

THE
34th ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
OF THE
**SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF
NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS**



SPNHC

ADVANCING COLLECTIONS CARE

“Making the Case for Natural History Collections”

Field Museum of Natural History

1400 S Lake Shore Drive, Chicago IL, USA

May 31, 2019

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Agenda for the Annual Business Meeting

Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections
31 May 2019
Field Museum of Natural History
1400 S Lake Shore Dr, Chicago IL, USA

1. Call to order.
2. Agenda.
3. Minutes of the 2018 Annual Business Meeting.
4. Report of the President.
5. Report of the Treasurer.
6. Reports of Standing Committees.
 - a. Archives
 - b. Best Practices
 - c. Bylaws
 - d. Conference
 - e. Conservation
 - f. Elections
 - g. Emerging Professionals
 - h. Legislation and Regulations
 - i. Long-Range Planning
 - j. Membership
 - k. Professional Development
 - l. Publications
 - m. Recognition and Grants
 - n. Web Site
7. Reports of Sessional Committees.
 - a. International Relations
 - b. US Federal Collections
 - c. Web Redesign
8. Reports of Representatives (24)
Due to time constraints, please refer to the printed reports.
9. New Business.
 - a. Memoriam
10. Old Business.
11. Announcements.
12. Adjournment.

2018–2019 List of SPNHC Members Serving on Council and Committees

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President	Barbara Thiers	2017–2019	Melinda Peters (filling rest of Tomajko's term)
President-Elect	Debra Trock	2016–2019	Miranda Lowe
Past President	Linda S. Ford	2017–2020	Amanda Lawrence
Treasurer	Ruth O'Leary	2017–2020	Deborah Paul
Managing Editor	Mariel Campbell	2018–2021	Talia Karim
Secretary	Cindy Opitz	2018–2021	Fran Ritchie

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

STANDING COMMITTEES

Archives Committee

Carol Kelloff Chair
 Lisa F. Palmer

Best Practices Committee

Jessica D. Cundiff Co-chair
 Breda Zimkus Co-chair
 Gretchen Anderson Amanda Millhouse
 Lori Benson William Moser
 Andrew Bentley Dirk Neumann
 Emily Braker Melinda Peters
 Matthew Brown Marcia Revelez
 Erin Cashion Fran Ritchie
 Michelle Coyne Thomas Schlossleitner
 Carrie Eaton Randy Singer
 Nicole Fisher Hayley Singleton
 Magdalena Grenda-Kurmanow
 Cathy Hawks Genevieve Tocci
 Carol Kelloff Greg Watkins-Colwell
 Liz Leith Amy Weiss
 Miranda Lowe Andrew Williston
 Meredith Mahoney Dan Young

Citations Subcommittee of Best Practices

Margaret Landis Chair
 Mariko Kageyama Janet Waddington
 Ann Pinzl

Bylaws Committee

Linda S. Ford Chair (Past President)
 Laura Abraczinskas Cindy Opitz (Secretary)
 Andy Bentley

Conference Committee

Debra Trock, Chair (President-Elect)
 Paul Mayer, Sponsor Liaison, N. America
 Clare Valentine, Sponsor Liaison, Europe
 Paul Mayer Chicago, 2019
 Robert Morris Dunedin, 2018
 Melissa Islam Denver, 2017
 Christiane Quaisser Berlin, 2016

Conservation Committee

Rebecca Newberry Co-chair
 Fran Ritchie Co-chair
 Gretchen Anderson RDU USA
 Stephanie Black RDU Asia
 Julian Carter RDU Europe
 Mariana Di Giacomo RDU South Amer.
 Luci Ciperia Envir/Sustainability
 Carolyn Leckie Envir/Sustainability
 Robert Waller Value Change Est.
 Andrew Bentley Fluid Collections
 Bethany Palumbo Food Service
 Fran Ritchie Food Service
 Lori Benson Mark Renczkowski
 Suzanne B. McLaren Clare Valentine
 Cindy Opitz Tim White

Election Committee

Bethany Palumbo Chair
 Jean-Marc Gagnon

Emerging Professionals Committee

Kari Harris Co-chair; Membership Com
 Mariana di Giacomo Co-chair; Archives, IR Com
 Fran Ritchie Best Practices Committee
 Katie McComas Blog Editor, Publications

Legislation and Regulations Committee

Stephanie D. Carson Co-chair
 Dirk Neumann Co-chair
 Matt Brown Richard Rabeler
 Carol Butler Rusty Russell
 Mariel Campbell Thomas Schlossleitner
 James Erdman Hayley Singleton
 Peter Giere Skip Skidmore
 Chris Huddleston Jeremiah Trimble
 Shelly James Greg Watkins-Colwell
 Esther Langan David Werneke
 Elise LeCompte Andrew Williston
 Christopher Milensky Robert Wilson
 Bill Moser Breda Zimkus
 Patricia Nutter
 Andrew Bentley, Transport of Dangerous Goods

Long-Range Planning Committee

Debra Trock Chair (President-Elect)
 Suzanne Ryder Co-chair
 Laura Abraczinskas

Membership Committee

Tiffany Adrain Chair
 Elena Benamy Rachel Malloy
 Richard Busch Ann Pinzl
 Kari Panhorst Greg Watkins-Collwell
 Talia Karim Melinda Peters (Treasurer)

Professional Development Committee

Nicholas Drew Co-chair
 Jeff Stephenson Co-chair
 Elise LeCompte Travel Grant Sub-chair
 Travis Marsico Mentorship Sub-chair
 Meghann Toner Mentorship Sub-chair
 Elena Benamy Kari Harris
 Christina Byrd Rusty Russell

Publications Committee

Mariel Campbell Chair, Managing Editor
 Hayley Singleton Production Assist. Editor
 Marcy Revelez Assoc. Ed. Collection Forum
 Mariana di Giacomo Assoc. Ed. Collection Forum
 Scott Rufolo Assoc. Ed. Collection Forum
 Genevieve E. Tocci Assoc. Ed. Collection Forum
 Janet Waddington Assoc. Ed. Collection Forum
 Liath Appleton Editor, SPNHC Connection
 Lori Schlenker Asst. Ed, SPNHC Connection
 Katie McComas Advertising, SPNHC Conn.
 Harlan Svoboda Advertising, SPNHC Conn.
 Ann Pinzl Bk Reviews, SPNHC Conn.
 Lisa Elkin Special Publication Editor
 Christopher Norris Special Publication Editor
 Breda Zimkus Editor, Technical Leaflets
 Carol Kelloff, Archive-Chair

Recognition and Grants Committee

Llinda S. Ford Chair (Past President)
 Andy Bentley Suzanne B. McLaren
 Jean-Marc Gagnon

SPNHC Web Committee

Liath Appleton Chair
 Lynn Jones Social Media
 Jessica Utrup NH-COLL-List Mgr., Wiki Rep.
 Gabriela Hogue Events Calendar
 James Macklin

SESSIONAL COMMITTEES**International Relations**

Sue Ryder Chair
 Mariana Di Giacomo EPG Liaison
 Deborah Paul

US Federal Collections

Matt Brown Chair
 Carol Butler Chris Norris
 Janaki Krishna Sally Shelton

Website Redesign

Barbara Thiers Chair
 Liath Appleton James Macklin
 Andy Bentley Ruth O'Leary
 Jessica Cundiff Melinda Peters
 Linda S. Ford

ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATION

Alliance of Natural History Museums of Canada (ANHMC): Erica Wheeler
American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC): Gretchen Anderson
American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH): Randy Singer
American Society of Mammalogists (ASM): Suzanne McLaren
American Society of Plant Taxonomists (ASPT): Richard Rabeler
Association of Registrars and Collections Specialists (ARCS): John E. Simmons
Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG): James Macklin
Collections Stewardship Professional Network, AAM (CS-AAM): John E. Simmons
Entomological Collections Network (ECN): Dan Young
Geological Curators' Group (GCG): (Open)
Geological Society of America (GSA): Chris Tacker
Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF): James Macklin
Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF): Catharine Hawks
Integrated Digitized Biocollections (iDigBio): Deborah Paul
International Council of Museums—Committee for Collections of Natural History (ICOM-NATHIST): Gretchen Anderson
International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER): Breda Zimkus
Managers of Australasian Herbarium Collections—Councils of Heads of Australasian Herbaria (MAHC-CHAH): Shelley James
Natural Sciences Collections Association (NatSCA): Roberto Portela Miguez
Natural Science Collections Alliance (NSCA): Robert Gropp
Paleontological Society (PaleoSoc): Jessica D. Cundiff
Scientific Collections International (SciColl): Barbara Thiers
Small Collections Network (SCNet): Anna Monfils
Society of Herbarium Curators (SCH): Richard Rabeler
Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP): Matthew Brown

Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections
Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting
31 August 2018
Otago Museum, Castle 2 (415)
Dunedin, New Zealand

Members Present: 50

1. President Linda S. Ford called the meeting to order at 2:10pm, welcoming everyone present.

2. **Agenda**

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

Moved: Jeff Stephenson;

Seconded: Debra Trock

Vote: All in favor: unanimous;

Opposed: 0

Motion passed

3. **Minutes**

Motion: To accept the minutes of the last Annual Business Meeting, held on 23 June 2017, Curtis Denver Hotel, Denver, Colorado, USA (found on page 7 of the ABM packet).

Moved: Gretchen Anderson;

Seconded: Barbara Thiers

Vote: All in favor: unanimous;

Opposed: 0

Motion passed

4. **President's Report**

Ford referred to the written report on page 11 of the ABM packet, and acknowledged the beloved SPNHC members that have passed during the past year: Stephen Williams, Ann Molineux, Linda Hollenberg, and Jean DeMouthe; who were active members in the Society and their communities.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

- Andy Bentley read the reports submitted by Treasurer Ruth O'Leary (who was unable to attend), beginning on page 14 of the ABM packet, including new-member report, and the reports on the 2017 and 2018 budgets.

- Bentley thanked donors and admonished delinquents to pay their dues.

Motion: To accept SPNHC new members for 2017 and 2018.

Moved: Carol Butler;

Seconded: Greg Watkins-Colwell

Vote: All in favor: unanimous;

Opposed: 0

Motion passed

Motion: To accept the report of the Treasurer and 2018 budget as amended.

Moved: Meghann Toner;

Seconded: Ann Pinzl

Vote: All in favor: unanimous;

Opposed: 0

Motion passed

6. **Reports of Standing Committees**

- a. Archives – Carol Kelloff (not present); Ford: please refer to the written report in the ABM packet.

- b. Best Practices – Jessica Cundiff: please refer to the written report.

- c. Bylaws – Andy Bentley: please refer to the written report.

- d. Conference – Barbara Thiers: please refer to the written report.

- e. Conservation – Rebecca Newberry (not present), Fran Ritchie: please refer to the written report.

- f. Elections – Bethany Palumbo (not present); Cindy Opitz referred to written report, highlighting election results and calling for nominations for two Members-at-Large by 9/30/2018.

- g. Emerging Professionals – Kari Harris/Mariana di Giacomo (not present), Ford: please refer to the written report.

- h. Legislation and Regulations - Dirk Neumann/Stephanie Carson; Carson: please refer to the written report.

- i. Long-Range Planning – Barbara Thiers/Sue Ryder; Thiers: please refer to the written report.
- j. Membership – Tiffany Adrain (not present), Ann Pinzl: please refer to the written report.
- k. Professional Development – Jeff Stephenson/Jennifer Strotman, Stephenson: please refer to the written report.
- l. Publications – Mariel Campbell (not present); Ford: please refer to the written report.
- m. Recognition and Grants – Andy Bentley: please refer to the written report. Bentley also urged membership to nominate peers for SPNHC awards and grants, noting a lack of nominations and announcing that the Faber Research Grant requirements will be relaxed and made more all-encompassing, to generate more proposals, as the award has been given only 5 times in the last 18 years.
- n. Web – Liath Appleton (not present), Ford: please refer to the written report.

7. Reports of Sessional Committees

- a. International Relations – Sue Ryder (not present), Deb Paul: please refer to the written report.
- b. US Federal Collections – Matt Brown: please refer to the written report.
- c. Website Redesign – Barbara Thiers: please refer to the written report.

8. Representative Reports (22)

For expediency, Ford referred membership to the written reports in the ABM packet.

9. New Business [addressed during the joint SPNHC/TDWG meeting preceding the SPNHC ABM]

a. Awards:

Ford noted that the society has the privilege to recognize individuals who make contributions to the society and our professional field, by bestowing the following awards:

1. Special Service Award – presented in recognition of an individual or individuals for special efforts leading to the success of an important event or activity of the Society. Two were presented during the joint SPNHC/TDWG portion of the meeting, prior to the SPNHC ABM.
 - Presented by Bentley to TDWG (Biodiversity Information Standards), represented by Dmitris Koureas, for TDWG's contributions to collection care; as he expressed the Society's gratitude, Bentley noted that TDWG is collection-based, or at least started that way.
 - Presented by Ford to 2018 Local Organizing Committee chair Robert Morris, Otago Museum; Morris noted that it was his honor to accept the award on behalf of the LOC, and that the committee had taken a big risk, wondering whether people would come to the meeting and whether SPNHC and TDWG would play well together, but that instead of parallel play, the result has been good conversations and exchanges. Morris thanked the LOC, including Emma, Nyssa, Kane, and staff, as well as the SPNHC and TDWG communities, and Gail, and everyone else, noting that he had really enjoyed hosting. Dmitris Koureas also presented Robert Morris and the LOC with gifts, thanking them for the work of the entire organization.

b. Upcoming Meetings

2020: Nick Fraser and Rob Cubey, representing the National Museum of Scotland and the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh: Cubey noted that the Society allows one to start at the Edinburgh of the South and end up at the Edinburgh of the North, via Chicago, then read a letter addressed to the Society, from the Directors of the National Museum of Scotland and the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (Regis Keeper of Botany), and on behalf of the museum and herbarium staff, inviting SPNHC and ICOM-NATHIST to their first joint meeting, to be held in Edinburgh in 2020.

Motion: That the membership accepts the invitation from the Royal Botanic Garden

Edinburgh and the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, Scotland, to host the 2020 annual conference of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections.

Moved: Deb Paul;

Second: Debra Trock

Vote: All in favor: unanimous;

Opposed: 0

Motion passed

2019: Paul Mayer, of the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, Illinois, USA, showed a video presentation on the Field Museum's proposal to host the SPNHC 2019 meeting in Chicago. Mayer noted that Robert Morris had set the bar high for the next SPNHC meeting, and that SPNHC will be returning to Chicago after 29 years. Meeting dates will be 5/25/2019–5/31/2019, with workshops on 5/25 and fieldtrips on 5/26, and additional fieldtrips and the icebreaker reception on 5/27 (Memorial Day); quiz night on 5/28, vendor reception 5/29, banquet 5/30, and wrap-up on 5/31. Mayer highlighted Chicago's great food and weather, noting that the Hilton Chicago (720 S. Michigan Avenue) will be the conference site/hotel.

TDWG also announced that its next meeting will be held October 21–25, 2019, in Leiden, hosted by Naturalis, with GBIF, DISSCO, CETAF, and iDigBio, and part of Open Digital Science Week on Biological and Geological Diversity, with science, infrastructure, standards, and policy tracks.

10. Old Business

11. Announcements

- Ford thanked Andy Bentley for his service as president-elect, president, and past president, to much applause.
- Ford also thanked our 2 long-term Members-at-Large, whose 2015–2018 terms officially ended this year – Bethany Palumbo & Rusty Russell, as well as Fran Ritchie for stepping in as a Member-at-Large for the past month, completing Russell's term.
- Ford welcomed new President-Elect Deb Trock and our 2 new Members-at-Large, Fran Ritchie and Talia Karim (not present), whose terms will begin at the close of the gavel.
- Ford noted, as her presidency ends, that she has thoroughly enjoyed her tenure and is proud of the things the Society and its members have accomplished during her time as President. Opitz presented Ford with a bouquet, before Ford called on incoming president Thiers to adjourn the meeting.

12. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

Moved: Barbara Thiers.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Opitz, SPNHC Secretary

Report of the President

I was excited to receive the SPNHC presidential gavel at the close of the 2018 joint SPNHC-TDWG meeting in Dunedin last September! Time has flown by since then, but plenty has happened in the interim.

First, I want to thank Past President Linda Ford for her outstanding work as President and in the positions she held leading up to her presidency. Her great attention to detail in handing over the reins of the Society was invaluable to me, and she has provided advice and guidance in these early months of my presidency. I have benefitted greatly from the counsel of Andy Bentley, whose term as Past President ended when I assumed office. Andy was an active past president and continues to serve the society as a member of the ad hoc website redesign committee.

I also thank the other SPNHC officers, Deb Trock (President-Elect) Cindy Opitz (Secretary), Ruth O'Leary (Treasurer), and Mariel Campbell (Managing Editor), for their help with transition. I am also grateful to SPNHC committee chairs, who all agreed to serve another term. I would like to give special appreciation to the Membership Committee, under the leadership of Tiffany Adrain, for taking on extra responsibilities to lessen some of the burden on the Treasurer. We are very lucky to have such a talented and dedicated team leading the Society! Finally, I want to thank those who agreed to stand for election to SPNHC Council and to congratulate the newly elected Members-at-Large, Paul Mayer and Anna Monfils, whose terms will begin after the SPNHC Conference in May 2019. Katie McComas is stepping down after the 2019 meeting from her role as Advertising Editorial Assistant, and Harlan Svodoba will be taking over the position. Our thanks to Katie for her service, and a welcome to Harlan! In addition, we are grateful that Jean-Marc Gagnon agreed to co-chair the Elections Committee with Bethany Palumbo.

I am pleased to announce that Melinda Peters will take over the position of Treasurer at the close of the 2019 SPNHC conference! One of the first things she will do is to put out a call for a new volunteer position, Assistant Treasurer. If you are looking for a way to fill a vital role for our organization and at the same time gain financial management skills that you can use in your career and personal life, please consider responding when the call goes out for this position. Our sincere thanks to Ruth O'Leary for her years of dedication and hard work as SPNHC Treasurer.

Other News:

New SPNHC website. In June 2018, SPNHC signed a contract with Surface Impression, a Canada-based web design company, to move our web content to a platform that webmaster Liath Appleton can manage without depending on an outside company to make requested changes. We were looking for an updated, mobile- and tablet- friendly design for the website that could link seamlessly to SPNHC social media and would be inviting to potential new members. Work on the website is now complete. Thanks so much to the members of the sessional Website Redesign Committee: Liath Appleton, Andy Bentley, Jessica Cundiff, Linda S. Ford, James Macklin and Melinda Peters, for all their hard work during this process. A website is only as good as the content it provides, so please do contribute content about upcoming conferences, job postings, and other announcements.

Biodiversity Collections Network (BCON) Extended Specimen Initiative. SPNHC members will remember that during the past year the Biodiversity Collections Network has solicited your thoughts about the future deployment of data held in U.S. biodiversity collections for research, policy, and education. A workshop held last fall synthesized the responses from the surveys, as well as from discussion sessions held at several conferences and recent literature. I led the effort, and past SPNHC presidents Linda S. Ford and Andy Bentley were both part of the team that crafted the document.

Arising from these deliberations is a consensus to focus future biodiversity documentation on building a network of extended specimens that represent the depth and breadth of biodiversity held in U.S. collections institutions. The extended specimen will consist of the physical voucher and preparations (e.g. tissue samples); digitized representations such as occurrence records and

images; derivative products such as gene sequences or metagenomes; and taxon- or locality-specific data such as observations, phylogenies, or species distributions.

New collections, needed now more than ever to inform solutions to societal problems, should be “born-extended,” i.e., accessioned with a full suite of supplemental data. Collectively, these extended specimens will form a network of linked data to enable exploration across taxonomic, temporal, and spatial scales. Such exploration will help us understand the rules that govern how organisms grow, diversify, and interact with one another, and how environmental change and human activities may affect those rules.

As a resource for formal and informal education (including citizen science), the extended specimen network will afford scalable learning opportunities for K-Life in data literacy as well as biological science and the humanities. To create this resource will require continued specimen digitization, new collections, standardization of existing digital data to facilitate discovery, and implementation of a robust specimen identifier tracking system. It will also require new approaches to data sharing and collaboration, partnerships with national and international data providers, computer and data scientists, and educators.

Thanks to everyone who contributed their insights to the surveys, discussions, and comments on the draft report!

We launched the report at the National Press Club last Thursday (4 April). The final version of a report entitled, "*Extending U.S. Biodiversity Collections to Promote Research and Education*" is now available (<https://bcon.aibs.org/2019/04/04/bcon-report-extending-u-s-biodiversity-collections-to-promote-research-and-education/>). Both the full report (about 23 pages) and a shorter illustrated version (summary brochure) can be downloaded.

National Academy of Sciences Biological Collections Committee. Past SPNHC President Andy Bentley and I are both part of this committee. Commissioned by NSF, the committee is charged with reviewing the role of biological collections in research and education and developing options for their future maintenance to enable their continued use to benefit science and society. For this committee, biological collections are defined as including living stocks (organisms) as well as preserved repositories of biodiversity specimens and derived materials. The committee will review the past and present contributions of biological collections to research and education, describe the major advances in their use over the last decade, and envision future innovative ways in which biological collections can be utilized to further advance science over the next decade. The committee will also describe the greatest challenges to maintaining biological collections and suggest a range of long-term strategies that could be used for their sustained support, individually or in groups, of research and education. More information about the Committee’s charge can be found here: <https://www8.nationalacademies.org/pa/projectview.aspx?key=51270>. A draft of the report is due to be released in November 2019.

Sponsorship of 11th annual Biological Sciences Congressional District visits organized by the American Institute of Biological Sciences. Once again, SPNHC is a sponsor of this very valuable program. This national initiative is an opportunity for science professionals across the country to meet with their federal and/or state elected officials in order to showcase the people, equipment, and facilities that are required to support and conduct scientific research based on and promoted by natural history collections. The 2019 AIBS Congressional Visits Day was held 26–27 March 2019.

Finally, I want express my appreciation for the work of the Local Organizing Committee for the SPNHC 2019 Conference: Paul Mayer (Chair of the Committee), John Bates, Mark Bouman, Christine Giannoni, Janeen Jones, Christine Niezgod, and Theresa Reilly. They have put together a packed, fabulous week of plenary sessions, contributed papers, posters and symposia, as well as wonderful social events that show off the best of Chicago. I am especially pleased that once again due to the efforts of Kari Harris, Chair of our Emerging Professionals Committee, and Travis Marsico, we again will have participation by some 45 attendees who are affiliated with the Natural History Collections Network. This total includes 12 faculty members or advisors, 17

graduate students, and 16 undergraduate students. Of the 16 colleges and universities represented, nine are completely new to the network and another three are new to SPNHC. I am also pleased to report that SPNHC was able to help support the attendance of two emerging professionals from the Iziko Museum in Capetown, South Africa.

Respectively submitted,
Barbara M. Thiers, SPNHC President

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

In 2018, the Society's total net assets decreased to \$333,753 from a total of \$336,421 the previous year. Liabilities and net assets for 2018 totaled \$362,331. Operating income was generated from three sources: membership dues, publication sales, and advertising in the Newsletter. A total of \$33,070 in membership dues was received. Sales of our six publications plus royalty payments brought in \$2,554. Advertising in the Newsletter generated \$1,560 in income. A total of \$19,905 in donations was received.

Fifty subscribers and 562 individuals, institutional, corporate and student members were active for the year 2018. Of the 645 SPNHC members in 2018, 123 joined for the first time.

Major expenses for the Society in 2018 were \$18,741 for the Christine Allen grant, the Fitzgerald Travel grants and award plaques, \$10,590 for annual hosting fees for the SPNHC website plus the design of a new website, \$2,466 for publication expenses related to the new storage book and online hosting fees for the SPNHC newsletter, and \$2,227 for membership booth space rental and transportation to meetings.

Additional expenses include \$750 for the sponsorship of annual congressional district visits, \$500 in support for Andy Bentley to travel to the annual meeting in New Zealand, \$327 for Breda Zimkus to travel to DC for the GGBN policy meeting, and \$368 for the online election.

The Treasurer's Office incurred the following expenses: \$5,660 for the 2017 financial review, tax preparation and filing, \$3,516 for insurance, \$1,024 in merchant fees, and \$112 in annual fees for the PO box rental.

Long-term investment funds were consistent with the market; SPNHC investments saw a market value loss of \$12,284 while the money market account earned \$7,814 in dividends and interest. The CD account earned \$31 in interest.

The first part of 2019 has seen good income activity. By March 31, \$33,084 has been received from membership dues, including deferred dues paid in 2018. As of March 31, 2019 we have 650 active members, including Life members.

Membership renewals included 22 student, 363 individual, 43 library/subscriptions, 48 institutional, and 5 corporate renewals. As of March 31, 138 new members have joined for 2019, of which 26 are student memberships, 5 are institutional, and the remainder are individual. By March 31, 167 members who paid in 2018 had yet to renew for 2019.

Please pay your dues on time.

In the first quarter of 2019, sales of all our publications totaled \$481. Additionally, by March 31, we received \$472 in royalties from Copyright Clearance Center. We have received \$19,259 in unrestricted donations (\$19,014 of which was from the New Zealand Local Organizing Committee) and \$436 in restricted donations. A sincere thank you to all.

Expenses incurred in 2019 as of March 31 include \$11,038 for *Collection Forum* Vol. 31, \$6,240 to Burdette, Smith & Bish for the 2018 financial review, \$3,750 for travel grants, \$1,350 for membership booth rental at meetings, \$1,080 for printing copies of the Storage: Ideas book, \$1,000 for graphics and banners for the Nagoya Protocol website, \$750 for sponsorship of 2019 Congressional District visits by AIBS, \$596 in merchant fees, and \$490 for online hosting of the Spring 2019 Newsletter. The Society anticipates expenses related to publications, insurance

premiums, the Best Practices Wiki, the trade show booth, a loan to the Edinburgh LOC for the 2020 annual meeting, the new website, and 2019 online election.

Please contact the SPNHC Treasurer for further details.

For their help throughout the year, I would like to extend thanks to Barbara Thiers (New York Botanical Garden), Linda S. Ford (Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University), Debra Trock (California Academy of Sciences), Cindy Opitz (Museum of Natural History, University of Iowa), Mariel Campbell (Museum of Southwestern Biology, University of New Mexico), and Tim White (Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History). The American Museum of Natural History, Division of Paleontology provided general office support for the Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth O'Leary, Treasurer

For the 2018 financial review, please see Appendix 1.

FY2018 Donations

Since May 1, 2018

Anonymous
Tiffany Adrain
James Dean
Jennifer Doubt
Harleena Franklin
Dermot Henry
Elise LeCompte
James Loch
Hannah McDaniel
Jane O'Donnell

JRS Biodiversity
Lisa Palmer
Deborah Paul
University Products
Floyd Shockley
Thomas Strang
Barbara Thiers
Janet Waddington
Mark Wetter
Jacquelyn Whisenant

Thank You

FY2019 Donations

As of March 31, 2019

Erin Biggs
Kimberly Cook
Rebecca Desjardins
Maureen Flannery
Gaylord
Lisa Goldberg
Carrie Graham
Curtis Hansen
Deborah Harding
Thomas Labeledz
Deborah Lewis

New Zealand Local Organizing
Committee
Meredith Mahoney
Travis Marsico
Teresa Mayfield-Mayer
Molly Rannebarger
Fran Ritchie
Carol Spencer
Arnold Suzumoto
Robert Waller

Thank You

FY 2018 SPNHC Operating Budget			
01 January–31 December 2018			
INCOME	Projected	Realized	Variance
(1) Dues @ \$20, \$45, \$55, \$75, \$350	\$30,000	\$33,070	\$3,070
(2) Life Members @\$1,125	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
(3) Publication Sales	\$34,725	\$2,554	(\$32,171)
(4) Collection Forum Page Charges	\$400	\$0	(\$400)
(5) Mailing List Sales	\$150	\$0	(\$150)
(6) Unrestricted Donations	\$650	\$7,170	\$6,520
(7) Temporarily Restricted Donations	\$2,000	\$12,735	\$10,735
(8) Operating Account Interest	\$50	\$3	(\$47)
(9) Advertising in Newsletter	\$3,000	\$1,560	(\$1,440)
(10) Transfer from Future Publication Fund	\$22,839	(\$10,261)	(\$33,100)
TOTAL INCOME	\$94,314	\$46,830	(\$47,484)
EXPENSES	Projected	Realized	Variance
(11) Archives Committee	\$5,000	\$0	(\$5,000)
(12) Election Committee	\$400	\$368	(\$32)
(13) Executive Contingency Fund	\$999	\$0	(\$999)
(14) Membership Committee	\$2,500	\$2,227	(\$273)
(15) Publication Committee	\$45,000	\$2,466	(\$42,534)
(16) Recognition and Grants Committee	\$9,395	\$18,741	\$9,346
(17) Treasurer's Office	\$11,000	\$10,862	(\$138)
(18) Web Committee	\$13,000	\$10,590	(\$2,410)
(19) President's Contingency Fund	\$2,500	\$1,577	(\$923)
(20) Best Practices Committee	\$4,520	\$0	(\$4,520)
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$94,314	\$46,830	(\$47,484)

FY 2019 SPNHC Operating Budget			
01 January–31 December 2019			
(as of March 31, 2019)			
INCOME	Projected	Realized	Variance
(1) Dues @ \$20, \$45, \$55, \$75, \$350	\$32,000	\$33,084	\$1,084
(2) Life Members @\$1,125	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
(3) Publication Sales	\$31,275	\$953	(\$30,322)
(4) Collection Forum Page Charges	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
(5) Mailing List Sales	\$150	\$0	(\$150)
(6) Unrestricted Donations	\$20,000	\$19,259	(\$741)
(7) Temporarily Restricted Donations	\$2,500	\$436	(\$2,064)
(8) Advertising in Newsletter	\$2,000	\$1,920	(\$80)
(9) Transfer from Future Publication Fund	\$17,645	\$0	(\$17,645)
TOTAL INCOME	\$106,570	\$55,653	(\$50,917)
EXPENSES	Projected	Realized	Variance
(10) Annual Meeting Loan	\$5,000	\$0	(\$5,000)
(11) Election Committee	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
(12) Executive Contingency Fund	\$999	\$0	(\$999)
(13) Membership Committee	\$2,500	\$1,350	(\$1,150)
(14) Publication Committee	\$73,071	\$12,467	(\$60,604)
(15) Recognition and Grants Committee	\$5,000	\$3,760	(\$1,240)
(16) Treasurer's Office	\$11,000	\$7,108	(\$3,892)
(17) Web Committee	\$4,500	\$0	(\$4,500)
(18) President's Contingency Fund	\$2,500	\$750	(\$1,750)
(19) Best Practices Committee	\$1,500	\$1,000	(\$500)
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$106,570	\$26,435	(\$80,135)

New Memberships Received in 2018

Since May 1, 2018

Institutional Members

Smithsonian Institution, DC, USA
National Museum/Narodni Museum, Prague, Czech Republic
National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research, Wellington, New Zealand
University of Denver Museum of Anthropology, CO, USA
Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UCSD, La Jolla, CA

Regular Members

Dominique Alhambra	Nathaniel Evans	Ciera Martinez
Dee Allen	Sue Gibb	Katrina McCormick
Joan Bacharach	Monica Grasty	Melissa Mead
Jeremy Barker	Anna Grzechnik	Sofie Meeus
Rudiger Bieler	Frank Hemmings	Robert Montoya
Jon Blundell	Austin Hendy	Teresa Mourad
Kaylene Bransgrove	Dermot Henry	Molly Phillips
Brian Buczkowski	Neville Hudson	Hannah Poropat
Matt Buys	Peter Jobson	Dorota Rakowska
Nicole Cannarozzi	Julia Kasper	Jocelyn Sessa
Lynette Cave	Salme Kortet	Cassidy Sharp
Elisa Dahlberg	Siobhan Leachman	Polly Sturgeon
Charles Davis	James Maley	Joanna Sumner
Gerald Dinkins	Karen Marais	Erika Tucker
Natalie Douglas	Elissa Martin	

Student Members

Rachel Alsheikh	Vivien Makos
Isabelle Betancourt	Sean Moran
Amanda Brohman	Jeanette Pirlo
Kathryn Everson	Nikita Werner
Dana Kahn	

New Memberships Received in 2019

As of March 31, 2019

Institutional Members

Humboldt State University, CA, USA
James F. Matthews Center for Biodiversity Studies, NC, USA
Lauer Foundation for Paleontology, Science and Education, IL, USA
National Museums Scotland, Edinburgh, UK
Northeastern University, MA, USA

Regular Members

Andreas Abele	Wyatt Gaswick	Kurt Neubig
Corey Anco	Margaret Geiss-Mooney	John Olson
Jonathan Armbruster	Juan Carlos Gonzalez	Susan Oshima
Edda Aßel	Carrie Graham	Mark Pankowski
Lisa Barrow	Erin Gredell	Megan Ramsey
Anne Basham	Carola Haas	Zachary Randall
Jennifer Bauer	Lauren Hancock	Cory Redman
Frederik Berger	Rex Hanger	Viola Richter
Erin Berkowitz	Mason Heberling	Gretchen Rings
Eva Biedron	Dori Henderson	Meranda Roberts
Erin Bilyeu	Elise Ireland	Amanda Robinson
Bentley Bird	Charlie Iverson	Eydie Rojas
David Bloom	Christopher Jass	Melanie Rühl
Marshall Boyd	Martin Kalfatovic	Tanja Schuster
Kelly Brown	Laurel Kaminsky	Vijayakumar
Melissa Callahan	Michelle Kohler	Seenapuram
Andrea Carrillo	Mollie Kreb	Palaniswamy
Nadia Cavallin	Dianna Krejsa	David Shorthouse
Sophie Cersoy	Ralph Kugler	Petra Sierwald
Matt Chansler	Mickey Alice Kwapis	Juliana Soto
Linsly Church	Jennifer Lanman	Darrah Steffen
Lisa Comer	Maribeth Latvis	Adrienne Stroup
Sarah Cotton	Marie-Elise Lecoq	Milton Tan
Thomas Cullen	Mark Lehtonen	Ellen Thomas
Sabrina Dahlgren	Cindy Lincoln	Andrea Thomer
Emily Dahlin	Mathew Lowe	Sean Tudor
Robin Delapena	Andrés Lozano-Flórez	Brianne Varnerin
Haven Diehl	Zoe Magierek	Luis Villanueva
Daniel DiMichele	Emily Magnaghi	Madelynn von Baeyer
Anja Divljan	Hailey Majewski	Cathy Wiegand
Alison Douglas	Katherine Mallalieu	Rebecca Wilke
Nicholas Drew	Christopher Marshall	Garrett Williamson
Douglas Dunn	Mandeep Matharu	Charmaine Wong
Elana Dux	Madison Mayfield	Tamaki Yuri
Leanne Elder	Christine Mazzello	Christine Zorn
Adania Flemming	Megan McCuller	
Harleena Franklin	Cailin Meyer	

Student Members

Erin Barbeau	Ashley Klymiuk
Erin Biggs	Catherine Leard
Serina Brady	Joshua Lively
George Brooks	Jessica Mailhot
Amanda Chapman	Sarah Michalies
Brittany Collier	Hannah Miller
Cai Czuhai	Jeremy Carlo Naredo
Tim Diamond	Yuka Oshima
Cecily Douglas	Sophie Phillips
Alexandra Fernandes	Molly Rannebarger
Alice Fornari	Rehan Scharenguivel
Callie Ingram	Calvin So
Johanna Jantzen	Julie Thomas

Member-at-Large Reports

DEBORAH PAUL

The [SPNHC Digitization Wiki](#) page (eagerly) awaits your perusal. As a community-contributed continuous work-in-progress, it will forever need SPNHC members' curation to make it relevant, and useful. Please visit soon and discover new resources and add your favorites if they are missing. What are your go-to places for imaging help, digitization workflows, data capture, image processing, collections software information, data cleaning, data sharing, data publishing, georeferencing, etc.? Perhaps you have resources (e.g. workflows, policy documents, georeferencing tips), to share. Please ensure your colleagues can find them by adding a link to your resources on this page. Getting this resource going has been a true community-effort, and I look forward to seeing it grow – with your help and expertise-sharing.

As a SPNHC Member-at-Large, it has also been my pleasure to represent SPNHC and mentor new members however I can. On that point, how can we make sure even more people can afford to get to SPNHC 2020? Anyone want to write a grant? And, in my new role with Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG), I'm looking for input from SPNHC members about their data standards and biodiversity data literacy needs. Please do share your ideas for how we (SPNHC and TDWG) can continue working in concert – for the future benefit of all our members and the organizations. See you in Chicago!

MELINDA PETERS

I've been helping with the Web Redesign Committee to review the new website. It has involved emails with the committee and the web developer. We have been working to review material, check links, and the organization of content on the site before it goes live. This is all being recorded and monitored on a test platform.

FRAN RITCHIE

See Conservation Committee report, p. 22.

Members-at-Large not reporting: Talia Karim, Amanda Lawrence, Miranda Lowe, Fran Ritchie

Standing Committee Reports

ARCHIVES

BACKGROUND

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

PROCEDURE

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

CURRENT WORK

Although SPNHC is publishing electronically, printed copies of the SPNHC newsletters and *Collection Forum* are being deposited in SPNHC's archives. No requests for archived information were received by the Chair in the past year. Images from the SPNHC annual meeting in New Zealand were provided by Carol Kelloff. Material for deposit was received from Ruth O'Leary. As per SIA protocols, SPNHC materials are being prepared for deposit in SIA this fiscal year (Gov't shutdown has delayed timely deposits this year).

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Kelloff, Chair

BEST PRACTICES

The Best Practices Committee continues to work to add new content to the SPNHC wiki (<http://spnhc.biowikifarm.net/wiki>). A page on Paper Conservation is now available, outlining the fundamental properties of paper, as well as patterns of its degradation. A page on the digitization of natural history collections, a process by which all analog data is converted to digital data, is also available. This page includes links to important resources, such as key references, webinars, workflows, and workshops. The Best Practices Committee is still looking for volunteers to help add content regarding disaster preparedness, risk assessment, and fire safety/suppression to the SPNHC wiki. Information regarding these topics is needed so other museums can be proactive with preparedness and managing risk, especially in light of the recent fires at Brazil's National Museum and the University of Vermont's Pringle Herbarium.

The current Best Practices Committee co-chairs have made the decision that after five years of service they will step down from their positions. New co-chairs have been identified to ensure sufficient overlap and time for knowledge transfer. Emily Braker (Collections Manager of Vertebrate Zoology, Museum of Natural History, University of Colorado Boulder), and Genevieve Tocci (Senior Curatorial Technician, Harvard University Herbaria), are currently contributing members of the Best Practice committee who will take over the leadership of the Best Practice Committee at the annual meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 2020.

The Citations Subcommittee is continuing to transfer citations from EndNote to Zotero, which can be accessed online by any SPNHC member without an account (<https://www.zotero.org/groups/2077962/spnhc/items>). Once all citations are migrated from EndNote, the citation subcommittee will continue to add to the Zotero library by importing new references as they are published. Only those members with Zotero accounts have the ability to

add citations, but the SPNHC subcommittee hopes to identify mechanisms by which the greater SPNHC membership can more easily contribute. Citations have been tagged with keywords, and future work by the Citation Subcommittee will include additional keywords to assist in locating citations for specific topics.

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

BYLAWS

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

BYLAWS: A review of the Bylaws was suggested during the 2018 Council meeting in New Zealand, owing to some historical documents found on the Society's website. The material was examined and determined that no permanent changes were warranted to the Society Bylaws.

LEADERSHIP MANUAL: A master list of the Society's Leadership Manuals from the Council members and Committee Chairs was developed to ensure a standard approach to these documents and the ability to track changes comprehensively. Recent manual changes included adding and updating the Recognition and Grants, plus the Bylaws Committees. Committee chairs and officers as well as Executive Council continue to be engaged to provide updated materials and these are in the process of being incorporated.

Additional efforts are underway (led by committee member Laura Abraczinskas), to update procedural documents with the Archives Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda S. Ford, Chair

CONFERENCE

CHICAGO 2019

Our colleagues at the Field Museum are busy preparing for the meeting to be held at the Chicago Hilton on Michigan Avenue May 25–31, 2019. The theme for this year's meeting is "Making a Case for Natural History Collections." The deadline for submitting abstracts and the Early Bird deadline have already passed.

EDINBURGH 2020

Plans are moving along for our joint meeting with the International Council of Museums – Committee for Museums and Collections of Natural History (ICOM-NATHIST) June 7–13, 2020. The meeting will be co-hosted by National Museums Scotland and the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. The theme for this meeting will be "The Role of Natural History Collections in Global Challenges."

The conference website is live at: <http://www.spnhc-icomnathist2020.com/>, but will have only basic information until after the completion of the Chicago meeting. On this site you can register your interest in attending, which will help the organizers as they continue their planning.

As of this writing, we do not have a venue secured for our 2021 meeting, which would preferably be held in North America. If your institution might be willing to consider hosting, please contact me at dtrock@calacademy.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Trock, Chair

CONSERVATION

MATERIALS SELECTION AND SPECIFICATION WORKING GROUP (MWG)

The Materials Selection and Specification Working Group (MWG) is a community of collection care, conservation, analytical science, and allied professionals united in developing guidelines and best practices for selecting, evaluating, and disseminating materials used in collection care. The MWG held its second meeting November 1–2, 2018, at the American Museum of Natural History and at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Rebecca Newberry presented a short overview of the Resource Display Unit (RDU). Several Conservation Committee members are in the MWG and we are working to integrate and update the RDU information into the larger MWG platform.

You can keep up with the MWG at http://www.conservation-wiki.com/wiki/Materials_Working_Group

Be sure to check out the Storage Techniques for Art, Science and History Collections (STASH) Preventive Conservation and Storage: STASH Flash II Symposium at the Annual Meeting in Chicago for more information about the MWG.

SPNHC REPRESENTATION AT AIC IDEA FAIR

Members of the Conservation Committee represented SPNHC at the annual meeting of the American Institute for Conservation (AIC), during an Idea Fair that covered topics related to preventive conservation and collections care. Representatives answered questions and offered information about caring for natural history collections. Other participating groups included the Materials Work Group (MWG, explained above), the Preventive Care Wiki, Storage Techniques for Art, Science and History Collections (STASHc), and social media for the Collections Care Network.

PORTABLE LEARNING

The Committee is focusing on providing more communications and resources for the SPNHC membership and the museum field as a whole. Members are currently working on creating and updating the National Park Service Conserve-O-Grams, as well as creating SPNHC Leaflets and “How-To’s.” These resources are short publications designed to offer practical information on collection care for our specific types of materials.

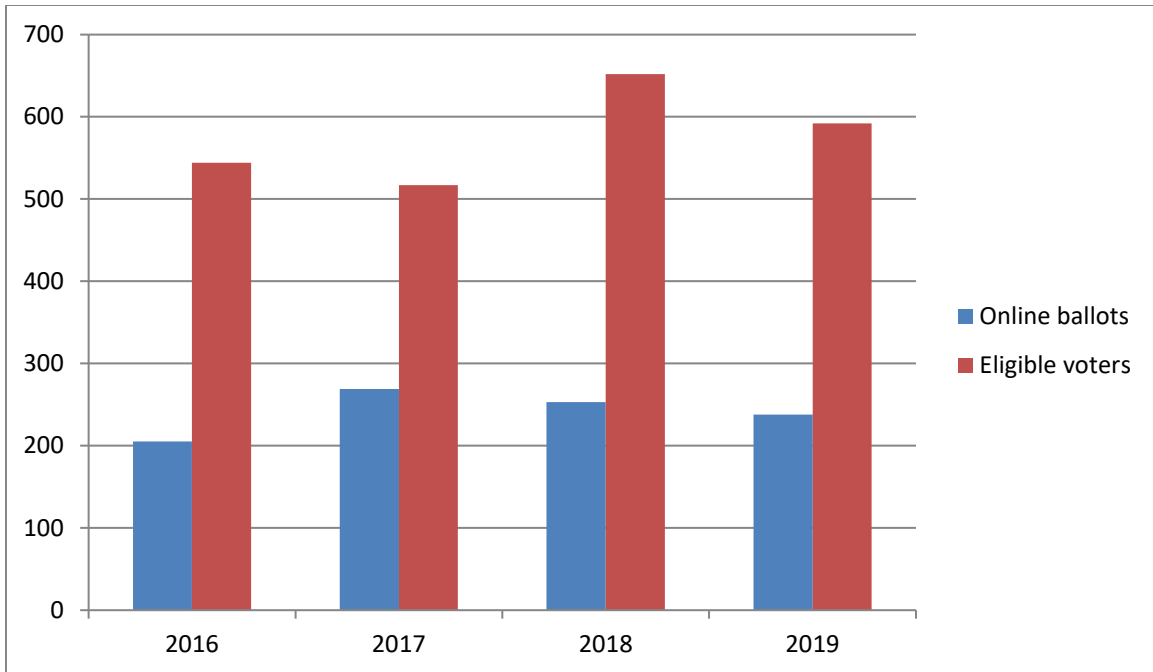
Respectfully Submitted,
Rebecca Newberry and Fran Ritchie, Co-chairs

ELECTIONS

Elections Online (<http://www.electionsonline.us/>) was used exclusively again this year. The fee for hosting the elections on this website was \$367.87

The call for nominations was sent on October 9, 2018. There were 4 nominations received from 4 different members. All nominees agreed to stand.

The election started on December 4, 2018. All voting members (as of November 2018), were emailed with a link included to direct them to the election online. At the close of the election on January 3, 2019, the total number of returned ballots was 238, or 40.20% of the eligible members. This is an increase of 1.4% from the previous year. The bar chart below shows the voting trends over the last 4 years. Although there were email reminders throughout the election, the voting turn-out was still lower than the previous 2 elections.



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

1. **Paul Mayer, The Field Museum Chicago receives 132 votes, 55.46% of the total.**
2. **Anna Monfils, Central Michigan University receives 131 votes, 55.04% of the total.**

These results have been shared with the membership via NH-Coll-L and the SPNHC Newsletter

Due to the retirement of Kelly Sendall (Royal BC Museum), the Elections committee has been joined by Jean-Marc Gagnon (Canadian Museum of Nature), who will assist with the management of future elections and verifying of the results. Thank you Jean-Marc!

Respectfully submitted,
Bethany Palumbo, Chair

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS

Our committee launched a survey last year to get to know our members better. We received close to 90 responses and are currently analyzing the data, which we will present at this year's business meeting. So far, we can say we have recorded responses from 15+ countries!

Our annual luncheon will be on Wednesday, May 29, 2019. The theme this year is conservation of natural history collections, and we will host conservation established professionals that will guide our emerging professionals through the needs of natural history collections and how conservation and collections staff make great teams. We already have over 100 emerging professionals registered to attend!

We are still seeking blog authors! If you would like to write a blog post for "Cracking the Collections," please contact us at spnhcepg@gmail.com.

We are also seeking members of the committee who would like to be more actively involved. Our plans for 2019 involve expanding our membership, continuing to produce blog posts, and finding better ways to connect with our emerging professionals to provide them with the support they need. During our business meeting, we will identify the interested members and begin to establish small working groups that will focus on different aspects that are of interest to our members, like databases of undergraduate/graduate programs, the possibility to do takeovers of our Twitter accounts to feature EPs, and other professional development opportunities. If you are

interested in being involved with the committee, please email us or contact us through social media!

And don't forget to follow us!

@SPNHCEPC

Respectfully submitted,
Kari Harris and Mariana Di Giacomo, Co-chairs

LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

ACCESS BENEFIT SHARING (ABS) / NAGOYA

During the fourteenth Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 17-29 November 2018, the discussion to cover Digital Sequence Information (DSI), under the CBD continued. Debating continued until 5am and was very controversial. In essence, the key points are: i) some Providing Countries wish to cover DSI under the CBD and Nagoya Protocol (NP), to ii) safeguard benefit sharing arising from the commercial use of freely available sequence information that can be downloaded from public nucleotide databases like EMBL or GenBank. However, iii) the parties failed to find a consensus on just what DSI means. Even though arguing parties basically agree to focus very clearly on commercial use of DSI and to exclude non-commercial uses, this line will be difficult to draw, and any restriction limiting the free access to nucleotide sequence data will have negative effects for researchers in the global north and global south. More information can be found here: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-14/cop-14-dec-20-en.docx>.

The outcomes of the 14th meeting of the CBD Parties (COP MOP 14), in Sharm El-Sheik are: further studies are needed; therefore, the Secretariat of the CBD (SCBD) launched a call to submit views that help to establish i) a concept for DSI, ii) an alternative term for DSI (which all dislike), iii) how countries with domestic legislation covering DSI in their national concept of ABS are interpreting 'DSI,' and iv) which benefit-sharing arrangements on DSI are in place, v) how DSI is used, and vi) how it can be traced and to receive information on the size and scope of available nucleotide databases. Additionally, a new ad-hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) will be established in 2019. SPNHC is currently considering whether to submit a view on DSI.

Further, on 28 Feb 2019, SPNHC was contacted by the SCBD to submit views on:

1. Notification 2019-024: Submission of views and information further to decisions NP-3/13 on Article 10 of the Nagoya Protocol. The notification is available at the following link: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2019/ntf-2019-024-abs-en.pdf>.
2. Notification 2019-025: Submission of views and information further to decision NP-3/14 on Article 4, Paragraph 4, of the Nagoya Protocol. The notification is available at the following link: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2019/ntf-2019-025-abs-en.pdf>.

The first notification has close links to the open call on DSI and is in the centre of the highly political and controversial discussion of the introduction of a multilateral benefit-sharing system and also the reason why some Providing Countries advocate to include Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) to cover marine organisms occurring outside the territorial sea under Nagoya (see ABNJ below). The position of CETAF colleagues at the moment is that non-commercial research should be included in any (monetary) multilateral benefit-sharing system. This topic and a submission on behalf of SPNHC is currently being discussed in the Nagoya Protocol subcommittee. If its own submission is planned, it should be closely aligned to the previous submission of SPNHC for DSI (<https://www.cbd.int/abs/dsi-gr/ahteg.shtml>).

The second notification has a strong focus on specialised instruments for access under specific criteria to respond more rapidly to human and agricultural health issues including as they impact biodiversity and remove barriers that currently hinder such activities. The call is open to governments only, but SPNHC could consider a submission through individual SPNHC members to national authorities or CBD focal points. The L&R Committee currently is not considering

drafting its own submission because there are no strong links to the (scientific) activities of the SPNHC membership.

AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION (ABNJ) / NAGOYA

Negotiations to cover Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) and marine organisms occurring outside the territorial sea under the Nagoya Protocol progress: The second session of the intergovernmental conference took place from 25 March to 5 April 2019, in New York. (Results of this meeting are available here: <https://www.un.org/bbnj/>.) This would mean that the access to marine life would fall under the much stricter regulations of Nagoya. Everything marine would be covered—a tremendous blow for those working on marine projects. The L&R Committee would appreciate information of or contact to SPNHC members who are engaged in ABNJ and/or UNCLOS matters, or information from marine researchers on relevant discussions or planned submissions on this subject.

CONSORTIUM OF EUROPEAN TAXONOMIC FACILITIES (CETAF) / NAGOYA

The CETAF Code of Conduct went through a fourth round of commenting, was resubmitted to the EU Commission in early 2019, and is in the final phase of official recognition. (The current version is available here: <https://www.cetaf.org/services/natural-science-collections-and-access-and-benefit-sharing>.) Once finally recognized, we will circulate the acknowledged version. So far, the L&R Committee has not received any active feedback from SPNHC members on whether this Code of Conduct would be suited to manage Nagoya requirements inside their institutions.

REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPORT OF NATURAL HISTORY SPECIMENS TO AUSTRALIA

During the L&R Committee meeting at the SPNHC annual conference in New Zealand, Shelley James reported that the requirements for imports to Australia have changed: no more permits are needed for exchange of material (processed, uninfected plant specimens) within Herbaria, whereas permits *are* required for exchange of animal specimens. Colleagues planning shipments to institutions in Australia are advised to always refer to the Australian Biosecurity Import Conditions (BICON) website (<http://bicon.agriculture.gov.au>), and to their partner institutions before shipping, in order to check whether the current requirements have changed.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFPA) SUBCOMMITTEE

We are happy to welcome into the L&R Committee the NFPA Subcommittee, which is reviewing fire prevention requirements throughout the US, particularly in relation to NFPA 909 – Code for the Protection of Cultural Resource Properties.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the 2019 Annual Meeting in Chicago and hope all SPNHC members who are interested in legislation and regulations issues will attend the L&R Committee meeting!

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

LONG-RANGE PLANNING

The primary activity of the Long-Range Planning Committee (LRP) over the year has been a redesign of the SPNHC website. Testing of the new site is underway, and the fine-tuning will be completed soon.

In 2011–2012 the LRP worked to develop a Strategic Plan that set out a series of short-, medium- and long-term objectives designed to address the four main goals of the Society: 1) To show leadership; 2) To communicate; 3) To provide value for money; 4) To work internationally. The Plan was formally adopted in 2013, and each action or goal was assigned to an appropriate committee for implementation. At this point, many of those objectives have been met, and it is time to start thinking about developing a new Strategic Plan.

We plan to kick off this effort at the Chicago meeting in May. The committee would like to invite as many members as possible to participate in the LRP Committee meeting. The first step in the planning process will be to survey the membership for ideas, followed up by a 2-day planning

session to be organized for a later date. This is a wonderful opportunity for members to get involved in helping to shape the activities and directions of our Society, and we hope to see many of you there.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Trock and Suzanne Ryder, Co-chairs

MEMBERSHIP

Thanks to everyone who worked the SPNHC membership booth last year (Botany 2018, GSA, and the poster at the SPNHC annual meeting), and who has offered to take the booth to upcoming meetings (NAPC, Botany 2019, GSA), or hand out promotional materials. Exhibit registration often includes one or two full conference registrations, so please contact me (tiffany-adrain@uiowa.edu), to take advantage of that in exchange for helping out. Volunteers are always very welcome to stand at the booth and encourage new members to join. Thank you, Ann Pinzl and interviewees, for the SPNHC Connection Member Profiles. Please contact Ann (apinzl@sbcglobal.net), to suggest a member to profile. The Membership Committee is always keen to recruit new members, so if you are interested in organizing booth venues, creating promotional materials, or helping recruit new SPNHC members, we would love for you to join us. Don't forget to keep your membership up-to-date, renew on time, and encourage your colleagues and students to join SPNHC.

Respectfully submitted,
Tiffany Adrain, Chair

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

COMMITTEE NEWS

Nick Drew, from the Smithsonian, has accepted the position of Co-chair of the Professional Development Committee (PDC). Welcome Nick!

The PDC will meet in Chicago in May. The agenda will cover the following:

- Committee structure and tasks
- Workshops
- Travel Grants and Mentorships
- Wiki and Web

MENTORSHIP AND TRAVEL GRANTS

Elise LeCompte chairs the sub-committee on Mentorship and Travel Grants.

The SPNHC Travel Grant Program Subcommittee was established at the 2016 SPNHC Annual Meeting in Berlin. This committee operates under the auspices of the Conference Committee and the Professional Development Committee, with additional input from the Recognition and Grants Committee. The committee also works closely with the Local Organizing Committee. The first year of operation for the committee was 2017.

This year, 2019, there were a total of eighteen (18) applications; there was a good mix of national and international applicants. We awarded four (4) Fitzgerald grants and one (1) Christine Allen grant. Each recipient received US \$750.

Meeting mentors will be assigned to those recipients that requested them, with the help of Jeff Stephenson, Co-chair of the PDC.

Future plans include continued fund-raising for future meetings and building the mentor pool.

My thanks to the many SPNHC members and others who helped with this committee—Jeff Stephenson, Jennifer Strotman, Andy Bentley, Meghann Toner, Ruth O'Leary, and Linda S. Ford. Many thanks go to the generous donors, without whose support we could not have awarded these grants.

2019 Travel Grant Recipients:

Erin Berkowitz
Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
California
Fitzgerald

M. Alejandra (Ale) Camacho
Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador
Ecuador
Fitzgerald

Andrés Julián Lozano Flórez
Instituto de Investigación de Recursos
Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt
Colombia
Fitzgerald

Laurel Kaminsky
McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and
Biodiversity
Florida Museum of Natural History
Florida
Fitzgerald

Irene Finkelde
National Museum of Natural History
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC
Christine Allen

Prepared by Elise V. LeCompte, Chair, SPNHC Travel Grants Subcommittee

The continued success of our Travel Grants mentorship program, together with a great deal of enthusiasm from many members in SPNHC for a broadened approach to mentoring opportunities, has led to a discussion on how we might identify and implement additional ways to match professionals for their mutual benefit.

As always, if any member of SPNHC would like to work on any of these projects, please contact Jeff Stephenson or Nick Drew. We value and appreciate your volunteer efforts on behalf of SPNHC and your colleagues.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Stephenson, Co-chair

PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

This is my first ABM report for The Publications Committee since taking over as Chair last August, and I would like to start by thanking all members of the Committee and the Executive Council for their patience while I learn the responsibilities of the position. I would especially like to thank Janet Waddington, Marcy Revelez, Chris Johnson, Ruth O'Leary, Scott Rufolo, Liath Appleton, Sara Ketelson, and Barbara Thiers for their invaluable help and advice over the last 8 months. I would also like to thank Hayley Singleton for agreeing to come on board as Production Assistant Editor. This is a new position to provide budgetary and financial assistance to the Publications Committee Chair. Thanks also to Breda Zimkus, who has joined the Publications Committee as the new Leaflets Editor.

COLLECTION FORUM

The journal is in need of new submissions for 2019. Members who present at the SPNHC annual meeting are encouraged to submit their manuscripts for consideration, particularly those who receive travel awards and support from the society. We have made a lot of headway over the last year in getting caught up with the outstanding issues. The 2017 Volume 31 has come out in print, and the 2018 Volume 32 is in process of being published online. Many thanks to Associate Editors Janet Waddington and Scott Rufolo; their invaluable assistance with the manuscript backlog as associate editors, and to Barbara Thiers for assistance with reviews to meet the production deadline for 2018. Particular thanks to Janet Waddington for her efforts to ensure that the final manuscript for Volume 31 could be published online in time to be cited in a symposium on fluid preservation in December 2018. We are now in communication with the organizers of the

symposium regarding the possibility of publishing the manuscripts as a special issue of *Collection Forum* in 2020.

I am sorry to say that Yemesi Dare has stepped down as Associate Editor. We are very grateful for her history of service to the society. I would like to welcome Mariana di Giacomo and Genevieve Tocci as incoming Associate Editors for Collection Forum and look forward to working with them in the future.

SPNHC LEAFLETS

If you are interested in publishing a piece on natural history collections, please contact Breda Zimkus at bzimkus@oeb.harvard.edu or at the editor's email, editor@spnhc.org.

SPNHC CONNECTION

Ann Pinzl is requesting suggestions for book reviews to include in upcoming editions of SPNHC Connection. If you would like to recommend a book for review, please contact us at editor@spnhc.org.

SPNHC Connection Editor Liath Appleton continues to provide an outstanding newsletter to the Society. Discussions are continuing to develop new features and content, including ways to highlight institutions, new methods, etc. As a reminder: *SPNHC Connection* is available only digitally, to counter rising costs due to the increase in size. Members may access the newsletter through the www.spnhc.org website or through the *Collection Forum* portal (<https://collectionforum.org/>). Please send *SPNHC Connection* newsletter submissions to Liath at newsletter@spnhc.org.

PAST JOURNAL & NEWSLETTER ISSUES

A reminder that past Journal volumes and newsletters, excluding the current edition, will continue to be available at www.spnhc.org, and back *Collection Forum* volumes from 2014 may also be found online on the *Collection Forum* website, at <https://collectionforum.org/>. This site will undergo a migration to a new hosting service in 2019. For any access concerns that may arise, please contact editor@spnhc.org.

BOOKS

Preventive Conservation: Collection Storage

The book, *Preventive Conservation: Collection Storage*, edited by Lisa Elkin and Chris Norris, should be in print by the time of the 2019 annual meeting. Anyone who submitted a pre-order will receive an email with a 15% discount coupon to purchase the book through the AIC website at <https://store.culturalheritage.org>. AIC members will also be eligible for the discount.

The Society has been approached to support the publication of a new book on best practices in fluid preservation, to be edited by Dirk Neumann and John Simmons, with a tentative publication date of 2020. Funds have been included in the 2019 and 2020 budgets.

ALLEN PRESS

Julia Allen is our new representative at Allen Press, as of Fall 2018. She has been extremely helpful in guiding the journal issues to publication. Allen Press has recently switched from Pinnacle to a new platform, Silverchair (Meridian), for hosting online content. We have renewed our contract with Allen Press to host Collection Forum on the Meridian site at current pricing for another three years. Migration to the new platform and customization of the *Collection Forum* portal should occur by the end of 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Mariel Campbell, Chair

RECOGNITION AND GRANTS

The Recognition and Grants Committee is charged with promoting and reviewing the various awards of the Society, which are in recognition of a member's service or vendor acknowledgment, as well as the Faber Research grant.

No nominations for awards were received this year, even though the deadline for all of the awards was extended past the usual due date. This extension was done in order to give members the opportunity to nominate deserving Society members or vendors for recognition, because of the later than usual timing (end of August) of the 2018 SPNHC Conference in New Zealand.

Owing to the low number of applications for the Faber grant for the last several years, the Recognition and Grants Committee reviewed the wording and suggested some changes to expand the scope of the grant to encompass a wider-ranging array of work. These changes will be discussed and voted on by the 2019 SPNHC Council in Chicago. If approved, these changes will be enacted accordingly for the next grant cycle.

Members are encouraged to submit applications for the next call of nominations to acknowledge the hard work of peers and to apply for the collections-related grant, respectively.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda S. Ford, Chair

WEB

The new website is here! The Web Redesign Sessional Committee has been working with our web designers to put the finishing touches on the site, and the site is now available for all at www.spnhc.org. I am looking forward to discussion concerning the new site, and to hearing your suggestions at the meeting in Chicago. Please continue to send us your job postings and calendar events to webmaster@spnhc.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Liath Appleton, Chair

Sessional Committee Reports

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

After a very successful meeting in New Zealand, the International relations committee have been looking at the SPNHC strategy and how we are delivering the ambitions of the society. We are doing this by first looking at the membership and how this has been affected by periodically hosting the annual meetings outside North America in the past 15 years. We are also looking at how to make the society more relevant and available to our global audience using the ideas and discussion points from the committee meetings over the past few years. For example, we will be participating in the Collecting Measures of Success Symposium at SPNHC 2019. By taking part in the associated discussion session and panel, we ask membership to contribute to a conversation about metrics that SPNHC collects and might measure in the future. Also, be on the lookout for a membership graph over time that can help SPNHC focus individual, and society efforts on expanding participation and expertise sharing.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Ryder, Chair, and Deborah Paul

US FEDERAL COLLECTIONS

The Sessional Committee on Federal Collections is tasked to make recommendations to the Society's Council regarding potential opportunities for promoting best practices and sound management of Federal collections housed in Federal and non-Federal repositories. The committee explores ways in which the Society can collaborate with Federal agencies to assist them with their need to develop best practices in the care of their collections, whether managed directly or by non-Federal institutions; consider related issues such as terms and conditions for repository agreements; facilitating communication between Federal and non-Federal collections staff; and communicating with SPNHC membership. The committee aids in drafting SPNHC responses to calls for public comment on policy issues.

The committee is looking to expand its membership with individuals representing diverse natural history disciplines. Topics proposed for future comment, recommendations and SPNHC leadership include:

1. NSF funding for collection curation and conservation

Currently, NSF funds for repositories cannot be used to support collection curation and conservation of natural resources from federal lands. NSF sees such funding as 'double-paying' because of its misconception that the federal land agencies are already paying for curation of the material.

2. USGS Biological Survey Unit

The Trump Administration proposed budget for FY2020 again proposes elimination of the Biological Survey Unit. This budget cut would eliminate curation and collections staff for extensive national natural history collections dating to the late 1880s.

3. USGS scientific collection management policy

Department of Interior Office of Inspector General report on USGS collections finds that USGS policies are deliberately inconsistent with NPS and FWS museum policies and the Department Manual Part 411 regarding geological specimens, and that no policies exist for biological specimens. OIG raises concerns that USGS nomenclature and policies puts at risk collections that would otherwise be preserved in other bureaus.

4. Repository and curation agreements with Federal agencies

United States Forest Service and draft Department of Interior regulations provide allowances for non-Federal partners to house Federal collections through repository agreements, however, there are no standard templates for agencies or repositories.

5. Data sharing and Confidentiality

Under the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, fossil locality data are exempt from disclosure without authorization from the Secretary of Interior or Agriculture (291.6a). Authorizing officers may share the locality data with non-Agency personnel for scientific, educational, or resource management purposes, and a confidentiality agreement may have to be signed by the recipient.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Brown, Chair

WEB REDESIGN

See Web Committee report for information on the SPNHC website redesign project.

Barbara Thiers, Chair

Representative Reports

ALLIANCE OF NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUMS OF CANADA (ANHMC)

The primary objective of the Alliance of Natural History Museums of Canada (ANHMC) is to enhance the visibility, recognition and benefit of natural history museums in Canada under the shared goal of connecting people with nature. “Fossil Favourites,” the Alliance’s first collaborative, cross-Canada traveling exhibit, had excellent reviews and clear impact at six member museums since it was launched in 2017, and travels to two other institutions before it closes in 2020. To mark the end of the United Nations Decade of Biodiversity (2010–2020), the Alliance has partnered with Environment and Climate Change Canada, the federal ministry responsible for biodiversity policy and action, to propose another Canada-wide project. If the proposal is successful, “The Value of Nature” will focus on awareness of biodiversity science and issues and the local, national, and global challenges we face today and will be aimed particularly at young Canadians. As the Alliance matures in its role, the Board is considering next steps to increase our impact as a voice for natural history museums in Canada and the unique role they play in the scientific and cultural sectors. Senior administrators and curatorial staff of Alliance members meet once a year at rotating locations to conduct business, learn about museum practices and culture at other institutions, and to engage with staff across the country. This fall, the AGM is scheduled for Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and then Whitehorse Yukon in 2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Erica Wheeler, SPNHC Representative to ANHMC

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CONSERVATION OF ARTISTIC AND HISTORIC WORKS (AIC)

The theme for the recent AIC annual meeting (May 12–17, 2019), was “New Tools, Techniques, and Tactics in Conservation and Collections Care.” It was an expansive and stimulating meeting that developed a wide range of themes, with sessions on sustainability, collections care, and inclusivity, along with the more traditional specialty sessions. There is increased focus on preventive care through the Collections Care Network, as well as practical approaches to preventative conservation.

The meeting was held at the Mohegan Sun Conference Center (and casino), with the opening reception held at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center and welcomed by the Mashantucket Pequot peoples. This was in keeping with a pre-conference symposium: “Global Action: Conservation at Work in Communities,” chaired by the Equity and Inclusion Committee. This symposium focused on cultural preservation initiatives designed to include local communities. The first speaker will be recognized by all who attended SPNHC 2018 annual meeting in Dunedin, NZ: Nyssa Mildwaters from the Otago Museum! During the course of the day, we discussed a wide range of ways to connect with community and focused on the importance of respect through action and language. This theme continued throughout the next 4 days, concluding with a 2-hour session of “Untold Stories 2019: Indigenous Futures and Collaborative Conservation.” A panel of Native people, including our hosts lead a lively discussion of the importance of respect, learning, and listening when working with local peoples.

AIC also has a new website, with a strong emphasis on educational opportunities for both conservators and collections care professionals. There is also a new blog series on the recent Heritage Health Information Survey (HHIS). The first blog in the series is about natural history museums. <https://community.culturalheritage.org/blogs/katelin-lee/2019/05/12/exploring-hhis-1>

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Anderson, SPNHC Representative to AIC

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ICHTHYOLOGISTS AND HERPETOLOGISTS

(ASIH)

The 2018 and 98th annual ASIH meeting occurred as part of the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (JMIH) from 11–15 July and was held at the Joseph A. Floreano Rochester Riverside Convention Center in Rochester, NY, USA. The JMIH was attended by 762 people (375 professionals and 351 students), representing 19 nations. On 14 July 2018, the Ichthyological and Herpetological Collections Committee met. The IHCC meeting was well attended by 24 collection personnel (including several students and young professionals), representing 16 institutions. The co-chairs Gregory Watkins-Colwell (Yale-Peabody Museum), and Sarah Huber (Virginia Institute of Marine Science), led the meeting. Agenda items included: discussion of various collection curation issues and solutions to said issues and upcoming meeting symposia and awards. Some items talked about included: CT scanning, dealing with fire marshals, what types of vessels and preservation methods worked best for fishes and herps, and data sharing via aggregators. The second annual *Spiritus Award* was presented to Karsten Hartel. The 2018 *Spiritus* committee was composed of Mark Sabaj (Chair), Greg Watkins-Colwell, and Katherine Maslenikov. The IHCC formally congratulated Karsten on being the first ichthyology collections manager to receive the *Spiritus Award*. In the 2019 *Spiritus* cycle, the award will be presented to an individual in recognition of their service and commitment to herpetological collection stewardship. The IHCC is sponsoring a Symposium at the 2019 JMIH meeting: The Expanding Role of Natural History Collections (Eric Hilton, Chair; Greg Watkins-Colwell, Co-chair; Sarah Huber Co-chair). In addition, the 2020 JMIH will be held in Norfolk, VA, and VIMS will be one of the local hosts. Sarah Huber offered to organize a workshop prior to the meeting to be held at the VIMS Ichthyology Collection, on collections management. The IHCC decided to increase the visibility of IHCC over social media. However, instead of curating our own Facebook page or Twitter, we will post on already existing pages (e.g., ASIH Facebook page, Natural History Collections Facebook group). Norma Salcedo has agreed to be our Communications Committee chair and will oversee social media posts.

Respectfully submitted,
Randy Singer, SPNHC Representative to ASIH

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MAMMALOGISTS (ASM)

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

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

During the 2018–2019 annual cycle, there have been no formal requests for accreditation but a few discussions are underway. Also, for the first time, the ASM Board of Directors approved funding to cover the cost of site visits during 2019. Previously those costs had to be covered by the collection requesting accreditation. It is hoped that this funding will generate requests from

institutions where these costs have been an impediment. The Committee will, again, request funds for the same coverage in 2020.

The Systematic Collections Committee published, "Mammal collections of the Western Hemisphere: A survey and directory of collections. 2018." *Journal of Mammalogy*, 99(6): 1307–1322. This is a thorough update of a survey that has been conducted by the Society approximately every ten years for more than 50 years and is always useful to researchers and collection colleagues alike.

Finally, at the 2018 meeting, the Board of Directors approved the ASM Standards for Genetic Resource Collections, which was developed by a subset of the Systematic Collection Committee (Jon Dunnum, Marcia Revelez, Burton Lim, and Caleb Phillips), and approved for presentation to the Board by the full Committee prior to the meeting. Board approval expands the current accreditation program for mammal collections to include a separate accreditation of genetic resource collections. The Committee looks forward to these new requests.

To view the documents mentioned above and much more collection-related information, see the Systematic Collections Committee page on the ASM website:

<http://www.mammalogy.org/committees/systematic-collections#tab3>.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne B. McLaren, SPNHC Representative to ASM

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT TAXONOMISTS (ASPT)

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

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

The Best Practices document for herbarium operations that the Committee was working on for the past several years has been published: Rabeler, R. K., H. T. Svoboda, B. Thiers, L. A. Prather, J. Macklin, L. Lagomarsino, L. C. Majure, & C. Ferguson. 2019. "Herbarium practice and ethics, III." *Systematic Botany* 44: 7–13. It is an open-access article available at <https://doi.org/10.1600/036364419X697840>

The 2019 Annual meeting of the Society will be held at Botany2019 in Tucson, Arizona, USA on July 27–31, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Rich Rabeler, SPNHC Representative to ASPT

ASSOCIATION OF REGISTRARS AND COLLECTIONS SPECIALISTS (ARCS)

The biennial meeting of the international Association of Registrars and Collections Specialists (ARCS) is set for 07–09 November 2019, in lovely downtown Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The meeting will include dozens of presentations on collection care and management issues, a few panel discussions, demonstrations, a trade show, and of course many opportunities to network with fellow collections care personnel from a variety of museums. The number of registrants at the meeting is limited, so if you are interested in attending, it is best to register early. More information about the meeting and how to register can be found on the ARCS website at <https://www.arcsinfo.org/programs/2019-conference>.

ARCS continues to host its popular evening social events for registrars and collections specialists at various locations in the US and in cities around the world. Please check the ARCS website (<https://www.arcsinfo.org/programs/socials>), for information on upcoming socials. A monthly ARCS Twitter Chat on collection management topics takes place on the first Tuesday of each month at 8 pm EST time (#ARCSchat). Anyone who is interested is welcome to participate in the chat.

A list of consulting registrars and collections specialists can be found in the OnContract Directory of the website (<https://www.arcsinfo.org/on-contract>). The website also offers an increasing number of resources and useful links for collections management.

Respectfully submitted,
John E. Simmons, SPNHC representative to ARCS

BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION STANDARDS (TDWG)

The 2018 annual meeting of Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG) was held in Dunedin, New Zealand during the last week of August. This was the first time that TDWG and SPNHC have met jointly, and both organizations agree that it was a great success! The theme of the meeting was "Collections and Data in an Uncertain World," and the meeting website, which includes the program, etc., can be found at: <http://spnhc-tdwg2018.nz/>. Additionally, abstracts for talks and posters were published as a Proceedings in the journal *Biodiversity Information Science and Standards* (BISS: <https://biss.pensoft.net/>).

Over the past year, TDWG has continued to update its infrastructure and released a new website integrated with its GitHub repository (<https://www.tdwg.org/>). TDWG also recently started a new open-access journal called *Biodiversity Information Science and Standards*, or BISS, referenced above. This new journal serves two purposes, first to publish the TDWG Proceedings of abstracts for their annual conference, and second, a forum for biodiversity informaticians to publish articles on biodiversity standards, methods, guidelines, models and applications. With specific relevance to SPNHC, members of the Natural Collections Description Interest Group have made significant progress on the task of creating a new "Collections Description" data standard for describing collections of natural history materials at the collection level; one NCD record describes one entire collection. As I continue to stress: "the standards being evaluated by TDWG, and the applications that implement them, have a direct impact on many SPNHC members involved with specimen data capture and curation."

As the current Chair of TDWG, I am very excited about our next jointly held conference branded Biodiversity_Next that includes the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), a new pan-European Research Infrastructure initiative (DiSSCo), the national resource for digitized information about vouchered natural history collections (iDigBio), and the Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities (CETAF). The conference is being hosted by the Naturalis Biodiversity Center in collaboration with the Netherlands Biodiversity Information Facility in Leiden, Netherlands, from October 22-25 (<https://biodiversitynext.org/>). I hope to see many of you there!

TDWG 2020 is in the early stages of planning but will be jointly hosted by iDigBio and the Smithsonian and will take place in September in Washington, DC, USA. More information coming soon!

Finally, if you are interested in biodiversity standards, I would urge you to sign up for the TDWG-content mailing list, as this is where the core discussion on standards takes place.

Respectfully submitted,
James Macklin, SPNHC Representative to TDWG

COLLECTIONS STEWARDSHIP PROFESSIONAL NETWORK (CSAAM)

The annual business luncheon of the Collections Stewardship Professional Network of the American Alliance of Museums (CSAAM) will take place from 12:00 to 2:00 pm on Monday, 20 May 2019, at the AAM meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The AAM meeting will take place 19–22 May 2019, with the theme, "Dynamic, Relevant, Essential: Sustaining Vibrant Museums." A number of Collections Stewardship events are scheduled, including the annual Emerging Museum Professionals Reception (5:00 to 6:30, 20

May), the aforementioned business luncheon, presentation of the new Deaccessioning Toolkit (3:00 to 5:00 pm on 20 May), and a special Collections Stewardship session beginning at 4:30 on 21 May in the Solutions Center. There will be 11 Collections Stewardship-themed sessions during the meeting on a variety of topics, including packing and shipping, deaccessioning, repatriation, collection moves, curation agreements, NAGPRA, and dealing with vibrations in historic buildings.

At the CSAAM business meeting, a new chairperson will take the helm—Sebastián Encina, who is collections manager at the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology at the University of Michigan.

Information and resources related to Collections Stewardship are available for anyone interested on the CS website, and the listserv is open to all who are interested (membership is not required). Everyone is welcome to participate in the discussions (<https://www.collectionsstewardship.org/listserve>).

Respectfully submitted,
John E. Simmons, SPNHC Representative to CSAAM

ENTOMOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS NETWORK (ECN)

BACKGROUND

ECN formed an MOU with SPNHC in late 2016; this is our second full annual report. ECN is a 501(c)(3) non-profit international organization dedicated to promoting entomological science through the preservation, management, use and development of entomological collections and to disseminating information and fostering communications between collections managers around the world regarding best practices in entomological (and arthropod) natural history collections. The Network is organized and operated exclusively for scientific and educational purposes.

ECN 2018

The 2018 annual meeting of the Entomological Collections Network (ECN) was held 10–11 November in Vancouver, BC, Canada, in conjunction with the Entomological Society of America, the Entomological Society of Canada, and the Entomological Society of British Columbia. The two-day meeting included 4 member symposia (26 talks), 2 contributed talk sessions (14 talks), and a poster session (9 posters). The member symposia topics were:

- MEMBER SYMPOSIUM 1: The Status of Entomology Collections and Survey and Inventory Research in Canada (8 talks)
- MEMBER SYMPOSIUM 2: Tales from the Field: Volume 3 (7 talks)
- MEMBER SYMPOSIUM 3: Collections Policies and Genetic Data in the Age of Nagoya (3 talks)
- MEMBER SYMPOSIUM 4: Numbers That Matter: Quantifying “success” in natural history collections (8 talks)

The Annual ECN Business Meeting was held 10 November (5:15–6:15 pm), followed by the ECN Mixer and Poster Session and the Annual ECN Annual Banquet. All sessions and meetings were held in the Vancouver Convention Center, Vancouver, Canada. A behind-the-scenes tour of the collections at the University of British Columbia followed the concluding meeting remarks.

ECN 2018 Organizers: Max Barclay, Crystal Maier, Christy Bills, Isabelle Betancourt, Chris Grinter, Gene Hall, Patrick Gorrington, and Eugenio Nearn.

ECN Social Media Team: Isabelle Betancourt, Jennifer C. Girón, Derek Hennen, Morgan Jackson, Crystal Maier, Carolyn Trietsch, and Guanyang Zhang.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel K. Young, SPNHC–ECN Liaison

GEOLOGICAL CURATORS' GROUP (GCG)

No representative has been named.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA (GSA)

The Geological Society of America (GSA) held its Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, on 4–7 November 2018. More than 6,000 attendees participated. Members of SPNHC are reminded that they are eligible for reduced registration fees, as members of an associated society.

Some notes from the minutes of the November 5 meeting of Associated Societies at the Annual Meeting: Harassment issues are a concern beyond only GSA. A member society approached the American Geological Institute about having a place to call when experiencing harassment. Most societies do not have the resources to deal with these incidents consistently in terms of investigation, reporting and disciplinary action. The American Geophysical Union is holding town meetings on the subject and looking into establishing an Ethics Center. The idea of a geological harassment center is under discussion.

Ms. Elana Benamy (The Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University), and Mr. Paul Mayer (Field Museum), put the majority of time into manning the SPNHC booth in the Exhibition Hall. I came and went as my schedule permitted. There was a great deal of interest from students and from older faculty who were worried about the fate of their collections. Many had never heard of our organization previously. The paperwork has been submitted to have a booth at the 2019 GSA Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona.

On 4 April 2019, the Geological Society of America hosted a webinar for Associated Societies, of which we are one. The list of attendees and societies is available on request to this author. Major concerns were cybersecurity, diversity, conduct, and ethics, the ten-year strategic planning underway, and evolving social media concerns.

An August 2018 cyberattack on the GSA systems resulted in a ransomware demand. Sixty computers and nineteen servers were shut down. Damage was mitigated by having a response plan in place, and regularly scheduled system backups. Recovery was hastened by the recent addition of a cybersecurity rider on their insurance policy. A cybersecurity forensic team found that data were not stolen, only locked up.

GSA has hired an Ethics and Compliance Officer to assist in changing the Code of Conduct into a Code of Ethics. Arm-in-arm with a Code of Ethics are concerns about diversity, inclusivity, and harassment. The RISE (Respectful Inclusive Scientific Events) program has operated at meetings for two years now. Some general results from RISE may be available later. Two additions to the Code of Conduct are coming up for a vote in the Council. First, expected behavior at meetings with respect to alcohol and professional conduct. The second clarifies expectations of people capturing images during talks and poster presentations for later use, a practice that is already discouraged.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. R. Chris Tacker, SPNHC Liaison to the GSA

GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION FACILITY (GBIF)

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

As many of you are aware, Donald Hobern stepped down as GBIF Executive Secretary in February 2019, and on behalf of SPNHC, I would like to both thank him for his past leadership and wish him well in his new endeavours! I would also like to welcome Dr. Joe Miller as the new Executive Secretary.⁽¹⁾ Joe brings significant knowledge and experience to GBIF, and we wish

him the best of luck in his new role. Joe is a botanist (specializing in *Acacia*), with extensive collection management experience from his tenure at the Australian National Herbarium. Most recently, he has been a program officer at the National Science Foundation in the Biological Directorate.

GBIF continues to promote the digitization and mobilization of biodiversity observation data and provide support through making available a wide variety of tools and documentation. In addition, if you have not looked at the country-level information pages, I encourage you to do so, as they can be very informative. Numerous opportunities are also available for training at various scales, as well as competitions for funding to develop new tools and methods for data mobilization, quality control, and dissemination. I encourage all members to get involved and support this critical organization.

This past year, GBIF reached an enormous milestone that many in SPNHC have helped in some way to make possible: one billion observations!

GBIF also held its second Global Biodiversity Information Conference in July 2018, in Copenhagen, which I attended along with several other SPNHC members. At this event, there was an effort made to bring together biodiversity information stakeholders and discuss a unified vision to globally coordinate biodiversity-based resources and infrastructures. This led to the formation of “An Alliance for Biodiversity Knowledge.”⁽²⁾ I encourage everyone to go to the new website and learn more about the concept of this new initiative and consider signing on as an individual or organizational/institutional participant.

Finally, please let me know if you have ideas for future collaborations between SPNHC and GBIF.

Respectfully submitted,
James Macklin, SPNHC Representative to GBIF

⁽¹⁾<https://www.gbif.org/news/6TZGo8VgmLEG7EbQGMpjaE/dr-joe-miller-named-new-gbif-executive-secretary>

⁽²⁾<https://www.biodiversityinformatics.org/en/>

HERITAGE EMERGENCY NATIONAL TASK FORCE (HENTF)

The Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF) is a cooperative venture between the Smithsonian Institution Cultural Rescue Initiative (SCRI), the Foundation for Advancement of Conservation (FAIC), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), under:

Lori Foley

Administrator, Heritage Emergency National Task Force
Office of Environmental Planning & Historic Preservation
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration
FEMA | DHS

The HENTF mission is protection of cultural heritage in US states, tribes, territories, and local communities from the damaging effects of natural disasters and other emergencies:

<https://culturalrescue.si.edu/hentf/>

HENTF's objectives are to:

1. Provide education and training to cultural stewards, first responders, and emergency managers to better prepare them to work together to address emergencies and disasters affecting cultural institutions and historic sites;
2. Provide technical assistance, guidance, and/or resources to cultural stewards, first responders, and emergency managers to address disaster-related impacts to cultural and historic resources;
3. Coordinate the collection and sharing of incident-specific information with cultural stewards, first responders, and emergency managers in order to protect cultural and historic resources before, during, and after an event;

4. Increase the incorporation of cultural and historic resources into disaster planning and 37 mitigation efforts at all levels of government; and
5. Provide information and guidance to the public to help individuals and families protect, stabilize, and recover treasured possessions before, during, and after an event.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

In collaboration with SCRI, and the Smithsonian's Preparedness and Response in Collections Emergencies (PRICE) team, HENTF conducted a second **Heritage Emergency and Response Training (HEART)** 5-day program to train staff from US cultural institutions:

<https://culturalrescue.si.edu/what-we-do/resilience/heritage-emergency-and-response-training-heart/>. To date, 75 people have received training. The training is funded through grants from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Webinars and other training resources are available at: <https://culturalrescue.si.edu/hentf/training/>.

In addition, the HENTF hosted national phone conferences on Hurricane Florence and on recent flooding in the US midwestern region. HENTF works with its partner organizations to provide assistance for individuals or institutions via telephone, email, or in-person response to aid recovery of heritage materials.

Respectfully submitted,
Catharine Hawks, SPNHC Representative to HENTF

INTEGRATED DIGITIZED BIOCOLLECTIONS (iDigBio)

METRICS MATTER. Collections need metrics, aggregators need metrics, funders, curators, collectors, and administrators need metrics, and staff (SPNHC members!), spend valuable time collecting them and tracking them. Current projects and programs underway promise to provide new methods and tools to gather and visualize these data. For this reason, we ([RBGS](#), [Ag-Canada](#), [iDigBio](#)), organized a symposium for [SPNHC 2019: Collecting Measures of Success](#). We hope many of you come to the session to contribute your metrics needs, methods, and stories. If you have ideas and resources about collection metrics that you want to share, we have the perfect spot. See the [iDigBio wiki](#) for this event. Speaking of metrics, our community now regularly creates globally unique identifiers (GUIDs) for specimens in their collections. We need to do this for people too (e.g. collectors, identifiers, georeferencers). Some collection management software makes it possible to store GUIDs for people (e.g. [ORCID](#) for living folks, and for dead people there are [Wikidata GUIDs](#)), does yours? Standard identification for people means our data producers can benefit from resources like [Bloodhound-tracker.net](#) to highlight their contributions to science and biodiversity knowledge. See more about a future collections digitization metrics tool in the [Designing a Collections Digitization Dashboard](#) report from the [ICEDIG design study](#) for [DiSSCo](#). And check out [FishfindR.net](#) to compare **digitized** fish collections worldwide, see what's unique, find out who has what, where, and see if anything is missing. Of course, the education and outreach efforts of museums and collections also require metrics. If you have materials to share for using collections in education and outreach, [BLUE](#) offers SPNHC 2019 participants an [Educational Materials Share Fair](#) and the [Small Collections Network \(SCNet\)](#) put together a symposium: No Collection Left Behind: Research Contributions of Small Collections.

The next 2 years at iDigBio are already packed with activities, and we look forward to SPNHC members' participation and input. Some upcoming events to watch out for include: [Digital Data III: Methods, Protocols, and Analytical Tools for Specimen-based Research in the Biological Sciences](#) (10–12 June 2019), and [The 9th ADBC Summit 2019](#) (October 1–3, 2019). Just after these, check out this joint conference [Biodiversity Next](#) (22–25 October 2019), and [iDigBio at Biodiversity Next](#), where event tracks take on standards, policy, infrastructure, and science needs for building a global infrastructure for biodiversity data. And before you know it, we will all be planning for [SPNHC and ICOM NATHIST 2020](#) in Edinburgh and how to get there. – let's collaborate!

NEWS FLASH. Exciting planning for the 10th ADBC Summit 2020 is underway. Look forward to an event that merges the meetings of the Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG), GBIF Governing Board, and ADBC and broader collections community worldwide. Mark your calendars for the third week of September 2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Paul, SPNHC–iDigBio Liaison

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF MUSEUMS—COMMITTEE FOR MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS OF NATURAL HISTORY (ICOM-NATHIST)

The 2018 ICOM-NatHist annual conference took place in Tel Aviv, Israel, at the newly opened Steinhardt Museum on Natural History. There were 70 participants from Israel, and countries in Asia, Europe, and North America. Sessions continued discussions begun at the 2017 meeting, examining the Anthropocene, and the role of Natural History museums in the 21st century. The first sessions discussed museum collections and research and included collecting policies, collections new research, collections new technologies and methods, and sharing databases. The second session focused on new ways for engaging visitors with collaborative adventures, exploring innovative and creative approaches in developing educational programs. The third session sparked discussions around the social role of Natural History museums as taking part in science literacy and in being a place where controversial issues can be discussed. *Note: Abstracts of the Conference can be found at this link: <https://nathist-abstract.forms-wizard.net/>*

The conference also yielded the following statement in response to the devastating fires and loss of invaluable collections in Rio de Janeiro and New Deli: *“ICOM NATHIST would like to express its deep concern regarding the preservation of natural history collections world-wide. These collections face unique and mounting risks regarding their preservation and care. ICOM NATHIST urges those entrusted with resourcing the stewardship of these treasures to recognize their value and ensure their ongoing protection.”*

The 2019 Conference will be held in Kyoto, Japan, in September. The conference theme is “Natural History Museums: A Nexus Between Nature and Culture.”

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Anderson, SPNHC Representative to ICOM-NatHist.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR BIOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REPOSITORIES (ISBER)

The ISBER 2019 annual meeting was held May 7–10 in Shanghai and was the first to be held in Asia. This was ISBER’s 20th anniversary year, and to reflect this, the Scientific Program Advisory Committee chose “Honoring Our Past, Celebrating the Present, and Envisioning our Future” as the meeting theme. This meeting featured plenary sessions, educational workshops, networking events, corporate workshops, contributed paper sessions, poster sessions, and working group discussions. Vendors from around the world demonstrated the latest products, services, and technology in the field of repository and specimen collection management. A regional meeting for the Americas will also be held in Minneapolis on November 4–5, 2019, for those that were unable to travel to Shanghai. Abstract submissions are open and will close on June 3, 2019.

Last year, ISBER published the Best Practices: Recommendations for Repositories Fourth Edition (www.isber.org/bestpractices). It is our aim that the SPNHC community can use these recommendations as guidance when managing their own collections. ISBER is currently conducting a survey study on downloads and usage of the Best Practices document. If you have used the new Best Practices to assess or improve specimen collection, storage, use and/or governance of your own collection, please email Breda Zimkus (bzimkus@oeb.harvard.edu), to share this information. We also invite SPNHC members to share how these recommendations were specifically applied to your collection. If there are specific areas within the Best Practices

that do not adequately address the operation of museum collections, please inform the SPNHC representative to ISBER. We hope that the SPNHC community will work together with ISBER improve these recommendations for museum repositories.

Respectfully submitted,
Breda M. Zimkus, SPNHC Representative to ISBER

Managers of Australasian Herbarium Collections— Councils of Heads of Australasian Herbaria (MAHC-CHAH)

Herbaria in Australia and New Zealand continue to work with national agencies to ensure the safe arrival of botanical specimens and to streamline the significant biosecurity regulations of each country. Managers of Australasian Herbarium Collections (MAHC), a subcommittee of the Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria (CHAH), remind our overseas herbarium partners who wish to return loaned materials or are sending exchange/donation to Australasia to contact the Collection Manager of the appropriate institution before sending material. This is to ensure the necessary and appropriate documentation is attached to parcels for efficient gateway entry, and so we can track the safe arrival of shipments.

Australasian herbaria are actively working toward Nagoya Protocol implementation and compliance. Representatives of MAHC attended the Australasian Systematic Botany Society meeting (ASBS 2018: Mind the Gap), held in Brisbane, Australia, at the Brisbane Botanic Gardens at Mt Coot-tha, Toowong in December 2018 (<https://systematics.ourplants.org/>). On behalf of MAHC, Shelley James presented a talk “Nagoya Protocol on Access Benefit-Sharing: Implications for Herbaria and Systematics Research.” This was part of a forum about biosecurity and permitting which generated much discussion, and a paper on the subject was published in the ASBS newsletter (No. 177, November 2018: http://www.asbs.org.au/newsletter/newsletter_177.html).

Digitization of collections and new infrastructure dominates discussions in the Australasian herbarium community. The National Herbarium of New South Wales (NSW) has partnered with Picturae and in April began the imaging and transcription of the 1.4 million specimen collection, starting with cryptogams. NSW continues the planning of a new herbarium building at the Australian Botanic Gardens Mt Annan. The Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria is undertaking a feasibility study for a new Nature and Science Precinct which includes a new herbarium building and future digitization of its herbarium specimen collection. The Queensland Herbarium (BRI) is imaging all Queensland specimens, the Auckland War Memorial Museum (AK) actively digitizes all new incoming material, and the New Zealand National Forestry Herbarium (NZFRI), apart from digitizing all new accessions, is 40% through a project to digitize the entire collection by 2025. MAHC is working closely with the Atlas of Living Australia to ensure images and metadata are made available online through the Australasian Virtual Herbarium (<https://avh.chah.org.au/>).

In August 2019, the Annual Business Meeting of MAHC will be held in Darwin, Australia, hosted by the Northern Territory Herbarium. Teleconferences to discuss issues critical to the Australasian Herbarium community occur quarterly.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley James, SPNHC Representative to MAHC-CHAH

NATURAL SCIENCES COLLECTIONS ASSOCIATION (NatSCA)

NatSCA has been representing our membership on the UK Taxonomy and Systematics Committee and in government consultations, such as the recent consultation on the ivory trade. We have also been in discussion with the Home Office to find a solution to the problems museums are facing with regard to expensive licenses for specimens held in collections that are

controlled by drug legislation. We hope that the eventual outcome will be Antiques Exemption certificates for accredited museums.

We have been engaging with the wider UK museums sector through the emerging network of Subject Specialist Networks (SSNs). This forum provides an opportunity for SSNs to share information and coordinate efforts to address issues such as collections at risk, which we continue to monitor and challenge within our limited power.

Our 2017 AGM and annual conference was held at the University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge, where we explored the theme of *Evolving Ideas: Provocative new ways of working with collections*. It proved to be a truly thought-provoking meeting, where the topics covered ranged from ethics to new approaches in analyses and object conservation. Our conference for 2018 will be held at Leeds City Museum on 26–27 April, with the theme of *The Museum Ecosystem: Exploring how different subject specialisms can work closer together*, and on October 17, we will be running a *Natural Science Conservation Conference* at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History, organised by a Conservation Group that has been convened by our new Conservation Representative, Lucie Mascord.

The procedures for producing our *Journal of Natural Science Collections* were reviewed last year, and an Editorial Board was convened to facilitate the review process. This has led to a more robust set of guidelines for authors and more rigorous peer-review, improving the quality of the publication.

Financially we remain in a healthy state, allowing us to continue offering bursaries and the *Bill Pettit Memorial Award*. In 2017, we funded two projects; Manchester Museum's *Taking wing: Curation of a Venezuelan Hawkmoth collection*, and Tullie House's "A Virtual Flora of Tullie: Sowing the Seeds" to Digitise a Nationally Significant Herbarium.

NatSCA would also like to take this opportunity to thank all its membership and the volunteers that support our society and the work we do.

Respectfully submitted,
Roberto Portello Miguez, SPNHC Representative to NatSCA

NATURAL SCIENCE COLLECTIONS ALLIANCE (NSC Alliance)

The Natural Science Collections Alliance is a sister group to SPNHC whose primary focus is to communicate about and lobby on issues related to natural history collections through representation and organization of member institutions which are institutional natural history collections of all sizes and kinds. As NSCA president, I wanted to provide a short report on recent activities in order to more effectively engage our collective need to address issues of all kinds facing natural history collections. A collective effort, the Biodiversity Collection Network (BCoN), that included members of both SPNHC and NSCA called has just produced report has recently released the report: *Extending U.S. Biodiversity Collections to Promote Research and Education*. The development of this report was led by Barbara Theirs the new president of SPNHC and an NSCA board member. NSCA look forward to next steps associated with promoting and implementing this plan.

Coinciding with the plan's release in Washington, NSCA ran a two-day workshop on policy and advocacy for natural science collections that was organized by NSCA Public Policy Director, Rob Gropp. This was the first of such events, which we intend to make annual. We hope to use these as opportunities for interactions with government agencies and others to promote collections-based initiatives. They will be open to the community at large for a low registration fee. Presentations at this initial meeting included representatives from the United States Geological Survey, the National Science Foundation, and the National Academy of Sciences.

NSCA also has signed a memorandum of understanding with iDigBio in support of the

annual Digital Data Conferences that they have initiated. The third event will be hosted by the Peabody Museum at Yale University this June. Digitization and data management/curation has become a central aspect of our collections and will continue to be so. NSCA will continue to look for the best methods to lobby collectively for the museum community, we also will work towards effective resolution of issues related to specific institutions. Most recently, we met with key decision-makers about the closing of the Biological Survey Unit at the Smithsonian Institution, which resulted to the loss of long funded curatorial and collection management positions in vertebrates there. For more updates on NSCA activities, please check our updates at: <http://nscalliance.org/>.

The NSCA board is committed to continuing to represent the museum community effectively and collaboratively to promote activities across our community and engage government and the public for broader support. We welcome comments, suggestions and criticisms as we work towards the best strategies for achieving these collective goals for the community.

I am currently serving on the local organizing committee for the upcoming SPNHC meetings which will be held at the Field Museum in Chicago at the end of May. I encourage you to come talk to me at the meetings about NSCA and how we can better serve the community.

Respectfully submitted,
John Bates, NSCA President and SPNHC Representative to NSC Alliance

PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY (PS)

The 2018 meeting of The Paleontological Society (PS) was held during the Geological Society of America (GSA) meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana November 4–7.

The next meeting of The Paleontological Society will be held during the Geological Society of America (GSA) meeting in Phoenix, Arizona September 22–25, 2019.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Cundiff, SPNHC Representative to PS

SCIENTIFIC COLLECTIONS INTERNATIONAL (SciColl)

Nothing to report.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Thiers, SPNHC Representative to SciColl

SMALL COLLECTIONS NETWORK (SCNet)

SCNet has been active in recruiting, retaining and supporting small collections in the last year and developed a small collections working and interest group focused on research contributions of small collections. This Small Collections Working Group (SCWG) continues to work with BCON, iDigBio, SPNHC, and NSCA to expand the SCNet and further efforts to create a sustainable small collections community. SCNet is very interested in working with interested members of the collections community to expand the SCWG and identify and address the needs of small collections.

In 2018, SCNet co-sponsored a symposium as a joint endeavor with iDigBIO E&O Working Group, BLUE, and BCoN titled, *Completing the Data Pipeline: Collections Data Use in Research, Education and Outreach*. The purpose of the symposium was to highlight the diverse uses of digital collections resources for research, education, and outreach. In addition to the symposium

SCNet, alongside iDigBio and BLUE, cohosted the first SPNHC roundtable “share fair” session for educational materials. This was an opportunity for participants to get feedback on education or outreach materials in all stages of development and implementation.

This Small Collections Working Group (SCWG) received funds through the Biodiversity Collections Network (BCoN) to host an *SCNet Symposium: Making the Case for Natural History Collections: Research Contributions of Small Collections* at SPNHC 2019. The SCWG will meet at SPNHC 2019 to initiate writing efforts on a manuscript reflecting the symposium findings. SCNet, alongside iDigBio and BLUE, will continue the SPNHC “share fair” in Chicago in 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Monfils, SPNHC Representative to SCNet

SOCIETY OF HERBARIUM CURATORS (SHC)

The Society focuses on promoting the importance of herbaria in teaching, research, and service to the community at large. Members are active in the continued development of regional and/or state-level consortia and are participating in various regional efforts as well as increasing our international presence.

I am completing Year 2 of a second 3-year term as a Member-at-Large on the Executive Board of SHC. I have also served on the ad hoc Constitution and Bylaws Review Committee and the Nominations Committee for the Society.

Two major events for this year are the online seven-week Strategic Planning for Herbaria course and a half-day symposium entitled “Early-career innovators in herbarium-enabled research and future-proofing for the next waves of inventiveness,” to be held immediately following the Botany2019 meeting.

The 2019 Annual meeting of the Society will be held in conjunction with Botany2019 in Tucson, Arizona, USA, on July 27-31, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Rich Rabeler, SPNHC Representative to SHC

SOCIETY OF VERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGY (SVP)

The 78th Annual meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology was hosted 17–20 October in Albuquerque, NM, and was attended by numerous SPNHC members. The annual Preparators Session focuses on topics related to paleontological collections conservation and care. SPNHC was represented at the Preparators Committee, Government Affairs Committee, and SVP Business meetings. The 2019 SVP meeting is planned for 9–12 October in Brisbane, Australia.

In December 2017, SVP and partner organizations responded to Trump administration efforts to reduce or eliminate US National Monuments containing significant paleontological resources. Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments were established under the Antiquities Act specifically to protect vertebrate paleontological resources. The administration's new boundaries have excluded at least 500 known scientifically important sites from the monument, thus weakening protection and making them ineligible for monument-based funding streams. More than 40 paleontologists have ongoing work that is affected. SVP has responded by filing lawsuits challenging the legal authority of the President to make these cuts. More information about this action and rationale can be found on the SVP website.

[<http://vertpaleo.org/What-is-Vertebrate-Paleontology/Fossil-Preservation-Law-in-the-US.aspx>] In May 2018, SVP Executive Committee members met with members of the House Committee on Natural Resources to discuss why Grand Staircase and Bears Ears monuments are important for paleontological science.

In March 2019, SVP Past President P. David Polly provided testimony to the US House Committee on Natural Resources on the impact that the proposed Bears Ears and Grand

Staircase-Escalante reductions would have on scientific research. Dr. Polly reinforced the role of paleontological research on public lands, and specifically noted the importance of curation and conservation of fossil resources in public museum collections; his full statement is available online. [<https://naturalresources.house.gov/imo/media/doc/Polly,%20David%20-%20UPDATED%20Statement%20for%20the%20Record.pdf>]

The SVP is in the process of establishing a Collections and Repository Committee to address collections concerns not currently covered by the Government Affairs and Preparators Committees. The Collections and Repository Committee (CRC) are tasked with addressing policy and issues that arise related to the curation, conservation, and funding thereof, of vertebrate paleontological specimens. This committee is expected to be comprised of curators and collections managers and will include the SPNHC representative to SVP.

The SVP wishes to remind SPNHC members that it offers several awards and grants that might have relevance to those interested in paleontology. These include grants [<http://vertpaleo.org/the-Society/Awards.aspx>], to promote student research and fieldwork, like the Estes, Patterson, and Wood awards. The Jackson Student Travel Grant and Scientists from Economically Developing Nations grant both help support travel to the SVP annual meeting. The Hix Preparators Grant is awarded to advance fossil research, standards, and training in preparation and collections disciplines. Not all of these awards limit eligibility to current members of SVP, check the requirements carefully.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Brown, SPNHC Representative to SVP

Appendix 1

ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

BURDETTE SMITH & BISH LLC
CPAS AND MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
4035 RIDGE TOP ROAD SUITE 550
FAIRFAX, VA 22030

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

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT

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

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the related statements of activities, cash flows, and functional expenses, for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

Accountant's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagements in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

Accountant's Conclusion

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

Fairfax, Virginia
February 25, 2019

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

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

(REVIEWED)

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
ASSETS		
<hr/>		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 259,374	\$ 240,573
Inventory	22,527	23,284
Total current assets	<u>281,901</u>	<u>263,857</u>
INVESTMENTS	<u>80,430</u>	<u>92,714</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 362,331</u>	<u>\$ 356,571</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
<hr/>		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 17,393	\$ 8,660
Deferred revenue	11,185	11,490
Total current liabilities	<u>28,578</u>	<u>20,150</u>
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	332,743	332,722
With donor restrictions	1,010	3,699
Total net assets	<u>333,753</u>	<u>336,421</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 362,331</u>	<u>\$ 356,571</u>

See accompanying notes and independent accountants' review report.

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

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018**

(REVIEWED)

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Revenue, gains, and other support:			
Membership dues and subscriptions	\$ 33,070	\$ -	\$ 33,070
Publication sales	4,114	-	4,114
Contributions	7,170	12,735	19,905
Investment income, net	(4,436)	-	(4,436)
Net assets released from restrictions:			
Satisfaction of program restrictions	15,424	(15,424)	-
Total net assets released from restrictions	15,424	(15,424)	-
Total revenues, gains, and other support	55,342	(2,689)	52,653
Expenses and losses:			
Program	42,513	-	42,513
General and administrative	12,808	-	12,808
Total expenses	55,321	-	55,321
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	21	(2,689)	(2,668)
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	332,722	3,699	336,421
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 332,743	\$ 1,010	\$ 333,753

See accompanying notes and independent accountants' review report.

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

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

(REVIEWED)

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Revenue, gains, and other support:			
Membership dues and subscriptions	\$ 36,460	\$ -	\$ 36,460
Publication sales	10,157	-	10,157
Contributions	39,503	3,301	42,804
Investment income, net	18,377	-	18,377
Net assets released from restrictions:			
Satisfaction of program restrictions	2,501	(2,501)	-
Total net assets released from restrictions	2,501	(2,501)	-
Total revenues, gains, and other support	106,998	800	107,798
Expenses:			
Program	20,076	-	20,076
General and administrative	12,422	-	12,422
Total expenses	32,498	-	32,498
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	74,500	800	75,300
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	258,222	2,899	261,121
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 332,722	\$ 3,699	\$ 336,421

See accompanying notes and independent accountants' review report.

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

**STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

(REVIEWED)

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash received from members and customers	\$ 56,784	\$ 88,781
Cash paid for program and support services	(45,831)	(33,231)
Interest and dividends received	7,848	6,528
Net Cash Provided By (Used In) Operating Activities	<u>18,801</u>	<u>62,078</u>
 NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	 18,801	 62,078
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>240,573</u>	<u>178,495</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 259,374</u>	<u>\$ 240,573</u>
 RECONCILIATION OF CHANGE IN NET ASSETS TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Increase (decrease) in net assets	\$ (2,668)	\$ 75,300
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
(Gain) loss on valuation of investments	12,284	(11,849)
(Increase) decrease in advances	-	5,000
(Increase) decrease in inventory	757	1,231
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	8,733	(6,964)
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue	<u>(305)</u>	<u>(640)</u>
Net Cash Provided By (Used In) Operating Activities	<u>\$ 18,801</u>	<u>\$ 62,078</u>

See accompanying notes and independent accountants' review report.

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

**STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

(REVIEWED)

2018 Statement of Functional Expenses

	Program Services	General and Administrative	Total Expenses
Bank charges	-	1,024	1,024
Cost of goods sold	756	-	756
Newsletter and journal	11,199	-	11,199
Election costs	-	368	368
Grant work	96	-	96
Insurance	-	3,516	3,516
Membership	2,227	-	2,227
President contingency funds	-	1,577	1,577
Professional fees	-	5,660	5,660
Travel grant	17,645	-	17,645
Treasurer's office supplies	-	663	663
Web committee	10,590	-	10,590
	<u>42,513</u>	<u>12,808</u>	<u>55,321</u>

2017 Statement of Functional Expenses

	Program Services	General and Administrative	Total Expenses
Bank charges	-	1,024	1,024
Cost of goods sold	1,231	-	1,231
Newsletter and journal	10,946	-	10,946
Election costs	-	688	688
Grant work	192	-	192
Insurance	-	3,475	3,475
Membership	1,689	-	1,689
President contingency funds	-	1,309	1,309
Professional fees	-	5,500	5,500
Travel grant	3,750	-	3,750
Treasurer's office supplies	-	426	426
Web committee	2,268	-	2,268
	<u>20,076</u>	<u>12,422</u>	<u>32,498</u>

See accompanying notes and independent accountants' review report.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

(REVIEWED)

NOTE 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

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

Support and Expenses

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

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

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

Fair Value Measurements

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

Use of Estimates

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

Cash Equivalents

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

Inventory

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

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

(REVIEWED)

NOTE 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

Investments

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

Intangible Asset

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

Classes of Assets

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

Net assets without donor restrictions Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed restrictions and may be expended for any purpose in performing the primary objectives of the Organization. The Organization's board may designate assets without restrictions for specific operational purposes from time to time.

Net assets with donor restrictions Net assets subject to stipulations imposed by donors, and grantors. Some donor restrictions are temporary in nature; those restrictions will be met by actions of the Non-Profit Organization or by the passage of time. Other donor restrictions are perpetual in nature, where by the donor has stipulated the funds be maintained in perpetuity.

Tax Exempt Status

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

Management evaluated the Society's tax positions and concluded that the Society had taken no uncertain tax positions that require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements. With few exceptions, federal and state information returns for the years prior to 2015 are no longer subject to examination by tax authorities.

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

(REVIEWED)

NOTE 2 – Inventory

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

	<u>2018</u>		<u>2017</u>
Ideas and Practical Solutions - Vol 1	\$ 24	\$	142
A Preventive Conservation Approach - Vol 2	104		104
Managing the Modern Herbarium	1,441		1,659
MuseumWise: Workplace Words Defined	5,543		5,543
Museum Studies	61		154
Health and Safety	15,354		15,682
	\$ 22,527	\$	23,284

NOTE 3 – Investments

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

	<u>2018</u>		<u>2017</u>
Mutual funds	\$ 80,430	\$	92,714

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

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

	<u>2018</u>		<u>2017</u>
Unrealized gain (loss) on market value	\$ (12,284)	\$	11,849
Interest and dividends	7,848		6,528
	\$ (4,436)	\$	18,377

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

(REVIEWED)

NOTE 4 – Net Assets

Net assets with donor restrictions consist of the following at December 31:

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
With donor restrictions:		
Purpose restricted	\$ 1,010	\$ 3,699
Total with donor restrictions	<u>1,010</u>	<u>3,699</u>
Without donor restrictions:		
Undesignated	\$ 332,743	\$ 332,722
Total without donor restrictions	<u>332,743</u>	<u>332,722</u>

NOTE 5 – Liquidity and Availability of Resources

The Society's financial assets available within one year of the balance sheet date for general expenditure are as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 234,911
Certificate of deposit	24,463
Other investments (if needed)	80,430
Net assets with donor restrictions	(1,010)
	<u>\$ 338,794</u>

As part of the Society's liquidity management, it has a policy to structure its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due. In addition, as part of its liquidity management, the Society invests cash in excess of daily requirements in short-term options such as certificates of deposit and sweep accounts and long-term options such as investments in income and growth funds. The Society's financial assets available are enough to cover any obligation as of December 31, 2018.

NOTE 6 – Expense Allocation

The financial statements report certain categories of expenses that are attributable to one or more program or supporting functions of the Society. Those expenses include publication, communications, and travel. These expenses are allocated based on estimates of time and effort.

NOTE 7 – Subsequent Events

The Society evaluated its December 31, 2018 financial statements for subsequent events through February 25, 2019, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.