list of Council members under Governance on the website or on the second to last page of this newsletter). We would welcome your help in making our Society even stronger!

Have a great year!

Jean-Marc

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archives Committee

BACKGROUND

The Smithsonian Institution Archives (SIA) houses the archives of SPNHC. From 1993 to 2007, SPNHC deposited 16 groups of material totaling 23.5 cubic feet and spanning the years from 1981 through 2007. 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 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 currently being held by the committee.

CURRENT WORK

Archival supplies have been obtained (via purchase or gift) to properly house the material now being held by the committee. This material is currently being prepared for deposit in SIA. In addition to SPNHC publications, material for deposit in archives was received from Jean-Marc Gagnon and Barbara Brown.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Hollenberg, Chair

Best Practices Committee

This past fall at the annual meeting of the Geological Society of America, SPNHC co-sponsored the best practices session “Geological and Paleobiological Collections: Best Practices for Access and Use in a Changing World.” The session, organized by Ann Molineux (University of Texas), Tim White (Yale University) and Chris Holl (Princeton University) brought together 45 speakers from around the world including specialists from libraries, museums, information technology centers, NASA and various geological surveys. The goal of the session was to look at ways in which museum and university research collections have impacted studies of biodiversity, global change, climate, ecology and the history of life. Having such a diverse group of specialists allowed for the cross-fertilization of ideas and the exploration of emerging technology and innovations using these earth science materials to address novel questions of the Earth’s History.

Plans for two additional best practices sessions at discipline meetings are in the works. In 2012, Greg Watkins-Colwell (Yale Peabody Museum) and Mark Savaj-Perez (Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia) are organizing a best practices session at the ASIH and World Congress of Herpetology annual meeting, and Janet Braun and Marcy Revelez (Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History) are in the early planning stages of organizing a best practices session at the American Society of Mammalogists in 2013. Based on the success at the Geological Society of America in 2010, if anyone would be interested in organizing a “Best Practices Session” at a discipline specific meeting please touch base with James Macklin or Tim White for ideas and discussion.

We are also pleased to announce the publication of the work done by our first BP intern, Ana Vollmar in the journal *Biodiversity Informatics* (Vol.7, No.2) entitled "Natural History Specimen Digitization: Challenges and Concerns." This paper was part of a larger focus on digitizing natural history collections, which is the focus of the volume. Ana's internship was funded and sponsored by the National Science Foundation Research Coordination Network grant, CollectionsWeb. With support from CollectionsWeb, a second intern, Melisa Barton, was funded to research the status and implementation of best practices across the Natural History community for the development of a Best Practices section on the Society's new web page. Melissa was hosted at the University of Oklahoma, Sam Noble Museum of Natural History and was mentored by Marcie Revelez and Liz Leith.

SPNHC recently partnered with a University of Colorado-led HUB proposal to a new NSF program called Advancing Digitization for Biological Collections (ADBC), to hold workshops and publish on best practices relevant to natural science collections. The Society also supported a Theme submission by the Southeast Regional Network of Expertise and Collections (SERNEC). Similarly, SPNHC has supported a Canadian proposal to the Network Centres of Excellence program under the Knowledge Mobilization Initiative (NCE-KMI) led by the Université de Montréal. This proposal would supplement the successful Canadensys project (new proposal called Canadensys+) and will have significant focus on best practice development and publication. Although none of these proposals were funded we are actively seeking participation in many national initiatives.

Another avenue that the Committee is looking at is promoting Best Practices by developing links with various regional and national museum associations. Following up on our recent Newsletter article on collections stewardship, the Committee is looking to reach out to the broader museum community through a series of co-sponsored sessions.

At our 2012 annual meeting, hosted by the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, the local committee is looking to partner with various organizations and societies in a series of best practices sessions including Hidden Collections: Archives & Special Collections, Cryo-Collections and Storage of Museum Collections. If interested in participating please reach out to Tim White, Chair of the 2012 Local Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

James Macklin, Tim White, Co-chairs

Bylaws Committee

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.

Continued on page 6

Membership

Membership applications for Individuals (US\$35), Student, certified (US\$20), Subscription or Library (US\$45), Corporate/Commercial (US\$300) or Institutional (US\$65) may be submitted to:

*SPNHC Treasurer
Planetarium Station
P.O. Box 526
New York, NY 10024-0526
USA*

Be sure to include the following information:

*Name, Discipline Specialty, Institution
Address (Street, City, State/Province, Country, Zip/Postal Code)
Voice, Fax, E-mail address*

Payment may be made by cheque, money order, Visa or Mastercard.

Membership application/renewal form by portable document (Adobe Acrobat Reader required) and by Word file available at: <http://www.spnhc.org/files/renewal - 2008.pdf>.

Membership application/renewal form by Word file: <http://www.spnhc.org/renewal.doc>

Life Membership

The SPNHC Life Membership is a special membership category for those interested in the long-term financial stability of our organization. Life membership monies are invested towards the future goals of the Society. SPNHC life memberships are available for US\$875. The fee is 25 times the Individual Membership rate, currently US\$35. Life Memberships may be paid in one of three ways:

- (1) one-time payment of US\$875;
- (2) two-year installments of US\$475/1st year and US\$400/2nd year;
- (3) three-year installments of US\$420/1st year, US\$280/2nd year and US\$175/3rd year.

Please contact the Treasurer should you require further information about life memberships.

Treasurer

*Continued from page 5:
.....Committee Reports*

Bylaws: The committee discussed and has proposed revisions to Articles IV, V, VI, and VII of the Society Bylaws, with the most significant revisions involving the removal of proxy voting, clarifying the definition of membership levels, and revising the descriptions of some Council procedures to reflect current procedures.

Leadership Manual: The committee is responsible for keeping the Leadership Manual current. The version on the current SPNHC website is not complete and those sections present date mostly from 2000-2004. There are several additional current sections that will be more readily available when the new website is completed.

The most recent call to Committee Chairs to review the section of the Leadership Manual for their respective committee occurred in 2007. SPNHC is not a static society and our Manual must be kept current as our operations change. Completing the revision of the Leadership Manual is a key goal for this coming year. We know that entries for three established committees require revision, and we need to work with the two committees which were converted from sessional to standing committees in 2010 to create appropriate sections for the manual.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Rabeler, Chair

Conference Committee

In May, the Society was treated to an outstanding meeting in San Francisco, hosted by the California Academy of Sciences. Congratulations are due to Deb Trock and her colleagues for putting together an excellent program of talks and social events and for their hard work in ensuring the smooth operation of the conference. At the 2011 Annual Business meeting, the Society's membership heard more details about developments for the 2012 meeting, which is being hosted by the Yale Peabody Museum, and enthusiastically accepted a formal invitation by South Dakota School of Mines and Technology for the Society to hold its 2013 meeting in Rapid City, South Dakota. SPNHC also has an invitation in hand from the National Museum of Wales to hold its 2014 meeting in Cardiff and informal approaches have been received from a number of institutions interested in hosting meetings in future years. The Committee urges anyone who is considering hosting a SPNHC meeting in 2015 or later to contact the Chair as soon as possible.

2011 has also seen an overhaul in the Society's sponsor liaison arrangements, with Tim White (Yale) taking over sponsor liaison duties for North America and Clare Valentine (NHM London) continuing as sponsor liaison for Europe. Rebecca Peters (California Academy of Sciences) has kindly agreed to maintain the Society's sponsor database as a resource

for anyone planning a meeting. The Committee thanks the outgoing sponsor liaison, Marcy Revelez, for all her work in support of these activities over the past three years.

Finally, the Committee reviewed the updated draft the Policies and Guidelines for Planning and Conducting Annual Meetings prepared by Gretchen Anderson and Jean-Marc Gagnon and made various comments, which will be included in a revised draft.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Norris, Chair

Conservation Committee

Resource Display Units (RDU) Subcommittee

Co-Chairs: (US) Cindy Ramotnik (ramotnik@unm.edu),
(CA) Kelly Sendall (KSENDALL@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca)

The Canadian unit was reviewed and upgraded during the past year, but was not rented out. The US unit was rented once during the year. This is a valuable resource for the membership, however it is seriously underused. The conservation committee discussed alternatives including the options for making this web based. It was decided that, at this time, we will continue to offer the RDU's as in the past and move ahead to explore alternative methods of delivering this information.

Consider renting the unit for a conference in your area! Contact your local co-chair for more information. If there is anyone interested in developing a version of the RDU for Europe, please contact Gretchen Anderson.

Fluid Collections Subcommittee

Chair: Andy Bentley (abentley@ku.edu)

No further advances have been made on this front as we await developments of the workshop held at the Natural History Museum, London to guide design of protocols and best practices.

Historic Adhesives Subcommittee

Chair: Rebecca Morin (RMorin@calacademy.org)

The goal of the Historic Adhesives project is to gather information on the adhesives commonly used in natural history museums and collections. Rebecca Morin is leading the effort to gather and document this information. She is working with library and archive students at California Academy in the development of a survey to gather data. Watch for the survey, and please help us by filling it out.

Risk Assessment Subcommittee: Standards for relating change in state of specimen to loss in value

Chair: Armando Mendez (a.mendez@nhm.ac.uk)

This is a new subcommittee and the objective is the development of a curation portal (probably within the SPNHC website) which will include fact sheets of damage to different natural history specimens (including, perhaps, books, manuscripts and artwork) through different mechanisms (insects, sunlight, humidity, bad handling, etc) and recommended best practice, remedial and prevention techniques. The damage described could be rated by curators and society members and the information used to present stronger cases to upgrade prevention and best practices. There has been little progress on this to date.

Food Service Subcommittee: Standards in serving foods in museums

Chair: Bethany Palumbo (bgpalumbo@hotmail.co.uk)

There is increasing pressure on museums to find a source of revenue. Our marketing and development offices see that special events are a proverbial goldmine. These events invariably involve food and drink. The general public requires food service in the form of cafeterias and restaurants. Most museums contract these services out to caterers and large corporations who have little understanding as to the stress it puts on the collections for which we are responsible. This new subcommittee seeks to develop reasonable standards or guidelines to work with the food service challenge.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Anderson and Rob Waller, Co-chairs

Documentation Committee

The Documentation Committee met at the annual SPNHC meeting in San Francisco, CA on May 23rd, 2011. We discussed the new SPNHC website and are eager to add content to the Resources tab! The acquisition checklist is ready to go, with the possibility of adding a Collection Assessment Survey Checklist soon. In addition, we would like to post the information gathered from the 2010 internship on the Best Practices page, which includes information concerning Registration, after the Documentation committee has a chance to finalize editing of the content. Please refer to the article in this issue of the newsletter for more information about the internship and its results. Since this content is also very applicable to the Best Practices Committee, we are working together with them to visualize where we would like to go from here. We also await the unveiling of forthcoming leaflets and how-to papers from the Legs and Regs Committee and the Professional Development Committee, so we can add those to our web resources.

We brought up the possibility of liaising with our respective professional conferences and again bring this up to the general membership: if you would like assistance in developing a forum or workshop at your professional meeting, please contact us. Some of our members have already had success, including Ann Molineux at the Geological Society of

America meeting last fall.

Citations Subcommittee

Chair: Margaret Landis (paleocatstar@ou.edu)

We are looking for individuals who would be willing to help us look for citations, especially international members to assist with checking international publications/journals. It is not a huge commitment and you know we all look for related publications to our projects, etc. as part of our job. Even if you do not feel like you can make a long term commitment to join us on the citations subcommittee, as you run across a reference that you think everyone should know about, e-mail it to Margaret to help us make sure we catch it to share with our members.

In addition to the bi-annual citations listed in the SPNHC Newsletter, we are continuing to work on the database of past citations. As the plans to upload a searchable database of all citations onto the SPNHC website was postponed until the website has undergone its facelift, time is being spent data checking the End Note database (and correcting for extra spaces, typos/misspellings, etc.) as well as determining keywords to help facilitate searches. Now that the new SPNHC website is up, we will see what the future holds.

As always, we are still looking for new members to broaden our horizons! If you are interested, please contact Marcy Revelez (mrevelez@ou.edu) or Liz Leith (etereba@ou.edu).

Respectfully submitted,

Marcy Revelez and Liz Leith, Co-chairs

Election Committee

Elections Online (<http://www.electionsonline.us/>) was used again as it was last year to give members the option of voting online. The fee from Elections Online was \$257.90 US.

Positions filled were two Members-at-Large. The successful candidates were:

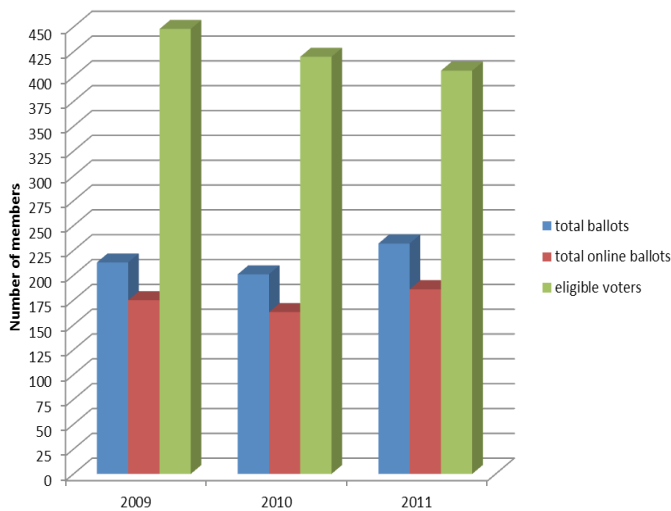
Gretchen Anderson – Carnegie Museum of Natural History
Mariko Kageyama – U of Colorado Natural History Museum

There were 13 nominations received from seven different members. 4 of the members nominated declined to stand.

The election started with an email message sent to all members on a 'voting list' (provided to Elections Online based on the Treasurer's most recent membership list as of August 2010). A few weeks later a reminder email was sent to all members who had not yet voted online. At the close of the election on November 30, 2010, the total number of valid returned ballots (online and paper) was determined to be 232,

Continued from page 7:
.....Committee Reports

	2011					2010				2009				
		% of eligible voters	% increase from 2010	spoiled ballots	duplicate ballots		% of eligible voters	% increase from 2009	duplicate ballots	duplicate ballots	% of voters	% increase from 2008	spoiled ballots	
Total valid ballots returned	232	57.1	10	1	0	201	47.8	0	2	2	213	47.5	9	4
Online ballots	186	45.8	7			163	38.8				175	39.1		
Eligible voters	406					420					448			



or 57.1% of the eligible members – an increase of 9.3% from the previous year. The table below outlines the trends over the last 3 elections.

This election was the third where members could vote on-line. Only 11.0% of the eligible members chose to return a paper ballot. Only 1 ballot was spoiled. There are 6 members with no email address registered. Twenty-four email addresses bounced back. Some of these were rectified before the election by me, but not all. I suggest that we send a test email in June to try and fix any remaining erroneous addresses.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Sendall, Chair

Legislation and Regulation Committee

The Legislation and Regulation Committee had a very interesting and fruitful discussion at the SPNHC 2011 meeting concerning developments in the areas of dangerous goods regulations and veterinary inspections as they pertain to import and export of material on loan or gift.

The only “hole” remaining in the dangerous goods regulations is the carrying of specimens on planes as checked or hand carried baggage and this is causing problems for some going on field expeditions to remote locations (where no courier service exists to ship specimens or tissues back). Andy Bentley had already begun discussions with IATA and DOT regarding the possibility of allowing SP A180 packages to be carried in this manner and will continue to work with them in an attempt to resolve this remaining issue.

The issue of veterinary inspections of imported or exported scientific research material cataloged into a museum is one that has been a hindrance for some time now but has recently become more so. The committee decided it may be a good idea to arrange a workshop at a future SPNHC meeting to address some of these issues. In order to do so we would need to invite representatives from the various agencies involved (USDA, USFWS, UPS, FedEx) to answer questions and try and reach an agreement on a way forward. The botanical community has already made positive strides in this area with the USDA for herbarium materials, and it is hoped that the zoological community can follow on from this.

The committee will continue to discuss options in this regard and keep the membership up to date on developments.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Bentley (for Sally Shelton, Chair)

Long Range Planning Committee

The Committee met in San Francisco to consider a draft White Paper setting out a process for developing a strategic plan for SPNHC. This plan would address how the Society could fulfill its mission of “improving preservation, conservation, accessibility and management of natural history collections to ensure their continuing value to society,” expressing the answers as a series of short, medium, and long term goals. The White Paper looks at the scope of SPNHC’s activities, grouping them together into three areas or themes: promoting best practices; improving accessibility; and advocacy. It sets out for discussion some of the Society’s strengths and weaknesses, the opportunities that exist to advance our goals, and the threats that may prevent this. Finally it discusses how a strategic plan might match strengths with opportunities, convert weaknesses into strengths, and turn threats into opportunities.

The paper was subsequently circulated for comment to Council Members and Committee Chairs and is being made available to members as an insert with this Newsletter. A copy will also be posted on-line, and the URL advertised via NHCOLL-L and other listserves. The Committee urges SPNHC members to read the paper and send any comments

to the Chairs.

As a final note, Clare Valentine (Natural History Museum, London) has kindly agreed to act as co-chair of the Committee.

Respectfully submitted

Chris Norris and Clare Valentine, Co-chairs

Professional Development Committee

The Professional Development Committee of SPNHC helps to facilitate development needs for audiences of museum professionals ranging from those starting out in the field to continuing education opportunities for those more experienced. Examples of these programs include workshops, leaflets and mentoring opportunities.

During the SPNHC meeting at the Hotel Kabuki in San Francisco, USA, on 23 May 2011, members of the committee met to discuss projects. Kelly Sendall from the Royal British Columbia Museum agreed to fill in as mentor for the travel grant recipient Emma Freeman. A huge thank you goes to Kelly for being flexible, graceful, and resourceful on very short notice.

Projects the committee is working on include:

- Working with the Mentorship Committee and the Local Organizing Committee at Yale to partner mentors with mentees.
- Professional Leaflet series, starting with a leaflet template that may be used by collections staff for outgoing loans, with emphasis on packaging guidelines, regulations, and rules. These will be produced by discipline area, so one template could be used for fluid vertebrate specimens, another for dry vertebrates, another for herbarium specimens, and so on. The template design can be modified by individual collections managers to fit their own institution's special needs or instructions. Having such a leaflet may help borrowers remember instructions for returning loans that may have been around for some time (or those who just need a reminder). Several SPNHC members have agreed to help produce these leaflet templates, and we are looking forward to getting the first of the series out in the next newsletter. The possibility of getting these leaflets translated into other languages was also discussed.
- The general "How-To" series has had some offers of help from some authors, and these will be moving forward in the future.

Richard Sabin of the Natural History Museum, London, has



Museum labels for wet collections

A material long used in the harsh world of chemical drum labeling has properties that are beneficial to the way collections are tagged and identified. Alpha Systems has brought this exciting material to the museum environment. Now collection tags can be printed on demand and submerged in ethanol, methanol, formaldehyde, and other chemicals for an indefinite period of time. The image is excellent quality plus the tag itself is extremely durable – temperature, chemical, tear, scratch and smear resistant. Alpha Systems provides the complete collection package of thermal transfer printer, preservation tag stock and ribbon.

**Alpha Systems, 13509 East Boundary Road
Midlothian, Virginia 23112.**

Tel: (804) 744-9870

Email: info@alphasystems.com

On the web at <http://www.alphasystems.com>.

agreed to become the co-chair of the Professional Development Committee. This is very welcome to the present chair, and Richard has already begun helping in many ways. We look forward to a productive year.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Stephenson, Co-chair

Publications Committee

Thanks go out to Andy Bentley who chaired the Publications committee meeting in San Francisco which I was unable to attend! Topics discussed at the meeting included: selling electronic versions (i.e. Kindle) copies of our books (especially Health and Safety for Museum Professionals), progress on our new projects (revisions to the two Storage of Natural History Collections books), special "theme" volumes for Collection Forum, and indexing Collection Forum with services such as BioOne. Please contact me (susan.butts@yale.edu) if you have opinions on any of these topics and I will convey them to the Publications Committee.

The Publications Committee has had a very busy year! Collection Forum printed two volumes, Volume 24 and Volume 25, our special 25th Anniversary Volume. We also released

Continued on page 10

*Continued from page 9:
..... Committee Reports*

our latest book, *Health and Safety for Museum Professionals* – nearly 650 fact-filled pages to ensure a safe museum experience for workers. With almost 50 authors in total, the breadth of material covered is astounding. The book covers specific safety hazards associated with collecting and collections management, hazards and prevention for every type of museum worker, and the principals of health and safety in museum settings. Please see the ad for the new book in this issue of the newsletter! Show your support and buy one from University Products (for North American purchasers) or Archetype Press today – there is something for everyone in this book!

We are still looking for a book review editor. Please let me know if you are interested, we already have a few books ready for review!

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Butts, Chair

Recognition and Grants Committee

The R & G Committee is charged with promoting and reviewing the annual recognition awards that the Society can confer as well as the Faber Research Grant.

We received and reviewed one nomination each for the President's Award, the Carolyn Rose Award, and the Faber Research Grant. The committee's decisions on the two awards were passed to Council where they received unanimous consent.

President's Award: Andy Bentley
Carolyn Rose Award: John Simmons

The Faber Grant application is being reviewed at the time of this writing.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Rabeler, Chair

Treasurer's Report

In 2010, the Society's total net assets increased to \$188,119 from a total of \$187,873 the previous year. Liabilities and net assets for 2009 totaled \$201,659. Operating income was generated from two sources: membership dues, and publication sales. Approximately \$21,200 in membership dues was received. Sales of our four publications brought in approximately \$4,102. A total of \$1,075 in donations including \$170 for the Founder's Fund were received.

Forty-eight subscribers and 366 individuals, institutional, corporate and student members renewed their membership in the calendar year 2010. Of the 556 SPNHC members, 32 joined for the first time.

Major expenses for the Society in 2010 were \$5,855 for two issues of the SPNHC Newsletter, \$5,220 for Collection Forum 23, \$13,440 towards the new Website, \$4,600 for editing of the Health and Safety volume, \$2,000 donation to Museum Pests, and \$3,000 for the travel grant. Election expenses including printing and mailing of the ballots came to \$328 while \$3,829 was spent on the SPNHC booth.

Additional expenses include approximately \$150 for annual dues in Heritage Preservation, \$376 for reprinting 25 copies of *Museum Studies*; The Treasurer's Office incurred the following expenses: \$3,160 for insurance, \$72 for P.O. Box rental, approximately \$525 in merchant fees, \$500 for printing and mailing of renewals, and \$4,950 for the 2009 financial review, tax preparation and filing.

Long-term investment funds were consistent with the market; SPNHC investments gained approximately \$6,390 in value and our money market and CD earned approximately \$1,219 in dividends and interest.

The first part of 2011 has seen good income activity. Thus far, approximately \$17,615 has been received from membership renewals, including 1 Life, 65 library/subscriptions, 340 individual, student, and associate/institutional and corporate members. Thus far, of the 405 members 55 are new. One hundred forty-six members who paid in 2010 have yet to renew in 2011. Please pay your dues on time.

In the first quarter of 2011 sales of all our publications total \$859 and \$1,000 in voluntary page charges. Once again our donors promise to make 2011 a good year. We have received \$270 in unrestricted donations and an incredibly generous donation of \$15,717 from the 2010 Local Committee. Thank you.

Expenses thus incurred in FY2011 include \$9,605 for the publication and mailing of *Collection Forum 24* (1, 2), \$150 for Heritage Preservation dues, \$72 for P.O. Box rental, \$3,275 for *Newsletter 25*(1), and approximately \$300 in merchant fees. At the time of the writing of this report the financial review was being performed. SPNHC has paid \$1500 as a retainer to The Burdette Smith Group. The Society anticipates expenses related to publications, web redesign and the trade show booth.

Please contact the SPNHC Treasurer for further details.

For their help throughout the year, we would like to extend thanks to Andy Bentley (University of Kansas), Judith Price (Canadian Museum of Nature), Rich Rabeler (University of Michigan), Kelly Sendall (Royal British Columbia Museum), Chris Norris and Susan Butts (Yale University) and again

Lisa Palmer for the many phone calls and emails this past year. The American Museum of Natural History, Department of Ichthyology provided general office support for the Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Brown, Treasurer

Web Committee

The new SPNHC web site is now live and we are currently testing functionality and adding content. Please let us know if you are having trouble with the member login function and pass along any other non-functioning aspects of the site.

As always, please send us newsworthy items and new content.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Molineux, Chair

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mentorship

Once again we had a very energetic, enthusiastic Fitzgerald Travel Grant awardee at the SPNHC 2011 meeting in San Francisco – Emma Freeman from Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. The Mentorship Committee was intimately involved, together with the Professional Development and Membership Committees, in the running of all aspects of the Travel Grant activities. Although some teething problems were encountered, all appeared to run smoothly and Emma gave a stellar presentation on her research. The Committee would like to thank Kelly Sendall for stepping in to the breach to mentor Emma at the last moment. We also look forward to meeting Nickson Otieno from the National Museum in Nairobi, Kenya, at the Yale meeting. His Travel Grant was deferred to 2012 as he was unable to generate the additional funds necessary to attend this year's meeting.

We also had "newbie" activities at the meeting, ably run by our previous awardees, Bethany Palumbo and Lydia Garetano. The Committee is looking to expand and improve on these activities for the Yale meeting to ensure that new members are encouraged to participate fully in the meeting and are given every opportunity to contribute to the growth of our organization.

The Committee is still investigating the expansion of the

mentorship portion of the Travel grant into a more all-encompassing mentorship program involving a much broader segment of our membership. Investigation continues into commercial mentorship programs as well as the potential for joining existing mentorship programs run by other societies.

The Chair of the Mentorship Committee will hopefully also be meeting with Wall-to-Wall, the developers of our new website, to investigate options for our International Node idea. This will involve international versions of our website as a conduit to creating international subgroups of the SPNHC organization. The future vision is for these subgroups to have their own web presence, meetings and committees in the future in order to build and foster the international scope of our organization – putting the "I" in SPNHC!! As a start to this process we have solicited content from African, Australian and European members which can be found in this newsletter and will become a recurring feature in future newsletters.

We hope that all of these programs will take shape in the coming months and years.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Bentley, Chair

SPNHC REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

American Institute for Conservation (AIC)

Gretchen Anderson

The American Institute for Conservation Annual Meeting was held in Philadelphia, May 31 – June 4, 2011. The topic, Ethos, Logos, Pathos: Ethical Principles and Critical Thinking in Conservation, sought to examine how ethics and perception guide conservation decisions. An emphasis was placed on environmental sustainability and examination on green practices. There was a great deal of excitement and publicity for the joint SPNHC/AIC publication Health and Safety for Museum Professionals. Perhaps the most exciting news was the topic for next year's meeting "Connecting to Conservation: Outreach and Advocacy". In addition, there is movement towards promoting preservation as a vital conservation activity that cuts across the entire field. The meeting will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, May 1-8, 2012.

Geological Society of America

Ann Molineaux

The SPNHC membership booth will be present at the Annual GSA meeting in Minneapolis in October 2011. This is the second year of our presence at GSA and we hope to en-

Continued on page 12

Continued from page 11:
.....Representative Reports

courage more membership from within the geological community. As an associated society we shall also have the opportunity to publicize our society award winners for the year, in this case Andy Bentley (the President's Award) and John Simpson (the Carolyn L. Rose Award). A copy of our latest reference book, Health and Safety for Museum Professionals, will be part of the GSA silent auction.

COLLECTION FORUM

Manuscripts Needed!!

Collection Forum, the official journal of SPNHC, is seeking manuscripts for our upcoming volumes. Collection Forum is the perfect publication to:

- disseminate results from grants and projects,
- expand on a talk at the SPNHC Annual Meeting, or
- describe best practices developed at your institution.

Feel free to contact the managing editor, Susan Butts, at susan.butts@yale.edu or (203) 432-3037 with questions, to discuss your ideas for possible papers, or if you are ready to submit a manuscript. Instructions to authors are available on the SPNHC website.

SPNHC Travel Grant Program

The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC) is pleased to announce a Travel Grant Program designed to assist members with the costs of attending the Society's annual meeting. One grant was awarded for the 2011 meeting in San Francisco, and grants will be available for attendance at the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Society at Yale, 11-16 June 2012. See elsewhere in this newsletter for more details on the conference.

A total of \$3,000 has been allocated to the program and grants will be for a minimum of \$750 USD each. The deadline for application is 18 March 2012. Some conditions apply.

More details will be available on the conference website as soon as it is up and running. Check back at <http://www.spnhc.org> for details.



SPNHC
ADVANCING COLLECTIONS CARE



The AAMG represents all of our nation's academic museums, galleries and collections. AAMG members - now approaching 1000! - come from the fields of anthropology, art, history, natural history, and science, from large research universities and small undergraduate colleges. We are committed to modeling and identifying best practices, professional development, educational activities and advocacy.

Members find value in the information sharing and stimulating conversation on the AAMG list-serv. They recognize that our advocacy efforts on behalf of academic museums, galleries, and collections across the country have supported endangered institutions and colleagues. Members have access to sample documents and templates for accreditation and best practices on the AAMG website, and attend our annual conferences, where critical issues unique to our field are explored and new ideas are generated.

If you are not yet a member of the AAMG, please join. Our membership dues are reasonable -- \$40 for individuals and \$100 for institutions. Student memberships are even less. You can sign up online and enjoy these great benefits:

- Friendly and highly accessible networking contacts with other academic museum professionals
- Access to the AAMG mailing list of academic museums
- Guidance and support on request from board and regional representatives
- The opportunity to support and contribute to the advocacy of our field
- The opportunity to serve in rotation on the AAMG board
- The opportunity to participate in the annual AAMG Conference held in conjunction with the American Association of Museums (AAM) Annual Meeting
- The opportunity to support and contribute to the advocacy of our field

For more information on AAMG or become a member, please visit the website:

www.aamg-us.org.

This space could be yours.....

SPNHC Newsletter is looking for articles, news items, etc., for the next edition. Articles of 1000 words or less considered. Contact Andy Bentley (abentley@ku.edu) for information. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is February 1, 2012.

SPNHC Membership Profile

Our members play many different roles from collection management and conservation to databasing and informatics to research and education. Most of our members come from a traditional research background while many new members are coming from the museum studies field. Our hope is to introduce our membership to a variety of individuals who are playing very dynamic roles in their museum's activities. We are casting our net broadly and selecting individuals from institutions of all sizes and backgrounds.

Name: James Macklin

Institution: Agriculture and Agri-Food, Ottawa, Canada

Position Title: Research Scientist (Botany and Biodiversity Informatics)

Brief description of employment history - After the completion of my studies in 2000, I was fortunate to get a position at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, PA, as the collection manager for Botany. In this position, I was responsible for all aspects of collection curation along with supervision of staff and outreach. My interest in databases led me to design and implement a new botany database as well as becoming more involved in a broader range of biodiversity informatics projects. I also continued my botanical research working on the Rose family, especially Hawthorns, Blackberries and Raspberries. In 2006, I took a position at the Harvard University Herbaria as Director of Collections and Informatics. In this dominantly administrative role, I was once again responsible for all aspects of collection curation and staff supervision but also informatics and IT.



In 2011, I got an offer I could not refuse to return home to Canada and work for the Federal government at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in Ottawa as a research scientist. Here, my focus has been primarily on biodiversity informatics but I also look forward to returning to work on members of the Rose family.

When did you join SPNHC? I first attended a SPNHC meeting in 1995 at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) in Toronto, while I was a student at a nearby University. I recall being quite intrigued by the talks and posters and enjoyed meeting like-minded peers. Little did I know that just 6 years later I would become a member and have attended every meeting since Montreal in 2002!

Brief description of your academic background - I did my undergraduate degree at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario. Like many, I was sort of academically lost and "distracted" at the beginning but really enjoyed my biology courses, especially botany. This led me to an Honours Degree in Ecology and Evolution. In my 4th year we were encouraged to do a thesis and having just completed a course on Plant Systematics, I embraced the challenges of taxonomy to sort out a 'difficult' group of Hawthorns. This experience was frustrating enough to lead me to continue this into a Masters, which quickly became a doctoral degree. After some procrastination involving teaching and using my computer skills, I managed to graduate in 2001.

What drew you to the natural history field? I spent a considerable amount of time outdoors hiking, biking, canoeing, etc., and was always curious about what I saw around me. Fortunately, my father was a high-school biology teacher and could answer many of my questions. I also learned a considerable amount about nature through my many years as a Boy Scout and a camp counsellor.

Describe the nature of the nature of the collections you work with - Most of my experience is with traditional botanical collections: lichens, bryophytes, algae/diatoms and fungi as well as plant derivative collections for economic botany, dendrology, etc. Lately, I have been focused on data curation including primary specimen data, observational data, collection metadata, digital annotations, genetic/genomic data, field and specimen images, and other digital derivatives.

Continued from page 13:
.....Membership Profile

What are your responsibilities for them? I have been responsible for all aspects of collection curation over the years from the perspective of a collection manager, administrator, and researcher. Having filled these different roles, I have gained a better appreciation for the challenges involved in managing collections and continue to advocate for them.

Describe some of your activities - Today, my main research focus is in Biodiversity Informatics working with the data associated with natural history collections. I am involved with developing standards and tools to promote efficient capture of specimen and observation-based data, its management, and quality control in order to make these data freely available for research and other uses. Speaking of other uses, I am very interested in using these data as a foundation toward building digital floras incorporating many different technologies to allow for a much more dynamic environment than what is possible in books. I have also become quite interested in digitizing legacy literature in order to make this wealth of knowledge available to be re-purposed.

What do you find most interesting about your work? I really enjoy working with natural history collections as they always have a story... whether it is my own investigations into a particular taxon, or collection management practice, or a visiting researcher who makes an interesting find; everyday there is another page and something learned. I particularly like the historical aspect of collections and have many times gotten lost on a journey in the library tracking down a collector or a geographic location because it intrigued me. Of course, this can lead to time-management issues... I also enjoy the collaborative nature of working with collections as for many of our challenges, the more brain-power the better!

What accomplishments are you most proud of? One of my greatest accomplishments was the complete re-housing of the Academy of Natural Sciences Botany collection based on funding primarily from an NSF Biological Resource Collection (BRC) grant. Knowing that this incredibly rich (and perhaps underappreciated) collection is safe for many years to come (in perpetuity!) is very rewarding. I am also quite proud of the progress my colleagues and I have made toward an annotation network infrastructure known as Filtered Push which will allow communication (through annotation) between collections to increase data capture efficiency and improve data quality, promote discovery of collection's data, and facilitate knowledge transfer from researchers and other contributors back to the collection(s) housing the specimen(s).

What do you find most fulfilling about your work? I feel fortunate to be able to contribute to the knowledge about the biodiversity on our planet. More specifically, I remain committed to safeguarding these irreplaceable collections and

their associated data for future reference.

How has SPNHC helped you? I cannot state strongly enough the positive influence that SPNHC has had on me and my career. The Society has given me the vision to understand where some of the real issues remain and supported me in pursuing some of them. Like many of my colleagues, I always come back from SPNHC meetings so invigorated and ready to tackle a new set of challenges.

In giving back to the Society, I have served on the council as a member-at-large and been involved with many committees. Currently, as co-chair of the Best Practices committee, I am focused on the development of best practices for collection care and maintenance. These documents are a valuable resource for all who work with collections as they provide a practical set of guidelines to compare against and to strive for.

I am very fortunate to have worked in some of the best natural history collections in North America, if not the world, and look forward to many more years of contribution to the challenges these collections face in a large part through my interactions with SPNHC and the fabulous group of dedicated individuals that are its members.

Custom Archival Packaging



Perfect for:

Document Preservation
Archival Collection
Specimen Preservation

We specialize in custom manufacturing:

Trays Dividers
Shoulder Boxes Slipcases
2 piece rigid set-up boxes

Our Archival Products:

- * Custom manufactured to your specifications
- * Acid free, pH-balanced board and papers that will meet or exceed your institutions archival requirements

Call, fax or email for more information:

Local (816) 842-3711
Toll free (800) 229-3711
Fax (816) 842-8312
info@allpackco.com

Visit our website:
WWW.ALLPACKCO.COM



Celebrating 75 Years of Excellence!
1935-2010

Continued from page 2:

.....Best Practices Website

a dialogue regarding repository issues. This may be more successful as a SPNHC special committee, whose duties are to liaise with federal agencies to resolve these issues

- A frequently updated international database of laws relevant to natural history collections and institutions
- Rapid digitization and data normalization protocols for natural history collections
- Templates for hazard summaries, signs, or warning labels for natural history collections
- The issue of health, safety, and hazards in the collections hopefully has, or will soon be, solved with the recent publication of "Health and Safety for Museum Professionals" (<http://www.spnhc.org/30/reference-books>).

The Best Practices Website will initially focus on short topic summaries accompanied by annotated bibliographies, example forms and policies, and checklists. The website is expected to grow and change according to feedback from the natural history collections community. Best practices evolve, so the website should too. Best practices as they apply to natural history collections management are being defined, although they are not yet easily accessible to its professionals. This may be done best in the form of a multidisciplinary book comparable to Museum Registration Methods (or partnering with AAM for their next edition to include more information about natural history collections issues), combined with a briefer summary pamphlet covering the basics (aimed at small museums and institutions with incidental natural history collections). This suggestion has been proposed in the past, but thus far has not been acted upon.

We hope to create and maintain comprehensive and current resource lists for museum professionals on the Best Practices Website. These lists will be updated on a regular basis by the Documentation and Best Practices Committees. However, these committees will rely in part on the SPNHC membership to bring new resources to their attention. We make the call now. The longer we wait, the more our collections suffer.

Literature cited

Cato, P.S. 2001. Best Practices – what does that imply? SPNHC Newsletter 15(1):1, 10-11.

News from around the World...

Beginning with this newsletter we are starting a new series that will highlight news from various regions of the world as a catalyst, and initial foray, into the International Node idea being addressed by the Mentorship Committee. If you have any news from previously underrepresented areas of the world we would love to hear from you. Send your news, ar-

ticles, interesting stories to the editor at abentley@ku.edu.

Africa

Willem Coetzer

South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity (SAIAB), Grahamstown, South Africa; w.coetzer@saiab.ac.za

Between March 2010 and May 2011 four South African natural history museums were involved in an initiative to clean and migrate specimen records to Specify6. Willem Coetzer, of the South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity (SAIAB), in Grahamstown, conceived the idea and executed the work, and funding was secured from the South African Biodiversity Information Facility (SABIF). The ultimate objectives were to increase the numbers of collections and specimen records reflected on the SABIF and GBIF data portals.

South Africa has large specimen collections that contain important information from 19th century English and European naturalists. The collections grow rapidly because South African biodiversity researchers collect actively in South Africa and neighboring regions, where large areas remain unexplored or where tissue for DNA analysis still needs to be recollected. While there is some concern over the future of South Africa's collections, they are still generally well managed and in good condition. The management of specimen records, however, leaves much to be desired. The information revolution has left South African museums and the staff who curate specimens way behind. For this reason the 1-year Museum Data Migration (MDM) project included a training workshop at each museum. Training focused on Specify6 competencies, but an effort was made to demonstrate the importance of fundamental specimen and information management routines, standard operating procedures and data integrity and quality. Excellent collection and information management starts without a computer.

The MDM project involved the Albany Museum in Grahamstown (aquatic invertebrates, fish and terrestrial insects), Natal Museum in Pietermaritzburg (earthworms and flies), and the South African Museum (Iziko Museums) in Cape Town. The intention was to create a community of museum workers and biodiversity researchers who could support one another in the use and development of Specify6 collection databases.

An important outcome of the project was a proof of concept that any dataset can be cleaned, improved and migrated to Specify6, irrespective of the present data quality, and that it can be done in a finite time period. The South African Museum (Iziko Museums), in Cape Town, was the most significant challenge, with respect to the numbers and types of collections (more than 380 000 objects of biodiversity, paleontology and geology), and legacy databases integrated (22 legacy databases, mostly Microsoft Access flat files and Clarion relational databases). The Iziko Specify6 database is South Africa's flagship natural history collection database that will

Continued on page 16

*Continued from page 15:
.....News from the World...*

show the museum and biodiversity communities the way to go for the foreseeable future. This museum will prove the concept that South African museum workers can catch up and excel in using current collection management technology. The South African community owes the Specify6 team in Lawrence, Kansas, a debt of gratitude for their ongoing, free assistance and support since 2001.

Australia

Dianne Bray

Museum Victoria, Melbourne, Australia; dbray@museum.vic.gov.au

THE ATLAS OF LIVING AUSTRALIA PROJECT

The Atlas of Living Australia (ALA), launched in 2010, is an ambitious project that aims to link all forms of information about Australia's animals, plants and microorganisms. The Atlas will provide research scientists, policy makers, educators, naturalists and others with access to biodiversity information from a wide range of data sources including natural history collections, field observational data, literature and research. Users will be provided with tools to manipulate, analyze and contribute to the data.

The Atlas is currently working with taxonomists throughout Australia via the Integrated Biodiversity Information Systems

Team (IBIS) at the Australian National Botanic Gardens (ANBG), the Australian Biological Resources Study (ABRS) and the Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria (CHAH) to produce a comprehensive, authoritative and up-to-date checklist of Australian species. Most of this information will be available via the Australian Faunal Directory (AFD) and the Australian Plant Census (APC), and will include accepted names, synonymies and species distributions.

The Biodiversity Heritage Library-Australia (BHL-Au), launched in July 2011, is the digital literature component of the Atlas of Living Australia. Do visit the site, it's beautiful.

The Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) is a partnership between the Australian Government, CSIRO (Australia's national science organization) and the Australian natural history collections community. The ALA, along with the Encyclopedia of Life (EoL) and the Centre for Biological Information Technology (CBIT) at the University of Queensland, is a collaborator in the Identify Life project to develop tools for web based identification.

- Atlas of Living Australia: <http://www.ala.org.au/>
- Australian Biological Resources Study: <http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/abrs/online-resources/fauna/afd/home>
- Australian Faunal Directory: <http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/abrs/online-resources/fauna/afd/>



HOLLINGER METAL EDGE

Archival Storage Materials

The Choice for Archival Storage Solutions



THE QUALITY SOURCE
hollingermetaledge.com

1•800•862•2228 or 1•800•634•0491

home

- Australian Plant Census: <http://www.anbg.gov.au/chah/apc/>
- Biodiversity Heritage Library-Australia: <http://bhl.ala.org.au/>
- Centre for Biological Information Technology: <http://www.cbit.uq.edu.au/>
- Encyclopedia of Life: <http://www.eol.org/>
- Identify Life: <http://www.identifylife.org/Home>
- Integrated Biodiversity Information Systems: <http://www.anbg.gov.au/ibis/index.html>

European Union (EU)

Rob Huxley and Gemma Maldar

The Natural History Museum, London, UK; r.huxley@nhm.ac.uk; g.maldar@nhm.ac.uk

Natural History Collections as large-scale infrastructures: European initiatives to improve research access and sustainability.

It has been stated at many a conference over the last decade that the museums and botanic gardens of Europe are the biological and geological equivalent to the large telescope arrays available to astronomers or the large accelerators. However rather than be centred in one location our vast collections infrastructure is distributed through institutions of varying age, size and management structure.

A further characteristic of the physical science communities is their collaborative nature; working together to secure funds. Can our distributed biodiversity community successfully apply for the same funding sources as our high profile colleagues in the physical sciences?

This lack of collaboration has been a past weakness of our community but in the last decade through developing consortia, several initiatives have successfully drawn on European Union funding. This demonstrates the power of working together to maximise access to collections and ensure their availability and relevance for present users and in the longer term.

Four key initiatives are described here that demonstrate the possibility to secure funding to support collections based projects.

In summary these are:

- SYNTHSEYS: Synthesis of systematic resources
- Collections Policy Board
- Leonardo-Daubenton training programme
- Consortium for European Taxonomic Facilities (CETAF)

SYNTHESYS (www.synthesys.info)

The SYNTHESYS consortium was first funded by the EU Infrastructure Programme in 2004 (€13 million) and then again

in 2009 (€7.2 Million). 60% of funding provides collection access, but significantly for the collections management community it also funds a number of networking and research activities, establishing common approaches to collections and data management such as common standards and best practices.

The Access element provides funding for researchers in Europe to gain access to collections and facilities to support their research. The 2520 visits supported to date have delivered over 1200 peer reviewed papers, 135 PhD's and 113 books/monographs.

A major networking activity has concentrated on establishing how European collections are being managed against standards/benchmarks. A survey methodology was devised and expert assessment teams visited and reviewed 15 institutions in Europe and one "outgroup" in the US. These surveys proved valuable not only in highlighting general weaknesses across the community, such as disaster preparedness, but also issues specific to the institution. Institutions received a confidential report which in several cases was used in support of funding bids. Although valuable, these surveys were

Continued on page 19



SPNHC Newsletter Advertising

Why Advertise in the SPNHC Newsletter?

Members of SPNHC are the people who use your products and services. They are often the decision makers about products and procedures that will be used in their institutions. These people want to know about products and services that will help them do their jobs more effectively. They are interested in the latest techniques and materials available, as well as educational and travel opportunities, new publications, and events and programs related to natural history and collections.

All advertisements should be submitted as .tif or .pdf files, formatted for a PC. Ads can be placed in one-sixth, quarter, half or full page. It is recommended that image resolution be 300 dpi or better. Electronic files may be e-mailed (**abentley@ku.edu**) or sent on a disk to the newsletter editor. Any necessary printer's charges will be billed to the advertiser. Payment must accompany the insertion order and newsletter copies will be sent after publication.

There is limited space in each newsletter and space will be allotted on a first-come, first-served basis. Ad placement is at the discretion of the editor. More information can be found on the SPNHC website - <http://www.spnhc.org>.



SAVE THE DATE-SPNHC 2012

***Emerging Technology and Innovation in
Natural History Collections Management***

June 11-16, 2012

On behalf of the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History we would like to invite you to the 27th annual meeting of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections, June 11-16, 2012 in New Haven, Connecticut. We are pleased to have the Consortium of Northeastern Herbaria and members of the Yale community join us next summer and we hope you will be with us too.

The theme of SPNHC 2012 is *Emerging Technology and Innovation in Natural History Collections Management* and will focus on the tools, innovative methods and collaborations that will move the natural history collections community forward. Our venue will be the Omni Hotel located in downtown New Haven within steps of the city green and Yale's historic old campus. General sessions will be held at this luxury hotel, while social events will give a glimpse of the Peabody Museum and its collections as well as other Yale collections and the campus. We are planning an exciting program including field trips, workshops, technical sessions, demonstrations and a vendor exhibition or tradeshow.

We are looking for diverse communities of natural history practitioners. In order to have a successful meeting, we need your participation and ideas for the program including suggestions for technical sessions, panel discussions, workshops and field trips. Please pass your ideas to our Program Chair, Patrick Sweeney (SPNHC2012@yale.edu).

You can become a fan of our facebook page, search "2012 spnhc" or look for meeting updates and important dates on the SPNHC 2012 website:

<http://www.peabody.yale.edu/spnhc2012>

*Continued from page 17:
.....News from the World...*

very resource heavy and the demand from the community to be surveyed could not be met. A web-based assessment tool has now been developed allowing institutions across the world to carry out their own surveys. The tool operates at departmental and institution level covering a breadth of factors that affect collections management from resourcing through to storage materials. (www.synthesys.info/II_na_2_selfasses.htm.) Feedback is sent to institutions highlighting areas of high risk and suggestions for improvement.

SYNTHESYS addresses areas of weakness through three means: training courses; performance indicators and a European Collections Management Forum (EuCOM). Training courses were aimed at raising awareness of best practices in collections management designed specifically, but not exclusively, for middle management level staff with collection responsibilities. Forty-three staff from 13 countries were trained and expected to cascade the information to their own institutions in the local language. A number of specialist courses will soon be run to address areas of weakness such as disaster planning.

The development of a set of collections management performance indicators will help institutions make the most of limited resources. EuCOM is a community-led web forum (launching 2012) providing access to resources for collections managers, such as details of training courses and best practice documents. Content can be added by members of the community in any language, although higher level access and indexing will be in English.

Another network activity is working to remove barriers to the electronic access and sharing of collections information. The BioCASE portal (www.biocase.org) provides a mechanism to enable access to data held in disparate institutional databases. Portal users and data contributors can draw on the assistance of help desks to install software and manage their data input.

SYNTHESYS also funds five research activities focusing on improving access to DNA in museum and herbarium collections. Three activities are devising methods to reduce the need to sample unnecessarily and reduce the impact, particularly on rare and valuable material. These include web based software to predict DNA recoverability based on specimen history, drawing on climate records for its locality, storage duration and other factors (www.thermal-age.eu). Two activities are devising protocols to extract DNA from notoriously difficult material such as organisms with high mucopolysaccharide content.

The Collections Policy Board (CPB)

CPB began as a component of the EU funded EDIT project (European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy) and is now a self-funded group operating under CETAF. CPB comprises

30 senior management staff from major European collections dedicated to delivering a number of cross-European policy-level products. CPB supports the aim of many initiatives to work collaboratively to the same standards, for example improving and harmonizing procedures for research loans. CPB has delivered a set of common principles for loans to which 12 organisations have now signed up, including two from the US.

CPB has also produced documents on developing staff structures to ensure best practice, recommendations for a European approach to orphan collections and works with SYNTHESYS in the establishment of EuCOM.

Leonardo-Daubenton training programme

Staff development plays a vital role in the sharing of best practices and the raising of standards. In 2007 the Natural History Museum, London and the Museum national d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris established a programme to allow collections managers to spend time working alongside colleagues in their sister institution. A series of institution-funded exchanges and seminars were set up as 'Project Daubenton'. This principle was extended to other institutions in Europe but Institutional funding alone was insufficient. Funding was identified and successfully bid for via the EU Lifelong Learning programme. Run at national level, Leonardo provides funding for vocational education and training. More than 30 staff have participated resulting in improved working practice and communication between European collection managers. The funding supports two week visits during which the trainees work alongside their host on day-to-day collections work, contribute to discrete collections projects such as reorganisations and attend seminars and meetings with host staff. This has benefited the individual, their host and home institutions through sharing of techniques and knowledge.

The success of this model is encouraging further collaboration within Europe and may be extended to include staff responsible for specimens on display in public galleries.

The programme serves as an example of how trans-national cooperation can attract unexpected funding to deliver demonstrable development opportunities for collections managers worldwide.

CETAF

CETAF is the umbrella organisation bringing together 32 European collections institutions. Amongst CETAF's aims is the promotion of research in systematics and improving access to information and expertise of institutions. Importantly it is a forum for the exchange of information and a melting pot from which new projects can be drawn.

Summary

Continued from page 19:
.....News from the World...

These projects and organisations work in a similar and complimentary manner. SYNTHESYS delivers the practicality of access visits, tools and protocols to raise and share standards of collections management. CPB delivers common policies and management tools to assist in the development of the policies and strategies to implement improvements. Leonardo-Daubenton strengthens the knowledge and skill base of the staff dedicated to preserving the natural history resource. CETAF builds new partnerships and projects and shares information at a senior level.

Researchers have a centuries long history of collaboration and information exchange. Together these projects have dramatically extended that concept to those who are responsible for the infrastructure that underpins research. Collections staff in Europe now have a network of contacts with whom they can consult on collections issues and provide support via training courses or workshops. These connections, bonds, collaborations and also friendships have built a coordinated, diverse, adaptable, and hence sustainable infrastructure across Europe and beyond that will hopefully ensure the future and relevance of natural history collections for many years to come.



Registrars Committee Western Region SPNHC Stipend 2011

The RC-WR is pleased to announce that we are offering a stipend to assist registrars and collection managers with the costs of attending the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections 27th Annual Meeting to take place at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, New Haven, Connecticut, June 11-16, 2012. The amount of the stipend is \$600 USD.

The deadline for application is **March 31, 2012**.

Qualification: Applicant must be a current member of either SPNHC and/or the RC-WR.

Applicant must submit the following:

1. Letter/statement of application describing how the attendance at the meeting will benefit their professional development.

2. A copy of your current resume.
3. Supervisor's recommendation letter.

Successful applicants will be notified by April 8, 2012. The successful applicant will be required to write about a session that they attended at the conference. Their 2 page article(s) will be published in the Fall 2012 RC-WR newsletter.

Email all materials to: Jacqueline Cabrera at jcabrera@getty.edu by March 31, 2012.

To become a member of the RC-WR please visit
<http://www.rcwr.org>.

Developing best practices for genetic resource collections associated with traditional natural history collections

Breda M. Zimkus and Linda S. Ford

Cryogenic Collection Project Manager and Director of Collections Operations, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA; bzimkus@oeb.harvard.edu, lford@oeb.harvard.edu

Natural history collections and other repositories of preserved biological material have traditionally focused on the preservation of organismal whole specimens. During the past decade genetic resources have become a standard and integral part of traditional collections. These diverse collections may include frozen tissues, chemically preserved tissues, and/or associated extracts, and unlike typical museum specimens, genetic resources are consumptive. These types of collections are also expensive and time-consuming to build and maintain; genetic resources must be carefully stored and monitored in a low temperature environment if their products are to remain useful for molecular analyses. For these reasons and numerous others, genetic resources present a number of unique management problems for natural history collections.

An increasing number of universities and natural history museums have established genetic resource facilities that are shared by various divisions and disciplines to combine resources and share in the maintenance and processing of standard collection functions, such as research loans. More and more institutions are now considering building such facilities as they recognize the increasing time, costs, and challenges associated with long-term storage of genetic materials in separate and independent departments or laboratories. With the establishment of centralized repositories, institutions must develop internal administration, ownership, management, and associated policies to address the growing compliance and regulatory issues associated with importing, exporting, utilizing, and housing genetic resources

derived from animals. Despite more standardized methods for the management of traditional natural history collections, there seemingly is no best-practices standard for the documentation, arrangement, and housing for this new type of research collection.

Breda Zimkus, Project Manager for the Museum of Comparative Zoology Cryogenic Collection, has been funded by CollectionsWeb to investigate the current protocols, challenges, and concerns associated with genetic resource collections in collaboration with Linda Ford, Director of Collections Operations. These best practices guidelines will be published with two ultimate goals: 1) informing natural history collections and other repositories about suggested standards in regards to genetics resources and 2) bringing researchers from disciplines that traditionally do not have collections towards standard protocols via best-practice guidelines for genetic resources collections. Ultimately, both collections and independent researchers that implement these best practices guidelines will improve efficiency and organization of collections, allowing researchers to more readily access genetic material.

This work can only be done with the assistance of curators, collection managers, technicians, and researchers associated with genetic resource collections. Therefore, we ask you to contact Breda Zimkus (bzimkus@oeb.harvard.edu) if you work with genetic resources and wish to participate in a survey that will collect data regarding how your institution treats genetic resources and what challenges you see in curating these types of collections.

NSF Announces First Round of Awards Under ADBC Program

The U.S. National Science Foundation recently announced the first round of awards under the Advancing Digitization of Biological Collections (ADBC) program. ADBC seeks to create a national resource of digital data documenting existing biological collections and to advance scientific knowledge by improving access to digitized information (including images) residing in vouchered scientific collections across the United States. The first round of awards has established three large-scale collections digitization networks. These are:

- Invert-Net, an integrative platform for research on environmental change, species discovery and identification, led by Christopher Dietrich at the Illinois Natural History Survey at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana;
- A North American Lichens and Bryophytes network, focusing on these groups as sensitive indicators of environmental quality and change, led by Corinna Gries of the University of Madison, Wisconsin; and
- A network focusing on digitizing records of Plants, Herbivores, and Parasitoids as a model system for the study of tri-trophic associations, led by Toby Schuh of the American Museum of Natural History.



SPNHC

ADVANCING COLLECTIONS CARE

The whole program will be coordinated by a national center at the University of Florida, known as iDigBio, under the direction of Larry Page and involving colleagues from the Florida Museum of Natural History and Florida State University. To keep the collections community up-to-date with developments, iDigBio has a website (<http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/idigbio>), blog (<http://idigbio.wordpress.com/>) and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/IDigBio/215120891865198>) and has also established an email list-serve (IDIGBIO-L@lists.UFL.edu).

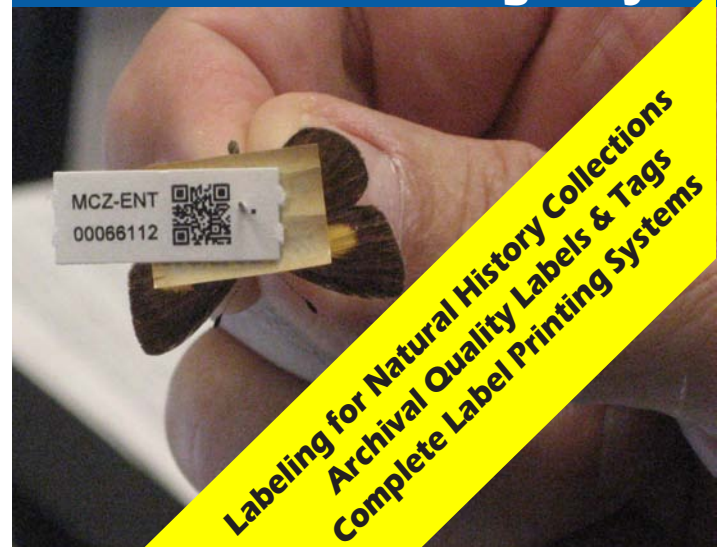
One of the most impressive aspects of this first round is the sheer number of collections that are involved - 92 institutions in 45 states, aiming to digitize 13.2 million specimens. In addition to making new specimen data available on-line, likely spin-offs of the new program include new workflow insights and technologies that will be of far-reaching benefit to the collections community. A second funding round has just been announced by NSF, with a deadline for proposals of October 31, 2011. Details can be found here: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2011/nsf11567/nsf11567.htm>

800-535-6987
603-357-1459



**Electronic Imaging
Materials, Inc.**

We Make Barcoding Easy



**Labeling for Natural History Collections
Archival Quality Labels & Tags
Complete Label Printing Systems**

www.eiminc.com

Login! A Fresh Web Presence - Part of the New Branding of SPNHC

<http://www.spnhc.org>

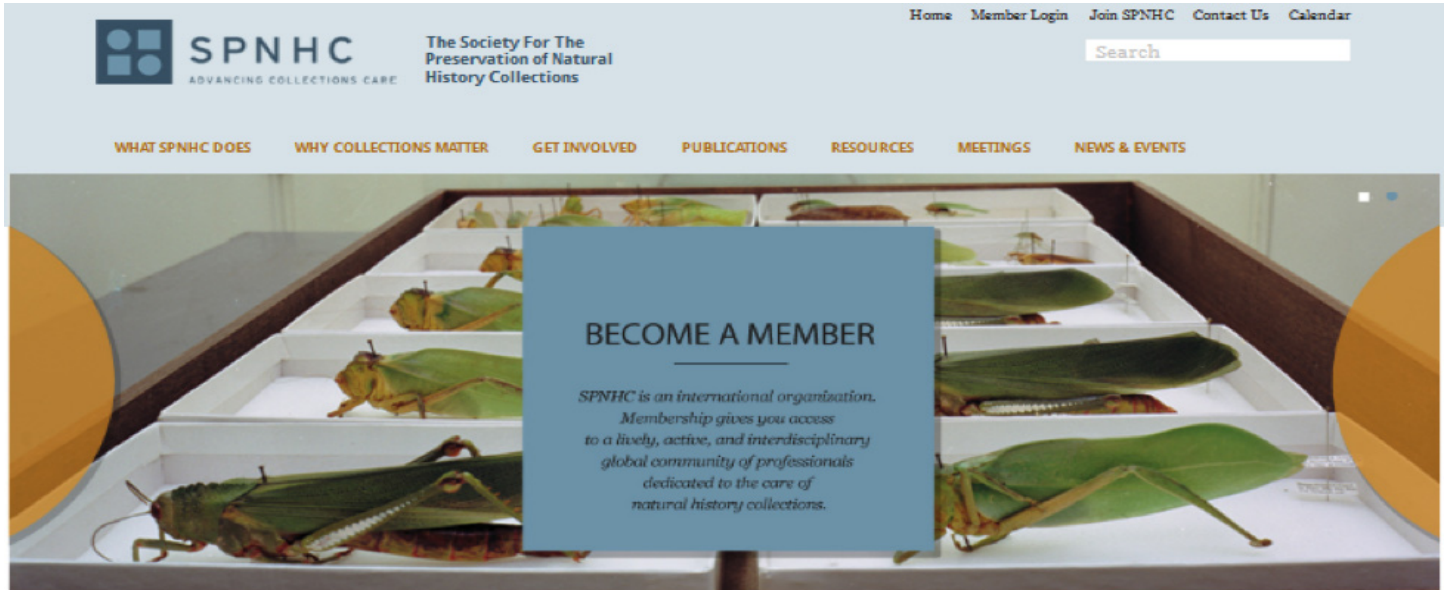
Ann Molineux¹, Chris Norris², Barbara Brown³, Lisa Palmer⁴ and Lisa Elkin³

¹ The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX; annm@austin.utexas.edu

² Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, New Haven, CT; christopher.norris@yale.edu

³ American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY; bbrown@amnh.org

⁴ National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC; Palmerl@si.edu



The new web presence is the last step in a series of developments designed to broaden the visibility and membership of the Society. These developments were carried out by the Membership Committee and included a new icon, a new membership brochure, and new booth panels. The designs were created by Wall-to-Wall Studios with input and discussion from SPNHC. Elements of these designs are carried into the web producing a continuum of 'brand' identity.

Content: The focus of the web has been rethought with the seven major sections reflecting the most important aspects of the Society. Much of the basic content has been extracted from the old web and mapped onto the new structure and new design. However, there are some areas that we need additional new content and we are working to fill those gaps.

WHAT SPNHC DOES - This section covers the history and governance (Bylaws, Committees and Representatives, and the Leadership Manual) of the Society and includes a profile of the current President and a list of useful contacts within SPNHC.

WHY COLLECTIONS MATTER - A new section that develops the value and relevance of collections and links to pertinent publications. Many sections contain a side bar with links to materials relevant to the section topic. The **BECOME A MEMBER** side bar link is found in all sections.

GET INVOLVED - This section is much changed and expanded with profiles of various members providing the potential member with a chance to 'meet' a cross section of the current members. We intend these profiles to expand and include many other members. The most notable improvement is the provision for members to join, and/or renew their membership of SPNHC online. Payment is now through the expanded PayPal, which allows use of major credit cards, and thus eliminates the need to create a PayPal account. We encourage everyone to use this online option, although you may still download the form and mail in your check. An additional development is a 'Members only' filter which gives access to certain areas, in this section it provides access to the new Membership Directory. Please remember to complete your name and address details on the SPNHC Directory Profile otherwise you will get no hard copy publications! Needless to say this online development has required the creation and management of a membership database, constantly updating as new members

join, renew and embellish their profiles.

PUBLICATIONS - This section is the hub of our publication activity (Collection Forum, Newsletter, Leaflets, How-To, and Reference Books). All Collection Forum and Newsletter volumes are available as downloadable PDFs, with the most recent restricted to Members. All reference works can be purchased online via links to the appropriate vendors.

RESOURCES - Here we have grouped quite a wide spectrum of useful materials generated by several committees (Web Resources, Best Practices, Grants and Awards, Training, Reports, Brochures, Vendors, Promotional Material). Training contains an extensive list of Museum Studies Programs, their focus and contact persons. Web Resources covers relevant listservs, NHCOLL-L, PERMIT-L and Pestlist and soon will have an additional Useful Links side bar. Best Practices addresses a key function of SPNHC and we expect more future development of this section.

MEETINGS - This is an important facet of the Society and we have placed Upcoming Annual SPNHC Meetings at the top of the agenda along with previous conference programs and conference guidelines as downloadable PDFs. We hope to expand this to include the presentations or posters themselves if selected as an option by the authors.

NEWS & EVENTS - This final section also appears on the Home page. It is the page to advertise and report items of immediate importance and/or relevance to the SPNHC membership. The Calendar is a little quirky and we are still working around a few issues, please let us know well in advance if you wish to place an event or deadline.

What has gone: We no longer support a 'Positions' page and are directing potential posts to NHCOLL-L. We are willing to post important positions as a News item if requested.

The future of spnhc.org: We envisage adding the standard social media links and maybe a blog. But most importantly there are many areas in which we need new and improved content. Please investigate the new site and let us know where you and/or your committee can add your expertise.

Acknowledgements: The production of the new site has been the work of many people, too many to list individually. However we wish to thank all the members of the former sessional committee Publicity and Outreach, tasked by past president Tim White to put together the comprehensive 'branding package' with the help of great designers at Wall-to-Wall, and to the many other members of SPNHC who made comments and suggestions during the course of the project and a specific thanks to James Macklin for his continual help during the migration from the Harvard environment as well as all the effort he put into maintaining that great site.

Kent State University School of Library and Information Science Museum Studies Workshops

The School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) at Kent State University is offering four new museum studies workshops this fall. One is completely online (Museums and the Law), while the other three are on-site in Kent or a combination of on-site/online.

The workshops are part of the new museum studies program SLIS is launching this fall. Courses and workshops are open to students in the Master of Library and Information Science (M.L.I.S.) degree program, as well as to other graduate students and interested professionals.

Because the SLIS museum studies courses are structured within a library and information science framework, students are able to cut across the spectrum of traditional academic disciplines and strengthen their skills as future museum professionals by gaining a broader perspective, a larger knowl-

edge base and more flexibility. The museum studies specialization will prepare students with the knowledge and skills required not only to work in traditional careers as librarians and registrars in museums, for example, but also to serve as information professionals in many additional capacities and in any type of museum.

For more information about the new museum studies program at Kent State, visit <http://www.slis.kent.edu/content/view/386/78/> or contact Dr. Kiersten F. Latham at kflatham@kent.edu. To view a recorded online open house presentation about the program, visit <http://www.slis.kent.edu/content/view/389/78/>. (The video requires Microsoft Silverlight; download it free at <http://www.microsoft.com/silverlight/>. Click on the "Download Silverlight" icon in the top right corner.)

Fall 2011 Museum Studies Workshops

Kent State students can register for workshops via FlashLine. Non-Kent State students should call The Office of Continuing and Distance Education at (330) 672-3100 to register.

Continued on page 27



© Jean-Marc Gagnon



CALIFORNIA
ACADEMY OF
SCIENCES

SPNHC 2011 San Francisco, CA 23-27 May 2011

Jonathan Gregson



Collection Manager (Flowering Plants), Natural History Museum, London, UK; j.gregson@nhm.ac.uk



Mark Twain famously quipped, “the coldest winter I ever saw was the summer I spent in San Francisco.” However, despite the somewhat chilly weather outside, we received the warmest of welcomes from our hosts the California Academy of Sciences for SPNHC 2011: Sustainable Museums/Sustaining Collections, held jointly with the Natural Science Collections Alliance. This year the theme was Sustainable Museums/Sustaining Collections.

Those of us fortunate enough to attend the pre-conference georeferencing workshop were treated to a thorough grounding in the methodologies for calculating coordinates and estimating error and extent, and a demonstration of the latest online tools and collaborative techniques (as well as an introduction to the superb coffee shops and restaurants of Berkeley). The intense two-day workshop (condensed down from four days) was hard work, but this was eased by the provision of copious amounts of doughnuts and bagels and the good humour of the Berkeley team, and by the end we were all inspired to head off and tackle our own collections.

The conference proper kicked off on Tuesday, when a number of field trips were arranged to show off the best of the Bay Area. Two of the most popular were the Monterey Bay Aquarium and Wine Country tours. The Aquarium was described by one SPNHC member as “like a glorious treasure secreted away in a non-descript jewellery box: from the roadside, the old cannery warehouses which house this aquatic gem belie the wonders within”. Who could have guessed that kelp could grow as magnificent and almost as large as redwood trees or that it would be possible to construct tanks to contain them? Other highlights included the seahorse gallery, the hand-reared albatross being wheeled around on a trolley(!), and the huge octopus in tanks which made you feel



© Jean-Marc Gagnon

The foyer of the new California Academy of Sciences building.

very guilty for your liking of salt-and-chilli squid. It was also a family-friendly environment with touch-pools for the kids and explainers dotted all over. Even the gift shop stocked exciting products which reflected the aquatic theme: who'd have thought that the urge to buy a huge glass paperweight containing a glow-in-the-dark glass jellyfish would have thrown 'maximum luggage allowance caution' to the winds?!



© Jean-Marc Gagnon

University and Jepson Herbaria tour, University of California, Berkeley, led by Andrew Doran (Administrative Curator).

The Wine Country tour was also a great success. It didn't get off to the best start though, when the coach broke down just as we entered wine country. However, the situation was skilfully salvaged with a change of plan which saw the bus limp on to the nearest winery. Happily this was the Domaine Carneros where we were able to sample some of California's finest sparkling Bruts and Pinot Noirs while our bus was replaced, before heading to the pretty town of Yountville for lunch. After lunch, the tour continued to the Hess Collection, a winery-cum-modern art gallery. Nestled in the foothills of Mont la Salle, in the grounds of a monastery, this beautiful vineyard adheres to the philosophy "nurture the land; return what you take" and is a leader in organic and sustainable practices. We were therefore able to sample their wines safe in the knowledge that we were contributing to the conference theme of Sustainability!



© Jean-Marc Gagnon

Entomology collection tour at California Academy of Sciences, led by Norm Penny (Collection Manager).

Having settled in to our host city, recovered from jetlag, and with the ice thoroughly broken by the field trips, we were now ready for the technical programme. This kicked off on Wednesday with a keynote speech by Craig Moritz on the 21st Century Natural History Museum. After lunch followed the plenary session, with the theme of national and international collaborations, showing what is possible when collections work together as large-scale scientific infrastructures. This theme was introduced with a summary of European initiatives, such as Synthesys, to improve access to natural history collections. Afterwards, we heard an account of Canadensys, a collaboration of 11 university collections and five botanic gardens in Canada who, together, comprise an infrastructure of more than 13 million specimens. The aim of this project, funded by the Canada Foundation for Innovation, is to digitise, georeference and share 3 million specimens by 2013. Finally in this session, we heard about Sci-Coll, an interdisciplinary approach to collections and uses of collections. It is envisaged as a coordinating mechanism to promote collections across all scientific disciplines, and to emphasise to researchers the potential use of collections in global interdisciplinary research topics such as climate change, food security and human migration.



© Jean-Marc Gagnon

Our Fitzgerald Travel Grant Awardee, Emma Freeman perusing the Herpetology wet collections at California Academy of Sciences.

The technical sessions continued on Wednesday and Thursday with 35 presentations which covered, as well as the conference theme of sustainability, such diverse topics as molecular collections, user needs and uses of col-

Continued from page 25:
.....SPNHC 2011 report

lections, digitisation projects, rapid data entry and imaging techniques, e-taxonomy, preservation and conservation techniques, disaster planning, pest management, moving collections, collections management and sources of funding. Democamp also made a welcome return this year, organised by Amanda Neill of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas. Each presenter is given a strictly timed slot to demonstrate technologies relevant to natural history scientists, collections managers, or biodiversity information managers. Only live demonstrations of functional software or applications may be presented: no PowerPoint or "canned presentations" allowed. This year eight demonstrators rose to the challenge, and all gave very slick and impressive presentations. Digitising our combined collections is a huge and daunting task, and it was great to see so many technologies being developed with huge potential to tackle the challenge head-on. Software to identify duplicate specimens in order to improve collaboration and avoid duplication of effort in databasing and georeferencing, to automate the extraction of data from specimen and label images as far as possible, and to automate quality control of digital data were all demonstrated.



© Andy Bentley

Hmmmm, I am sure that everyone who attended the Wednesday Wild Mixer remembers these!!!

The technical programme concluded on Friday with Special Interest Groups, followed by the main poster session. Over 30 posters were presented and there was a real buzz in the Imperial Ballroom of the Hotel Kabuki as contacts were made and ideas exchanged. In the afternoon we all travelled to the California Academy of Sciences to tour the collections areas of their impressive new building (designed by "starchitect" Renzo Piano). Claiming to be the world's greenest museum, and complete with a living roof of 1.7 million native California wildflowers, this was a fitting host for a conference themed



© Andy Bentley

Some of the delectable food enjoyed by all at the Wednesday Wild Mixer held in the African Hall of California Academy of Sciences

around Sustainable Museums/Sustaining Collections.

The collections tours were very interesting and well organised and offered a chance to swap ideas and experiences with fellow subject curators. Stories of the aftermath of the 1906 earthquake and fire (heroic curator Alice Eastwood rescued nearly 1,500 herbarium type specimens from the burning building, while some fossil and shell material was salvaged by sifting through the wreckage of the building) really brought home the importance of good disaster and salvage planning for sustaining our collections into the future.



© Andy Bentley

One of the many tables at the Thursday night banquet held at the Hotel Kabuki

The California Academy was also the setting for the Wednesday Wild social event, with drinks and canapés served in the refurbished African Hall where the 1930s dioramas of mounted animals in African landscapes have been carefully recreated. All is not as it seems however, and visitors realise with surprise that some dioramas contain live animals including an entire colony of African penguins! This was also a rare opportunity to explore this unique science museum after hours; a building full of surprises including a four-story rainforest, a 500,000 gallon aquarium recreating a Philippines

coral reef and the northern California coast, and a swamp complete with an albino American alligator named Claude.



© Jean-Marc Gagnon

Socialites enjoying the Wednesday Wild Mixer in the African Hall along with the entertainment - penguins!!!

As Rudyard Kipling once said, "San Francisco has only one drawback... 'tis hard to leave", but leave we must as the con-

Continued from page 23:

.....*Kent State Museum Studies*

Writing and Developing an Exhibit Script

Blended format

Sept. 12: Online content available

Friday and Saturday, Sept. 23 and 24, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Kent, 317 or 319 Library

Christine M. Shearer

All exhibitions require expertise in writing and developing an exhibition script, starting with the initial exhibition proposal highlighting the theme, audience and significance. In addition, external communication to public outlets and the internal components of the exhibition itself must be scripted and send a cohesive message. Students will learn the written components of exhibition development; will write an exhibition proposal; and will work in a team environment to develop an exhibition concept and written materials.

Museum Object Preparation Methods

Saturdays, Oct. 8 and 15, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Kent, Murphy Auditorium: Rockwell Hall, Room OM204

James L. Williams

This workshop will introduce basic concepts and techniques for presenting museum objects and artifacts for display. Topics covered include assessing object strengths and weaknesses, appropriate materials for the task, preservation and conservation considerations and basic mount making materials.

Developing Memorable Museum Tours

Friday and Saturday, Oct. 14 and 15, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Kent, 317 or 319 Library (no lab)

ference came to an end on Saturday with workshops on Poisons in Collections and Imaging. I'm sure all who attended will join me in congratulating the organising committee for putting on such a memorable and thought-provoking event.



© Andy Bentley

Some of the banquet goers getting their groove on during a marathon dance session enjoyed by all...

Thanks to Jan Beccaloni, NHM London.

Edith Serkownek

This workshop will examine the important role that museum tours play in fulfilling museums' educational and programmatic goals. Students will examine the various types and styles of personally and technologically mediated tours and look at their successful development as well as weighing their relative strengths and limitations. Students will learn to use museum tours as a tool for communicating with specialized museum audiences including children, families and special interest groups.

Museums and the Law

Nov. 1 – 9, 100% online

John Simmons

In this workshop, students will examine the ways in which museums and the law intersect from a variety of perspectives including museum organization and board functions, national and international laws and regulations, intellectual property, cultural appropriation, and freedom of expression. Students will gain a broad overview of the most significant legislation and regulations that affect museum operations.

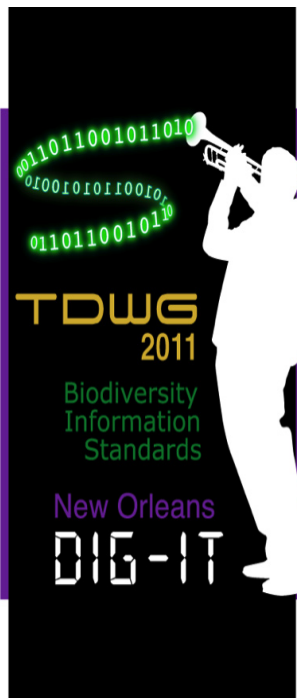
Museum Studies Courses

You must be admitted to Kent State either as a graduate student or a guest student in order to register for courses.

To apply to SLIS, visit <http://www.slis.kent.edu/content/blog-category/44/102/>.

For general Kent State graduate admissions, visit <http://www.kent.edu/admissions/apply/graduate/masters.cfm>.

To be admitted as a guest student, visit <http://www.kent.edu/admissions/apply/graduate/guest.cfm>.



TDWG 2011 SAVE-THE-DATE!

16-21 October 2011

Astor Crowne Plaza
New Orleans

<http://www.astorneworleans.com/>

<http://www.tdwg.org/conference2011/>

Dear TDWG Followers,

You won't want to miss this year's Biodiversity Information Standards meeting, October 16-21, 2011 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

TDWG conferences attract a broad, international cross-section of the biodiversity research community, including museum curators, taxonomists, ecologists, computer programmers, geographers, librarians and information scientists.

The theme of TDWG 2011 is, "Digitization Methods, Technologies, and Standards for Biodiversity Collections". The plenary lectures, contributed talks, workshops, software demonstrations and discussions being planned for the 2011 meeting will specifically address the global biodiversity collection digitization effort presently underway. So SAVE-THE-DATE and visit <http://www.tdwg.org/conference2011/> for additional information!

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD AND CAROLYN L. ROSE AWARD

The Recognition and Grants Committee is requesting nominations for the President's Award and the Carolyn L. Rose Award.

- The President's 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.

- The Carolyn L. Rose Award (formerly the SPNHC Award) is our Society's highest honor and given to a practitioner (membership not required) whose work and efforts have promoted the values and objectives of the Society. Nominations should include a letter of nomination, a current curriculum vitae, and letters of recommendation.

Questions and nominations should be directed to the Chair of the Recognition & Grants Committee, Rich Rabeler (rabeler@umich.edu) and must be submitted by November 1, 2011.

CALL FOR THE 2012 FABER RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSALS

The Recognition and Grants Committee is requesting proposals for the Faber Research Grant, a cash grant of up to \$1000, to support an innovative project addressing issues on the management, care, conservation, or use of natural history collections. Applicants for this 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 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, phone/fax numbers and email), 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.

Questions and proposals should be directed to the Chair of the Recognition and Grants Committee, Rich Rabeler (rabeler@umich.edu) and must be submitted by February 1, 2012.

This space could be yours.....

SPNHC Newsletter is looking for articles, news items, etc., for the next edition. Articles of 1000 words or less considered. Contact Andy Bentley (abentley@ku.edu) for information. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is February 1, 2012.

Position Announcements

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

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Curatorial Assistant, Marine Biodiversity Center: We invite applications for the position of Curatorial Assistant in our Marine Biodiversity Center. This position will complement existing staff and requires excellent organization and communication skills. The successful individual will assist with curation, sorting, databasing, and physical integration of collections into the museum's vast marine invertebrate collections. We seek an individual with experience with marine invertebrates. The applicant should have a B.S. degree in Biology, preferably knowledge of and experience with contemporary museum collection management and specimen conservation techniques. The individual we are seeking must be resourceful and have excellent interpersonal skills.

Learn more about the Museum by visiting <http://www.nhm.org>. Visit the Museum jobs page for details about the position (<http://www.nhm.org/jobs>). For an overview of the Center visit <http://www.nhm.org/site/research-collections/marine-biodiversity-center>. This position is full-time with benefits and is available immediately.

Please send your curriculum vitae, name and contact information for three referees, and a cover letter that describes your curatorial experience to: Regina Wetzler, Director, Marine Biodiversity Center, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 900 Exposition Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90007; rwetzler@nhm.org

Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, Museum Assistant: Vertebrate Zoology: The Division of Vertebrate Zoology at Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History has an opening for a Museum Assistant I. The job is full-time (37.5 hours per week) and a fixed duration of 1.5-2.0 years. This position will assist with cataloging, inventory, organization and relocation of the fluid-preserved vertebrate specimens. The incumbent will participate in the re-housing and preservation of the fluid collection (specimens, specimen lots) in new containers, update Peabody's electronic database, and print new specimen labels as required.

For more information please visit the Yale Human Resources web site (<http://www.yale.edu/hronline/stars/application/external/>) and search Stars Requisitions number 13834BR for a complete listing of this position.

University of Washington Museology Graduate Program (www.museum.washington.edu), Visiting Lecturer: (\$50,000-\$60,000) One year renewable contract. Candidates should be experienced in one or more areas of museum practice, understand the wide range of emerging issues in museology and have experience in effective teaching at the university level. Experience may include work in zoos, museums, gardens, aquaria, science centers or other institutions of informal learning. Areas of experience and expertise might include exhibit design, fundraising, collections development, curatorial research, audience research or advocacy, community relations, media and technology or other fields that contribute to stewardship of society's resources and the relevance of museums in our communities.

This position will report to the Museology Graduate Program Direc-

tor and have a Visiting Lecturer appointment. The successful candidate will bring the skills and commitment necessary to advance the academic and professional opportunities for our students.

Primary responsibilities:

- Teach three to five museology courses each year
- Mentor museology students in their academic and professional goals
- Chair or serve on graduate thesis committees
- Contribute to the recruitment and selection of students
- Respect and advance Museology's values of Student Success, Leadership, Innovation, Inclusiveness and Global Responsibility

Requirements:

- Masters in related field with PhD preferred
- 5-10 years museum experience
- Teaching experience
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work effectively with a diverse student population, university community and local museums, zoos and gardens
- Superior communication and organizational skills, including the ability to make professional presentations and contribute to professional publications
- Experience conducting research, as well as working as part of a research team desired

Equivalent education/experience will substitute for all minimum qualifications except when there are legal requirements, such as a license/certification/registration.

Applications should be sent to hr@pce.uw.edu and include:

1. "Museology Visiting Lecturer" in email subject line
2. A detailed letter describing qualifications for the position
3. Curriculum vitae
4. Three references (including at least one academic and one museum reference)

Sam Noble Museum, Norman, OK, Museum Registrar: The Registrar is the legal officer of the Museum and is responsible for the documentation, safety, and security of objects in the Museum's care, including the collection, loaned objects, and exhibitions. The registrar is expected to (1) demonstrate an understanding of the methods and procedures required to perform the job, including the practices, standards, philosophy, and theory of registration; (2) improve their knowledge, experience, skills, and/or abilities; and (3) participate in service to the Museum, museum community, university, and professional organizations at the local, state, regional, and national level. The Registrar receives supervision from the Head Curator.

Duties are varied, but typical job functions include (but are not limited to):

- Act as legal officer of the Museum.
- Responsible for documentation, safety, and security of objects in the Museum's care.
- Assist in the development and implementation of collection policies and procedures, including security, disaster, and emergency plans.
- Create and maintain all collections documentation and files,

Continued on page 30

Continued from page 29:

..... Position Announcements

including deeds of gift, accessions, deaccessions, appraisals, incoming/outgoing loans, permits and reports.

- Maintain the museum archives and media collections.
- Maintain the Museum's facilities reports, review borrower's facilities reports, and review contracts and policies. Assist with installation, de-installation, condition reporting, packing, and shipping of objects.
- Manage requests for images, rights, and reproductions.
- Coordinate insurance requirements for objects on loan or special exhibition, or recommend insurance coverage on parts of or entire collection, programs, and/or operations.
- Maintain and develop the departmental databases and website.
- Participate in museum programs and outreach activities, the museum profession, and workshops, seminars, and other forms of professional development.
- Train and work with assistants, undergraduate and graduate student assistants, interns, and volunteers to carry out registration activities.

Salary: \$29,700.00 - \$45,000.00

How to apply: See Job Requisition Number 12176 on the OU Human Resources website (<http://jobs.ou.edu>) for additional information, and required education, skills, and proficiencies.

Scientific Assistant, Division of Vertebrate Zoology, AMNH:

The Division of Vertebrate Zoology at the American Museum of Natural History seeks a full-time Scientific Assistant who will contribute to collection care and maintenance across the Division. Duties will include a major responsibility for maintaining the osteological preparation laboratory and skeleton preparation, general curatorial duties in all vertebrate collections (ornithology, mammalogy, herpetology, ichthyology). Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- BA/BSc in biology or related field is required.
- Museum experience, computer skills, and a background in vertebrate skeletal morphology and specimen preparation are highly desirable.
- Familiarity with integrated pest management techniques is a plus.
- The successful applicant will be expected to have good manual dexterity and time-management skills.

Hours: 35 hours/week

Application submission: Interested applicants should forward electronic copies of their CV, cover letter describing their interest in this position, and the names of three references to:

Dr. Joel Cracraft, Chair, Division of Vertebrate Zoology, jlc@amnh.org

Idaho Museum of Natural History, Registrar: The Registrar is the legal officer of the Museum and is responsible for the documentation, safety and security of objects in the Museum's care, including the permanent collection, loaned objects, and exhibitions.

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for documentation, safety and security of objects

in the Museum's care

- Acting as legal officer of the Museum
- Teaching Museum Studies courses (up to 2 per year)
- Maintaining the museum archives and media collections
- Updating and implementing collections policies and procedures, including security, disaster and emergency plans
- Creating and maintaining all collections documentation and files, including incoming and outgoing receipts, loan agreements, deeds of gift, deaccession forms, and check requests
- Responding to collection inquiries and providing access to collections for other departments and researchers
- Maintaining IMNH facilities reports and reviewing borrower's facilities report.

Minimum Qualifications: Master's degree in museum studies, anthropology, geology, biological sciences, or related field; at least three years museum registration and/or collections management experience, including advanced knowledge of museum registration methods, materials handling, packing, condition reports, collection's insurance, storage maintenance, transportation, collections care and storage requirements and collections management.

Preferred Qualifications: PhD

Please submit cover letter, curriculum vitae and contact information for 3 professional references.

Review of applications will begin upon receipt; priority consideration will be given for those applications received by July 31, 2011; search will continue until position is filled.

More details at https://isujobs.net/applicants/jsp/shared/position/JobDetails_css.jsp?postingId=137593



SPNHC

ADVANCING COLLECTIONS CARE

Publications of Interest

This section is from the Citations Sub-committee of the Conservation Committee and is chaired by Margaret Landis. Citations were submitted by, Diana Dicus (DD), Margaret Landis (ML), Rebecca Peters (RP), Ann Pinzl (AP), and Janet Waddington (JW). Contributions, suggestions, and comments may be submitted to Margaret Landis: Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, 2401 Chautauqua Ave. Norman, OK 73072, USA; (405) 325-8266 (voice); (405) 325-7699 (fax); paleocatstar@ou.edu (e-mail).

- Ander, E., L. Thomson, G. Noble, A. Lanceley, U. Menon and H. Chatterjee. 2011. Generic well-being outcomes: Towards a conceptual framework for well-being outcomes in museums. *Museum Management and Curatorship* 26(3):237-259. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09647775.2011.58579>. (JW)
- Available in electronic and hard copy format.
- Andrew, K. 2010. Audiences achieved - the Museum Resources and Learning Centre in Herfordshire two years on. *NatSCA News* 20:17-24. (AP)
- Anonymous. 2010. The Field Book Project. *The Plant Press - New Series* 13(4):7. (AP)
- Basic description of Smithsonian project to database field book holdings to make them more widely available.
- Anonymous. 2011a. Colorado and Washington, DC museums: Picric acid tales. *Acts Facts* 25(7):2. (DD)
- Monona Rossol, Editor
- Anonymous. 2011b. Coming up Short: Only 39 percent of North American endangered plant species are protected in collections. *Plant Science Bulletin* 57(2):56. (RP)
- Of the 10,000 North American plant species threatened with extinction, only 39% are currently protected through seed bank or living collections such as public gardens.
- Anonymous. 2011c. Preserve the Past. *Nature* 470:5-6. (ML)
- Article discusses how historic scientific collections deserve better than to gather dust.
- Anonymous. 2011d. Radiation scare in Queens turns out to be just rocks. *Acts Facts* 25(6):2. (DD)
- Monona Rossol, Editor
- Bart, A., M. Griesser-Stermscheg, L. Selwyn and S. Sutherland. No Date. Rust never sleeps: Recognizing metals and their corrosion products. <http://www.cci-icc.gc.ca/crc/articles/metals/corrosion-eng.pdf> or <http://www.cci-icc.gc.ca/crc/articles/metals/index-eng.aspx> (22 July 2011). (JW)
- Offers tips for proper care of metal objects.
- Bickford, D., J. Phelps, E. L. Webb, V. Nijman and N. S. Sodhi. 2011. Response-to-letter: Boosting CITES Through Research. *Science* 331(6019):857-858. (RP)
- Response to follow-up letter to article in Decemebr 2010 *Science* article which was listed as part of Publications of Interest in last newsletter (see original letter also included in this newsletter - see Smith, M. J., R. J. Williams and D. W. Purves).
- Bolstad-Johnson, D. 2010. The Hidden Hazards of Fire Soot. *AIC News* 35(5):1, 3-5. (DD)
- Brown, P. A. 2010. The Darwin Centre development: before, during and after, at the Natural History Museum, London. *NatSCA News* 20:45-57. (AP)
- Buynevich, I. V. 2011. Heavy minerals add weight to neoichnological research. *Palaios* 26(1):1-4. (JW)
- Using heavy metal concentrations to trace buried trackways.
- Cabello-Briones, C. 2011. A Reflection on the Preventive Conservation of Archaeological Wood and the Effects of Mass Tourism: The Case Study of the Vasa Warship. *e-Conservation magazine* 18: 43-52. <http://www.e-conservationline.com/content/view/978> (25 July 2011). (AP)
- Colwell-Chanthaphonh, C., R. Maxson and J. Powell. 2011. The repatriation of culturally unidentifiable human remains. *Museum Management and Curatorship* 26(1):27-43. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09647775.2011.540125> (21 July 2011). (JW)
- Available in electronic and hard copy format.
- Cushing, E. J. 2011. Longevity of Reference Slides of Pollen Mounted in Silicone Oil. *Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology* 164:121-131. (ML)
- Might aid with creating and preserving pollen collections.
- Dettelbach, M. 2011. Book Review: *The Passage to Cosmos: Alexander von Humboldt and the Shaping of America*, by Laura Dassow Walls. Chicago/London: University of Chicago Press, 2009. *Isis* 102(1):197-198. (RP)
- An "account of Alexander von Humboldt's significance for the history of science and modern culture and perhaps the best available introduction to Humboldt in English."
- Donovan, S. K. 2011. The poorly illustrated crinoid. *Lethaia* 44(2):125-135. (JW)
- Discusses inaccuracies in the reconstruction illustration of invertebrates, particularly crinoids.
- Farrell, M. 2010. News from the Royal College of Surgeons: A new habitat for the Odontological Collection of Primates. *NatSCA News* 20:25-27. (AP)
- Gano, S. and R. Kinzler. 2011. Bringing the Museum into the Classroom. *Science* 331(6020):1028-1029. (RP)
- The American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) in New York City has developed Resources for Learning (RFL), a digital technology program to make exhibition and related resources available to classrooms outside New York City.
- Garbutt, G. 2011. Book Review: *Albert the Great. Questions Concerning Aristotle's On Animals*. Translated by Irvn M. Resnick and Kenneth F. Kitchell, Jr. Washington, D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, 2008. *Isis* 102(1):157-158. (RP)
- Book reviewed presents notes on Albertus Magnus's treatments (in 1258) of Aristotle's works on animals.
- Gardner, E. 2011. Mounting fragile botanical specimens: an upside-down approach and template. *Society of Herbarium Curators Newsletter* 6(1):7-10. (AP)
- Detailed images and descriptions for problem plants such as aquatics and graminoids.
- Granzow-de la Cerda, Í. and J. H. Beach. 2010. Semi-automated workflows for acquiring specimen data from label images in herbarium collections. *Taxon* 59(6):1830-1842. (AP)
- Green, D. 2011. *A Museum Guide to Digital Rights Management*. CHIN (Canadian Heritage Information Network), Gatineau, Quebec, Canada. http://www.pro.rcip-chin.gc.ca/gestion_collections-collections_management/GND-DRM/gestion_numerique_droits-digital_rights_management-eng.jsp (22 July 2011). (JW)
- Greve, M. and J. Svenning. 2011. Dealing with Data: Preserve Old Collections. *Science* 331(6024):1515. (RP)
- Biological collections are important to researchers who find new applications for the data.
- Health and Safety Committee. 2011. New safety eyewear standard; confusion over at last. *AIC News* 36(1):4. (DD)
- This information was derived from the ANSI Z87, 1-2010 & Lab Safety Newsletter, 9/2010. Reprinted in part from ACTSFACTS, Vol. 24, No. 10, October 2010.
- Hernesniemi, E., K. Blomstedt and M. Fortelius. 2011. Multi-view stereo three-dimensional reconstruction of lower molars of Recent and Pleistocene rhinoceroses for mesowear analysis. *Palaeontographica Electronica* 14(2). http://palaeo-electronica.org/2011_2/246/index.html (21 July 2011). (JW)
- Concludes that 3D models based on digital photographs provide sufficient accuracy for the models to be suitable for palaeontological investigations.

Continued from page 31:

.....Pubs of Interest

- Hewitt, H. 2010. Beneficial Beetles Project: cataloguing Coleoptera at the Potteries Museum. *NatSCA News* 20:34-39. (AP)
- Holmes, A. 2010. Recently released ID guide - Marine Bivalve Shells of the British Isles. *NatSCA News* 20:40-44. (AP)
- Jenkins, T. 2011. Contesting Human Remains in Museum Collections: The Crisis of Cultural Authority. Routledge, New York, New York. 184 pp. (AP)
- Kelley, P. 2005. New Trapping System Available for Drugstore Beetle. *Fumigants & Pheromones* 98:5. (AP)
- Announcement of Fujitrap® HIRENIS®.
- Kotoula, E. 2011. Old interventions & new possibilities: Applications of digital technology in re-conservation. *e-conservation magazine*(19): 40-47. <http://e-conservationline.com/content/view/997> (26 July 2011). (ML)
- Discussion of using digital technology to determine conservation plan; emphasis is on specimens with prior repairs.
- Lambert, S. and J. Henderson. 2011. The carbon footprint of museum loans: a pilot study at Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales. *Museum Management and Curatorship* 26(3):209-235. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09647775.2011.568169> (21 July 2011). (JW)
- Available in electronic and hard copy format.
- MacDonald, S. and J. Ashby. 2011. Museums: Campus treasures. *Nature* 471:164-165. (ML)
- Explanation of how best to air the gems hidden within university science collections.
- Marstine, J., A. A. Bauer and C. Haines. 2011. New directions in museum ethics. *Museum Management and Curatorship* 26(2):91-95. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09647775.2011.566709> (21 July 2011). (JW)
- Available in electronic and hard copy format.
- Matero, F. 2011. Confronting time: on the modalities of conservation. *AIC News* 36(1):1, 3-4. (DD)
- Meijer-van Menscha, L. 2011. New challenges, new priorities: analyzing ethical dilemmas from a stakeholder's perspective in the Netherlands. *Museum Management and Curatorship* 26(2):113-128. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09647775.2011.566712> (21 July 2011). (JW)
- Available in electronic and hard copy format.
- Meyer, M. 2011. Researchers on display: Moving the laboratory into the museum. *Museum Management and Curatorship* 26(3):261-272. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09647775.2011.585800> (21 July 2011). (JW)
- Available in electronic and hard copy format.
- Mueller, D. K. 2010. Mice. *Fumigants & Pheromones* 97:1. (DD)
- Murrell, Z. 2011. Report on the US Virtual Herbarium Effort. *The Vasculum* 6(1):5-7. (AP)
- Peterson, J. E., R. P. Scherer and K. M. Huffman. 2011. Methods of microvertebrate sampling and their influences on taphonomic interpretations. *Palaios* 26(2):81-88. (JW)
- Ribbens, E. and I. Park. 2011. The Wired herbarium: phenology data. *Society of Herbarium Curators Newsletter* 6(1):10-11. (AP)
- Recording flowering and fruiting status enhances value of herbarium data, e.g. in study of climate change.
- Roane, T. M. and L. J. Snelling. 2010. Bacterial removal of mercury from museum materials: A new remediation technology? Pp. 29-34 in *Pesticide Mitigation in Museum Collections: Science in Conservation* (Charola, A. E. and R. J. Koestler eds.). Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press, Washington, DC. (AP)
- Rossol, M. 2011. Pick Your Poison: How Our Mad Dash to Chemical Utopia is Making Lab Rats of Us All. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Hoboken, New Jersey. (DD)
- Schnalke, T. 2011. Museums: Out of the Cellar. *Nature* 471:576-577. (ML)
- Call for Germany [and others] to turn its historical scientific collections into centers for object research.
- Schwarzer, M. 2011. Book Review: Routledge companion to museum ethics: redefining ethics for the twenty-first century museum, edited by Janet Marstein, New York, Routledge, 2011. *Museum Management and Curatorship* 26(3):307-309. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09647775.2011.587275> (21 July 2011). (JW)
- Available in electronic and hard copy format. Book Review.
- Smith, A. 2010. Taxidermy and the law seminar. 8th February 2010. New Walk Museum, Leicester. *NatSCA News* 20:12-16. (AP)
- Report on seminar covering CITES; Taxidermy Law Company's summary of laws relating to natural history collections.
- Smith, A. S., A. O'Conner, R. O'Neill and S. Vauccheret. 2010. A new documentation initiative within the National Museum of Ireland - Natural History Division. *NatSCA News* 20:28-33. (AP)
- Smith, G. A. 2011. To Touch or Not to Touch: That is the Question! *Journal of Museum Education* 36(2):137-146. (ML)
- Discussion on teaching collections and public interactions with collection specimens/objects.
- Smith, M. J., R. J. Williams and D. W. Purves. 2011. Letter-to-editor: Boosting CITES Through Research. *Science* 331(6019):857. (RP)
- Follow-up letter to article in December 2010 *Science* article which was listed as part of Publications of Interest in last newsletter (author response also included in this newsletter - see Bickford, D., J. Phelps, E. L. Webb, V. Nijman and N. S. Sodhi).
- Sommer, E. 2011. Protecting the Objects and Serving the Public, an Ongoing Dialogue. *Journal of Museum Education* 36(2):129-136. (ML)
- Discussion on public interactions with collection specimens/objects.
- Stober, K. 2011. Food for thought: Conserving historical foodstuffs in museums. *Museum News* March-April:32-33. (AP)
- Examples of food items at various museums, followed by approaches used to preserve them.
- Strasser, B. J. 2011. The Experimenter's Museum: GenBank, Natural History, and the Moral Economies of Biomedicine. *Isis* 102(1):60-96. (RP)
- Looks at use of data collections such as DNA sequence databases. Focus is on establishment of GenBank in 1982, within an array of broader issues.
- Taylor, T. N., M. Krings, N. Dotzler and J. Galtier. 2011. The Advantage of Thin Section Preparations Over Acetate Peels in the Study of Late Paleozoic Fungi and Other Microorganisms. *Palaios* 26(4):239-244. (JW, ML)
- Discusses Thin Sections and Acetate Peels and the value of each.
- Telle, S. and M. Thines. 2008. Amplification of *cox2* (~620 bp) from 2 mg of Up to 129 Years Old Herbarium Specimens, Comparing 19 Extraction Methods and 15 Polymerases. *PLoS ONE* 3(10): e3584. (AP)
- DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0003584
- Waddington, J. 2011. Type and figured and referred invertebrate fossils transferred from McMaster University to Royal Ontario Museum. *Journal of Paleontology* 85(3):610-611. (JW)
- Wong, A. S. 2011. Ethical issues of social media in museums: a case study. *Museum Management and Curatorship* 26(2):97-112. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09647775.2011.566710> (21 July 2011). (JW)
- Available in electronic and hard copy format.

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 West 12th Street, Davenport, IA 52804; (563) 324-1054 ext. 226; chandler@putnam.org or dinoceras@juno.com.

2011

September 2011

September 14-16, 2011. International Symposium and Workshop on Cultural Property Risk Analysis at the Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia da Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal, held in association with the ICOM-CC Preventive Conservation Working Group and sponsored by the Society for Risk Analysis. View details at the symposium website, <http://www.protectheritage.com/Lisbon2011>.

September 15, 2011. American Heritage Preservation Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.ihms.gov>.

September 20-22, 2011. Technology, Interpretation and Education 2011, a multi-part online conference and virtual expo hall, presented in collaboration with the AAM Media & Technology Committee. Go to <http://www.aam-us.org/get-involved/learn/tech.cfm> for more information.

September 21-25, 2011. University History and Identity, XI UMAC (The International Committee of ICOM for University Museums and Collections) Annual Meeting, Lisbon, Portugal. Check out the meeting web site at <http://www.mc.ul.pt/umac2011/home>.

September 23-26, 2011. 76th Annual Meeting of the Western Museums Association, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA. Check http://www.westmuse.org/conferences/2011_annual_meeting_honolulu.html for updates.

October 2011

October 1, 2011. Conservation Project Support Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.ihms.gov>.

October 9-12, 2011. A Meeting of the Muses: Inspiration, Strategy, and Sustainability, 2011 Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA. For more information, go to <http://www.midatlanticmuseums.org>.

October 9-12, 2011. 2011 GSA Annual Meeting & Exposi-

tion, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. Information about this and other section meetings is available at <http://www.geosociety.org/meetings>.

October 15-18, 2011. Knowledge That Works - From Theory to Practice, Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC) 2011, Maryland Science Center, Baltimore, Maryland, USA. Go to <http://conference.astc.org/> for more information.

October 16-21, 2011. Digitization Methods, Technologies, and Standards for Biodiversity Collections, Biodiversity Information Standards TDWG 2011 Annual Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. Meeting web site at <http://www.tdwg.org/conference2011/>.

October 17-21, 2011. Symposium 2011 – Adhesives and Consolidants for Conservation: Research and Applications, hosted by the Canadian Conservation Institute in partnership with Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Updates will be posted on the CCI web site: <http://www.cci-icc.gc.ca/symposium/2011/index-eng.aspx>.

October 17-21, 2011. Mountain-Plains Museums Association 2011 Annual Conference, Helena, Montana, USA. Check out <http://www.mppma.net/accurrent.php> for more information.

October 25-27, 2011. Bridges to the Future, Southeastern Museums Conference (SEMC) 2011 Annual Meeting, Greenville, South Carolina, USA. More information is available at <http://www.semcdirect.net>.

October 26-28, 2011. Pest Odyssey 2011: 10 Years Later, hosted by the British Museum, London, England. Check out <http://www.pestodyssey.org/> for more information.

October 26-28, 2011. A Walk on the Wild Side: A Conference on IACUC oversight of wildlife research and a Workshop on Animal Welfare Act compliance for studies of wildlife in the field and in captivity, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA. Details at <http://mysite.verizon.net/iacuc101/>.

November 2011

November 1, 2011. Museums for America Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.ihms.gov>.

November 2-5, 2011. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) 71st Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA. For more information, go to <http://www.vertpaleo.org/meetings/>.

November 8-11, 2011. 2011 International Committee for Museums and Collections of Natural History (NATHIST) Annual Meeting, Bangkok, Thailand. Go to <http://www.ggwinter.de/icom/fam.htm> for more information.

*Continued from page 33:
.....Calendar of Events*

November 11-12, 2011. New Visions of Campus Museums, 2011 University Museum Conference, Tainan, Taiwan. Details at <http://conf.ncku.edu.tw/~umc2011>.

November 13-16, 2011. Entomology 2011, Entomological Society of America (ESA) 59th Annual Meeting, Reno, Nevada, USA. Meeting details are available at <http://www.entsoc.org/entomology2011>.

November 13-17, 2011. 21st Annual International Association of Museum Facility Administrators (IAMFA) Conference, Auckland, New Zealand. More information at <http://www.iamfa.org/>.

November 16-18, 2011. Museums in the Mirror, Reflecting Relevance in a Diverse Society, 2011 New England Museum Association (NEMA) Annual Meeting, Hartford, Connecticut, USA. For more information, go to <http://www.nemanet.org>.

November 16-19, 2011. Hacking the Museum, MCN 2011, 39th Annual Museum Computer Network Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, USA. Check out <http://www.mcn.edu/> for more information.

December 2011

December 1, 2011. Conservation Assessment Program Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.imls.gov>.

December 1, 2011. Museum Assessment Program Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.imls.gov>.

2012

February 2012

February 1, 2012. Connecting to Collections: Statewide Implementation Grants deadline. Details available at <http://www.imls.gov>.

February 1, 2012. National Leadership Grants deadline. Details available at <http://www.imls.gov>.

February 1, 2012. Sparks! Ignition Grants deadline. Details available at <http://www.imls.gov>.

April 2012

April 28, 2012. Tools of Engagement: Securing Commitment on Campus, Association of Academic Museums & Galleries (AAMG) 2012 Annual Conference, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Campus, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. For more information, go to <http://www.aamg-us.org/conference12.php>.

April 29-May 2, 2012. AAM Annual Meeting and MuseumEx-

po 2012, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, USA. Check out <http://www.museumexpo.org/aam2012/public/enter.aspx> for more information.

April/May 2012. Learning Labs in Libraries and Museums Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.imls.gov>.

May 2012

May 8-11, 2012. Connecting to Conservation: Outreach and Advocacy, American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC) 40th Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA. Information is available at AIC's web site: <http://www.conservation-us.org/>.

June 2012

June 11-16, 2012. Emerging Technology and Innovation in Natural History Collections Management, SPNHC 27th Annual Meeting, New Haven, Connecticut, USA, hosted by the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History. Go to <http://peabody.yale.edu/collections/spnhc2012/home> for more information.

June 22-26, 2012. 92nd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists, Reno, Nevada, USA. For more information, go to <http://www.mammalsociety.org/meetings>.

July 2012

July 1, 2012. Museum Assessment Program Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.imls.gov>.

July 7-11, 2012. Botany 2012, Columbus, Ohio, USA. Updates at <http://www.botany.org/conferences/>.

August 2012

August 8-14, 2012. World Congress of Herpetology (WCH.7), Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. For more information, go to <http://wch2012vancouver.com/>.

August 14-18, 2012. 130th Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, to be held in conjunction with the 5th North American Ornithological Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. More information is available at <http://www.aou.org/meetings/>.

Fall 2012

October 17-20, 2012. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) 72nd Annual Meeting, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA. For more information, go to <http://www.vertpaleo.org/meetings/>.

Officers - Council Members - Committee Chairs - Representatives

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

President: Jean-Marc Gagnon (jmgagnon@mus-nature.ca)
President-Elect: Chris Norris (christopher.norris@yale.edu)
Past President: Richard Rabeler (rabeler@umich.edu)
Treasurer: Barbara Brown (bbrown@amnh.org)
Secretary: Judith Price (jprice@mus-nature.ca)
Managing Editor: Susan Butts (susan.butts@yale.edu)

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

2009-2012: Debra Trock (dtrock@calacademy.org)
 2010-2012: (temporary) Richard Sabin (r.sabin@nhm.ac.uk)
 2010-2013: Clare Valentine (c.valentine@nhm.ac.uk)
 2010-2013: Jessica Cundiff (jcundiff@oeb.harvard.edu)
 2011-2014: Gretchen Anderson (AndersonG@CarnegieMNH.org)
 2011-2014: Mariko Kageyama (Mariko.Kageyama@Colorado.edu)

STANDING COMMITTEES

Archives:

Linda Hollenberg (hollenl@si.edu)

Best Practices:

James Macklin (james.macklin@agr.gc.ca)
 Tim White (tim.white@yale.edu)

Bylaws:

Richard Rabeler (rabeler@umich.edu)

Conference:

Chris Norris (christopher.norris@yale.edu)
San Francisco 2011: Debra Trock (dtrock@calacademy.org)
Yale Peabody 2012: Tim White (tim.white@yale.edu)

Conservation:

Gretchen Anderson (AndersonG@CarnegieMNH.org)
 Robert Waller (rwaller@mus-nature.ca)

Fluid Collections Research:

Andrew Bentley (abentley@ku.edu)

Adhesives Research

Rebecca Morin (RMorin@calacademy.org)

Risk Assessment Standards

Armando Mendez (a.mendez@nhm.ac.uk)

Resources (RDU):

Cindy Ramotnik (ramotnik@unm.edu) (US)
 Kelly Sendall (ksendall@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca) (CA)

Documentation:

Marcia Revelez (mrevelez@ou.edu)
 Elizabeth Leith (etereba@ou.edu)

Citations:

Margaret Landis (paleocatstar@ou.edu)

NHCOLL-L List Manager:

Gregory Watkins-Colwell (gregory.watkins-colwell@yale.edu)

Election:

Kelly Sendall (ksendall@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca)

Executive:

Jean-Marc Gagnon (jmgagnon@mus-nature.ca)

Finance:

Robert Waller (rwaller@mus-nature.ca)
 Barbara Brown (bbrown@amnh.org)

Legislation and Regulations:

Sally Shelton (Sally.Shelton@sdsmt.edu)

Long Range Planning:

Chris Norris (christopher.norris@yale.edu)
 Clare Valentine (c.valentine@nhm.ac.uk)

Membership:

Elana Benamy (benamy@ansp.org)

Professional Development:

Jeff Stephenson (Jeff.Stephenson@dmns.org)
 Richard Sabin (r.sabin@nhm.ac.uk)

Publications:

Susan Butts (susan.butts@yale.edu)

Newsletter Editors:

Andrew Bentley (abentley@ku.edu)
 Lori Schlenker (lschlenk@ku.edu)

Technical Leaflet Editor:

Leslie Skibinski (lskibinski@delmnh.org)

Recognition and Grants:

Richard Rabeler (rabeler@umich.edu)

Web:

Ann Molineux (annm@austin.utexas.edu) (editor)

SESSIONAL COMMITTEES

Ethics:

Linda Ford (lford@oeb.harvard.edu)

Mentorship:

Andrew Bentley (abentley@ku.edu)

SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES/LIAISONS

AIC: Jude Southward (jude.southward@dmns.org)

ASIH: Gregory Watkins-Colwell (gregory.watkins-colwell@yale.edu)

ASM: Suzanne B. McLaren (mclarens@carnegieMNH.edu)

ASPT: Richard Rabeler (rabeler@umich.edu)

GBIF: James Macklin (james.macklin@agr.gc.ca)

GSA: Ann Molineux (annm@austin.utexas.edu)

Heritage Preservation: Cathy Hawks (cahawks@aol.com)

ICOM-CC: Clare Valentine (c.valentine@nhm.ac.uk)

IMLS - Museums count - Suzanne McLaren (mclarens@carnegieMNH.edu)

ISBER: Carol Butler (butlercr@si.edu)

NatSCA: Clare Valentine (c.valentine@nhm.ac.uk)

NSCA: Robert Gropp (rgropp@aibs.org)

Paleontological Society: Jessica Cundiff (jcundiff@oeb.harvard.edu)

Registrars Committee, AAM: Crystal Boyd (crystal.boyd@colorado.edu)

Society of Herbarium Curators: Richard Rabeler (rabeler@umich.edu)

TDWG: James Macklin (james.macklin@agr.gc.ca)



SPNHC Newsletter

Editor: Andrew Bentley
 Division of Ichthyology
 Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas
 Dyche Hall
 1345 Jayhawk Boulevard
 Lawrence, KS 66045-7593

Visit **SPNHC** at <http://www.spnhc.org/>



SPNHC

ADVANCING COLLECTIONS CARE

HEALTH & SAFETY FOR MUSEUM PROFESSIONALS



EDITORS

Catharine Hawks
 Michael McCann
 Kathryn Makos
 Lisa Goldberg
 David Hinkamp
 Dennis Ertel, Jr.
 Patricia Silence

**NOW
AVAILABLE**

\$95

**Available for
purchase at:
University Products**

universityproducts.com
 search for "health and safety"

nearly 650 pages in hardcover

*The ultimate reference for
museum professionals.*

AIC and SPNHC are happy to announce the publication of *Health & Safety for Museum Professionals*, edited by Catharine Hawks, Michael McCann, Kathryn Makos, Lisa Goldberg, David Hinkamp, Dennis Ertel, and Patricia Silence. This nineteen chapter book covers health and safety concerns, precautions, and remedies for all areas of museum work. This up-to-date reference is the ideal go-to book for conservators, exhibit producers, collection managers, curators, and administrators in all disciplines.

Principles of Safety and Health—safety and health programs and emergency management, facility design and construction, fire protection, occupational medicine and exposure, occupational hazard control, environmental protection, *and* international safety regulations impacting acquisition, transport and use of specimens

Specific Hazards—particulates, chemical hazards, biohazards, physical, mechanical, and electrical hazards, *and* radiation

Museum Work—facilities management, emergency salvage, collections management, fieldwork, conservation, exhibit production and maintenance, *and* interpretive and interactive programs