

# SPNHC NEWSLETTER

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# SPNHC

ADVANCING COLLECTIONS CARE

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

March 2012  
Volume 26, Number 1

## Integration of the University of Memphis Collection of Mammals into the Collection of Mammals at the Sam Noble Museum

**Janet K. Braun, Marcia A. Revelez, and Michael A. Mares**

*Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, 2401 Chautauqua Ave., Norman, OK 73072, USA; jkbraun@ou.edu; mrevez@ou.edu; mamares@ou.edu.*

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..... and much more!

The Sam Noble Museum (SNM) at the University of Oklahoma (OU) currently houses more than 10 million specimens and objects in its collections. The Collection of Mammals (OMNH), which was comprised of approximately 40,000 cataloged specimens, has significantly increased that number by the addition of the Collection of Mammals from the University of Memphis. This transfer was made possible by a grant from the National Science Foundation Collections in Support of Biological Research Program ("Curation, digitization, and integration of the orphaned University of Memphis Mammal Collection"; DBI-1057439; \$445,000).

The Collection of Mammals (MSUMZ) of the University of Memphis contained ca. 23,000 specimens collected over the past 50 years (Figure 1). The collection grew under the care of Dr. Michael L. Kennedy, who is professor of biology at the University of Memphis, and represents nearly 40 years of his life's work. Dr. Kennedy became Assistant Professor at the UM in 1976 and has trained more than 50 doctoral and master's students and mentored a large number of undergraduate students using the collection. His training and mentoring of students, which continues today, was recognized in 1990 when he was awarded the Robert L. Packard Outstanding Educator Award from the Southwestern Association of Naturalists. Dr. Kennedy received his PhD from OU in 1976 under the direction of Gary D. Schnell, Curator of Ornithology at SNM (then called the Stovall Museum). Dr. Janet K. Braun, Staff Curator in Mammalogy at SNM, earned an MS in Biology under Dr. Kennedy shortly after he started his career at the UM. Kennedy, in looking to the future, sought out the SNM because of its strong institutional support, outstanding facilities, and commitment to the highest standards of collections stewardship, collection-based research, and education. The SNM will provide an optimum archival environment for the conservation and preservation of the collection.

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.....OMNH mammals

This project will safeguard the largest scientific collection of Tennessee mammals (ca. 75% of the estimated known scientific specimens for the state of Tennessee)—an important research resource and state and national biological heritage. Specimens that are in the collection represent both native and introduced species. In addition to specimens of rare and uncommon species, new state records, and specimens documenting the distributional limits of species, the collection also includes vouchers from adjacent SE states, other US states, and several countries in the Western Hemisphere.

The Memphis collection will increase the size of the SNM's mammal collection to more than 65,000 specimens and elevate the OMNH to the 8th largest university-based mammal collection in the Western Hemisphere and the 15th largest overall. The combined collection will boast the largest collection of white-tailed deer in the Western Hemisphere. It will also be the second largest collection of raccoons, the third largest of coyotes and river otters, and the fifth largest collection of beavers. Collected nearly continuously over 40 years in Tennessee, these specimens represent unique datasets documenting occurrence, distribution, and population ecology (age and gender demographics). The collection of shrews also is significant in both its diversity and size – the 7th largest for a state maintained at a single institution.



Figure 1. A closed cabinet at the MSUMZ used to house carnivore skeletal material.

### ***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 August 1, 2012.**

The three-year NSF grant began in Spring 2011 with the transformation of the entire collection space in the Department of Mammalogy. Over several weeks, the SNM collection was packed and relocated temporarily to hallways and other collection storage areas, and the space evacuated to allow for the construction and installation of 3 compactor mobile storage systems (Figure 2). New cases and shelving systems were purchased and installed to supplement existing cases to accommodate the integration of the MSUMZ collection. During a 2-week period in August 2011, the MSUMZ collection and its associated documents were packed and transported to the SNM in Norman, Oklahoma. Despite 2011 being the hottest summer on record with 63 days of 100+ degree F highs, the collection was loaded into a refrigerated truck and treated for 10 days to prevent any potential pest problems. [Due to the extreme heat, reaching 113 degrees F in the shade, the refrigerated truck required constant attention and maintenance.] After treatment, the nearly 100 boxes and 29 cases were unpacked and placed into temporary holding cases. The collection will be integrated (cataloged, digitized, curated, and installed) over the next 3 years. Since October 2011, nearly 3,000 specimens have been processed; the archives have been inventoried and re-housed, and are being digitized.



Figure 2. Construction and installation of three different compactor mobile storage sections (left, open shelving; right, closed shelving; front, cabinets).

Opportunities for integrating research into learning and education activities are also part of the goals of the grant. It will provide for the hiring of undergraduate and graduate assistants, as well as a summer intern. Students will acquire first-hand knowledge of a large collection and a broad exposure to the philosophy, methods, and techniques in curation and the care and management of collections – experiences that are essential to building a successful career as a curator, collection manager, or in another museum profession, but that generally are not obtained in the classroom setting (Figure 3).

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## 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 & Oceans 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.

Once again, the publication of this Newsletter is an opportunity to review progress and challenges within SPNHC and in our field of work, natural history collections management and conservation.

As we start 2012, I hope that you have already registered for the 27th SPNHC Annual Meeting at Yale, in New Haven, CT. This year, the subject of the conference, Emerging Technology and Innovation in Natural History Collections Management, will provide another opportunity for sharing new information on a variety of aspects of Natural History collection management and conservation. This will undoubtedly be an excellent meeting and the perfect opportunity to present your recent findings and learn more about your colleagues' work. You'll find out more in this issue of the Newsletter and at <http://peabody.yale.edu/collections/spnhc2012>.

And with this year's meeting comes another change of presidency for SPNHC; two years that went by so quickly. Chris Norris will step in as new President at the Annual Business Meeting (June 15, 2012) in New Haven. I also want to welcome our two newest Members-at-Large: Richard Sabin and Greg Watkins-Colwell. Their three-year mandate will start at the Second Council Meeting in New Haven. Also joining the team as President-Elect will be Andy Bentley, which means that he will follow Chris Norris as President in 2014. Judith Price is re-elected as Secretary. Congratulations to all.

For some reason, it seems like this past year was a lot quieter than the previous. True or not, I suspect that for me, not having to deal with issues resulting from the organization of the 2010 conference had something to do with it. But I also think that the global economic situation may have made many of us a bit reclusive, worrying more about issues at home and in our respective workplaces. This is certainly the case here in Ottawa where a major wave of layoffs at the federal level is looming over our heads as I write these lines. Still, I fervently believe that the only way we can make decision-makers realize the importance of and invest in natural history collections and our work therein is to stand strong together. More than ever, we need to be seen and heard, and it is not by retreating into our offices, labs and collection rooms that we can make ourselves indispensable. Your involvement within SPNHC, not just within the Council but within our many committees is one important way of making a difference. Anything that makes SPNHC stronger will make us all stronger. It is nice to say that SPNHC will continue to represent us and work collaboratively with other like-minded organizations to make sure that our voice is heard. But the plain reality is that SPNHC is

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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 August 1, 2012.

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.....Presidential Report

us; it can only get things done if we each get involved and get things done for SPNHC.

SPNHC employs a number of approaches to serve its members and represent us. One way is through publications such as the Newsletter, Collection Forum and specialized books. For instance, the launch of the book Health and Safety for Museum Professionals last summer was very well received, with a good review from ICOM (ICOM News 2011, Vol. 64, No. 3, p. 22) and an excellent one from the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (JOEM 2012, Vol. 54, No. 1, pp. 109-110). The new SPNHC website presents a very professional and functional window into our Society. It also includes a new membership database with the convenience of being able to sign up or renew your membership on-line. Over time, we will continue to explore the potential to establish regional nodes to better serve our members outside North America. Again, none of these approaches can easily become a reality without your involvement.

Of course, SPNHC's Annual Meeting is our most interactive mean of reaching out and communicating. In that respect, the Conference Committee has worked hard over the past few years to develop an exciting program. You already know that in 2013, we will be in Rapid City, South Dakota, where we'll experience some of the most incredible natural environment and man-made scenery. As well, it looks like the conference calendar is filled until 2017. Unfortunately, we cannot disclose the locations yet, some of which will assuredly be outside North America, until we have received confirmations and proposals have been presented to the membership.

Finally, the work done by members of our various committees and the collaborations we establish with organizations such as NSC Alliance and AIC, to name only a few, remain a critical part of how we make a difference. Many volunteers are making this possible, and so I hope you will join the team.

Have a great winter/spring and see you in New Haven!

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Best Practices Committee

The Best Practices Committee continues to make progress on identifying opportunities to both develop best practice documentation and advocate their use in the SPNHC community and beyond. Marcy Revelez and Liz Leith in the Department of Mammalogy at SNOMNH have again announced an internship which will build upon the successful one from summer 2011. During last summer, an intern worked on compiling BP information for eventual publishing

on the SPNHC website.

An exciting opportunity for SPNHC for outreach was recently approved which will partially fund an all-day symposium at the World Congress of Herpetology/Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in August, 2012 in Vancouver. The symposium is being organized by Greg Watkins-Colwell and Mark Sabaj Perez and is titled "Technology and Innovation in Herpetology and Ichthyology Collections," with many SPNHC members providing presentations.

There will also be a focus in the 2012 Annual Meeting at Yale University on best practices including sessions on cryo-preservation, storage, preventative conservation, and digitization. Discussions are proceeding to have many of these sessions co-sponsored by affiliated organizations (e.g., AIC).

If you have any resources or documentation on best practices that you feel would be beneficial to share with the community through our website or one of our publications please feel free to contact a Committee member so we can discuss it.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim White and James Macklin, 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 of the Leadership Manual of the Society.

Bylaws: no revisions have been brought to our attention this year.

Leadership Manual: A request for revisions was sent to all of the Committee chairs in mid-November asking them to revise the section of the Leadership Manual which pertained to their respective committee. As of this writing, I have responses from five of the fifteen committees.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Rabeler, Chair

### Conference Committee

Arrangements for the 2012 meeting, to be held at Yale, are proceeding apace, with on-line registration opening at the end of January. The meeting website can be found at <http://peabody.yale.edu/collections/spnhc2012/home>. In addition to the invitations received from South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (2013) and the National Museum of Wales (2014), we are now in discussions with prospective venues for 2015, 2016, and 2017. This is a very healthy

state of affairs for the Society.

An updated version of the Committee profile for the Leadership Manual was circulated to Committee members for comment in late 2011, and work continues on the draft Policies and Guidelines for Planning and Conducting Annual Meetings.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Norris, Chair

### Documentation Committee

Beginning during the summer of 2012, a new intern will continue working on the goals set forth for the committee, focusing on best practices in natural history collections management and care. This intern will be hosted by the Department of Mammalogy at the Sam Noble Museum in Norman, OK, paid for by a grant from the National Science Foundation Collections in Support of Biological Research Program ("Curation, digitization, and integration of the orphaned University of Memphis Mammal Collection"; DBI-1057439). The primary objective will involve gathering information via other professional websites and publications. The information will be assimilated for posting on the SPNHC resources web page.

There remains a lot of information to be compiled and digested from the previous work regarding Registration, Permits, Legal/Ethical Issues, and Hazardous Materials (including current helpful resources and websites). For the SPNHC website, it will be a first step to get this information set up with lists, links, and other resources for the membership to utilize.

We hope to continue gathering pertinent information on various other best practices topics as we continue our search for "all the answers," so the SPNHC website can become a portal of information for museum professionals. If you are interested in helping, please contact one of the Co-chairs.

Subcommittee Report: CITATIONS

Things are running smoothly and submissions continue to be provided to the newsletter. If you run across a reference that would be beneficial to SPNHC members (perhaps as you are looking for information to do your job) would you please share it with the Citations subcommittee? While we have subcommittee members checking for appropriate publications we do not find them all. We are also looking for anyone who is interested in joining us in our commitment to help round up the citations, so contact Margaret Landis ([paleocatstar@ou.edu](mailto:paleocatstar@ou.edu)) if you are interested.

We are always looking for new members and if you are interested, please contact Marcy Revelez ([mrevelez@ou.edu](mailto:mrevelez@ou.edu)) or Liz Leith ([etereba@ou.edu](mailto:etereba@ou.edu)).

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcy Revelez and Liz Leith, Co-chairs

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### 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\$475/1<sup>st</sup> year and US\$400/2<sup>nd</sup> year;
- (3) three-year installments of US\$420/1<sup>st</sup> year, US\$280/2<sup>nd</sup> year and US\$175/3<sup>rd</sup> year.

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

Treasurer

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.....Committee Reports

## Election Committee

For the first time this year, Elections Online (<http://www.electionsonline.us/>) was used exclusively for elections. Although paper ballots were not available by mail, they were still available as an option in the process of voting online. The fee from Elections Online was \$348.63 CDN.

Positions filled are President-Elect, Secretary, and two Members-at-Large. The successful candidates are:

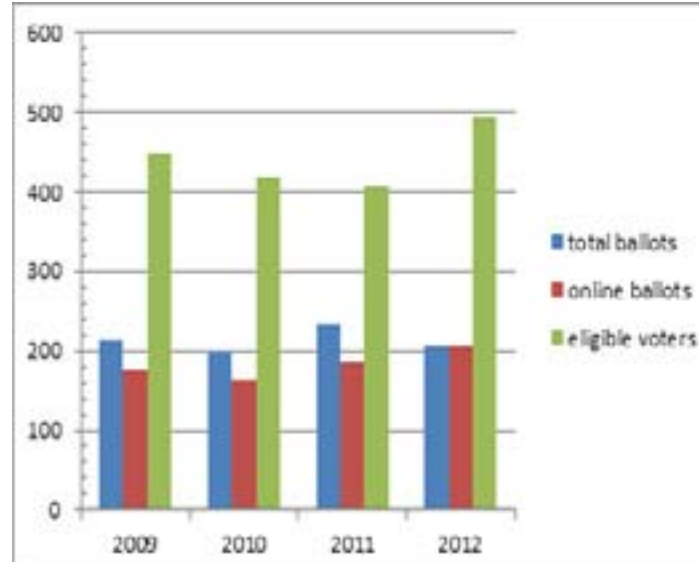
**PRESIDENT-ELECT:** *Andy Bentley, Ichthyology Collection Manager, Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas*

**SECRETARY:** *Judith Price, Invertebrate Collection, Canadian Museum of Nature*

**MEMBER-AT-LARGE:** *Richard Sabin, Senior Curator, Mammal Group, Natural History Museum, London*

**MEMBER-AT-LARGE:** *Greg Watkins-Colwell, Vertebrate Zoology, Peabody Museum, Yale*

There were 19 nominations received from 9 different members. Five 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 July 2011). 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 December 2, 2011, the total number of returned ballots was 206, or 41.6% of the eligible members – a decrease of 15.5% from the previous year. The table below outlines the trends over the last 4 elections.



This election was the 4th in which members could vote online. It was also the first set up to be exclusively online. Although there was a significant increase in the number of eligible voters last year (406 in 2011 to 495 in 2012), the percentage of returned ballots decreased. This is likely due to the problem of incorrect or out of date email addresses for

some members. If you did not receive an email at the start of the election please check the member directory on the SPNHC site to be sure what's registered is correct.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kelly Sendall, Chair

## Legislation and Regulation Committee

PERMIT-L, sponsored and maintained by the Museum of Geology and the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, continues to work in conjunction with AVECOL-L and NHCOLL-L to disseminate information about scientific collecting permits. Recent topics have included CITES validation issues as documented by Ellen Paul, mammal importation and the CDC, and USFWS issues. PERMIT-L currently has 144 subscribers.

A recent request has been made for an online compilation of fossil collection and import/export laws and permit requirements for all countries, an effort last made 20 years ago. The role of SPNHC and the Legislation and Regulations Committee in this important effort will be discussed in the committee meeting in June and then sent to the SPNHC Council for discussion and approval. The results of this will be publicized through NHCOLL-L and the various paleontology lists.

Please keep sending accounts of permit issues and conundrums to PERMIT-L.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Y. Shelton, Chair

## Long Range Planning Committee

A White Paper setting out the process for developing a strategic plan for SPNHC was circulated to members for comment with the last Newsletter. Very few comments were received, which was disappointing.

The Committee has now moved on to developing a Framework document that identifies critical elements of the strategic plan. This was circulated to Committee Members in February 2012 and will be discussed at a planning meeting with selected SPNHC committee chairs that will take place in New Haven at the end of February. The Framework document will form the foundation for the Strategic Plan itself.

An updated version of the Committee profile for the Leadership Manual was circulated to Committee members for comment in late 2011 and has now been submitted to the Bylaws Committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Norris and Clare Valentine, Co-chairs

## Publications Committee

The Publications Committee would like to welcome our new Book Review Editor, Lynn Jones. Lynn is a museum assistant at the Peabody Museum at Yale University, chair of the IPM committee and works in the collections at the West Campus facility. She has worked in the entomology and botany divisions at the Peabody in the past. If you see a recently published book that would be of interest to our membership, please contact Lynn ([lynn.a.jones@yale.edu](mailto:lynn.a.jones@yale.edu)).

Sales of our new book Health and Safety for Museum Professionals have been healthy, and the book has gotten many favorable reviews. If you haven't already gotten yours, head straight to University Products (<http://www.universityproducts.com>) or Archetype Publications (<http://www.archetype.co.uk>) for non-North American sales.

Watch your mailbox for Collection Forum Volume 26 (Spring 2012), coming soon! If you have ideas for a Collection Forum theme issue, please contact me - [susan.butts@yale.edu](mailto:susan.butts@yale.edu).

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 a Special Service Award, the President's Award, and two nominations for the Carolyn Rose Award. The committee's decisions on these awards were passed to Council – the results appear elsewhere in this issue of the Newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Rabeler, Chair

## Web Committee

There is only a brief report from the Web committee at this time. The new website has been functioning well, and we look forward to adding additional materials from other committees as and when they are ready. Wall2Wall, our website designer continues to address the minor issues that have been noted as more people visit the site.

As always please do let us know if you see errors or wish to add material to our SPNHC webpage, and send any news-

worthy items to Ann Molineux, [annm@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:annm@austin.utexas.edu).

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Molineux, chair

## SESSIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Ethics

The SPNHC Ethics Committee is continuing to reach out to museums, universities, and discipline-specific societies to request copies of best practices and ethics documents. From this broad perspective, the goal is to develop a resource that will be useful to the natural history community with regards to the subject of Best Practices and Ethics in natural history museums.

If any individual, institution, or sister society has such a document, the SPNHC Ethics Committee would sincerely appreciate receiving a copy (electronic preferred), which can be sent to the chairperson, Linda S. Ford ([lford@oeb.harvard.edu](mailto:lford@oeb.harvard.edu)).

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Ford, Chair

### Mentorship

The Mentorship Committee is again pleased to announce the Fitzgerald Travel Grant award and hopes that we will have a number of applicants. We are also pleased that Nickson Otieno (National Museum of Kenya), our travel grant recipient from last year who was unable to attend, will be joining us at Yale this year. The Chair was also able to arrange a three-week fellowship for Nickson at the Barcoding of Life facility in Washington, D.C., before the meeting during which Nickson will learn the techniques necessary to barcode bird skins from his collection.

The Chair is also preparing to enter negotiations with Wall2Wall, the developers of the SPNHC website concerning the second phase of development. This involves our proposed international node scheme as well as the implementation of a shipping best practices blog or wiki. A meeting will be held shortly to discuss options and details of both endeavors. If anyone has any ideas regarding either of these, please get in touch with Andrew Bentley ([abentley@ku.edu](mailto:abentley@ku.edu)).

Respectfully submitted,  
Andrew Bentley, Chair

## SPNHC REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

### American Institute for Conservation (AIC) Jude Southward

The 40th annual meeting of the American Institute for Conservation will be held in Albuquerque, NM, on May 8-11, 2012. The theme is 'Connecting to Conservation: Outreach and Advocacy'. The keynote speakers are Tyler Green, Samuel Jones, and Dr. Anne-Imelda Radice. Mr. Green is an influential arts journalist and will speak on the current state of arts journalism. Mr. Jones, as associate of the Demos independent British think tank, will focus on the place of culture in society. Dr. Radice will speak on the subject of advocacy.

### American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH) Greg Watkins-Colwell

At the 2011 meeting held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, 6-11 July, 1031 herpetologists and ichthyologists (464 of whom were students) from 26 different countries attended the meetings which were again held jointly with the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR), Herpetologists' League (HL) and the American Elasmobranch Society (AES).

Approved by ASIH, SSAR and HL, the ASIH Collections Committee will hold a collections symposium at the 2012 World Congress of Herpetology/Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (8-14 August 2012 in Vancouver, BC, Canada). The symposium is entitled "Technology and Innovation in Herpetology and Ichthyology Collections" and is co-organized by Gregory J. Watkins-Colwell and Mark Sabaj Perez. Many of the speakers in the full-day symposium are members of SPNHC.

Additionally, SPNHC agreed to sponsor the symposium as an effort to increase outreach to allied organizations and increase awareness of SPNHC. SPNHC funding will be used to help fund travel for non-North American symposium presenters and students as well as to provide a membership booth in the exhibits area of the conference.

### American Society of Plant Taxonomists (ASPT) Richard Rabeler

I serve as an ex-officio member of the ASPT Systematics Collections Committee. The chair of the committee leads a Curator's meeting during the annual Society meeting. The Committee's effort to revise a Best Practices document for herbarium operations – first proposed in 1958 and last revised in 1978 – is continuing.

The 2012 Annual meeting of the Society will be held in conjunction with Botany2012 in Columbus, Ohio from July 7 to 11.

### Geological Society of America Ann Molineaux

As an associated society of GSA, SPNHC was represented at the 2011 annual meeting which took place in Minneapolis, November 9-12. The SPNHC membership booth was manned for the entire meeting and there was much interest in both our publications and the Society itself. The SPNHC representative was unable to attend the meeting this year and wishes to thank Liath Appleton, SPNHC member from the Texas Natural Science Center and Rebecca Newberry from the Science Museum of Minnesota who took over the task so effectively. We are looking forward to a good meeting this year in Charlotte, North Carolina, November 4-7.

### International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER) Carol Butler

The International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER) will hold its 2012 Annual Meeting on May 15-18, 2012 in Vancouver, BC, Canada. This meeting will feature plenary sessions, educational workshops, corporate workshops, contributed papers, poster sessions, and working group discussions. Vendors from around the world will demonstrate the latest products, services, and technology in the field of repository and specimen collection. See [www.isber.org](http://www.isber.org) for more information. Organizations that are developing biorepositories can find a wealth of information on storage technologies and materials, databases and specimen tracking systems, and shipping containers and vendors.

While ISBER has a large number of member organizations that hold or manage human tissues, there is a collaborative international working group focusing on all non-human tissue and environmental samples, such as microbes, plants and animals, including wildlife, domestic livestock, pets, insects, etc., as well as abiotic/chemical samples of relevance to biodiversity and human health. The group's focus on pres-

ervation methods, uses of samples, terms of use, guidelines for field collecting, and intellectual property rights is relevant to cryopreserved natural history collections.

### Society for Herbarium Curators (SHC) Richard Rabeler

The Annual meeting of SHC coincides with the Association of Southeastern Biologists meeting. The 2012 meeting will be held at the University of Georgia, Athens, 3-7 April 2012.

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

The International Council of Museums – Committee for Conservation (ICOM-CC) is an international body for professional conservators and specialists. ICOM-CC consists of specialist working groups and includes a Natural History Collections Working Group (NHM WG). We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves as your new coordinator and assistant coordinator for the ICOM-CC Natural History Collections Working Group (WG). During the next triennial period, we are hoping to foster a more active partnership and communication between our two groups as well as encourage SPNHC members to join our working group and benefit from being an ICOM-CC member.

ICOM-CC Coordinators:

Arianna Bernucci, Coordinator - Currently I work as a conservator at The Natural History Museum in London, UK, and have been there for two and a half years. Prior to this I worked at the British Museum and Imperial War Museum, gaining a variety of experience working with different materials and collections. For the past three years, I have been Chair of the Institute of Conservation Ethnography Group Committee.

Efstratia Verveniotou, Assistant Coordinator - I am currently a conservator at the Natural History Museum in London, UK. My role is to implement sound conservation treatments and provide viable collection care strategies for a range of collections. Prior to my current post I worked as a project conservator of the Ancient Human Occupation of Britain project, supported by the Leverhulme Trust.

During the next ICOM-CC triennial period, we are hoping to bring the following ideas to fruition. It is a fantastic opportunity to make connections through our various institutions



### 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  
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and communities and to be able to work together. It is our hope to increase membership, which will then increase our ability to achieve the following goals:

1. A more active use of the forum available on the ICOM-CC website – this is a useful tool that we can all use to communicate with one another – whether it be questions about a specific treatment or new regulations banning the use of formaldehyde.
2. To run an interim seminar in conjunction with another group – suggestions are welcome for topics and/or groups with which to partner.
3. To work more closely with other professional organizations, e.g. SPNHC, etc. To build professional partnerships and relationships among, and outside of the membership, to ensure that we work together in progressing our field.
4. To produce an annual professional newsletter.
5. Subjects that we would like to address through open dialogue:
  - Historic practices in specimen preparation, preservation and conservation.
  - Communicate and share information regarding materi-

Continued from page 9:  
.....ICOM-CC

- als that have been Oddy tested.
- Increase knowledge and understanding of the materials and techniques used which will ensure best practice in all aspects of specimen preparation, preservation and conservation. Report on any new findings and communicate within the group.
- Collaborate and share research supporting the optimum environmental parameters for the care of Natural History Collections with aim of reporting on best practice.
- Provide information on disaster planning including emergency plans and collection retrieval as carried out at The Natural History Museum in London.
- Bring together expertise in the field to provide advice on security of sensitive collections (e.g. rhino horns, bird skins, etc.).
- Open discussion regarding pesticide contamination and suggestion of appropriate actions.
- Open discussion regarding current repatriation practices and policies.

We are hoping to encourage new membership (you can join as a friend or ordinary member) as well as a more open dialogue and communication between our respective groups. If you are interested in joining ICOM-CC, please visit: <http://www.icom-cc.org/171/about-icom-cc/join-icom-cc/>. If you are already an ICOM-CC member, then please join our WG. It's as easy as clicking a button.

For more information on our working group, please visit our website at <http://www.icom-cc.org/33/working-groups/natural-history-collections/>

In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments, then please do not hesitate to email Arianna at [arib@nhm.ac.uk](mailto:arib@nhm.ac.uk). Hope to hear from you soon!

## Survey of genetic resource collections associated with natural history collections

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. In addition, 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.

To learn more about the current protocols, challenges, and concerns associated with genetic resources, Breda Zimkus, Project Manager of the Cryogenic Collection at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, has been funded by Collections-Web to survey natural history museums and other collections that collect and store genetic resources. This survey would be used to establish best practices guidelines 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 practice guidelines will improve efficiency and organization of collections, allowing researchers to more readily access genetic material.

It would therefore be appreciated if the staff member who is most familiar with the genetic resources either at your institution or in your individual department would fill out the survey found at:

<http://poll.icommons.harvard.edu/poll/taker/pollTakerOpen.jsp?poll=1-10795-09016>

**The deadline to complete this survey is March 31st.**

Preliminary results of this survey will be presented at the SPNHC 2012 Annual Meeting in New Haven, CT, (June 11-16, 2012) during a session that focuses on developing best practice standards for genetic resources associated with natural history collections.

Breda M. Zimkus, Cryogenic Collection Project Manager, and Linda S. Ford, Director of Collections Operations, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University

***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](mailto:abentley@ku.edu)) for information. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is August 1, 2012.**

Continued from page 2:  
.....OMNH collection



Figure 3. Student volunteer rehousing newly cataloged material from the MSUMZ collection.

This project will ensure the long-term preservation and integrity of Tennessee's natural heritage that might have otherwise perished as an endangered and orphaned collection. The actual and potential knowledge contained within this natural history collection is critical to science and education. It will provide a resource to teach and train students on the importance of collections and associated data and their roles in research and education.

This project is made possible by a grant from the Improvements to Biological Research Collections Program of the National Science Foundation (DBI-1057439). Co-PIs include Staff Curator, Dr. Janet K. Braun ([jkbraun@ou.edu](mailto:jkbraun@ou.edu)), Museum Director and Curator, Dr. Michael A. Mares ([mamares@ou.edu](mailto:mamares@ou.edu)), and Collection Manager, Ms. Marcia Revelez ([mrevelez@ou.edu](mailto:mrevelez@ou.edu)).

## Ethanol Evaporation from Cryogenic Tissue Vials

**Bryan L. Stuart and Gabriela M. Hogue**

*North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, 11 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-1029 US; [gabriela.hogue@ncdenr.gov](mailto:gabriela.hogue@ncdenr.gov)*

In April 2011, the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences purchased 1.8 mL NUNC CryoTube vials (cat. no. 368632) for storing tissue collections in our new ultra-cold (-80°C) freezers. This vial, which is internally threaded and has a silicone O-ring at the seal, had been used by Bryan Stuart for many years to store amphibian and reptile tissues in EDTA/DMSO salt saturated tissue buffer or in RNAlater (Qiagen), without any problems. However, other units at the

museum have tissue collections that were preserved in 95% ethanol, and we soon discovered, after transferring those collections into these vials, that ethanol rapidly evaporates from them (on a scale of weeks).

After lodging a complaint with our sales representative, NUNC in Denmark performed an analysis and determined that the vial's silicone O-ring is vapor permeable and therefore not suitable for use with ethanol. In fact, we were also told that none of NUNC and Nalgene's cryogenic vials are intended to store ethanol, but rather were designed for tissue culturing. Our sales representative was surprised to hear that there are tens or perhaps hundreds of thousands of cryogenic vials being used in natural history collections in the United States for non-tissue culture purposes, a large number of which are holding 95% ethanol.

We were provided with three alternative vials to test that are externally threaded and lack a silicone O-ring seal (and so are plastic on plastic). These are the Nalgene Cryoware Cryogenic Vials (cat. no. 5000-0020), NUNC CryoTube vials (cat. no. 375418), and Nalgene Cryogenic Vials (cat. no. 5000-1020). In our experiment, we stored 95% ethanol in the original vial with the O-ring and the three alternative vials without an O-ring at four different temperatures (room temperature, 4°C, -20°C and -80°C) for approximately six weeks. Indeed, ethanol in the vial with the O-ring dramatically evaporated, while the other three vials did not. Interestingly, ethanol evaporated fastest at room temperature and slowest at -80°C. We had anticipated that it would evaporate the fastest at -80°C because freezers are very desiccated. We also learned that the amount of torque placed on closing the vials with the O-ring seals, i.e. "over-closing" the vials and therefore distorting the O-ring seal, did not have any appreciable effect on evaporation.

In sum, internally threaded cryogenic vials with a silicone O-ring seal such as the NUNC CryoTube vial (cat. no. 368632) should be avoided for storing tissues in ethanol. Instead, we would recommend other models that are externally threaded without an O-ring seal, such as Nalgene Cryoware Cryogenic Vials (cat. no. 5000-0020) or NUNC CryoTube vials (cat. no. 375418). We are now using Nalgene Cryoware Cryogenic Vials (cat. no. 5000-0020) for all of our tissue storage and have not found any appreciable ethanol evaporation.

We thank Natalia Bradley for assisting with running the vial experiment.

## 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](mailto: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: <http://peabody.yale.edu/collections/spnhc2012/travel-grant>.



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 ac-

cess 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

For more information on AAMG or become a member, please visit the website: [www.aamg-us.org](http://www.aamg-us.org).

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## 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:** Agnes Brokerhof

**Institution:** Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands, Amsterdam

**Position Title:** Senior Conservation Scientist

**How many years have you been working in this capacity?**  
22 years (yet not all of them as 'senior' – once upon a time I was young)

**When did you join SPNHC?** 1994

**What brought you to work with Natural History materials?**

It certainly was an indirect route. After my masters in chemistry (University of Leiden) I decided I knew too little about Art History and did my bachelors at the same university. During that study I realized there is a lot of chemistry in works of art and so I got in touch with the CL/Central Research Laboratory for Objects of Art and Science in Amsterdam and found out that there

is such a thing as 'conservation science'. They hired me on a project to look into non-toxic alternative treatment methods to control mould and insects in heritage collections. That was my introduction into a field I came to love. I continued the pest control work at the Australian Museum in Sydney where I worked for a while at the Materials Conservation department. Next I studied time-temperature-mortality relationships of cloth moths at CSIRO's Stored Grain Research Laboratory in Canberra; the lab is one of the world leaders in stored product research. Their knowledge and expertise were highly inspirational for developing clean and safe pest control methods for my somewhat unusual stored product: museum collections. After a course on 'Scientific principles in Conservation' at ICCROM/International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property in Rome I returned to Amsterdam where the Central Lab offered me a permanent position. I was asked to promote and introduce IPM and my newly acquired knowledge on pest control methods in Dutch museums. I also did a survey on conservation problems in Natural History and Ethnographic collections to determine what research needs they had. The old CL and its successors have always been the Ministry of Culture's support unit for museums, libraries and archives, developing and disseminating knowledge and giving advice about preservation and collection management. Together with the Dutch natural history museums we made an inventory of problems, knowledge and gaps therein. I looked abroad to see what was known elsewhere already before initiating new research projects. That brought me in contact with the ICOM-CC/International Council of Museums - Conservation Committee's Natural History Working Group and SPNHC.

**What does your job involve?** I have been actively involved with researching many aspects of collections care issues, e.g., my CSIRO work led me to freezing, high CO2 and low oxygen fumigation and heat treatment with the 'solar tent' as pest control possibilities. Then there's frequent consultation, often with other SPNHC members. My work on introducing IPM in the museums profited greatly from input by the entomologists in various museums. Together with Jean Tétreault from CCI/Canadian Conservation Institute, I studied the effect of acetic acid on calcareous materials such as eggs and shells to find preservation methods for Byne's disease. And with Dries van Dam of the Anatomical Museum in Leiden I looked at fluid preserved specimens and the dissolution of calcareous materials in buffered and non-buffered alcohol and formalin. Through SPNHC I got to know Rob Waller and his work on risk assessment. At the time we were working on a program to integrate the various research lines in preventive conservation into a more holistic approach. I realized that Rob's model provided the perfect umbrella to gather and apply all our bits of knowledge to setting priorities in collection care and in our research program as well. There was a need for research producing data to be able to predict future losses. The past de-



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

cade I have been fortunate to work together with Rob, CCI and ICCROM on promoting and teaching risk management worldwide. This year we jointly did our first e-learning course 'Reducing risks to heritage'. Risk management has drawn me into the area of assessing cultural value and accessibility as well. Currently I am working on a model for cost-effectiveness of preservation activities, together with Anna Buelow from the National Archives in London. It is based on a model from health care economics, the QALY {note: the Publications of Interest section in this Newsletter has a reference to this project}, and offers a way to quantify the effect of a treatment on risk, value and accessibility and weigh that against its costs.

#### What do you find most interesting about your work?

What I like most about my work is developing new knowledge and methods to support heritage institutions in doing their work effectively and efficiently. Helping others and gaining insight in return.

#### Can you tell us of one of your more significant natural history accomplishments?

The most important aspect of my work for the natural history collections in The Netherlands was facilitating the network and sharing knowledge. We did this in a series of publications compiled in 'the green binder'. This was a sort of little sister of SPNHC's 'Storage of Natural History Collections' books that has served as a source of information for so many. And through the acetic acid research I came in contact with Lorraine Gibson in Glasgow and Cecily Grzywacz at the Getty. As 'carbonyl girls', we initiated the Indoor Air Pollution meetings in 1998. It is great to see that Morten Rhyll-Svendsen and others have taken that forward and that this year the 10th Indoor Air Quality meeting is being organized at University College London!

**What have you learned from SPNHC?** Although I am no longer actively working with natural history collections, the experience that I have gained from working with these 'archives of nature', has enabled me to connect more easily to collection management issues in museums and galleries as well as archives and libraries. SPNHC is a source of information and contacts and has played an important role in my personal development from thinking in terms of molecules via object to collections.

**How has SPNHC helped you in your career?** SPNHC has opened doors within the natural history community, and the work with SPNHC members, to which I previously referred, has been fruitful and insightful.



## Registrars Committee Western Region SPNHC Stipend 2012

We are pleased to announce that one registration stipend for the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections annual meeting is available to the RC-WR and SPNHC membership (\$285 value).

**To Qualify:** Applicant must be a current member of RC-WR or SPNHC

#### Applicant must submit the following:

- Letter of application (indicate how attending will benefit your professional development)
- A copy of your current resume
- Supervisor's recommendation letter (or a letter from a previous client)

#### Application deadline: March 23, 2012

Successful applicant will be notified by March 30, 2012. The successful applicant will be required to write about a session that they attended at the conference. Their article will be published in the RC-WR Fall 2012 newsletter.

#### Email all materials to:

Marnie Leist, RC-WR Vice President  
marnie@alutiiqmusuem.org

For more information on the Registrars Committee • Western Region please visit RCWR.org

## DemoCamp 2012 Call for Demonstrations!



Submissions of proposals are solicited for DemoCamp session presentations at the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC) conference in New Haven, June 11-16, 2012. DemoCamp provides a venue

for promotion of technological solutions to advance the field of museum curation with broad applications for biology and biodiversity informatics.

Computer demonstrations are welcomed in any technologies relevant to biologists, collections managers, or biodiversity information managers. Technologies demonstrated may include, among other things, collections/transaction management software, data portals for biocollections consortia, georeferencing applications, and programs for analysis of data/images. DemoCamp presentations should feature the latest developments in currently available products/software/applications as well as ongoing research projects and prototypes.

Live demonstrations of these technologies will raise awareness of new (and improved) tools available for data acquisition, documentation, and synthesis. Demonstrations will also provide a venue for idea exchange and feedback from potential users. Demonstration abstracts will appear in the conference proceedings, and this year the DemoCamp factsheet will be included in the program book.

#### Format

The strictly-timed format of DemoCamp gives each presenter 15 minutes to present the demo plus 5 minutes allowed for set-up and questions (20 minutes total). No PowerPoints or other "canned" presentations are allowed. Only live demonstrations of functional software or applications may be presented. Demonstrators must provide their own laptops with all necessary software installed. A projector and internet connection will be provided.

#### Submissions

Demonstration proposals (abstracts) must be submitted by April 13, 2012. Abstracts should be prepared according to the guidelines defined on the conference website (<http://peabody.yale.edu/collections/spnhc2012>) and must be submitted electronically following conference website instructions. The submissions will undergo peer review. At least one author should register and attend the conference.

The abstract should emphasize the purpose of the technology and the intended audience or users of the technology. What are the major components of the product? What is novel about the solution you present? Compare your technology with similar products if such exist. Is your product currently available to prospective users or still under development? Is your product proprietary or open source? Is it software or a web-based application? In addition to the normal abstract submission requirements for SPNHC 2012, a COPY of your submitted abstract should be sent to the session organizer, Amanda Neill, at [aneill@brit.org](mailto:aneill@brit.org).

#### Accepted Abstracts

All submissions will be acknowledged within a few days.

Proposals will be reviewed for relevance, innovation, technical quality, and greatest predicted appeal to the SPNHC audience. In the likely event of more submissions than available DemoCamp timeslots, final selection will be determined by subcommittee vote. Abstracts will be required to provide a description of technical details (licensing, platforms supported, etc.) in a standard factsheet that will be included in the printed program. A factsheet template will be e-mailed with the notification of acceptance.

Further details on the date and time of the demonstration session(s) will be determined and provided at a later date. Please send any inquiries to the session organizer at: [aneill@brit.org](mailto:aneill@brit.org).

#### Important Dates

- April 13, 2012 Abstract submissions due
- April 23, 2012 Notification of acceptance
- April 30, 2012 Factsheets due
- June 11-16, 2012 SPNHC conference

Amanda K. Neill, Director of the Herbarium, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, TX USA



## 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](mailto: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>.



## Revitalization of the Collection of Recent Invertebrates of the Sam Noble Museum

Katrina Menard, Janet K. Braun and Tamaki Yuri

*Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, 2401 Chautauqua Ave., Norman, OK 73072, USA; kmenard@ou.edu; jkbraun@ou.edu; tyuri@ou.edu.*

The Sam Noble Museum (SNM) is a non-profit, educational, and scientific organization that is the designated museum of natural history for the State of Oklahoma and an Organized Research Unit of the University of Oklahoma (OU). The Territorial Legislature of the future state of Oklahoma established the museum in 1899. In 2000, the estimated 10 million specimens and objects, organized into 12 collections, were moved into the new, state-of-the-art facility to ensure their long-term preservation and care. With this transition to new and better conditions came the renewed opportunity to revitalize and re-curate collections. We would like to announce the latest achievements and findings for the SNM Collection of Recent Invertebrates.

As part of a multi-phased long-term collections plan, in conjunction with national and international efforts to digitize biological collections, revitalization efforts to date have focused on cataloging specimens and digitizing their associated information. This information is not only invaluable for internal assessments of holdings and re-curation goals, but also benefits the research community and the public, as the data will become available through online portals and databases (e.g., GBIF, SNM online catalog). The Department of Recent Invertebrates has also recently joined the InvertNet, an Advancing Digitization of Biological Collections project to share data of our collection's holdings with other research institutions throughout the Midwest and North America. A blog has also been started by the department highlighting unique specimens identified by the cataloging process, and is available on the SNM website.

The inventory and revitalization of the collection, to date, has progressed through 2 grants awarded to the museum within the last 6 years. In 2005, a Conservation Project Support grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) provided support to re-house, re-curate, catalog, and digitize the mollusk collection. Over 26,660 specimens were inventoried, including representatives of Oklahoma mollusks collected from 68 of the 77 counties and specimens from other parts of North America and the rest of the world.

In 2010, the department was awarded a Museums for America grant from IMLS to catalog and digitize at least 50% of the over 500,000 invertebrates specimens in the collection during a 3-year period (2010-2013), including most of the insects. Over 78,000 specimens were cataloged and digitized in the first year of the project. Each specimen is affixed with a unique identifier number label to associate with the database and catalog information. The database adheres to Darwin Core and Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG) standards and each record captures up to 167 fields of stan-

dard and ancillary data, representing museum and discipline standards, and covers institutional, taxonomy, locality, specimen, collecting, preservation, conservation, and transaction data.

Through the catalog and digitization efforts accomplished thus far, we have uncovered several unique collection holdings that are important not only to studying Oklahoma invertebrates, but also to global invertebrate research communities as a whole. The following are examples of the notable holdings: (1) the collection of Byrrhoidea (an aquatic beetle superfamily), collected by Dr. Harley Brown. This collection contains perhaps the largest and most comprehensive collection of Byrrhoidea in the world, focused primarily on the Americas (Mexico and the United States) but includes representatives from over 60 countries. The collection contains >100 type specimens for new genera and species as well as many hundreds of paratypes; (2) the collection of Oklahoma Odonata, comprising about 5,000 specimens. This collection was initiated by R. D. Bird in the 1920s and grew throughout the century by collectors such as G. H. Bick, E. B. Williamson, A. I. Ortenburger, and L. K. Gloyd. The collection contains multiple paratypes, including two Oligoclada from Colombia and Venezuela; (3) the Peter Loy Lepidoptera collection, which includes several county and state records of Oklahoman moths and butterflies; (4) a synoptic set of European beetles, presumed to have been collected before World War II. This includes several genera of Chrysomelidae, Cerambycidae, and other diverse beetle families. Localities of some specimens include Ukraine, Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, and Bosnia. Lastly, the department of Recent Invertebrates has several historically relevant collections of Oklahoma mollusks, crayfish, spiders (the Ortenburger-Banks spider collection of about 900 specimens), beetles (including a synoptic collection of the Karl Stephan beetle collection from Latimer County, Oklahoma), and Diptera.

The collection has accessioned over 20,000 new specimens during the past year alone, from as diverse of groups as ectoparasites of mammals, insects of Brazil, Nicaragua and Oklahoma, and mollusk specimens from North America. With the increased rate of donations significantly enriching the Recent Invertebrates collection, its emphasis continues to be placed on increased efficiency of space usage and accessibility to the research community.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Janet K. Braun (jkbraun@ou.edu), Dr. Katrina Menard (kmenard@ou.edu), or Dr. Tamaki Yuri (tyuri@ou.edu).

## NOTICE OF 2012 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The 27th Annual Business Meeting of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections will be held on Friday 15 June 2012, at 12:00 pm at the Omni New Haven Hotel, New Haven, CT, USA.

Please visit: <http://peabody.yale.edu/collections/spnhc2012/home>

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Minutes of the 2011 Annual Business Meeting
3. Report of the Treasurer
4. Report of Council meetings
5. Report of the President
6. Reports of the Standing Committees
7. Reports of the Sessional Committees
8. New Business
9. Old Business
10. Recognition and Grants
11. Change of Office
12. Announcements
13. Adjournment

## 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](http://www.spnhc.org), for current postings.

### AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, Scientific Assistant, Department of Ornithology

Duties & Responsibilities:

The Department of Ornithology at the American Museum of Natural History seeks a full time Scientific Assistant who will contribute to collection care and maintenance in the Department. Duties include collection curation, processing loans, specimen preparation and processing, and facilitating visitor use of the collection. Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- BA/BSc in biology or related field is required
- Museum experience, computer skills, collection databasing experience, and a background in systematic ornithology and specimen preparation are highly desirable.
- Field expeditionary experience is a plus.

*Continued on page 20*



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**WELCOME**

The Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History is excited to be hosting the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections in New Haven, Connecticut. This year we are joined by the Consortium of Northeastern Herbaria for our meeting, *Emerging Technology and Innovation in Natural History Collections Management*.

The Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History is one of the largest, academic, natural history museums in the United States. The museum's collections encompass eleven curatorial divisions and over 11 million specimens are housed either on Science Hill or at the West Campus facility. The museum has strong ties to the academic programs at Yale in part through the research of divisional curators who are also Yale faculty. The current museum opened in 1924, although collections date back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, specifically for teaching purposes.

Collection tours will offer behind the scenes access to most curatorial divisions including those currently housed at West Campus. Built in 2001, the Class of 1954 Environmental Science Center continues to act as a model for contemporary collections care facilities. Those participating in the pre-meeting georeferencing workshop will also see the new Center for Science and Social Science Information.



**SOCIAL EVENTS**

Ice Breaker

Come and meet your fellow meeting attendants at this Tuesday night event held in the picturesque Great Hall of the Peabody Museum. Hearty appetizers and delicious cocktails keep the mood light while enjoying the company of friends both old and new.

Annual Banquet

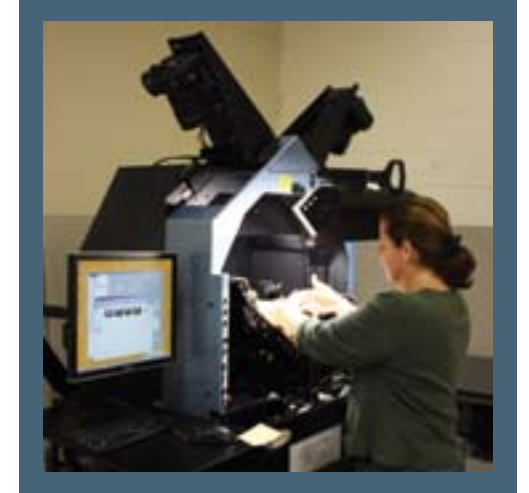
As in years past this is the highlight of the SPNHC social scene and a great way to let loose mid-meeting. This year we will be sampling the local flavor at the beautiful Amarante's Restaurant located on the water in New Haven.

Unsanctioned Bar Crawl

Have we had one before? No. Why? Who knows!!! Take a casual stroll along the streets of New Haven and check out the downtown 'scene'. We'll make stops at local bars and pubs with special SPNHC deals.

**PROGRAM**

Advances in technology have led to progress in the management of natural history collections and continue to develop new ways to manage collections data, capture digital copies of physical specimens, and develop novel techniques for conserving objects. Our meeting will emphasize the state-of-the-art approaches used by museums to complete ordinary activities in extraordinary ways. The progress science undergoes requires museums to maintain collections that are relevant and capable of answering those progressive demands.



Session Title	Topic
Archives and Special Collections	Session featuring talks about archive collections and other ancillary and special collections housed within natural history museums. Possible subjects include best practices, digitization, management and novel uses.
Collaborations	Session highlighting collaborative data sharing projects and cross-collection data aggregation activities.
Collections Digitization and Mobilization	Session featuring talks concerning all aspects of specimen digitization and mobilization. Possible subjects include workflows, management of large-scale collaborative projects, funding, digital preservation, and best practices.
Cryo Collections	Session featuring talks about best practices for cryogenic collections. In addition to best practices, possible subjects can include issues involved in the management and operation of and unique challenges associated with the operation of cryogenic facilities.
DemoCamp	DemoCamp provides a venue for creators to promote their technological solutions to advance the field of museum curation with broad applications for biology and biodiversity informatics.
Preventative Conservation	Session on preventive conservation. Co-organized with American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC).
Technology in Outreach and Education	Session highlighting the role of technology in museum or collections-based education and outreach.
Three Dimensional Imaging	Session featuring talks about 3-D imaging techniques and uses for such images. Focus is on museum objects, but talks can be more general.
General Sessions	General sessions for technical talks. These sessions are for talks that do not fit neatly into one of the other sessions.

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Continued from page 19:

..... Position Announcements

- The successful applicant will be expected to have good manual dexterity and time-management skills.

Hours: 35 hours/week

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or possess a current valid U.S. work visa. Outside applications should include a cover letter detailing qualifications for the position, CV, and list of references, and should be sent via e-mail to Joel Cracraft, Curator-in-Charge at [jlc@amnh.org](mailto:jlc@amnh.org).

Closing date for applications: March 31, 2012



## 2012 Carolyn Rose Award

**For outstanding commitment to  
Natural History Collections  
Care and Management**

In recognition of her significant contributions to conservation and collection management worldwide through her tireless service as a conservator, author, editor, and educator, the Council of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections has voted to present the 2012 Carolyn Rose Award to Catharine (Cathy) Hawks.

It is easy to see that Cathy was a natural to receive this honor when one reads some of the accolades in the support letters that were written on her behalf.

- "Twenty-six years after first meeting Cathy, I am more in awe than ever of her professional knowledge and leadership abilities, and her amazing generosity of spirit. I would not have had the career that I have had without Cathy's mentoring."
- "She is one of the most considerate, ethical, and devoted people that I know in our field."
- "To me, the real test of dedication is the unacknowledged time and effort that a person spends on something that they believe in. And Cathy is an extraordinary example of genuine dedication."
- "Cathy was a protégé of, collaborator with, and close friend to Carolyn L. Rose. I know that Carolyn, in looking down at us making this award to Cathy, would be very proud of and happy for her, as we all can be."

We hope that you can join us in New Haven in June when we present the highest honor of the Society to Cathy and celebrate her accomplished career.

Rich Rabeler, Past-President  
Chair, Recognition and Grants Committee

## 2012 President's Award

**For activities which have furthered  
the objectives of the Society  
through outstanding committee  
work, prolonged officer roles,  
and/or promotion of activities  
of the Society**

In recognition of his extensive contributions to SPNHC since its earliest days, the Council of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections has voted to present the 2012 President's Award to Russell D. (Tim) White.

Tim is fiercely devoted to SPNHC. Period! A look at his CV

shows, besides his tenure as President, he has served on eight committees, four local committees, and has received four Special Service Awards. When one of his colleagues asked him recently about his future SPNHC activities, he noted "I'm just going to keep doing stuff until someone tells me to stop."

In the words of his supporters:

- "Through his strong leadership and unshakable dedication [as President], he helped to guide the Society on a path towards broad influence and acknowledged professionalism beyond natural history"; indeed "the elevation of SPNHC into a truly professional and world class society."
- "I have no hesitation in saying that Tim is one of the pillars of the SPNHC Community and epitomizes what the society stand for and strives to promote collections care and the profession in its widest sense."
- "The unwavering commitment and devotion that Tim continues to show in his efforts and interactions on behalf of the Society are awe-inspiring"

We hope that you can join us in New Haven in June when we present this award to Tim.

Rich Rabeler, Past-President  
Chair, Recognition and Grants Committee

## 2012 Special Service Award

**Recognition for a single extraordinary  
effort that directly and positively  
affects the success of SPNHC  
activities or events**

In recognition of her significant contribution to SPNHC arising from her chairmanship of the Publicity and Outreach Sessional Committee, the Council of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections has voted to present a Special Services Award to Lisa Kronthal Elkin.

In the words of her supporters:

- Lisa "managed the committee's work in an extremely professional manner" and she clearly was "the driving force behind P&O".
- "P&O ended up tackling some of the biggest questions that face any professional society"; via their recommendations, the Society now has a new logo, promotional materials, conference exhibit booth, and, as many of you have likely seen, a new website.

- "Most importantly, the recommendations of the P&O Committee led to two major new initiatives of the Society, focused on professional mentorship and best practices." These initiatives have helped define the future of the Society.

We hope that you can join us in New Haven in June when we present this award to Lisa.

Rich Rabeler, Past-President  
Chair, Recognition and Grants Committee

## 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), Barbara Moore (BM), Ann Pinzl (AP), Rebecca Peters (RP), Cindy Ramotnik (CR), John Simmons (JS), 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](mailto:paleocatstar@ou.edu) (e-mail).

Akmon, D., A. Zimmerman, M. Daniels and M. Hedstrom. 2011. The application of archival concepts to a data-intensive environment: working with scientists to understand data management and preservation needs. *Archival Science* 11(3-4):329-348. (ML)

Anonymous. 2011a. Arboretum Maczul: Proyecto ecológico de arborización y expresión plástica. *Museos.VE* 1(3): 11-14. ([http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista\\_museos-3](http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista_museos-3)) (26 January 2012). (JS)  
- Article from a new digital magazine on Venezuelan museums that is available as a free download from the *Museos.VE* website (<http://issuu.com/museos.ve>). Maczul Arboretum: Ecology of arborization and plastic expression.

Anonymous. 2011b. El Jardín Botánica de Mérida celebra su aniversario con el "festival de los jardines. *Museos.VE* 1(4): 4-7. ([http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista\\_museos-4](http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista_museos-4)) (26 January 2012). (JS)  
- Article from a new digital magazine on Venezuelan museums that is available as a free download from the *Museos.VE* website (<http://issuu.com/museos.ve>). Mérida Botanical Garden celebrates its anniversary with the "festival of gardens."

Anonymous. 2011c. Jardines ecológicos Topotepuy: Museo viviente dedicada a la conservación, disfrute y fomento de la conciencia ecológica. *Museos.VE* 1(3): 8-10. ([http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista\\_museos-3](http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista_museos-3)) (26 January 2012). (JS)  
- Article from a new digital magazine on Venezuelan museums that is available as a free download from the *Museos.VE* website (<http://issuu.com/museos.ve>). Topotepuy ecological gardens: A living museum dedicated to conservation, fun, and promotion of ecological awareness.

Anonymous. 2011d. Missouri Botanical Garden instrumental in creating and maintaining taxonomic name resolution service. *Plant Science Bulletin* 57(3):100-101. (RP)  
- The Taxonomic Name Resolution Service (TNRS) provides a web service to standardize biological taxon names, beginning with plant names. TNRS builds on work done by Tropicos at Missouri Botanical Garden as well as work by D. Mozzherin (Marine Biology) and T. Rees (TaxaMatch).

Continued on page 22

*Continued from page 21:*  
..... *Pubs of interest*

Anonymous. 2011e. Missouri Botanical Garden part of collaborative effort to digitize Charles Darwin's personal library. *Plant Science Bulletin* 57(3):99-100. (RP)  
- A collaborative effort by members of the Biodiversity Heritage Library consortium, Darwin Manuscripts Project (American Museum of Natural History, NY) and the Natural History Museum (London) marks "the first time that notes and comments scribbled by Darwin on the pages and margins of his own personal library will be available online." Darwin's library (1,480 books) are being digitized. The information is fully indexed. See <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/collection/darwinlibrary>.

Anonymous. 2011f. Museo de la Estación Biológica de Rancho Grande. *Museos.VE* 1(1): 6-7. [http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista\\_museos-1](http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista_museos-1) (26 January 2012). (JS)  
- Article from a new digital magazine on Venezuelan museums that is available as a free download from the *Museos.VE* website (<http://issuu.com/museos.ve>). Rancho Grande Biology Station Museum.

Anonymous. 2011g. Random sample: Pathological museum in sore trouble. *Science* 333(6047):1206. (RP)  
- Pathological Museum (wax exhibits of deformed fetuses, models of diseased organs, preserved tumors, skeletons, knives, etc.) may close. Its annual 100,000 visitors provide only one-third of the annual 1 million Euro cost to run.

Bergstrom, K., N. Bruegeman, S. Buchanan, S. Honarbaksh, H. Swierenaga and M. Toutoff. 2011. A partnership of peoples: Renewal of the collections infrastructure at the UBC Museum of Anthropology. *Collections* 7(2):163-200. (AP)

Boye, C., F. Preusser and T. Schaeffer. 2011. Aging properties of select uv-blocking window films. *WAAC Newsletter* 33(1):18-23. (DD)

Bülow, A. E. and W. A. Brokerhof. 2011. The QALY in collection care—a cost effectiveness approach to collection management. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. Paper 1502. (AP)  
- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Canadian Conservation Institute. 2011. CCI Annual Review 2010–2011. Canadian Conservation Institute, Ottawa. 22 pp. [http://www.cci-icc.gc.ca/accountability-responsabilisation/AR\\_2011\\_EN\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.cci-icc.gc.ca/accountability-responsabilisation/AR_2011_EN_FINAL.pdf) (19 January 2012). (JW)  
- Outlines CCI's activities for 2010-11 including highlights of research and treatment.

Canadian Heritage Information Network. 2012. CHIN's TechWatch Winter 2012. CHIN's TechWatch. <http://www.rcip-chin.gc.ca/sgc-cms/nouvelles-news/anglais-english/?p=3040> (25 January 2012). (JW)  
- Quarterly showcase of promising, emerging or enduring technologies used by and for museums today. This one includes items on New Technologies, QR Codes (pros and cons), use of Social Media, and Mobile Technologies for museums.

Cane, D., S. Cane, C. Marlow and J. Thompson-Webb. 2011a. Collections benchmarking for success: Prioritising the work of the collections care team using a risk, time and cost matrix. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 1, Paper 1503. (AP)  
- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Cane, S., D. Clarke, J. Ashley-Smith, S. Robinson and T. Pollard. 2011b. Developing a high-level risk assessment tool for heritage assets. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 1, Paper 1504. (AP)  
- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs

and possibly only given to attendees.

Canfield, M. R., ed. 2011. *Field Notes on Science and Nature*. Harvard University Press, Cambridge. 297 pp. (JS)  
- 12 delightful accounts of adventures writing field notes, how to write field notes, and how to use field notes after they are written. In addition to the numerous hints on everything from organization to illustration in field notes, most sections of the book also contain fun to read accounts of fieldwork.

Carnall, M.. 2011. Completely rethinking the organisation of natural history museums: a taxonomically arranged national collection. *NatSCA News* 21:65-71. (AP)

Carnall, M. and N. McEnroe. 2011. Relocating the Grant Museum of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy, UCL. *Collections* 7(2):123-144. (AP)

Carter, J., C. Castle and B. Soren. 2011. Taking stock: Museum studies and museum practices in Canada. *Museum Management and Curatorship* 26(5):415-420. (JW)

Colwell-Chanthaphonh, C., S. E. Nash and S. R. Holen. 2010. *Crossroads of Culture, Anthropology Collections at the Denver Museum of Science & Nature*. The University of Colorado Press, Boulder, CO. 174 pp. (AP)

Conway, P. 2011. Archival quality and long-term preservation: a research framework for validating the usefulness of digital surrogates. *Archival Science* 11(3-4):293-309. (ML)

Cowen, R. 2012. Archaeologist of sound. *Science* 335(6056):278-280. <http://www.sciencemag.org/content/335/6056/278.full>. (RP)  
- Sound historian Patrick Feaster has accessed sound archives at the Smithsonian Institution (collections dating from 1880s), the French Academy of Sciences in Paris (Scott de Martinville's works from mid-1800s), and elsewhere in search of the oldest sound recordings. Audio clips are available online. Interesting use of collections.

Cull, R. E. 2011. Conservation of materials and resources. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 1, Paper 1505. (AP)  
- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Davis, J. A. 2011. Putting museum studies to work. *Museum Management and Curatorship* 26(5):459-479. (JW)

Davies, P., ed. 2011. *Museums and the Disposals Debate*. MuseumsEtc, Cambridge, MA. 644 pp. (ML)

De Groot, S. J. 2011. Collecting and processing cacti into herbarium specimens, using ethanol and other methods. *Systematic Botany* 36(4):981-989. (AP)

Dubuc, É. 2011. Museum and university mutations: The relationship between museum practices and museum studies in the era of interdisciplinarity, professionalisation, globalisation and new technologies. *Museum Management and Curatorship* 26(5):497-508. (JW)

Dyer, J., C. Ward, N. Rode, M. Hacke and Y. Shashoua. 2011. Reassessment of anoxic storage of ethnographic rubber objects. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 2, Paper 0401. (AP)  
- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Farrell, M. 2011. Hidden treasures: Natural history exhibits at the Royal College of Surgeons. *NatSCA News* 21:72-74. (AP)

Ferraro, J. and J. Henderson. 2011. Identifying features of effective emergency response plans. *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation* 50(1):35-48. (DD, BM)

Fischer, A. and M. Eska. 2011. Joining broken wax fragments: Testing tensile strength of adhesives for fragile and non-polar substrates. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 2, Paper 0403. (AP)  
- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Fleischer, S. V. 2010. What once saved lives may now take it - Identification, protection and mitigation of health and safety hazards in medical history collections. *Collections* 6(4):289-318. (AP)

Ford, B. and N. Smith. 2011. Lighting guidelines and the lightfastness of Australian indigenous objects at the National Museum of Australia. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 2, Paper 0404. (AP)  
- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Freedman, J. 2011. Storage of radioactive mineral collections at Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery, UK. *Collections* 7(2):201-212. (AP)

Garner, B., A. Giusti and M. Kerley. 2011. Conservation of insect specimens affected by verdigris. *NatSCA News* 21:59. (AP)

Garside, P. and B. Knight. 2011. The behaviour of books in changing environmental conditions and the implications for collection storage. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 2, Paper 0605. (AP)  
- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Gay, H. 2011. Book Review: *Spaces and Collections in the History of Science: The Laboratorio Chimico Overture*, edited by Marta C. Lourenço and Ana Carneiro. Lisbon: Museum of Science of the University of Lisbon, 2009. *Isis* 102(3):575-576. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1086/663053>. (RP)  
- 24 papers from a 2007 conference held in connection with the opening of a restored chemistry teaching laboratory (and its 3000 conserved artifacts) as part of the Lisbon Museum of Science. Emphasizes the materiality of science and the importance of buildings, instruments, apparatus, and other artifacts for the understanding of scientific history. A few papers address ways of promoting the historical conservation of scientific spaces and of chemical collections.

Gonzalez, J. M. 2011. Del Tíbet a Rancho Grande: A 100 años del nacimiento del investigador Ernst Scäfer. *Museos.VE* 1(3): 20-22. ([http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista\\_museos-3](http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista_museos-3)) (26 January 2012). (JS)  
- Article from a new digital magazine on Venezuelan museums that is available as a free download from the *Museos.VE* website (<http://issuu.com/museos.ve>). From Tibet to Rancho Grande: 100 years since the birth of the researcher Ernst Scäfer.

Greene, H. W. 2011. Book Review: *Field notes on science and nature*, edited by Michael R. Canfield. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2011. [aka. Books et. al.: *Natural History: Field Work as Art and Science*]. *Science* 333(6050):1704. <http://www.sciencemag.org/content/333/6050/1704.full>. (RP)  
- A celebration of field notes in a collection of 14 essays.

Gregg, K. 2011. A virtual herbarium to enhance learning in botany, ecology, and environmental science. *The Vasculum* 6(2):7. (AP)

Haug, J. T., C. Haug, A. Maas, S. R. Fayes, N. H. Trewin and D. Waloszek. 2009. Simple 3D images from fossil and Recent micromaterial using light microscopy. *Journal of Microscopy* 233(1):93-101. (JW)

Hellawell, J. and C. J. Nicholas. 2012. Acid treatment effects on the stable isotopic signatures of fossils. *Palaeontology* 55(1):1-10. (JW)

Henderson, J. 2011. Reflections on decision-making in conservation. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 2, Paper 1509. (AP)  
- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Hewett, R. T. 2011. Case study of the effectiveness of removal of arsenic from textiles prior to exhibit. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 2, Paper 1811. (AP)  
- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Hoff, J. 2011. Reflections a decade later... *Collections* 7(2):235-242. (AP)

Hokche, O. and L. Rodriguez. 2012. Herbario Nacional de Venezuela: El centro de conocimiento y conservación de la riqueza florística del país celebra 90 años. *Museos.VE* 1(6): 10-13. ([http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista\\_museos-6](http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista_museos-6)) (26 January 2012). (JS)  
- Article from a new digital magazine on Venezuelan museums that is available as a free download from the *Museos.VE* website (<http://issuu.com/museos.ve>). The National Herbarium of Venezuela: The center of knowledge and conservation of the floristic riches of the country celebrates 90 years.

Hong, S. H., M. Strlič, I. Ridley, K. Ntanos, N. Bell and M. Cassar. 2011. Monitoring and modelling the storage environment at The National Archives, United Kingdom. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 2, Paper 1608. (AP)  
- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Jackson, K. and H. Richardson. 2011. The conservation of an early gut skin sail from the Hudson Strait. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 2, Paper 0410. (AP)  
- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

James, T. 2011. The use of collections for biological recording. *NatSCA News* 21:60-64. (AP)

Lane, S. A. 2011. Re-organising the coleoptera collection at Leicestershire County Council museums. *NatSCA News* 21:75-88. (AP)

Larkin, N. R. 2011. Pyrite decay: cause and effect, prevention and cure. *NatSCA News* 21:35-43. (AP)

Laursen, L. 2011. NASA to Launch Guidelines To Protect Lunar Artifacts. *Science* 333(6047). <http://www.sciencemag.org/content/333/6047/1207.full>. (ML)  
- Discusses how heritage preservation guidelines may be needed in space exploration also.

Legner, M. 2011. On the early history of museum environmental control. *Studies in Conservation* 56(2):125-137. (BM)

MacDevitt, A. 2011. Digitising the collection. *ICOM News* 64(2):6-7. (AP)

Machado, A. 2012. Los dioramas de los museos del siglo XXI. *Museos.VE* 1(6): 14-16. ([http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista\\_museos-6](http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista_museos-6)) (26 January 2012). (JS)  
- Article from a new digital magazine on Venezuelan museums that is available as a free download from the *Museos.VE* website (<http://issuu.com/museos.ve>). Museum dioramas in the 21st century.

MacLeod, I. D. and A. J. van Dam. 2011. A migration mechanism for transfer of sharks from ethanol to aqueous glycerol solutions. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal,

Continued from page 23:

.....Pubs of Interest

19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 2, Paper 1201. (AP)

- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Matjushin, M. 2012. La conservación preventiva en el museo. *Museos.VE* 1(6): 17-19. ([http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista\\_museos-6](http://issuu.com/museos.ve/docs/revista_museos-6)) (26 January 2012). (JS)

- Article from a new digital magazine on Venezuelan museums that is available as a free download from the *Museos.VE* website (<http://issuu.com/museos.ve>). Preventive conservation in the museum.

McCloskey, A. 2011. The re-housing and return of the Louisiana State Museum's collections. *Collections* 7(2). (AP)

McGrew, T. A. 2011. Procurement: Some thoughts on this unheralded yet essential element of a successful collections project. *Collections* 7(2):87-94. (ML)

Meister, N. B. and W. Green. 2011. Planning is everything; fostering success for on-site collection moves. *Collections* 7(2):95-112. (AP)

Morris, P. A. 2011. *A History of Taxidermy: Art, Science and Bad Taste*. MPM Publishing, London. 400 pp. (AP)

Notton, D. 2011. A new practical method for profiling and topping up alcohol preserved entomology collections. *NatSCA News* 21:44-49. (AP)

Nowak-Kemp, M. B. 2009. 150 years of changing attitudes towards zoological collections in a university museum: the case of the Thomas Bell tortoise collection in the Oxford University Museum. *Archives of Natural History* 36(2):299-315. (ML)

- Older citation (not previously listed), but timely in respect to how attitudes towards collections are still changing.

O'Grady, C. R., N. Odegaard and E. C. Adams. 2011. Journeys of our ancestors: Interdisciplinary research and its influence on conservation methodologies for the assessment of archaeological artifacts. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 2, Paper 1613. (AP)

- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Pearlstein, E., J. Druzik, C. Pesme, R. Riedler and M. Gleeson. 2011a. A collaborative study of California featherwork. *WAAC Newsletter* 33(2):22-23. (DD)

Pearlstein, E., R. Riedler, M. Gleeson, J. Druzik and C. Pesme. 2011b. A collaborative study of Native California featherwork. Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 2, Paper 0405. (AP)

- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Péquignot, A., E. Sarot, F. Duranthon, A. Pensel and M.-F. Carillo-Baraglioli. 2011. Specimen fixation without formalin in natural history collections: Utopia or reality? Preprint, 16th Triennial Meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation, Lisbon, Portugal, 19-23 September 2011, Critério-Produção Gráfica, LDA, Vol. 2, Paper 2004. (AP)

- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Posilev, Y. 2011. The iPad: Condition reporting for the XXI century. *WAAC Newsletter* 33(1):11-13. (DD)

Psaila, D. 2011. Proud and exhausted: Recounting the move of the Archives of Ontario to a new facility. *Collections* 7(2):145-162. (AP)

Rabaler, R., A. Reznicek and P. Berry. 2011. Featured Herbarium: MICH - The University of Michigan Herbarium. *The Vasculum* 6(2):2-6. (AP)

- Comprehensive coverage of MICH: history; its algal, lichen, fungal, pteridophyte and vascular holdings; digitization; teaching; etc.

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- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

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- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

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- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

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- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

Saiz-Jimenez, C., S. Cuezva, V. Jurado, A. Fernandez-Cortes, E. Porca, D. Benevente, J. C. Cañaveras and S. Sanchez-Moral. 2011. Paleolithic art in peril: Policy and science collide at Altamira Cave. *Science* 334(6052):42-43. <http://www.sciencemag.org/content/334/6052/42.full>. (RP)

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- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

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- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.

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- Article from a new digital magazine on Venezuelan museums that is available as a free download from the *Museos.VE* website (<http://issuu.com/museos.ve>). *Museums with heart: The Cardiovascular Pathology Museum*.

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- Note: Potentially limited in circulation due to being "published" on CDs and possibly only given to attendees.



## 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](mailto: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).*

### 2012

#### February 2012

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

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

February 1, 2012. Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries and

Museums Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.ims.gov>.

February 8, 2012. PAC: Preventing pests by IPM, Preservation Advisory Centre Training Day, British Library Centre for Conservation, London, England. More information available at <http://www.bl.uk/blpac/pests.html>.

February 15-17, 2012. 2012 California Association of Museums (CAM) Conference: Museums Making It Happen, Berkeley, California, USA. For more information, please call (831) 471-9970 or email [cam@calmuseums.org](mailto:cam@calmuseums.org). Visit website at <http://www.calmuseums.org/>.

February 19-21, 2012. Small Museum Association 28th Annual Conference, Ocean City, Maryland, USA. For more information, please email [conference@smallmuseum.org](mailto:conference@smallmuseum.org) or visit the conference website <http://www.smallmuseum.org/conference.html>.

### March 2012

March 15, 2012. 21st Century Museum Professionals Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.ims.gov>.

March 17-20, 2012. Virginia Association of Museums (VAM) 2012 Conference: Launching New Connections, Newport News, Virginia, USA. For more information, please call (804) 788-5820, email [jweiskotten@vamuseums.org](mailto:jweiskotten@vamuseums.org), or go to <http://www.vamuseums.org/>.

March 19-21, 2012. Legal Issues in Museum Administration, 40th Annual ALI-ABA Course of Study, co-sponsored by The Smithsonian Institution with the cooperation of the American Association of Museums, San Francisco, California, USA. Details at [http://www.ali-aba.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=courses.course&course\\_code=CT024](http://www.ali-aba.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=courses.course&course_code=CT024).

March 27-29, 2012. The 7th International IPM Symposium, Memphis, Tennessee, USA. Contact: [margaret.appleby@ontario.ca](mailto:margaret.appleby@ontario.ca).

March 27-30, 2012. 2012 Annual Meeting Texas Association of Museums (TAM), Museums in the Currents: Navigating a River of Change, San Antonio, Texas, USA. Call (512) 328-6812, email [admin@texasmuseums.org](mailto:admin@texasmuseums.org) or visit <http://www.prismsnet.com/~tam/> for more information.

### April 2012

April 11-14, 2012. Museums and the Web 2012 16th Annual Conference, San Diego, California, USA. For more information, please call 240-839-1114, email [info@museum-sandtheweb.com](mailto:info@museum-sandtheweb.com) or visit <http://www.museumsandtheweb.com/mw2012>.

April 28, 2012. 2012 Association of Academic Museums & Galleries (AAMG) Annual Conference, Tools of Engagement:

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.....Calendar of Events

Securing Commitment on Campus, Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Campus, Minnesota, USA. For more information, visit <http://www.aamg-us.org/conference12.php>.

April 29-May 2, 2012. American Association of Museums (AAM) 106th Annual Meeting and MuseumExpo™, Minneapolis/Saint Paul, Minnesota, USA. Go to <http://www.aam-us.org/am12/> for more information.

## June 2012

June 11-16, 2012. Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC) 27th Annual Meeting, Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, New Haven, Connecticut, USA. Meeting website at <http://peabody.yale.edu/collections/spnhc2012>.

June 22-26, 2012. 92nd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists, Reno, Nevada, USA. Meeting website at <http://www.dce.k-state.edu/conf/mammalogists/>.

## July 2012

July 7-11, 2012. Botany 2012: The Next Generation, Columbus, Ohio, USA. Visit <http://www.botanyconference.org/> for more information.

July 23-29, 2012. The Combined 2012 Annual Meeting of the Lepidopterists' Society and the Societas Europaea Lepidopterologica, Denver Museum of Nature & Science, Denver, Colorado, USA. Contact Todd Gilligan at [tgilliga@gmail.com](mailto:tgilliga@gmail.com).

## August 2012

August 8-14, 2012. The 7th World Congress of Herpetology (WCH)/Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Conference information is available at <http://www.worldcongressofherpetology.org/>.

August 14-18, 2012. The 130th Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU), to be held in conjunction with the 5th North American Ornithological Conference, organized jointly by the American Ornithologists' Union, Society of Canadian Ornithologists / Société des Ornithologistes du Canada, Bird Studies Canada, Association of Field Ornithologists, Cooper Ornithological Society, Raptor Research Foundation, Sección Mexicana del Consejo Internacional para la Preservación de las Aves [CIPAMEX], Waterbird Society, and Wilson Ornithological Society, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. For details, visit <http://www.aou.org>.

August 15, 2012. Learning Labs in Libraries and Museums Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.ims.gov>.

August 19-25, 2012. The International Congress of Entomology, Daegu, South Korea.

## September 2012

September 8-13, 2012. 2012 Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) Annual National Conference, Phoenix, Arizona, USA. For more information, call (301) 562-0777, email [mdueppen@aza.org](mailto:mdueppen@aza.org) or visit <http://www.aza.org/>.

## October 2012

October 3, 2012. Conservation Project Support Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.ims.gov>.

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/>.

## November 2012

November 1, 2012. Museums for American Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.ims.gov>.

November 11-14, 2012. Entomology 2012, the 60th Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America, Knoxville, Tennessee, USA. Visit the conference website at <http://www.entsoc.org/entomology2012>.

## December 2012

December 1, 2012. Conservation Assessment Program Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.ims.gov>.

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

December 15, 2012. Conservation Assessment Program Grants deadline. Details at <http://www.ims.gov>.

## 2013

### Fall 2013

October 30-November 2, 2013. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) 73rd Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA USA. For more information, go to <http://www.vertpaleo.org/meetings/>.



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