

THE
37th ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
OF THE
**SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF
NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS**



SPNHC

ADVANCING COLLECTIONS CARE

**“Through the Door and Through the Web:
Releasing the Power of Natural History Collections
Onsite and Online”**

**Appleton Tower Lecture Room 1
University of Edinburgh
11 Crichton St, Newington, Edinburgh, UK**

June 9, 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Agenda for the Annual Business Meeting	3
2021–2022 List of SPNHC Members Serving on Council and Committees.....	4
Organizational Representatives	6
Minutes of the Secretary: 2021 ABM.....	7
Report of the President.....	10
Report of the Treasurer	11
Member-at-Large Reports	16
Standing Committee Reports	16
Archives.....	16
Best Practices	17
Biodiversity Crisis Response	17
Bylaws	18
Conference.....	18
Conservation	19
Education	19
Elections.....	20
Emerging Professionals	21
Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility.....	21
Legislation and Regulations	22
Long-Range Planning.....	23
Membership.....	23
Professional Development	24
Publications	25
Recognition and Grants.....	27
Web & Social Media	27
Sessional Committee Reports	28
Collection Theft & Security Monitoring of Collections	28
International Relations.....	28
US Federal Collections.....	28
Representative Reports.....	29
Alliance of Natural History Museums of Canada (ANHMC).....	29
American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC)	29
American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS).....	29
American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH)	30
American Society of Mammalogists (ASM).....	30
American Society of Plant Taxonomists (ASPT).....	31
Association for Materials and Methods in Paleontology (AMMP)	31
Association of Registrars and Collections Specialists (ARCS).....	32
Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG)	32
Collections Stewardship Professional Network, AAM (CS-AAM)	33
Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities (CETAF)	33
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).....	33
Entomological Collections Network (ECN).....	34
Geological Curators' Group (GCG).....	35
Geological Society of America (GSA)	36
Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)	36
Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF).....	37
Integrated Digitized Biocollections (iDigBio)	37
International Council of Museums–Comm. for Collections of Natural History (ICOM-NATHIST).....	37
International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER).....	38
Managers of Australasian Herbarium Colls–Councils of Heads of Australasian Herbaria (MAHC-CHAH).....	38
Natural Sciences Collections Association (NatSCA).....	38
Natural Science Collections Alliance (NSC Alliance).....	39
Paleontological Society (PS).....	39
Small Collections Network (SCNet)	39
Society of Herbarium Curators (SHC).....	39
Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP)	39
Appendix 1: Accountant's Review Report and Financial Statements	41

Agenda for the Annual Business Meeting

Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections

9 June 2022

Appleton Tower Lecture Room 1, University of Edinburgh

11 Crichton St, Newington, Edinburgh, UK

1. Call to order
2. Agenda
3. Minutes of the 2021 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. Collections and the Biodiversity Crisis
 - e. Conference
 - f. Conservation
 - g. Education
 - h. Elections
 - i. Emerging Professionals
 - j. Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility
 - k. Legislation and Regulations
 - l. Long-Range Planning
 - m. Membership
 - n. Professional Development
 - o. Publications
 - p. Recognition and Grants
 - q. Web Site
7. Reports of Sessional Committees
 - a. Collection Theft & Security Monitoring in Collections
 - b. International Relations
 - c. US Federal Collections
8. Reports of Representatives (27)

Due to time constraints, please refer to the printed reports.
9. New Business
 - a. Awards & Recognition
 - b. Upcoming Meetings
10. Old Business
11. Announcements
12. Adjournment

2021–2022 List of SPNHC Members Serving on Council and Committees

COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President	Paul Mayer	2020–2022
President-Elect	Julian Carter	2020–2022
Past President	Barbara Thiers	2020–2022
Secretary	Cindy Opitz	2016–2022
Managing Editor	Mariel Campbell	
Treasurer	Theresa Reilly	

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Anna Monfils	2019–2022
Breda Zimkus	2019–2022
Shelley James	2020–2023
Randy Singer	2020–2023
Vanessa Delnavaz	2021–2024
Meghann Toner	2021–2024

STANDING COMMITTEES

<p>Archives Committee Carol Kelloff Chair Lisa F. Palmer Meghann Toner</p> <p>Best Practices Committee Emily Braker Co-chair Genevieve Tocci Co-chair M. Andriambelomanana Adam Kowalczyk Andrew Bentley Erika Krimmel Eva Biedron Carrie Levitt-Bussian Matthew Brown Meredith Mahoney Christina Byrd Katherine Mallalieu Julian Carter Paul Mayer Michelle Coyne Tommy McElrath Jessica Cundiff Amanda Millhouse R. Dianah William Moser Carrie Eaton Dirk Neumann Leanne Elder Nicole Seiden Nicole Fisher Randy Singer Anya Friedrichs Hayley Singleton M. Grenda-Kurmanow Jennifer Trimble Shelley James Greg Watkins-Colwell Carol Kelloff Dan Young Stevie Kennedy-Gold Breda Zimkus</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Citations Subcommittee</i></p> Margaret Landis Chair Mariko Kageyama Ann Pinzl <p>Biodiversity Crisis Response Committee Libby Ellwood Co-chair Jutta Buschbom Co-chair Martin Alvarez Talia Karim Usman Atique Austin Mast Andy Bentley Juri Miyamae Dina Clark Anna Monfils Jason Comer Gil Nelson Chelsea Dvorak-Specht Emma Rempel Alina Freire-Fierro Soledad Tancoff Jean-Marc Gagnon Erica Wheeler Rachel Hackett Martin Wiemers Sara Hansen Justin Williams Rothan Joglekar Sarah Witiak</p> <p>Bylaws Committee Barbara Thiers Chair (Past President) Laura Abraczinskas Cindy Opitz (Secretary) Andrew Bentley</p>	<p>Conference Committee Julian Carter Chair (President-Elect) Cindy Opitz Co-chair Paul Mayer Sponsor Liaison, N. America Clare Valentine Sponsor Liaison, Europe Sankurie Pye Edinburgh 2022 Laura Eklund San Francisco 2023 Moe Flannery San Francisco 2023 Shelley James TDWG 2024 Tim White New Haven 2025 Tiffany Adrain Elise LeCompte Irene Finkelde</p> <p>Conservation Committee Rebecca Newberry Co-chair Fran Ritchie Co-chair Gretchen Anderson Becky Kaczkowski Lori Benson Dani Measday Stephanie Black Armando Mendez Julian Carter Eugenie Milroy Luci Cipera Cindy Opitz Mariana Di Giacomo Bethany Palumbo Lisa Elkin Julian Sybalsky Irene Finkelde Sheldon Teare Lisa Goldberg Robert Waller Catharine Hawks Tim White</p> <p>Education Committee Anna Monfils Chair Molly Phillips Co-chair Liz Leith Co-secretary Jennifer Bauer Co-secretary Anthony Baniaga Julia Robinson Lori Benson Linda Lassiter Christina Chandler Paul Mayer Jason Corner Jessie Nakano Nick Drew Dianah Raharisoanarindra Annmarie Fearing Julia Robinson Anja Friederich Chris Tacker Alicia Goode Chan Vicky Rachel Hackett Greg Watkins-Colwell Jean-Marc Gagnon Jessa Watters Adam Kowalczyk Luc Willemse</p> <p>Elections Committee Bethany Palumbo Chair Jean-Marc Gagnon Co-chair</p>
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Emerging Professionals Committee

Kevin Krajcir	Co-chair
Jessica Nakano	Co-chair
Travis Marsico	Prof. Devel., Mentorship
Marie Angel	Klara Norden
Jennifer Bauer	Nicole Seiden

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility Comm.

Anna Monfils	Co-chair
Vanessa Delnavaz	Co-chair
Molly Phillips	Co-secretary
Hayley Singleton	Co-secretary
Gretchen Anderson	Paul Mayer
Lyndell Bade	Rebecca Newberry
John Bates	Deb Paul
Alnycea Blackwell	Theresa Reilly
Laura Briscoe	Marcy Revelez
Julian Carter	Fran Ritchie
Amalia Diaz	Randy Singer
Ron Eng	Barbara Tiers
Adania Flemming	Genevieve Tocci
Lisa Goldberg	Meghann S. Toner
Shelley James	Richard Wittie
Talia Karim	Breda Zimkus
Jennifer Lanman	

Legislation and Regulations Committee

Stephanie D. Carson	Co-chair
Dirk Neumann	Co-chair
Mariel Campbell	Diane Pitassy
Adam Ferguson	Lori Schlenker
Geoff Keel	Greg Watkins-Colwell
Bill Moser	Breda Zimkus
Andy Bentley, Transport of Dangerous Goods	

Fire Code Subcommittee

Paul Morris	Robert Waller
John E. Simmons	

Long-Range Planning Committee

Julian Carter	Co-chair (Pres.-Elect)
Suzanne Ryder	Co-chair
Laura Abraczinskas	Travis Marsico
Tiffany Adrain	Anna Monfils
Lori Benson	Dirk Neumann
Stephanie Carson	Cindy Opitz
Raharisoanarindra Dianah	Deborah Paul
Carrie Eaton	Ann Pinzl
Shelley James	Laura Rincon-Rodriguez
Carol Kelloff	Hayley Singleton
Amanda Lawrence	Meghann Toner

Membership Committee

Tiffany Adrain	Chair
Elena Benamy	Kari Panhorst
Richard Busch	Ann Pinzl
Talia Karim	Greg Watkins-Collwell
Rachel Malloy	Theresa Reilly (Treas.)
Kari Harris	

Professional Development Committee

Nicholas Drew	Co-chair
Jeff Stephenson	Co-chair
Elise LeCompte	Travel Grants Sub-chair
Travis Marsico	Mentorship Sub-chair
Meghann Toner	Mentorship Sub-chair
Elena Benamy	Gil Nelson
Christina Byrd	Rusty Russell

Publications Committee

Mariel Campbell	Chair, Managing Editor
Scott Rufolo	Co-Production Editor
Mariana Di Giacomo	Assoc. Ed. Collection Forum
Shelley James	Assoc. Ed. Collection Forum
Genevieve Tocci	Assoc. Ed. Collection Forum
Liath Appleton	Editor SPNHC Connection
Lori Schlenker	Asst. Ed. SPNHC Connect.
OPEN	Advertis'ing, SPNHC Connect.
Lisa Goldberg	Assoc. Editor, Book Reviews
Breda Zimkus	Editor, Technical Leaflets
Sarah Ketelsen	Membership Liaison
Carol Kelloff,	Archives Chair

Recognition and Grants Committee

Barbara Thiers	Chair (Past President)
Andy Bentley	Suzanne B. McLaren
Jean-Marc Gagnon	

Web & Social Media Committee

Liath Appleton	Chair
Jennifer Lanman	Jobs Board Manager
Irene Finkelde	Events Calendar Manager
Jessica Utrup	NH-COLL-List Manager
James Macklin	Consultant

Social Media Team

Lynn Jones	Social Media Manager
Mariana Di Giacomo	Twitter
Aditi Jayarajan	Instagram
Cara Smith	Instagram

Website Editors

Laura Abraczinskas	Bylaws
Tiffany Adrain	Membership
Theresa Reilly	Treasurer
Shelley James	Molly Phillips
Anna Monfils	

YouTube Managers

Emily Braker	Best Practices
Genevieve Tocci	Best Practices
Andy Bentley	Paul Mayer

Slack Administration

Mariana Di Giacomo	
Deborah Paul	
Genevieve Tocci	

SESSIONAL COMMITTEES

Collection Theft & Security Monitoring

Paul Mayer Co-chair
Rob Zschernitz Co-chair

US Federal Collections

Janaki Krishna Chair
Carol Butler Chris Norris
Terry Childs Sally Shelton

International Relations

Sue Ryder Chair
Deborah Paul Deputy Chair
Mariana Di Giacomo EPC Liaison
Armando Mendez

ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATION

Alliance of Natural History Museums of Canada (ANHMC): Jean-Marc Gagnon
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): Mare Nazaire
Association for Materials and Methods in Paleontology (AMMP): Christina Byrd
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
Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities (CETAF): Jutta Buschbom
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): Jutta Buschbom
Entomological Collections Network (ECN): Dan Young
Geological Curators' Group (GCG): Andrew Haycock
Geological Society of America (GSA): Chris Tacker
Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF): James Macklin
Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF): Lisa Palmer
Integrated Digitized Biocollections (iDigBio): Erica Krimmel
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): Bethany Palumbo
Natural Science Collections Alliance (NSCA): John Bates
Paleontological Society (PaleoSoc): Jessica D. Cundiff
Scientific Collections International (SciColl): Barbara Thiers
Small Collections Network (SCNet): Anna Monfils
Society of Herbarium Curators (SCH): open position
Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP): Matthew Brown

Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections
Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting
27 May 2021
Online via Zoom Meeting

Members Present: 103 online participants

1. President Paul Mayer called the meeting to order at 8:34 pm

2. PM welcomed new members of Council: Incoming MaLs Vanessa Delnavaz and Meghann Toner; and new committee chairs Emily Braker and Genevieve Tocci (Best Practices co-chairs), Anna Monfils and Vanessa Delnavaz (IDEA co-chairs, Kevin Krajcir and Jessie Nakano, Emerging Professionals co-chairs, Janaki Krishna (US Fed Collections chair), Greg Watkins-Colwell (Membership co-chair), and new AIBS rep Anna Monfils.

3. Agenda

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

Moved: Cindy Opitz;

Seconded: Theresa Reilly

Vote: All in favor: 78/94, 1 abst.; Opposed: 0

passed unanimously

4. Minutes

Motion: To accept the minutes of the last Annual Business Meeting, held on 10 June 2020, online, via Zoom (found on page 7 of the ABM packet).

Moved: Barbara Thiers;

Seconded: Shelley James

Vote: All in favor: 74, 5 abst.; Opposed: 0

passed unanimously

5. President's Report

PM referred to his written report, starting on page 11 of the ABM packet. PM also noted: SPNHC joined AIBS, which is a great way for the Society to meet other societies and get our messaging out; Jutta Buschbom attended a CETAF meeting and discovered a lot of common ground between societies; virtual collection tours last night went really well and will continue every Wednesday, through the end of June, with Madagascar up next.

6. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Theresa Reilly referred to her written report (found on page 13-16 of the ABM packet), the 2020 budget on p. 14, the 2021 budget on p. 15, and corrected one typo from report in ABM packet—payments for publications was \$8772.

TR thanked donors and admonished delinquents to pay their dues on time.

Motion: To accept SPNHC new members for 2020 and 2021, as listed on pp. 15-16 of the ABM packet.

Moved: Barbara Thiers;

Seconded: Cindy Opitz

Vote: All in favor: 83/103; Opposed: 0

passed unanimously

Motion: To accept the report of the Treasurer and 2021 budget as amended.

Moved: Cindy Opitz;

Seconded: Carol Kelloff

Vote: All in favor: 78/103, 1 abst.; Opposed: 0

passed unanimously

7. Reports of Standing Committees

a. Archives – Chair Carol Kelloff referred to the written report on page 17–18, and noted that if members have anything in backlog, email or send to her home address. CO asked whether Archives will accept electronic files; CK replied yes, and that she is compiling SPNHC archives on a hard drive to give to SI archives. Andy Bentley will send recordings from the meeting.

b. Best Practices – Co-chair Genevieve Tocci referred to the written report.

c. Bylaws – Chair Barbara Thiers referred to the written report.

d. Conference – Chair Julian Carter referred to the written report on p. 19, and noted that it was a challenging year, due to COVID, and that he formed a virtual LOC team working closely with AIC. JC thanked the team and said it was fantastic working with them and the work that went into this virtual conference. The Conference Committee meeting last week was very positive, acknowledging challenges going forward in the way conferences might be run in future.

e. Conservation – Co-chair Fran Ritchie referred to the written report.

f. Education—Chair Anna Monfils referred to the written report and called attention to the Education Demo Camp open and free to all on 6/28, inviting anyone with educational resources, at whatever stage, to please consider sharing a maximum of a half hour of their time.

- g. Elections – Chair Bethany Palumbo referred to the written report on p. 20 of the ABM packet, and opened the floor for nominees for two Members-at-Large, President-elect, and Secretary (CO is not running, after six years in the position) for election in Fall; send nominations to bethanypalumbo@gmail.com through Sept 1; BP said that the Society will use a new election platform this year, which we hope will be more effective than the one used in the past.
- h. Emerging Professionals – outgoing: Kari Harris, Mariana DiGiacomo, incoming: Kevin Krajcir, Jessie Nakano PM thanked KH and MDG for their many years of service as chairs. KK referred to the written report, thanked KH and MDG for getting the committee started, and said that the committee is looking for volunteers to run the blog, social media, etc.
- i. Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, & Access—Co-chair Vanessa Delnavaz referred to the written report on p. 20.
- j. Legislation and Regulations – Co-chair Stephanie Carson referred to the written report.
- k. Long-Range Planning – Co-chair Julian Carter referred to the written report and noted that there are new faces on board, who are meeting regularly to discuss many ideas; let JC or co-chair Sue Rider know if you want to get involved.
- l. Membership – Co-chair Tiffany Adrain referred to the written report.
- m. Professional Development – Co-chair Jeff Stephenson referred to the written report on pp. 24–26 and expressed special thanks to Elise LeCompte for doing a great job working virtually on travel grants this year.
- n. Publications – Managing Editor Mariel Campbell referred to the written report, also noting that the committee released two issues of *Collection Forum*: 33 in print, 34 in online publication, on fluid collections, based on a 2018 Paris symposium, which will also appear in print this year. MC said that the committee is accepting submissions for the 2021 issue, and that *Collection Forum* will be an irregular publication moving forward, published when enough materials are received, and asked the Society to please consider submitting their talks or papers. MC mentioned the recent publication on storage and announced an upcoming book on fluid collections.
- o. Recognition and Grants – Chair Barbara Thiers referred to the written report on p. 28 and noted that solicitations for recognitions and grants received very little response; BT noted that the committee discussed great ideas during last week’s meeting and hopes to reinvigorate the program going forward.
- p. Web & Social Media – Chair Liath Appleton was not in attendance; PM referred to the written report on p. 28.

8. Reports of Sessional Committees

- a. Collection Theft & Security Monitoring in Collections—Co-chair Paul Mayer referred to the written report, and highlighted the committee’s upcoming symposium on 6/14, featuring three talks by PM, Tim White, and Breda Zimkus.
- b. Collections and the Biodiversity Crisis—Chair Libby Elwood referred to the written report. CO noted that the committee’s status was changed from sessional to standing at the recent Council meeting.
- c. International Relations – Chair Sue Ryder referred to the written report on p. 30.
- d. US Federal Collections –PM announced that Janaki Krishna had just accepted the chair position and that no report was available.

9. Representative Reports (24)

For expediency, PM referred to the representatives’ written reports in ABM package. PM also noted that a new representative is needed for the Geological Curators’ Group and to email him if interested.

10. New Business

a. Awards:

1. Barbara Thiers announced the Special Service Award bestowed on the AIC, who saved our bacon this year for organizing the Transform 2021 virtual meeting and making it possible for us to have a meeting with all the bells and whistles. BT expressed that it has been a great partnership and great meeting. The award is presented in recognition of an individual or individuals for special efforts leading to the success of an important event or activity of the Society and is presented this year to AIC, for hosting our conference this year and for the work that AIC does to support the collections community. Eryl Wentworth, AIC Executive Director, accepted the award on behalf of AIC, saying it is an honor to accept on behalf of the AIC board of directors, that synergy runs deep between our societies, and this is the AIC’s first time holding a joint conference, which has been a learning experience on merging two cultures and two traditions. EW credited PM, JC, and the Conference Committee for successful collaboration, noting that SPNHC enriched the conference with new

content. EW thanked Ruth Seyler for being the meeting guru, who works wonders for bringing people together; 1900 registrations is indicative of great success.

b. Upcoming Meetings: Julian Carter

- 2022 Edinburgh: JC noted that SPNHC membership voted last year to move the Edinburgh meeting from 2020 to 2022, which will be held June 5–11, 2022. Edinburgh Local Organizers Sankyrie Pye and Rob Cubey shared a video presentation; co-hosts National Museums Scotland and Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh will partner with the Biodiversity Heritage Library internationally and the Natural Science Collections Association a nationally; together the organizations represent collected specimens and living specimens, geological, zoological, and botanical collections. LOC Chair SP shared information on conference organizer InConference, BHL, and NatSCA, and announced that the conference will be both physical and virtual, with virtual-capacity for attendance and presentation in the afternoons and physical-only events in the mornings and evenings (meetings, workshops, social events). SP shared that the banquet will be held in the Grand Gallery of the National Museums Scotland, the Icebreaker at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, and that there will be a traditional ceilidh, pub quiz, collection tours, and field trips—to a distillery, gardens, Grail castle, Outlander sites, and walking tours of Edinburgh. See www.spnhc-2022.com. PM said that the Society is looking forward to holding an in-person meeting. Deb Paul asked whether there might be discounts with airlines. SP will look into it. DB noted that Delta discounted 5% in the past.
- 2023 Cal Academy invitation: Moe Flannery and Laura Eklund, of the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco, CA, USA, presented a video; MF noted that there will be a block of rooms at the San Francisco Hilton, with dates extending before and after the conference; there will be workshops and field trips to vineyards and museums during the first days; the Icebreaker reception and collection tours will be held at the Cal Academy, with the Academy's eight departments looking forward to showing attendees their collections. PM thanked MF and LE and said he is looking forward to the conference in another beautiful city; PM read the Cal Academy's letter of invitation. MF expressed that they are excited to see everyone in person in San Francisco and are also looking at some aspect of physical/virtual hybrid conference.
PM urged everyone to support these two Local Organizing Committees, by attending in person, as they went through a lot with postponements or their originally scheduled meetings.
PM asked if anyone wants to host SPNHC 2024, noting that there are some potential offers and ideas, including partnering with TDWG again.
- 2025 PM announced Yale's provisional offer to host the 40th SPNHC meeting, which coincides with Yale's 100th anniversary in the museum building.

Motion: To accept the California Academy of Sciences' offer to hold the SPNHC 2023 meeting in San Francisco CA, USA, May 28–June 2, 2023.

Moved: Cindy Opitz; Second: Barbara Thiers

Vote: All in favor: 88, 1 abst.; Opposed: 0

passed unanimously

c. Inclusion Statement, Appendix 1, found on page 40 of the ABM packet. [Inclusion Statement 1March21 - Google Docs](#);

Vanessa Delnavaz noted that the IDEA Committee developed the Inclusion Statement, which was approved by Council last week, and is proud and excited to share it with the Society. VDN thanked Meghan Toner and other committee members for edits and suggestions. PM noted that the IDEA Committee has been meeting regularly and that it is critical that we make all our members feel safe when expressing ideas and opinions.

Motion: To approve the inclusion statement developed by the IDEA Committee.

Moved: Theresa Reilly; Second: Anna Monfils

Vote: All in favor: 70, 1 abst.; Opposed: 1

passed unanimously

11. Old Business

- Finance Committee formation--Volunteers? PM noted that Council voted last year to reform the finance committee but that it had not been formed yet; Treasurer Theresa Reilly volunteered to take on the treasurer position last year, but it is a really big job, and she could use some help with it, so PM will form the committee; PM asked volunteers to email him. Bethany Palumbo suggested it could be a member-at-large job. PM said he will try to get a committee running and then assign a Member-at-Large.

12. Announcements

- PM thanked our two outgoing Members-at-Large, whose terms are ending with this meeting – Talia Karim (2018–2021) & Fran Ritchie (2018–2021)—who both helped the Society in numerous ways.
- PM welcomed our 2 new Members-at-Large—Vanessa Delnavaz and Meghann Toner (2021–2024), whose 3-year terms are now beginning; both are already assigned to the IDEA committee and have been doing a great job and a lot of work on that already.
- Deb Paul mentioned an upcoming digital extended specimen webinar, with two sessions at different times in June/July, in which many issues to be discussed will affect SPNHC members, so this is an opportunity to weigh in on future vision and express what you see as critical from where you sit; and a public review of Darwin Core terms and new or suggested changes, with an opportunity to weigh in on those terms: TDWG Public Review of terms; <https://www.tdwg.org/news/2021/public-review-of-darwin-core-maintenance-proposals/>

13. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the Annual Business Meeting.

Moved: Shelley James; Seconded: Cindy Opitz

The meeting was adjourned at: 9:38 pm CDT by Paul Mayer.

Report of the President

After two years of virtual meetings, we are finally able to meet in person. I look forward to seeing old friends, but I am also aware that many people will not be able to attend this year's annual meeting. I know the last two and a half years have been difficult for everyone, and for many people travel is still not possible. This year's meeting is a hybrid meeting, offering an in-person meeting for those who can travel and a virtual component for those who cannot. I want to thank the LOC for doing a wonderful job of organizing this meeting and making it accessible to as many people as possible under some of the most difficult circumstances.

Join a Committee

After two years of virtual meetings many of our committees are in need of new members. I urge everyone to please attend committee meetings on Monday June 6, from 8:30 to 1:00pm local Edinburgh time (GMT+1). An organization is only as strong as its participants. Please join us and help shape the future of SPNHC. There will be 17 committee meetings. Now is a great opportunity to join a SPNHC committee, share your expertise, and make your voice heard.

Non-Members Working on SPNHC Committees

There was a lot of discussion about allowing non-members to participate in SPNHC committee work. SPNHC Bylaws include this about committees:

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES Section 1. Committees Appointed by Council. Council may appoint Standing Committees for special purposes and designate their duties and powers in the resolution of appointment. Such resolutions must be adopted by a majority of the Council Members. The chair positions and members of Standing Committees are appointed on an annual basis by the President. Unless individual exceptions are approved by a majority of the Council Members, only members in good standing are permitted to serve on committees of the Society

So, if you have non-members who wish to serve on a committee and not become SPNHC members please get the Council and President's approval.

Membership Fees

SPNHC has passed a motion that will allow members to voluntarily cover the membership fees of members who cannot afford the cost. There will be more details about this when you renew your membership next year.

There is also concern about how members outside of the United States can pay for their membership fees without the addition of significant transaction fees. We are trying to find a solution. If you are having trouble, please contact me. Also, if there is a method (Eventbrite, EBay, Amazon, etc.) that you use to pay for international goods or services, please let me know that too. pmayer@fieldmuseum.org.

Travel funds

We had 23 applicants (predominantly students and emerging professionals) apply for travel grant funds. Please join me in welcoming them to our SPNHC meeting.

Living Collections

Greg Watkins-Colwell is putting together an ad hoc committee to determine if SPNHC should expand its definition to include live animal collections.

SPNHC Issued a Statement on the Invasion of the Ukraine

STATEMENT FROM THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS (SPNHC) ON THE INVASION OF UKRAINE.

The unprovoked invasion of Ukraine is a blatant violation of international law and of human rights and freedoms. SPNHC stands in solidarity with the people of Ukraine during this incredibly difficult time and expresses our deep sympathy for the needless suffering being inflicted.

We want to express our support for all in our community with connections to Ukraine as we all come to terms with this situation. We recognise it will be particularly difficult for all colleagues supporting peace in Ukraine and those who have friends and family in Ukraine, Russia, and the surrounding area.

At some point this war will end, and the process of healing will begin, and the SPNHC community will offer our support and services to help colleagues to preserve the culture, biodiversity, and collections of the region and in Ukraine.

We appeal for a rapid and peaceful end to this war, and to all conflicts affecting our colleagues, communities, culture, and biodiversity around the world.

There are numerous ways to help via contacting appropriate national agencies, engaging with specific initiatives such as the [Ukraine network](#) and supporting appeals for material and donations such as the recently launched [Centre to Rescue Ukraine's Cultural Heritage](#).

Please send any responses to this message to SPNHC President-Elect [Julian Carter](#)

CBD—UN Convention on Biological Diversity

SPNHC endorsed a letter to the Convention on Biological Diversity CBD/Nagoya Protocol negotiators, with recommendations regarding the access and benefit sharing of Digital Sequence Information. To see the recommendations, please visit: <https://learnagoya.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/biac019-final.pdf>

CETAF—Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities

CETAF and SPNHC have many overlapping goals. Last year, Jutta Buschbom attended CETAF's two semiannual board meetings. This year we have invited CETAF's president, Michelle Price, and executive director, Ana Casino to attend our Annual Business Meeting and Council meeting. Hopefully these exchanges will lead to more cooperation and joint projects in the future.

Thank you

It's been a great honor to serve as your President. I thank all the members of the SPNHC Executive Committee and Council, committee chairs, and society representatives for their hard work over the past two years, and the advice and support they have given me. I also thank all the people who have given generously of their time to run the last two virtual meetings. This was a tremendous effort and I think it went amazingly well. A special thank you to Cindy Opitz, who is stepping down from her work as SPNHC Secretary. Cindy has been SPNHC Secretary since 2016 and was indispensable to me, helping me on virtually every task I have worked on for SPNHC. I also want to thank Tiffany Adrain, who is stepping down from the Chair of the Membership committee. Tiffany has been the Membership Chair since 2012. I wish all the best to Tiffany, who is taking over as Secretary, and to our incoming President Julian Carter and President-Elect Greg Watkins-Colwell. I know SPNHC is in good hands.

Respectively submitted,
Paul Mayer, SPNHC President

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

In 2021, the Society's total net assets increased to \$486,496 from a total of \$430,137 the previous year. Liabilities and net assets for 2021 totaled \$471,710. Operating income was generated from three sources: membership dues, publication sales, and advertising in the Newsletter. A total of \$30,236 in membership dues was received. Sales of our six publications plus royalty payments brought in \$32,940. A total of \$2,105 in donations were received.

The first part of 2022 has seen steady income activity. By April 30, \$20,748 has been received from membership dues, including deferred dues paid in 2021.

Twenty-nine subscribers and 577 individuals, institutional, corporate, and student members were active for the year 2021. Of the 606 SPNHC members in 2021, 136 joined for the first time.

Membership renewals included 35 students, 301 individuals, 24 library/subscriptions, 34 institutional, and 2 corporate memberships. As of April 14, 124 new members have joined for 2022, of which 44 are student memberships, 9 are institutional, 2 library/subscriptions, and the remainder are individuals.

By April 14, 160 members who paid in 2021 had yet to renew for 2022.

As a reminder, please pay your dues on time.

The Treasurer's Office incurred \$25,023 in expenses which included \$3,264 for insurance, \$2,005 for Zoom, \$8,000 for Tax Preparation, and \$466 for the annual fee for QuickBooks.

Long-term investment funds were consistent with the market; SPNHC investments saw a market value gain of \$1,315, while the money market account earned \$12,883 in dividends and interest. The CD account earned \$40 in interest.

Major expenses for the Society in 2021 included \$8,000 for tax preparation expenses and \$8,000 for the Collection Forum content hosting.

Additional expenses included \$89 for the 2021 election, and \$295 for annual fees to CrossRef/PILA. The Society anticipates expenses related to publications, insurance premiums, 2022 online elections, and AIBS membership.

Respectfully submitted,
Theresa Reilly, Treasurer

The 2021 financial review is still being prepared by the auditor and will be attached when completed.

FY2021 Donations

Since April 1, 2021

John Daniel

Delta Designs, Inc.

Thank You!

FY2022 Donations

As of April 30, 2022

None

FY 2021 SPNHC Operating Budget

01 January–31 December 2021

Final

INCOME	Projected	Realized	Variance
(1) Dues @ \$20, \$45, \$55, \$75, \$350	\$32,000	\$30,236	(\$1,764)
(2) Life Members @\$1,125	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
(3) Publication Sales	\$17,038	\$32,940	\$15,902
(4) Collection Forum Page Charges	\$500	\$1,130	\$630
(5) Mailing List Sales	\$150	\$0	(\$150)
(6) Unrestricted Donations	\$1,500	\$1,105	(\$395)
(7) Temporarily Restricted Donations	\$2,500	\$1,000	(\$1,500)
(8) Advertising in Newsletter	\$2,000	\$3,420	\$1,420
(9) Transfer from Future Publication Fund	(\$14,219)	(\$14,219)	\$0
TOTAL INCOME	\$41,969	\$55,612	\$13,643
EXPENSES	Projected	Realized	Variance
(10) Annual Meeting Loan	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
(11) Education Committee	\$500	\$0	\$500
(12) Election Committee	\$400	\$89	\$311
(13) Executive Contingency Fund	\$999	\$0	\$999
(14) Membership Committee	\$2,500	\$50	\$2,450
(15) Publication Committee	\$15,230	\$8,707	\$6,523
(16) Recognition and Grants Committee	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
(17) Treasurer's Office	\$1,100	\$25,023	(\$23,923)
(18) Web Committee	\$150	\$0	\$150
(19) Professional Development	\$200	\$0	\$200
(20) President's Contingency Fund	\$2,690	\$750	\$1,940
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$33,769	\$34,619	(\$850)

FY 2022 SPNHC Operating Budget

01 January–31 December 2022

(as of April 30, 2022)

INCOME	Projected	Realized	Variance
(1) Dues @ \$20, \$45, \$55, \$75, \$350	\$32,000	\$20,748	(\$11,252)
(2) Life Members @ \$1,125	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
(3) Publication Sales	\$17,038	\$1,296	(\$15,742)
(4) Collection Forum Page Charges	\$500	\$1,130	\$630
(5) Mailing List Sales	\$150	\$0	(\$150)
(6) Unrestricted Donations	\$1,500	\$0	(\$1,500)
(7) Temporarily Restricted Donations	\$2,500	\$0	(\$2,500)
(8) Advertising in Newsletter	\$2,000	\$810	(\$1,190)
(9) Transfer from Future Publication Fund	(\$14,219)	\$0	\$14,219
TOTAL INCOME	\$41,969	\$23,984	(\$17,985)
EXPENSES	Projected	Realized	Variance
(10) Annual Meeting Loan	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
(11) Education Committee	\$500	\$0	\$500
(12) Election Committee	\$400	\$0	\$400
(13) Executive Contingency Fund	\$999	\$0	\$999
(14) Membership Committee	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
(15) Publication Committee	\$15,230	\$4,324	\$10,906
(16) Recognition and Grants Committee	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
(17) Treasurer's Office	\$11,000	\$8,474	\$2,526
(18) Web Committee	\$150	\$0	\$150
(19) Professional Development Committee	\$200	\$0	\$200
(20) President's Contingency Fund	\$2,690	\$0	\$2,690
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$43,669	\$12,798	\$30,871

New Memberships Received in 2021, after April 16, 2021

Corporate Members

--

Institutional Members

Biodiversity Heritage Library, USA

Plazi, Switzerland

Slater Museum of Natural History, University of Puget Sound, USA

Université Laval, Canada

Regular Members

Brendan Anderson
Blandine Bärtschi
Anthony Baniaga
Elizabeth Barbeau
Leslie Brothers
Gregory Brown
Sandra Carlson

Mario Castro
Adam Clause
Deborah Clifton
Elizabeth Coquillet
Katrina Derieg
Vinicius Espindola
Libby Eyre

Gönenç Göçmengil,
Matt Gage
Annette Gavigan
Beth Heller
Kent Isaacson
Heather Janetzki
Linda Jennings

Kara Kelly
Stevie Kennedy-Gold
Amy Lathrop
Emily Laverty
Thomas Lee, Jr.
Darrin Lunde
Holly Lutz

Kathryn MacDonald
Barbara Mangum
Alejandra Martínez Melo
Nicholas Mason
Gretchen Meier
Deborah Metsger
Jenna Moore

Ting Ng
Laura Steger
Brittney Elizabeth Stoneburg
Soledad Tancoff
Frances Versluis
Wioletta Wawer

Student Members

Jessica Awad
Nora Battermann
Alexandra Coconis
Liatte Dotan
Robert Finn

Sabrina Horrack
Mackenzie Kirchner-Smith
Samantha Miceli
Josh Pletcher
Maria Santos

Colleen Sullivan
Aidan Sweeney
Jessica Tir

New Memberships Received in 2022, as of April 3, 2022

Institutional Members

Chadron State College, USA
Invisible Dust, Scarborough, UK
Royal BC Museum, Canada
Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, UK
Truckee Meadows Community College, USA

Regular Members

Rebecca Abrams
Maria Armour
Erin Berkowitz
Bernhard Bock
Stephanie Bush
Bruna Carvalho
Alice Cibois
Jessie Cohen
Emily Conforto
Drew Dittmer
Jennifer Doubt
Catherine Early
Lowell Flanders
Alice Gimat
Ben Goldberger

Denise Greig
Efrat Haberman
Frank Hadfield
Bailey Jorgensen
Anna Kearns
Olivia Leek
Douglas Long
Jazmine Miles Long
Wendy Moore
Rina Morisawa
Nicole Palfy-Muhoray
Kathy Party
Aurora Prehn
Michelle Price
Erika Range

Katherine Raspet
Andrea Riis
Constance Rinaldo
Nelson Rios
Dakota Rowsey
Gabriel-Philip Santos
Danielle Serratos
Nathaniel Shoobs
Gabriela Silva
Claire Smith
Emily Veltjen
Matt von Konrat
Eileen Westwig
Charmaine Wong
Neelesh Yadav

Student Members

Nina Black
Carl Johan Bundsgaard
Emma Lou Hansen
Sif Henriksen
Kate High
Kelly Hood
Ditte Isabella Jørgensen
Rosa Jespersen
Stephanie Killingsworth
Lærke Korsgaard
Britt Kristensen

Luna Lehmann
Taormina Lepore
Ariana Lushtak
Justin McCarthy
Sofie Munksgaard
Rachel Narducci
Luna Nygaard
Elisabeth Olsen
Selby Olson
Chatarina Pedersen
Lea Petersen

Sofie Amalie Rafn
Mitchell Riegler
Gabriel Rivera-Rivera
Alejandra Rocha
Simone Schotte
Matthew Sheik
Nicholas Smith
Sara Stermšek
Elizabeth Stettler
Tyler Tobias
Brigit Tronrud

Member-at-Large Reports

VANESSA DELNAVAZ (2020–2023)

Much of my work as Member-at-Large has been in my role as co-chair of the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) Committee. The Inclusion Statement we created is now available on the SPNHC website: <https://spnhc.org/spnhc-inclusion-statement/>. I have also been in contact with the Local Organizing Committee for the 2022 SPNHC meeting to review their Accessibility and Inclusivity Statement and the Code of Conduct. Anna Monfils, Meghann Toner, and I attended the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) workshop “Enabling Scientific Societies to Support Inclusive, Diverse, Equitable, and Accepting Scientific Environments.” I look forward to setting priorities for the IDEA committee for this upcoming year.

SHELLEY JAMES (2021–2024)

As Member-at-Large during 2021–22, I supported the program committee for the SPNHC 2022 meeting and helped to initiate the conference committee activities for the 2024 meeting. Always challenging is the global community in which SPNHC operates and remaining involved and engaged while residing in UTC +8! I continue to liaise between MAHC-CHAH, SPNHC, TDWG, and the Australasian collections and biodiversity data communities, and look forward to participating in person at the SPNHC 2022 meeting in Edinburgh.

ANNA MONFILS (2019–2022)

See the reports on the Education Committee, IDEA Committee, and the SCNet and AIBS Representative Reports.

RANDY SINGER (2020–2023)

I am continuing my commitment to increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion in the museum community. In addition to participating in the SPNHC IDEA committee, I am using topics from the conversations we've had in this committee to work diligently as a representative in increasing DEI in the museum(s) at my own institution and university. Beyond meetings, I am working with my peers to enact actionable changes in this realm.

MEGHANN TONER (2021–2024)

As a new Member-at-Large starting my three-year term at last year's SPNHC conference, I am still finding my footing and helping within the Society. I am the new co-chair of the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility Committee (IDEA), and I sit on the Archive Committee. Please refer to these written reports for further details about these committees' activities over the last year. I look forward to continuing to work with these committees to continue the goals of the Society.

BREDA ZIMKUS (2019–2022)

I have continued to serve on a number of committees, including Best Practices, Collection Theft and Security Monitoring Committee, Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA), Legislation & Regulations, and Publications (as Technical Leaflets Editor). Please see each of these committee reports for more information.

Standing Committee Reports

ARCHIVES

The Smithsonian Institution Archives (SIA) houses the archives of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (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.

The members of the archive committee act as liaison between SIA and SPNHC. In preparation for the transfer to SIA, the documentation and material related to the activity of the Society are organized in archival boxes and a “finding aid” typed for each box. The material is arranged in folders with year, type of documentation, and a brief

summary of the folder's content. When known, files received from individuals are noted. Although the Society has moved to electronic publications, these are printed and cataloged for deposit. The finding aid, along with the boxes, are transferred to SIA, where an accession number is assigned to the deposit and the finding aid uploaded to the SIA website.

Material, documentation, images, and publications continue to be collected by the Archive Committee. The COVID pandemic of 2020 forced the cancellation of all travel, so SPNHC and ICOM NATHIST jointly hosted a virtual meeting from 8–12 June, 2020, and SPNHC and AIC held a joint virtual annual meeting from May 10–June 24, 2021, using the Zoom video conferencing format. Where possible, any material sent to the participants, such as the book of abstracts, committee reports, schedules, etc., were printed. An electronic copy of the 2020 conference, including recordings, instructions, special service awards, and other material, was provided by Andrew Bentley for the archives. Mariel Campbell and Cindy Ramotnik sent several boxes of historical material that have been processed and is ready for SI Archives. Once the pandemic is over and we are able to return to work, we will transfer all the digital and physical material to SIA. To find other material deposited at SIA, go to <https://siarchives.si.edu/collections/search?query=SPNHC>.

Many of the Archive holdings are located off-site. If copies of material are needed, or if you need to consult an accession, please contact SIA Reference Team at osiaref@si.edu, to retrieve records.

The SPNHC website was missing many electronic copies of the Collection Forum (volume 2–20) from 1986 to 2006. On behalf of the SPNHC community, we thank **John E. Simmons and Julianne Snider** for the loan of their copies. PDFs were made and are available on the website. The Committee had one request for the article "Waller, R. and T.J.K. Strang. 1996. Physical chemical properties of preservative solutions—I. Ethanol–water solutions. Collection Forum 12(2):70–85," which it was able to provide while the website was being updated.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Kelloff, Chair

BEST PRACTICES

The Best Practices Committee is hosting the symposium “Back to Basics: Museum Techniques Skillshare” at the annual meeting to encourage sharing of practical knowledge across our community. We look forward to this year's presentations, which will be modified as wiki articles following the conference. A conference workshop, “Capturing community expertise: A SPNHC wiki edit-a-thon,” co-hosted with iDigBio will also take place in Edinburgh, to expand wiki content on all themes, with special emphasis on digitization topics.

A virtual committee check-in was held in October 2021. In addition to updates and committee tasks, we discussed creating a wiki editorial board to review and manage content contributions to best practices pages originating from non-members of SPNHC. We hope to finalize this review team and discuss procedural details during our committee meeting in Edinburgh.

Due to a three-month outage on the wiki host, Biowikifarm, the Best Practices committee was unable to generate or modify as much wiki content this year as in previous years. Sitewide functionality was restored on 2022-03-14, including full editing capabilities, and desired pages are currently being added. New pages this year include: Scientific Collecting Licenses; Salvage Permits; USFWS Federal Migratory Bird Special Purpose Salvage Permits; Education Committee; and SPNHC Annual Meetings. Construction of more pages are underway, and we invite member contributions.

Finally, BP chairs are working with the Publications Committee and the Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities (CETAF), to better coordinate efforts to generate, host, and implement resources related to publishing best practices. Two meetings were held virtually over the course of the committee year, with more collaboration opportunities anticipated.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Braker and Genevieve Tocci, Co-chairs

BIODIVERSITY CRISIS RESPONSE

In its first year as a standing committee, the Biodiversity Crisis Response committee has explored a wide range of topics and work areas, as well as continues to develop its structure and collaborative routines. Many of its activities happen in smaller interest groups, with its bi-weekly meetings bringing committee members together, allowing communication and exchange, and being used for the exploration and development of arising topics and

activities. The committee is led by Libby Ellwood, who was joined by Co-chair Jutta Buschbom last fall. The following events and focus areas characterized the past year:

In August 2021, an article in the newsletter of the German Society for Biological Systematics was published. It introduces and describes the committee and its goals, thereby incorporating main outcomes of the strategic planning meeting series early 2021.

Also that August, the pilot campaign for a Global Collections Network in Ecuador began, developed and organized by the committee's Regional Groups interest group, in cooperation with the GBIF Registry of Scientific Collections team and the national GBIF Participant Node for Ecuador. A low response rate led the group to consider improvements and alternative approaches. This process resulted in one team member joining the TDWG Collection Descriptions task group and, in February 2022, the submission of a concept note for the campaign to the GBIF Capacity Enhancement Support Programme by an expanded Latin American partnership. The partnership now includes the GBIF Participant Nodes for Ecuador, Argentina, and Guatemala, with the GBIF Node of SPNHC endorsing the proposed project. In March, the partnership was invited to submit a full proposal, which is due May 3, 2022.

The BCRC is the origin and home of SPNHC's representative to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The partnership building with the CBD for biodiversity conservation at the global level and its focus on the science-policy interface continues to be strongly anchored in and supported by the committee. This engagement is in cooperation with the Legislation and Regulations Committee. The science-policy focus of the BCRC-led CBD partnership-building initiative is shared by the European CETAF association and provides one foundation for the cooperation between SPNHC and CETAF.

A main activity of the committee, in cooperation with iDigBio over the past months, has been the development and organization of the committee's upcoming symposium, "Mobilizing specimens for fact-based conservation in the face of a global biodiversity crisis," at SPNHC 2022 in Edinburgh. We were able to bring together an inspiring round of speakers presenting a wide range of perspectives on the many strong, multifaceted, and indispensable connections between collections, collections-based biodiversity research, and biodiversity conservation.

The committee continues to explore and strengthen its connections with the ecological and conservation-biological communities, to identify mutual goals, shared overlap, and distinct expertise and approaches, with the aim to develop concrete partnerships for joint initiatives and work programs.

Looking forward, a group of committee members has submitted an abstract to the "Biodiversity at the brink: leveraging herbaria for conservation!" symposium at the Botany 2022 conference. The presentation will introduce SPNHC and the committee to the communities coming together for the Botany conference and provide outreach into communities mainly focused on basic research into organismal plant and fungal systematics, phylogenetics, population-genetics, and ecology.

Respectfully submitted,
Libby Ellwood and Jutta Buschbom, 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 periodic updates to the Leadership Manual of the Society. Some changes to the bylaws were discussed recently, relating to allowing non-SPNHC members to serve in a limited capacity on SPNHC committees. However, after discussion we decided that no change to the bylaws was needed; the existing rules provide a satisfactory procedure for allowing nonmembers to serve on committees in a limited capacity. We welcome new members to this committee.

Respectively submitted,
Barbara M. Thiers, Chair

CONFERENCE

The Conference Committee is now supported by Cindy Opitz as co-chair, which will significantly help support the consistency and work of the committee as we move forward, especially from the challenges of the last two years.

Whilst the committee has only met via video a couple of times since the 2021 ABM, steady work has continued, including supporting where possible the hard work of the 2022 LOC team to bring together the first physical annual meeting since the Covid pandemic started. The committee offers a huge thankyou to the LOC and the

supporting partners of NatSCA and the BHL, for the hard work and tenacity that has gone into overcoming the challenges in bringing the 2022 conference together.

Looking forward, SPNHC 2023 will make a welcome return to the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. This was another meeting that has been affected by the pandemic, along with other factors, and has subsequently been moved to the new date, thanks to the hard work of the LOC. The committee looks forward to supporting the work of the local team as fully as possible.

For the 2024 slot, we are currently in active discussions of having another joint meeting with TDWG. The proposed venue will be in Okinawa, Japan, and this will be the first time SPNHC has held a conference in Asia. The details on this are currently being explored, to enable the proposal to be presented to the membership at the 2022 conference.

For 2025 we have the offer to hold the meeting at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, New Haven, Connecticut, USA. This would be to a wonderful opportunity to both celebrate the opening of the newly renovated Museum and the 40th anniversary of SPNHC.

Looking further ahead we have received an enquiry to host a future conference from a representative of the Natural Science Collection Facility (NSCF) consortium in South Africa. This would be an exciting opportunity for the society to connect with colleagues and collections in Africa, and we are currently seeking to explore further.

Respectfully submitted,
Julian Carter and Cindy Opitz, Co-chairs

CONSERVATION

After much programming and activities offered during the 2021 joint annual meeting with the American Institute for Conservation (AIC), the Conservation Committee had less activity this year.

To reach a broader audience, we are offering the following workshop at the 2022 annual meeting:

- ***Cleaning your Collections: Tips for Non-Conservators*** *This conservator-led workshop will guide non-conservators on basic handling and cleaning of different types of collections and materials found in natural history museums. Workshop content will be heavily dictated by participant needs: a pre-workshop survey will reveal areas of focus within archival materials and special collections, scientific and educational collections, and exhibit materials. In addition to learning the methods used in cleaning collections, the workshop will also cover common condition issues for each material, helping the attendee determine which objects should be reserved for conservation care, and which can be cared for by dedicated collections staff. Participants will be given digital handouts of the content after the workshop.*

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

EDUCATION

We are continuing the DemoCamp tradition (previously called the Share Fair), and we are once again expanding the virtual format to include partnering organizations. The event will take place June 22–23, 2022, with no cost for registration. Details, including participant and presenter registration, can be found here:

<https://spnhc.org/education-democamp/>

The committee is also working on maintaining and updating the SPNHC Natural History Education Portal: (<https://qubeshub.org/community/groups/collections>).

Future work includes expanding the committee's new Wiki page:

https://spnhc.biowikifarm.net/wiki/Education_Committee), which will include aggregating collections and promotional materials and updating the "Why Collections Matter" webpage on the SPNHC website.

If you are interested in joining the Education Committee, please contact the current committee members at: educationdemocamp@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Monfils (outgoing), and Molly Phillips, Co-Chairs

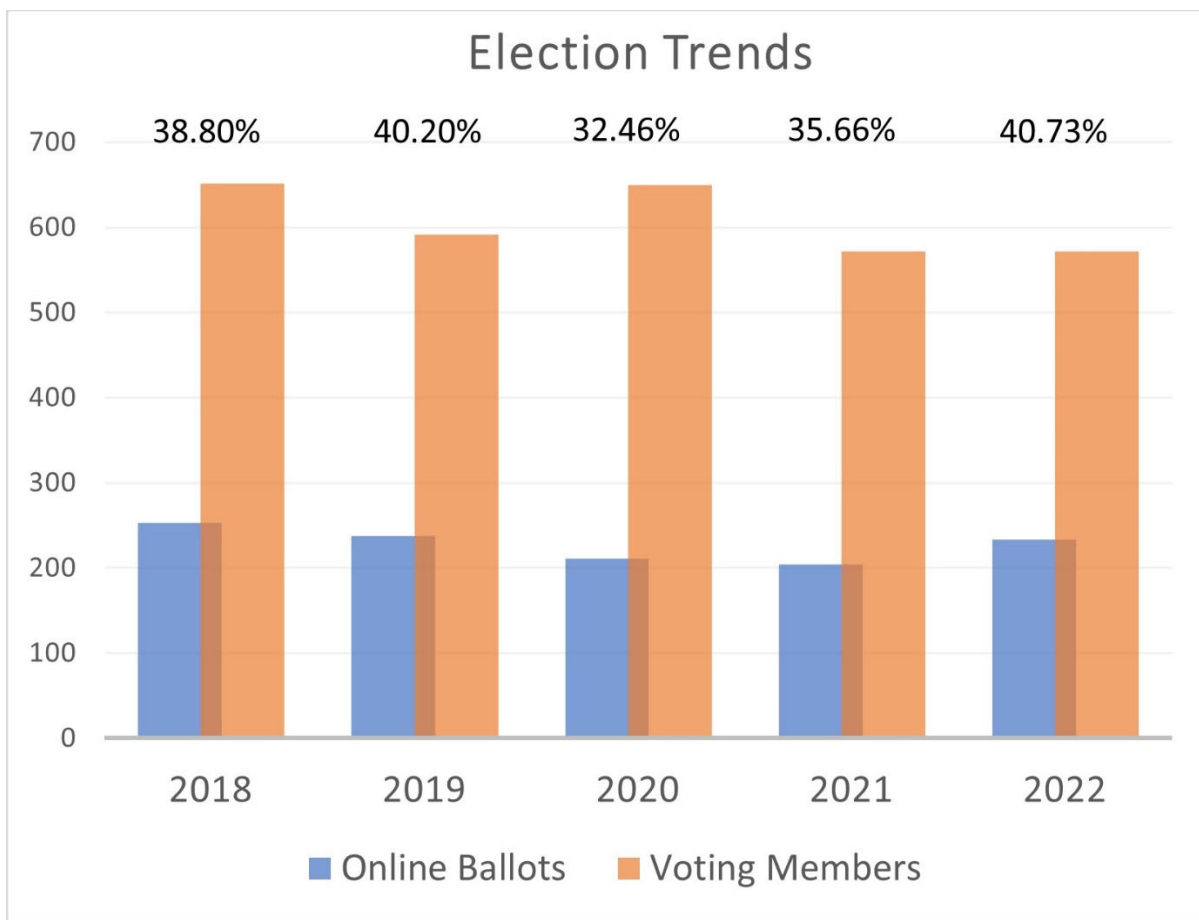
ELECTIONS

This year, the elections are being conducted online with a new platform, *ElectionBuddy.com*. It is quite convivial, and the fee (\$89US) is very reasonable; we expected fewer challenges than with the previous online system.

The call for nominations was sent via NHCOLL-L on June 16, 2021, for the positions of President-Elect, Secretary, and two Members-at-large. By the deadline of August 31, 2021, there were no nomination for the role of Secretary and only one member standing for President-Elect. So, a call for self-nominations from the membership was issued on November 11, 2021. As a result, there were three candidates for the position of Secretary, three candidates for the two positions of Members-at-large, and one candidate for the position of President-Elect.

The election began on January 1, 2022, with a close on January 31. All voting members (as of November 2021) were emailed, using the new online system. At the close of the election, after January 31, 2022, the total number of returned ballots was 233, or 40.7% of the 572 eligible members.

The bar chart below shows the voting trends over the past five years. With repeated email reminders throughout the election period, the voting turn-out was slightly higher.



The positions filled and successful candidates are:

1. President-Elect – Greg Watkins-Colwell, 224 votes (100% of total votes, 9 abstentions);
2. Secretary – Tiffany Adrian, 156 votes (68.4% of total);
3. Member-at-Large:
 - Irene Finkelde, 174 votes (39.5% of total);
 - Jennifer Trimble, 140 votes (31.8% of total).

These results have been shared with the membership via NH-Coll-L and the *SPNHC Connection* newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,
Bethany Palumbo, Chair
Jean-Marc Gagnon, Co-chair

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS

The Emerging Professionals Committee will host two events on June 6, at the 37th Annual SPNHC Meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland. First, our committee meeting will be from 9:30–10:30 AM BST. We invite everyone to join us as we discuss ways to make the Emerging Professionals Committee more effective for the society's emerging professionals. Second, we will convene from 1:00–2:30 PM BST for the emerging professionals luncheon event. We look forward to connecting emerging professionals and mentors over lunch and friendly conversation that afternoon!

Otherwise, as our committee continues to grow under new leadership, we are working to develop social media and blog content, as well as virtual events outside of the conference. To do this, we need the help of emerging and established professionals! Emerging professionals, please reach out to let us know what content or events you want to see and how this committee could better serve you both at conferences and between them. Emerged professionals, be sure to sign up as a mentor at our annual luncheon events. Also, please tell us about your experience in the field by completing this short [Google Form questionnaire](#). We will use your responses to generate social media and blog content that will hopefully inform emerging professionals on how to advance in their careers.

Please join our monthly committee meetings; we meet over Zoom every first Monday of the month at 7 PM EST. Contact Kevin or Jessie for the meeting information. Also, be sure to join the [Emerging Professionals Committee group](#) on Facebook and follow us on Twitter ([@SPNHCEPC](#))! Lastly, check out our blog ([Cracking the Collections](#)), which is updated quarterly.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Krajcir and Jessie Nakano, Co-chairs

INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND ACCESSIBILITY

Throughout much of 2021/22, we met monthly and focused our efforts on creating the committee's framework and foundation, reviewing current SPNHC documents (i.e. the Code of Conduct, meeting procedure documents, etc.), and aggregating core resources to inform the committee efforts. As a result of these efforts, we have written material that defines the committee and outlines the work we plan to do.

These documents include the following:

- **Inclusion Statement** – As a first step toward enhancing inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility in our organization and the work we do as a community of collections professionals, the IDEA committee drafted an [Inclusion Statement](#). This is now available on the front page of the SPNHC website and includes a section on current initiatives.
- **IDEA Wiki** – Resources are currently being compiled to be included in an IDEA Wiki page. We are collecting these internally, and they will soon be available here: https://spnhc.biowikifarm.net/wiki/IDEA_Committee

Several discussions have taken place on the benefits of partnering with other similar organizations to work together on IDEA work. We have identified contacts within our Society that are affiliated with other organizations related to natural history, biodiversity, and collections. Toward that end, in November 2021, IDEA Committee members attended the AIBS (American Institute of Biological Sciences) 2-day conference, “Enabling Scientific Societies to Support Inclusive, Diverse, Equitable, and Accepting (IDEA) Scientific Environments.”

Looking ahead, we plan work with the Long-Range Planning Committee to determine demographics of our membership base, to better understand our diversity shortcomings and areas in which we need to focus. We look forward to working with other SPNHC committees to make inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility a foundation for the Society.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Monfils, Co-chair; outgoing
Vanessa Delnavez, Co-chair
Meghann Toner, Co-chair; incoming

LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

The Legislation and Regulations (L&R) Committee acts as SPNHC's clearinghouse for information and events related to laws, regulations, permits, and other issues affecting natural history collections and objects. The committee work includes horizon scanning of issues relevant to the Society and the SPNHC community and, with the guidance and approval of the SPNHC Council, drafting position statements and official submissions on behalf of SPNHC, to be sent to agencies, organizations, and legislators on national and international levels in cases where the collection, possession, ownership, transfer, display, research, storage, and transportation of natural history specimens are concerned. Following are recent updates and announcements.

HR 4521: America COMPETES Act

HR 4521, the America COMPETES Act, is a bill that "addresses US technology and communications, foreign relations and national security, domestic manufacturing, education, trade, and other matters." If the bill passes in the House and Senate, US collections may be impacted by the Act's Title XI, Section 71102, which would prohibit the importation of certain non-native species. The L&R Committee's Working Group will continue to monitor the situation.

Changes to Harmonized Customs Tariff Codes

As of 1 January 2022, the international customs tariff codes have been amended, which affects code 9705: collections of archaeological, ethnographic, historical, zoological, botanical, mineralogical, anatomical, paleontological or numismatic interest.

The European Commission provides a full summary of the amendments in the Commission Implementing Regulation 2021/1832, available on the <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/> website, Document 32021R1832. (Relevant pages are 706–707.) The nomenclature of the entire Chapter 97 is available on the website of the World Customs Organization on http://www.wcoomd.org/-/media/wco/public/global/pdf/topics/nomenclature/instruments-and-tools/hs-nomenclature-2022/2022/2197_2022e.pdf?la=en

The amendment introduces a more refined distinction in title 9705 for collections and collectors' pieces of:

- archaeological, ethnographic, or historical interest, CN 9705 10 00, i.e. man-made artefacts, and
- zoological, botanical, mineralogical, anatomical, or paleontological interest:
 - Human specimens and parts thereof, CN 9705 21 00, i.e. specimens in / samples from anthropological collections
 - Extinct or endangered species and parts thereof, CN 9705 22 00, e.g. specimens / samples falling under CITES or with respective IUCN status
 - Other, CN 9705 29 00, i.e. all non-human specimens (excluding man-made artefacts) that are not categorized as "extinct" or "endangered"

Please familiarize yourself with these new categories and adjust your shipping documents accordingly where relevant.

CITES labeling requirements

At the 18th Conference of the Contracting Parties of the CITES in Geneva (17–28 August 2019), further exemptions regarding the loan, exchange, and donation of CITES materials to CITES registered institutions such as Natural History Museums have been agreed upon. The amendments are summarized in document Conf. 11.15 Rev. CoP18, which can be found at <https://cites.org/eng/res/11/11-15R12.php>.

The labeling procedure now also officially covers forensic and diagnostic samples, if the samples exchanged or sent on loan are legally acquired by a registered scientific institution and (re-)exported or imported under the authority of this institution. COP 18 encourages its members to register their scientific institutions, specifically their natural history museums, herbaria, and research institutions engaged in taxonomic and species-conservation research and urges parties to contact scientists and scientific institutions under their jurisdiction to facilitate greater understanding of the scientific exchange provisions for non-commercial loans, donation, and exchange of specimens.

CITES Parties should review and update their register of scientific institutions and communicate any changes to the Secretariat every five years.

2022 Annual Conference—L&R Committee Events

L&R Committee Annual Meeting

All SPNHC Conference attendees are welcome to join the L&R Committee's annual meeting in the University of Edinburgh's Appleton Tower Lecture Room 1 on Monday 6 June 2022, from 9:30–10:30.

Workshop: Shipping

For those who have registered, we look forward to seeing you at the Shipping Workshop, which will be presented in the Lecture Theatre at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh on Friday 10 June 2022, from 09:00–17:00.

The full-day workshop will offer professional training for collection managers, registrars, and other interested persons in the legally compliant shipping of collection materials, import and export of biological material from field work, and proper documentation of shipments. The workshop will cover all legal aspects of shipping collection material, including customs law, veterinary / phytosanitary regulations, species protection legislation, Dangerous Goods Regulations, and an IATA-Training on Special Provision A180.

Workshop: Nagoya Protocol and Access & Benefit Sharing

Together with CETAF's Legislation & Regulations Working Group, the SPNHC Legislation & Regulations Committee is pleased to offer a workshop on Access and Benefit Sharing and the Nagoya Protocol. For those who have registered, we look forward to seeing you at the Appleton Tower Lecture Room 3 on Thursday 9 June 2022 from 09:00–12:30.

The number of states regulating access to genetic resources under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), or the Nagoya Protocol (NP), is increasing steadily. Currently, 131 countries are party to the NP, and the diversity of implemented national access laws ranges widely from "free access" to strict control. The successful management of key NP requirements will be essential for the future work of collections managers.

The aims of the half-day workshop are to discuss management needs, requirements to meet the benefit-sharing needs, and regulatory demands.

Bimonthly L&R Working Group Meetings

The L&R Committee holds bimonthly Working Group meetings to address current issues. Any L&R Committee members who are interested in participating in the Working Group meetings are welcome and should reach out to the co-chairs for more information.

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

LONG-RANGE PLANNING

Due to the ongoing Covid situation and other commitments, progress with the Long-Range Planning committee and its planned objectives has been very limited over the 2021/22 period. However, attention has started on bringing together the proposed survey for SPNHC members to ask what direction the members would like the Society to go in the future and facilitate the building of the new strategic plan.

Other SPNHC committees have also looked to carry out membership surveys, and at a recent online meet of the Council and committees, it was offered that the LRP would co-ordinate this work for the Society. To facilitate this, a draft of the previous all-member survey has been compiled and circulated to the planning group and associated committee representatives. It had been hoped to have a finalized version of this shared in time for the 2022 ABM in Edinburgh, but unfortunately this has not been possible in the end, and the aim is now to use the 2022 physical conference as an opportunity take this project forward once again.

Respectfully submitted,
Julian Carter and Suzanne Ryder, Co-chairs

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Committee focuses on ways to promote the Society and retain existing, and attract new, members. We work with the SPNHC Treasurer to help members keep their dues up to date. We promote SPNHC at conferences by advertising in conference literature and exhibiting the Membership Booth. If you have a suggestion for exhibiting a virtual Membership Booth at an upcoming online conference or would like to volunteer to take the booth at an in-person conference, please contact membership@spnhc.org. You may be eligible for full complimentary conference registration. The Committee is happy to hear from anyone with connections at future SPNHC Annual Meeting locations, who can help us widen the membership reach of the Society. Thank you, SPNHC members, for renewing or joining for 2022. Given the ongoing effects of the pandemic and the difficulties faced by natural history museums in some countries (like Ukraine), we urge you to **consider donating** to one of the SPNHC funds to support the Society and other members (<https://spnhc.org/get-involved/donate/>), or to **sponsor membership for a colleague or institution**. Please recommend our Institutional Membership to your workplace, and Corporate Membership to your vendors. If you are tired of receiving renewal reminders, Life

Membership (purchased in installments) might appeal!

SPNHC is a global community! This year, our community includes colleagues and library subscribers in Argentina, Austria, Australia, Belgium, Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Israel, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States.

Greg and Tiffany are stepping down as Co-Chairs, so the **Membership Committee is seeking two new Co-Chairs** who like working with databases and enjoy communicating with hundreds of natural history collection enthusiasts from all over the world! Please contact membership@spnhc.org if interested, or to find out more.

We would like to thank the Membership Committee and anyone who has helped with the Membership Booth, for their work and support; SPNHC President, Council, Treasurer, and other Committees, for their collaboration and guidance; and all SPNHC members, for renewing on time!

As always, please encourage your colleagues to join SPNHC, and remember to renew your membership by February 14, 2023!

Respectfully submitted,
Tiffany Adrain and Greg Watkins-Colwell, Co-Chairs

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

No report submitted.
Nicholas Drew and Jeff Stephenson, Co-chairs

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: TRAVEL GRANT PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE

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, 2022, as the conference is in-person again, our intent was to award grants to those giving a paper or poster. However, after receiving several emails by applicants, I reviewed the application forms for both grants, and found I neglected to add this important requirement in the 2022 applications. Thus, we reviewed all applications regardless of whether or not the person is presenting at the meeting. Recipients are required to contribute to SPNHC in some manner. Ways to contribute included, but are not limited to:

- Presenting a paper or poster at the 2022 SPNHC conference in Edinburgh.
- Contributing a session/workshop review or report (e.g., a description of a collections management/conservation project or a description of their research) to the SPNHC newsletter.
- Submitting an article for publication in *Collections Forum*.
- Submitting a virtual collections tour.

SPNHC members from countries in the following regions were strongly encouraged to apply—Central and South America, Africa, Asia, and Eastern Europe.

There was a total of twenty-four (24) applicants. We had a total of \$1660 to award for the Christine Allen grants and \$6000 for the Fitzgerald grants. We awarded nine (9) Fitzgerald grants and two (2) Christine Allen grant. One of the Fitzgerald recipients is now no longer able to attend, so that money will be awarded to the first applicant on the waiting list (to be named shortly). We received applications from several underrepresented countries—Africa, Brazil, Croatia, Argentina.

Meeting mentors will be assigned to those recipients that requested them, with the help of Jeff Stephenson and Nick Drew, co-chairs of the Professional Development Committee.

My thanks to the many SPNHC members and others who helped with this committee—Jeff Stephenson, Nick Drew, Meghann Toner, Julian Carter, and Theresa Reilly.

2022 Grant Recipients:

Fitzgerald Award

Ally Coconis
University of Nevada Reno
Museum of Natural History

Kevin Krajcir
Department of Biology
Arkansas State University

Katrian Derieg
The Natural History Museum of Utah
The University of Utah

Laura Alejandra Rincón-Rodriguez
Master's Student
Museum Studies Program
University of Florida

Gabriela Hirata e Silva
Department of Biology
University of Brasilia

Brittney Elizabeth Stoneburg
Western Science Center
California

Stephanie Killingsworth
Thompson Earth Systems Institute
Florida Museum of Natural History
University of Florida

Jacki Whisenant
Lab of Systematic Entomology
University of Wisconsin–Madison

Christine Allen Award

Liatte Dotan
Harpers Ferry Century US National Parks
SUNY Buffalo State Garman Art Conservation
Department

Bruna Toscano de Carvalho
Museum of Biology
University of Brasilia

Respectfully submitted,
Elise V. Le Compte, Chair, SPNHC Travel Grants Subcommittee

PUBLICATIONS

COLLECTION FORUM

Volume 34 of *Collection Forum* (2020-2021) is now published online at <https://meridian.allenpress.com/collection-forum>. This special issue of *Collection Forum* is entirely dedicated to the care and management of fluid collections, presenting the contributions of the conference, *Preservation of natural history wet collections: feedbacks and prospects*, held at the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN) in Paris from 05–07 December 2018 (pfc2018). The print issue of this volume will be mailed in April 2022.

Volume 35 of *Collection Forum* (2021–2022) is currently publishing online under the editorship of Co-Production Editor Scott Rufolo, the first to be compiled under a new model of publication. The journal will accept submissions year-round and will continue to make articles available in digital format as soon as final proofs are in place. A print edition will be issued once enough articles have accrued. Access to the online journal is included with society membership; the print issue requires an additional subscription fee. In addition, *Collection Forum* will also begin accepting short communications and technical notes as well as book reviews and submissions for the *Leaflets* series. This will make such material easier to cite and more readily accessible in the online journal. Members who present at the SPNHC annual meeting are strongly encouraged to submit their manuscripts for consideration, particularly those who receive travel awards and support from the society. For inquiries about new submissions, please email the editors at editor@spnhc.org.

For questions about online access to *Collection Forum* at the journal website at <https://meridian.allenpress.com/collection-forum>, please contact the editor. Address changes for print copies should be sent to membership@spnhc.org. Please confirm and update membership at <https://spnhc.org/get-involved/become-a-member/join-now/> or contact the SPNHC Treasurer at treasurer@spnhc.org.

SPNHC LEAFLETS

The *SPNHC Leaflets* are a series of single-topic, short papers on various technical aspects of collections care, management, preservation, and conservation. A typical *SPNHC Leaflets* contribution describes and suggests practical means for solving a technical problem or issue. *SPNHC Leaflets* are designed as training and education tools for natural history museum collection professionals and students in museum studies programs. If you are

interested in publishing a *Leaflets* piece on natural history collections, please contact Breda Zimkus at bzimkus@oeb.harvard.edu or the managing editor at editor@spnhc.org.

BOOK REVIEWS

During her first year as Book Reviews Editor, Lisa Goldberg has worked with three authors on reviews of three recently published books. Authors who have agreed to write reviews are assiduously reviewing their texts with careful attention to highlights that will interest and intrigue SPNHC members and prove relevant to the field. The goal is to produce book reviews that can be published in *Collection Forum*. Thank you to the publishers who have been so generous in sending review copies! To submit a potential publication or to suggest a title for review, please contact editor@spnhc.org.

SPNHC CONNECTION

SPNHC Connection Editor Liath Appleton and Assistant Editor Lori Schlenker continue their hard work to publish the society newsletter. Liath also serves as the SPNHC webmaster. For any newsletter submissions or updates to the Society webpage, please email Liath at newsletter@spnhc.org. To access *SPNHC Connection*, please go to the Publications tab at www.spnhc.org. The most recent issues require member login.

SPNHC BOOKS

The society is moving forward with publication of a new book, *Best Practices for the Preservation of Wet Collections*, by Dirk Neumann, Julian Carter, John E. Simmons, and Oliver Crimmen, currently scheduled for release in 2022. Please see the SPNHC website for more details as they become available. Other SPNHC book titles continue to be available through University Products at <https://www.universityproducts.com/>. The recent volume, *Preventive Conservation: Collection Storage*, is being sold through [University Products](https://store.culturalheritage.org) and through the AIC website at <https://store.culturalheritage.org>, where AIC members will receive a 15% discount off the \$95 purchase price. An eBook of this title is in progress. Please contact editor@spnhc.org for more information.

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

The Publication Committee is seeking a new Advertising Liaison for the *SPNHC Connection* newsletter. Many thanks to Harlan Svoboda, who will be stepping down for a career advancement, after serving in this role for the last two years. Thanks also to Associate Editors Mariana di Giacomo, Shelley James, and Genevieve Tocci for their continued service to the society. There are additional open positions in the Publication Committee for Associate Editors. Please email Liath Appleton at newsletter@spnhc.org, or Mariel Campbell and Scott Rufolo at editor@spnhc.org, for more information.

JOURNAL AND NEWSLETTER ACCESS

A reminder that past issues of the newsletter and the journal are available online at www.spnhc.org. More recent issues of *Collection Forum* published since 2014 are accessed through <https://collectionforum.org/>, which requires a separate member login (see above for information on Meridian site access). Many thanks to Membership Online Access Assistant Sara Ketelsen, for coordinating with the SPNHC Membership Chair and with Allen Press to assist with member access to *Collection Forum*. If you or your institution require assistance with accessing the newsletter or the journal, please contact editor@spnhc.org.

SPNHC PUBLICATION ARCHIVES

Special thanks to Carol Kelloff, for her recent hard work to update the [spnhc.org website](http://spnhc.org) with complete scans of older issues of the journal and to put together a reference library of all current and former SPNHC publications at the Smithsonian. If you have older print copies of SPNHC books or journal issues that are currently missing from the spnhc.org portal, and you would be willing to donate and/or provide scanned copies of these publications, please contact Carol at kelloffc@si.edu, or at editor@spnhc.org.

For any questions about the Publications Committee or to volunteer, please use the following contact emails:

Collection Forum (Editors Mariel Campbell and Scott Rufolo), editor@spnhc.org
SPNHC Connection, newsletter@spnhc.org
Leaflets, bzimkus@oeb.harvard.edu

Respectfully submitted,
Mariel Campbell, Chair, Managing Editor

RECOGNITION AND GRANTS

The Recognition and Grants Committee is charged with promoting and reviewing applications for awards made by the Society, including member service recognition, vendor recognition, and the Faber Innovation grant. Announcements for the various SPNHC Awards and the Faber Innovation Grant were included in previous newsletters, were also be announced via NH-Coll and are available on the SPNHC website.

The Christine Allen and Fitzpatrick grants fund travel to the SPNHC conference and are managed by a separate subcommittee.

This year we have added a new award, which will be presented for the first time at the 2022 SPNHC Conference. The details are given below:

The *Early Career Service Award*

AWARD: The award is a plaque.

PURPOSE: Award is presented to a member at an early state in their career, or at an early stage in their involvement with SPNHC, who has demonstrated great potential for leadership through innovative and energetic service that strengthens and broadens the impact of SPNHC.

NOMINATION AND EVALUATION: The nomination letter should summarize the individual's contributions to SPNHC. A curriculum vitae for the nominee, and a letter of support from another SPNHC member should be included. These should be submitted to the chair of the Recognitions and Grants Committee for evaluation by that committee.

TIME FRAME: There are no time restrictions on when service to SPNHC was given. Questions should be directed to the Chair of the Recognition and Grants Committee and generally must be submitted by 15 November for the award to be presented at the following SPNHC annual conference.

This new award represents one step toward the goal we set for ourselves at our 2021 virtual meeting, which was to look for ways to encourage more applications for SPNHC awards, especially from younger members, international members, and from groups that are underrepresented among natural history collections professionals.

There were no applications this year for the Carolyn Rose or President's awards, and there were no applications the Faber Grant. Members are encouraged to suggest fellow members for awards to recognize their service to the Society and to apply for the Faber grant. The application form can be found on the SPNHC website. The next deadline for all awards is 15 November 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara M. Thiers, Chair

WEB & SOCIAL MEDIA

The Web and Social Media Committee continues to grow. Along with committee chairs and other SPNHC members who currently edit various pages or our website, we have the jobs board manager, Jennifer Lanman, and events calendar manager, Irene Finkelde. We also have a great team of social media managers on YouTube, Slack, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. This year we will be working on adding to our online resources via the SPNHC wiki and through the creation of other online content. If you are interested in joining our team, contact us at webmaster@spnhc.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Liath Appleton, Chair

Sessional Committee Reports

COLLECTION THEFT AND SECURITY MONITORING OF COLLECTIONS

This committee is charged with investigating, identifying, and developing best practices for preventive measures that secure collections and using communication channels to alert the community of thefts and to monitor for the recovery of lost specimens. Please feel free to examine and share your ideas in our best practice ideas google document that Breda Zimkus created at: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/17TXSAiX4iSqlHr0-7WNU2t451ErLdngZUk0OWAqNnQ/edit?usp=sharing>

During the 37th SPNHC Annual Meeting, the committee will meet on Monday, June 6, and on the morning of Wednesday, June 8, will chair a symposium entitled Collection Theft and Security-Monitoring of Collections.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Mayer, Chair

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The International relations committee are looking forward to progressing the work of the international relations committee when we meet in Edinburgh in June.

With the compilation of the pending membership survey, we have incorporated questions regarding the ambitions of the International Relations committee, to ensure we capture the views and ideas from the membership as we move forward.

S. Ryder has started to interrogate past membership and meeting data in the hope we can produce a clear record of SPNHC membership over time.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Ryder, Chair, and Deborah Paul, Deputy Chair

US FEDERAL COLLECTIONS

The goal of the committee is to work collaboratively to create equitable relationships with the federal agencies and the institutions curating the collections. The aim of these groups is similar, the best care and management of the collections. Further, we share similar constraints, financial and resource scarcity.

The committee will explore ways in which the Society (SPNHC) can collaborate with federal agencies to develop best practices procedures in the care of their collections, whether managed directly or by federal or non-federal institutions. Equally, the committee will consider issues such as terms and conditions for repository agreements; facilitate communication between federal and non-federal collections staff; and communicate with SPNHC membership. The committee aids in drafting SPNHC responses to call for public comment on policy issues.

As we are rebuilding this committee, we are open to adjustments in direction and focus. As we meet and develop our aims, we will report back.

Respectfully submitted,
Janaki Krishna, Chair

Representative Reports

ALLIANCE OF NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUMS OF CANADA (ANHMC)

The **Alliance of Natural History Museums of Canada** (ANHMC), (<http://www.naturalhistorymuseums.ca>) was created in 2002, from a common desire among directors and senior curatorial staff of Canada's key natural history museums to establish a network for the exchange of information on issues dealing with collections, research, and education. The ANHMC seeks to identify issues of common concern, share resources, expertise, and experience among its members, speak out with a single voice, and bring the necessary support to collaborative initiatives of the membership across Canada.

With these goals in mind, the ANHMC has recently formed the **Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss Committee**, a new committee that has been initiated to address these urgent issues facing us globally today. The committee's primary role is to find synergies amongst members of the ANHMC, in order to amplify not only our voices but actions that aim to address these two major planetary challenges. Initial activities include a variety of approaches. Efforts are being made to actively seek and connect with like-minded partners that support and facilitate sustainability in museum operations, as well as those who can also contribute to education programs, with a specific emphasis on Canadian youth.

It is not a coincidence that **SPNHC** also formed a comparable committee, but with a broader international mandate. These two global challenges need urgent action and from many angles. In Canada, the ANHMC's Committee for Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss is still in the early stages of developing strategies to address these priority issues, and any feedback that may assist with these priorities is welcomed.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean-Marc Gagnon, SPNHC Representative to ANHMC

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

No report submitted.
Gretchen Anderson, SPNHC Representative to AIC

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

In March 2021, members of the IDEA committee met with representatives from AIBS (American Institute of Biological Sciences), to discuss SPNHC becoming an AIBS organizational member. Benefits to official membership include networking and collaboration with sister societies, shared communication, participation in science advocacy and policy communications, and access to professional development programs. With widespread support from the SPNHC Council, SPNHC joined AIBS in the summer of 2021.

AIBS has a long-term working relationship with SPNHC, in which the societies have collaborated on several initiatives related to natural history collections. Currently, SPNHC partners with AIBS and the Natural Science Collections (NSC) Alliance, as part of the Biodiversity Collections Network ([BCoN](#)), with the goal of advancing and sustaining biodiversity collections. The AIBS journal, *BioScience*, maintains a collection of citations that supports [Natural History Collections: Advancing the Frontiers of Science](#).

In January 2021, AIBS, NSC Alliance, and SPNHC organized a [joint virtual discussion](#), *Forward-Thinking Discussion on Biological Collections*, with the BCoN steering committee and representatives from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) Committee that authored the biological collections report.

SPNHC worked with AIBS to draft and provide a [letter](#) of endorsement to the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology, expressing support for the NSF for the Future Act.

In March 2021, SPNHC, AIBS, and NSC Alliance wrote to lawmakers about the value of mobilizing biodiversity specimens and data in spurring new scientific discoveries, calling for critical [investments](#) in biodiversity collections and the research and education they enable.

SPNHC joined AIBS and NSC Alliance in submitting [comments](#) to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), and National Institutes of Health (NIH), on the scientific framework and research priorities for the new Advanced Research Project Agency—Health (ARPA-H). The comments emphasized the

importance of biodiversity collections in improving the understanding of the linkage between biodiversity and human health.

In October, SPNHC, American Society of Mammalogists, and NSC Alliance co-hosted a workshop in the NSF-funded international workshop series, "How does sharing genetic sequence data impact biodiversity science and conservation," led by AIBS, in partnership with the USA Nagoya Protocol Action Group. SPNHC representatives Dirk Neumann and Breda Zimkus worked with the workshop steering committee and other host society representatives to organize and facilitate the session. The [workshop](#), *Emerging Pathogen Research Across the Americas*, featured speakers from the USA, Brazil, Mexico, and Argentina.

In November 2021, three SPNHC IDEA Committee members were able to participate in the AIBS 2-day conference, *Enabling Scientific Societies to Support Inclusive, Diverse, Equitable, and Accepting (IDEA) Scientific Environments*. This is part of a series of workshops in which we hope to learn more about opportunities for SPNHC members and creating a more accessible society. In addition, AIBS signed on as a partner organization and helped promote the annual Natural History Education DemoCamp. In addition, AIBS included SPNHC as a partner in a fall 2021 co-hosted virtual webinar with the National Science Foundation, to discuss funding structure and opportunities for Natural History Collections.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Monfils, SPNHC Representative to AIBS

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ICHTHYOLOGISTS AND HERPETOLOGISTS

The 2021 Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists met from 21–25 July in Phoenix Arizona. The meeting was mostly in person, but virtual options were available for some sessions. The Ichthyological and Herpetological Collections Committee, co-chaired by Gregory Watkins-Colwell and Sarah Huber, was attended by 43 individuals and discussed many topics. Some of which included the current and future nominations for the Spiritus award, development of a Google group for collection discussions (<https://groups.google.com/group/asih-coll>) which includes nearly 120 unique emails. Katherine Bemis rotated off as student Co-Chair. Jennifer Gardner continued to serve as student Co-Chair. We will be looking for a new student representative at the next meetings.

Respectfully submitted,
Randy Singer, SPNHC Representative to ASIH

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MAMMALOGISTS (ASM)

Beginning in 1972, the American Society of Mammalogists (ASM) has had a standing committee called the Systematic Collections Committee, originally 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 of collection administration, curation, and accreditation; (2) Maintaining a directory of mammal collections and conducting a survey of existing collections once each decade (most recently published in 2018); and (3) maintaining a list of curatorial standards for mammal collections including tissue collections and managing a collection-accreditation program.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, no collection accreditations were completed during 2021. However, Northern Michigan University, the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at the University of Oklahoma, and the Colección Regional Durango (CRD), Durango, Mexico have provided the Committee with self-evaluation reports and are awaiting accreditation visits.

Self-evaluation documents have been sent to Arizona State University Natural History Collections, Tempe and to the Arizona Museum of Natural History, University of Arizona, Tucson for potential accreditation or reaccreditation in conjunction with the annual ASM meeting in June 2022. If either or both collections complete the self-evaluation process within the next two months, Committee members attending the meeting will conduct a site visit to the collection(s) during the annual meeting. This arrangement has proven to be useful in training newer committee members about the accreditation process. It is also an enjoyable way to get like-minded people together to talk about issues confronting our collections.

Many members of the committee have been active participants in the *Museums and Emerging Pathogens in the Americas (MEPA)* consortium. The main aims of MEPA include: (1) Enhancing discoverability, digitization, and accessibility of Latin American mammal collections and tissue biorepositories; (2) Facilitating the linkage between natural history collections, emerging disease research, and One Health initiatives; and (3) Adding/enhancing collections data for Latin American collections contained in the *Survey and Directory of Mammal Collections of the*

Western Hemisphere.

Conversion of the *Survey and Directory of Mammal Collections of the Western Hemisphere* into a digital format hosted on the ASM website was proposed in 2021, but no progress was made because the ASM website itself was undergoing migration. This effort will be revived in the coming year, in collaboration with the Informatics Committee, which oversees the ASM website.

To view the documents mentioned here and other collection-related information, see:
<http://www.mammalogy.org/committees/systematic-collections#tab3>.

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

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT TAXONOMISTS (ASPT)

The Systematic Collections Committee, on behalf of the ASPT, extended our support to the herbarium community and their families in Ukraine. Through the Society's herbarium emergency fund, we have been able to provide emergency funding to the Herbarium at the State Museum of Natural History (LWS) in Lviv, where collections could not be evacuated from the Museum. The Herbarium has used this funding to secure and protect the collections with fire-resistant thermal insulation. We continue to offer our support to the herbarium community in Ukraine.

The annual meeting of the Society is scheduled for 24–27 July, as part of the *Botany 2022 Plants at the Extreme!* meeting. Botany 2022 will take place in Anchorage, Alaska. The conference will be a hybrid format and include opportunities to present in person as well as virtually. Details of the conference can be found here:
<https://2022.botanyconference.org/>.

Respectfully submitted,
Mare Nazaire, SPNHC Representative to ASPT

ASSOCIATION OF MATERIALS AND METHODS IN PALEONTOLOGY (AMMP)

The Association for the Materials and Methods in Paleontology (AMMP) advances paleontological research through education and advocacy for improved ethics, standards, and practices in field, laboratory, and analytical methods.

The 9th annual meeting AMMP was held on a virtual platform called Gather April 13–17, 2021, and hosted by East Tennessee State University. Despite the challenges the pandemic presented, the annual meeting committee and host committee, with the support of the AMMP Board, developed an engaging and educational conference. On this platform, attendees customized avatars and moved through a virtual conference space with the ability to approach, see, and converse with other attendees. There were rooms specific to both live and on-demand sessions including rooms for posters, platform presentations, the banquet hall, a lounge, breakout sessions, tours, picnic, and seating areas (for public and private conversations), and a couple themed rooms just for fun.

As an organization that focuses on the study, development, and refinement of paleontological techniques, discussion about how and where to archive resources was a prevalent topic amongst the Resources and Professional Development Committees. Member insight suggested looking to SPNHC's model with the use of a wiki to capture and organize community standards. The workshops for this meeting focused on the basics of preparation and conservation of paleontological specimens, with topics such as "Adhesives and Consolidants: Principles and Practice," "Cavity Mounts," and "Basics of Digital Preparation with Open Source Software."

On March 5, 2021, AMMP hosted a webinar titled "Fossil Preparation in a Pandemic." This webinar was developed to address issues of best practices, problem solving, new techniques, coping with external forces, and institutional functioning. Webinar participants attended via Zoom, with discussion hosted by Michelle Pinsdorf, a fossil preparator at the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History.

Due to issues internal to AMMP, the 2022 annual meeting that was scheduled to be held in Seattle, WA at the Burke Museum in April was cancelled. No virtual meeting was planned. For more information about AMMP, see the association website: <https://paleomethods.org/>.

Respectfully submitted,
Christina J. Byrd, SPNHC Representative to AMMP

ASSOCIATION OF REGISTRARS AND COLLECTIONS SPECIALISTS (ARCS)

ARCS is offering several webinars this year, which may be of interest to SPNHC members, including *Contracting in Collections Work* (three sessions beginning 14 July), and *Collection Emergencies* (five sessions between 07 September to 02 November). The monthly ARCSchat programs continue, with recordings of past programs accessible through the ARCS website. Details are available at <https://www.arcsinfo.org/programs>.

The resources offered on the ARCS website include information for emergency preparedness, courier resources, and information on registration and collections care. See <https://www.arcsinfo.org/community/resources> for more information.

ARCS continues to offer a reliable source of current news from the field, employment, and internship opportunities (<https://www.arcsinfo.org/opportunities/career-center>), and a searchable listing of collections managers and registrars available for contract work (see <https://www.arcsinfo.org/opportunities/on-contract>).

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Simmons, SPNHC Representative to ARCS

BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION STANDARDS (TDWG)

The 2021 annual meeting of Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG), was hosted by the University of Florida Biodiversity Institute, but, like most other conferences, was held virtually, due to COVID-19 restrictions. To accommodate a global virtual audience, the meeting was separated into two separate sessions. The first week, from October 18th to 22nd, was a virtual conference including traditional symposia with talks and posters (www.tdwg.org/conferences/2021/). Throughout the month of November, working sessions were also held that focused on standards development. You can check out the abstracts for talks and posters, along with the presentations themselves, in most cases, as they were published as a Proceedings in the journal Biodiversity Information Science and Standards (BISS: <https://biss.pensoft.net/>). You can also watch many of the presentations via the TDWG YouTube channel (search for TDWG). The virtual environment, combined with a low registration fee, made TDWG accessible to many who would not normally be able to attend the conference, including many SPNHC members!

For those of you who are new to TDWG or are interested in learning more, please visit our website, which is integrated with our GitHub repository (<https://www.tdwg.org/>). TDWG also manages an open access journal called Biodiversity Information Science and Standards, or BISS referenced above. This 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. If you have content relevant to these topics, please consider publishing in BISS. With specific relevance to SPNHC, members of the Natural Collections Description Interest Group are nearing completion of the task to create a new "Collections Description" data standard, now called the Latimer Core, for describing collections of natural history materials at the collection level (<https://www.tdwg.org/community/cd/>). Related to this, another task group is developing a Minimal Information about a Digital Specimen (MIDS) standard to more consistently "measure" digitization progress (<https://www.tdwg.org/community/cd/mids/>). Also, there is increasing discussion and engagement on curation attribution standards (<https://www.tdwg.org/community/attribution/>). 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, management, and curation."

In 2022, TDWG is again being realistic in its assessment of COVID-related travel impacts but will endeavor to hold a hybrid conference with in-person attendance in Sofia, Bulgaria, that will also be fully accessible virtually, from October 17th to 21st. For more information, please see the conference website (<https://www.tdwg.org/conferences/2022/>) and consider joining us!

Finally, if you are interested in biodiversity standards, I would urge you to become a member of TDWG and contribute. It takes a wide range of skill sets and knowledge to produce standards, and all are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

James Macklin, SPNHC Representative to TDWG

COLLECTIONS STEWARDSHIP PROFESSIONAL NETWORK (CSAAM)

The CSAAM continues to provide a vitally important and irreplaceable source of information and news through the Collections Stewardship Professional Network CS-AAM listserv (<https://www.collectionsstewardship.org/listserve>).

Recent articles on the CSAAM Resource page include a story about the plans of the Natural History Museum (London) to digitize 80 million specimens, a webinar on Decolonizing Collections: A Conversation between Colleagues in the Field, and how museum specimens could help fight the next pandemic, and why preserving collections is crucial to future scientific discoveries. There are also links to the *Code of Ethics for Collection Professionals* (https://www.aam-us.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Code_Ethics_Collections_Professionals_2021_02_24.pdf), and a variety of news stories about museums.

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

CONSORTIUM OF EUROPEAN TAXONOMIC FACILITIES

Last year saw renewed awareness of the many existing connections between SPNHC and CETAF, as well as concrete collaboration. Many of the activities of the past year can be found in the spring issue of the SPNHC Connections Newsletter. Here I will focus on two topics.

Long-standing collaboration and coordination exists between both organizations. On one hand, European colleagues who are members and actively engaged in both the international society as well as the European association sustain cross-organizational exchanges and joint initiatives. On the other hand, interest and involvement in shared topics and goals provide intersections that give rise to consultations and joint activities. As a SPNHC member who joined the society only in 2021 and as a new liaison, I am continuing to discover these connections, starting out with the overlapping areas of science-policy advocacy, legal and ethical questions, as well as publication-related topics. I am certain that over time I will become aware of many more existing connections and shared activities across a range of additional topics with commitments by both organizations.

The focus of the past months has been the development of a workshop on the legal basis for data liberation from publications, to be jointly organized by CETAF, the Biodiversity Heritage Library, and SPNHC. Due to timing and an ongoing search for legal experts who can provide background on data licensing, the group decided to diverge from the original plan and realize the workshop after SPNHC's conference in Edinburgh. Nevertheless, taking advantage of the opportunity provided by the situation that many of us are attending SPNHC 2022 in person, we will get together for an informal meeting on Tuesday evening (June 7) after the SPNHC Council meeting. Please join the gathering and get to know us, specifically if you are interested in this topic at the cross-roads of ePublishing, data liberation, ethical and legal aspects, and/or powerful biodiversity data infrastructures.

Respectfully submitted,
Jutta Buschbom, SPNHC Representative to CETAF

CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (CBD)

The partnership building with the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) began in February 2021, with SPNHC being accepted as an official observer organization to the CBD. Since then, SPNHC's recognition as active observer regularly participating in the sessions of the subsidiary bodies (SBSTTA and SBI), the working group developing the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (WG2020), and the Conference of the Parties (COP15 Part I), has been growing steadily, in small steps.

All sessions of the CBD's bodies last year were informal and formal virtual sessions. These provided a first impression of the proceedings of a UN convention. Delegates of parties, that is, governments that are members of the convention, stressed the fact that no negotiations are to be conducted during virtual sessions. Organizational reasons given were limited internet connectivity in many parts of the world, as well as scheduling resulting in sessions generally occurring in the middle of the night in the Asia-Pacific region.

After a pause of over one year, the first in-person meetings of SBSTTA24, SBI3, and WG2020-3 were held at Geneva (CH) in March 2022, with the provision of an additional virtual access option. It was an intense and very insightful experience to attend online and see the CBD bodies work in person. The attendance as SPNHC representative over the 2.5 weeks showed how important it is that we as a Society and collections community are attending throughout the whole session period.

Topics, arguments, and negotiations of relevance to natural science collections, as well as the biodiversity and conservation sciences, were not only restricted to the obvious sessions, e.g. focused on Goal A and its monitoring targets and indicators for assessing trends in primary biodiversity; or sessions explicitly on Digital Sequence Information (DSI). To gain insight into how arguments are used, it was important to follow the multifaceted and -layered negotiation dynamics across agenda items. For example, DSI-related arguments were prepared and presented at first sight in unrelated topics and sessions.

In addition, some topics of importance to collection institutions and the collections-based sciences generally don't make it into the headlines and thus might not be on the communities' radar. Prominent here are the moving parts of the backbone, which will be essential for the implementation and functioning of post-2020 GBF monitoring. Examples are the post-2020 GBF communication strategy (a draft document to explicitly mention "Natural history and science museums, botanical gardens...and zoos and aquariums"); proposals for capacity building and scientific cooperation; options to enhance planning, reporting and review mechanisms; and the knowledge management and clearing-house mechanism (mentioning the "Alliance for Biodiversity Knowledge"). These provide the chance for reciprocal strengthening and advancement of post-2020 GBF monitoring and natural science collections with their analog and digital infrastructure preservation, development, and services.

Looking ahead, the CBD is working intensely on preparing the post-2020 GBF and its monitoring framework for adoption by COP15-part II, planned for the summer or fall this year. Toward this goal, an additional meeting of the WG2020 will be held in Nairobi (Kenya), from June 21 to 26, 2022.

Should you be interested in more information about the CBD and its negotiation processes, or science-policy advocacy in general, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,
Jutta Buschbom, SPNHC Representative to CBD

ENTOMOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS NETWORK (ECN)

BACKGROUND

ECN formed an MOU with SPNHC in late 2016; this is our 6th 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 homepage: <https://ecnweb.net/>

ECN 2021 (Virtual meeting 25-27 October 2021):

The annual ECN meeting was held again virtually in 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The final count was 406 registrants. There were 28 talks and participants from 25 countries. Here is a link to the program: <https://ecnweb.net/welcome/meeting/ecn2021/2021-program/>

Meetings were held Monday–Wednesday, 25–27 of October, 2021. Once again, as was the case in 2020, a wonderful up-side amidst the continuing pandemic was the unique opportunity to hear from colleagues who usually might not otherwise be able to attend the meeting (25 countries), and to "virtually visit" nine entomological collections from all over the globe.

Contributed talks: 8

Symposia included:

- ***From the Cabinet to the People***
Moderators: Jennifer Girón, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA/ Museum of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX, USA, and Alyssa DeWaele, Museum of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX, USA.
- ***Mass-digitization of Insect Collections to Support Research: State of The Art and Challenges***
Moderators: Hannu Saarenmaa, Bioshare Digitization, Joensuu, Finland, www.bioshare.com, Erica Krimmel, iDigBio, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL, USA, and Deborah Paul, Species File Group, University of Illinois, Illinois Natural History Survey, Champaign, IL, USA.
- ***Collections of the World***
Moderator: Nicole Gunter, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland, OH, USA.

General Member Submissions and Program layout & design: Organized by Oliver Keller and Karen Wright.

Poster Session: 4 submitted posters with abstracts

2021 meeting organizers:

Chris Grinter, Nicole Gunter, Christy Bills, Isabelle Betancourt, Ashleigh Whiffin, Karen Wright, Oliver Keller, and Patrick Gorrington.

The ECN Executive Committee:

Officers

Chris Grinter, President (2019–2021)
Nicole Gunter, Vice-President (2019–2021)
Christy Bills, Secretary (2014–2021)
Patrick Gorrington, Treasurer (2017–2021)
Oliver Keller & Karen Wright, Program Co-chairs (2019–2021)
Isa Betancourt & Ashleigh Whiffin, Communications Officers (2019–2021)

Website Coordinator

(position open)

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel K. Young, SPNHC Representative to ECN

GEOLOGICAL CURATORS' GROUP (GCG)

GCG is a membership organisation and registered charity, founded in 1974 and affiliated with the Geological Society of London. Membership is open to anyone interested in geology, particularly individuals and organisations working with and caring for geological collections. To see the benefits of GCG membership, view our Blog, News, details of our journal *Geological Curator* and newsletter *Coprolite*, visit us at: <https://www.geocurator.org/>

Due to Covid-19, the 2021 AGM was held virtually last year, the event detailed the fascinating work done around the world by some of our members during lockdown. The talks were recorded and members can access them here: [48th GCG World Tour Seminar and AGM](#).

Far from being a hindrance, we found virtual meetings actually allowed many more people from farther afield to attend our meetings. As a result, we are incorporating an option for virtual attendance into physical meetings as we move forward.

2021 has been an exciting year for palaeontology! Two GCG committee members (Nigel Larkin and Dr Emma Nicholls) were involved in the excavation of the 'Rutland Sea Dragon', the largest ichthyosaur skeleton ever found in Britain! Read more about it and other GCG blogs here: [Geological Curators' Group Blog](#).

The SPPC (Symposium on Palaeontological Preparation and Conservation) was held online in 2021. Posters from the event can be accessed at [#SPPC2021](#). It is organised in conjunction with GCG and held alongside SVPCA (Symposium on Vertebrate Palaeontology and Comparative Anatomy).

In May 2022, GCG hosted the Marine Reptile Mini Conference, a half-day online event to discuss current research and recent discoveries in the field of fossil marine reptiles. View posters and talk abstracts at: [Marine Reptile Mini Conference](#).

GCG is evolving! Our charity was successfully registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in 2022, following a vote at last year's AGM. As part of this, we have a few new trustee posts. These are Vice Chair; Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator; Communications Coordinator, and Collections Coordinator. Two roles are currently vacant, the Communications Coordinator and Journal Editor. If anyone is interested in becoming a GCG member and trustee, find out more here: [Get involved with GCG](#).

This is my first year as the SPNHC Rep to GCG, and I am incredibly grateful to take on the role. If you have any ideas how GCG and SPNHC can further collaborate together, then please do let me know.

Respectfully submitted
Andrew Haycock, SPNHC Representative to GCG

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA (GSA)

The Spring Meeting of the Geological Society of America (GSA) with associated geoscience societies took place online 23 March 2022. The biggest news from GSA is that they have decided to sell their Boulder, Colorado, campus and eventually relocate in the region. The new building will accommodate changes in the workforce, now smaller and more distributed. The newer headquarters should also be more environmentally friendly than the current 50-year-old building.

The major topic of discussion was the future of professional meetings. Almost all societies agreed that hybrid meetings, combining virtual and in-person components, would likely be a continuing part of the program. A variety of problems and benefits were identified by participants from across the spectrum of geological societies participating in the meeting.

Some problems that were acknowledged were the cost of virtual meetings for smaller societies like the American Institute of Professional Geologists (200 people in a meeting). Another pitfall was streaming the talks. Not all talks could be streamed, and it created an unfortunate appearance that two levels of science were being presented: “Good Enough” and “Not Good Enough.”

Additional problems were that students have more problems with online networking during meetings. Deanne von Rooyen, (Geological Association of Canada), noted that student participation in their meetings has plummeted. Hybrid meetings are problematic because onsite people have no interest in participating in the online portion. John Yellich, Michigan Geological Survey, noted that international students need to make contacts for future work, face to face.

Anita Marshall, (International Association for Geoscience Diversity), found the opposite, in her research on virtual meeting. Her work indicated that students find online more equitable. For inclusivity, the online portion is invaluable. Another participant noted that his group of gamers has been able to do all the online work for networking and community building, even though the community was fairly widespread.

The final discussion was led by Elizabeth Long, new Associate Director of DEI for GSA, focusing on the problems of DEI in the geosciences. Ms. Long noted that most departments have no faculty or students of color, and to many, represent a hostile workplace. An illustration from Behre et al. (2022, *Nature Geoscience*), replaces the leaky pipeline metaphor with that of a hostile obstacle course. Her work with GSA will focus on improving DEI in the many areas that GSA covers.

The Annual Meeting of GSA, *GSA Connects 2022*, will be held 9–12 October in Denver, Colorado. At the time of writing, most of the regional sections of GSA have already met.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Chris Tacker, SPNHC Representative to 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 serves as the Canadian Node Manager. The 28th Annual GBIF Board Meeting took place virtually from the 5th–7th of October. There were many valuable updates presented on the core work GBIF is currently focused on as well as a discussion about their next Strategic Framework covering 2023-2027 (1).

GBIF continues to promote the digitization and mobilization of biodiversity observation data and provide support through making available a wide variety of tools, best practices, 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 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.

Of note, GBIF led a second set of moderated discussions on aspects related to the Digital Extended Specimen concept, contributing to a global consensus on its definition and scope (2). Work is now focussing on the necessary standards, tools and infrastructure required to implement it. GBIF is also actively investigating ways to diversify its current data model to support richer, more complex types of biodiversity data (3). They are currently very interested in feedback on the model based on the use cases they have considered, as well as being interested in testing additional ones. Several GBIF-hosted data portals based on regions and themes were generated as part of a set of pilot projects, with some now in production (4).

Lastly, a reminder for all to support GBIF and the biodiversity informatics community's unified vision to globally coordinate biodiversity-based resources and infrastructures. This is being realized through the formation of "An Alliance for Biodiversity Knowledge" (5). I encourage everyone to go to the website and learn more about the concept of this new initiative and consider signing on as an individual or organizational/institutional participant: "Join us in the next phase—help us in aligning resources and investments in biodiversity informatics to improve knowledge of the world's species and understanding of the dynamics of natural systems in support of a sustainable future for science and society."

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

1: <https://www.gbif.org/event/74SJpWSTMVxZaoPLKmtfez/gb28-28th-meeting-of-the-gbif-governing-board>

2: <https://discourse.gbif.org/c/digital-extended-specimen/21>

3: <https://www.gbif.org/event/33MQ8ZI9xuC98AekewiMr8/gbif-community-webinar-diversifying-the-gbif-data-model>

4: <https://dev.gbif.org/hosted-portals.html>

5: <https://www.biodiversityinformatics.org/en/>

Respectfully submitted,
James Macklin, SPNHC Representative to GBIF

HERITAGE EMERGENCY NATIONAL TASK FORCE (HENTF)

No report submitted.
Lisa Palmer, SPNHC Representative to HENTF

INTEGRATED DIGITIZED BIOCOLLECTIONS (iDigBio)

iDigBio is the central coordinating unit for the United States' national effort to digitize natural history collections, including biological and paleontological specimens. In this role, we strive to serve the SPNHC community by providing logistical support and leadership for advancing digitization of collections.

In September 2021, iDigBio began another 5-year cycle of funding from the US National Science Foundation. As part of this new funding, Arizona State University and its Symbiota Support Hub are now an official partner of iDigBio, along with the original partners University of Florida and Florida State University. iDigBio continues to formalize and expand existing cooperative relationships among the world's largest biodiversity infrastructures to improve the accessibility of specimen-based biodiversity research data worldwide.

iDigBio staff are collaborating on a variety of activities at SPNHC 2022 in Edinburgh. We are partnering with the Best Practices Committee to organize a SPNHC Wiki Edit-a-thon, with Jason Best to showcase technical resources in the SPNHC Demo Camp, with the Education Committee for the second-ever Natural History Education DemoCamp, and with the Biodiversity Crisis Committee to host a symposium. As a reminder, SPNHC members are encouraged to join us for any of our ongoing activities, which can be found advertised on our calendar at <https://www.idigbio.org/calendar>. iDigBio is delighted to serve the collections community, and we hope to see you soon, virtually or maybe even in person!

Respectfully submitted,
Erica Krimmel, SPNHC Representative to iDigBio

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

No report submitted.
Gretchen Anderson, SPNHC Representative to ICOM-NATHIST

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR BIOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REPOSITORIES (ISBER)

ISBER's 2022 annual meeting was hybrid, with delegates having the choice to attend in-person in Atlanta, Georgia, on May 17–20, (with the proceedings being made available as recordings for delegates for whom travel is restricted), or virtually on June 14–15. Topics for the meeting included:

- Challenges associated with providing sustainable, modern infrastructure
- Building partnership across sectors, including academia, industry, and government
- Globally available tools to innovate, learn, and inspire
- Convergence of biology, data, digital systems, and automated technologies
- New potential applications, from novel companion diagnostics to enhancing our understanding of environmental influences

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

MANAGERS OF AUSTRALASIAN HERBARIUM COLLECTIONS— COUNCILS OF HEADS OF AUSTRALASIAN HERBARIA (MAHC-CHAH)

The Managers of Australasian Herbarium Collections (MAHC) met regularly virtually throughout 2021–2022, to discuss issues and share knowledge relating to Herbarium business. While national and international borders began to open in 2021, shipping delays due to covid-reduced staffing and natural disasters remain an impediment to specimen transactions, both nationally and internationally, and travel between institutions remains low, as compared to pre-pandemic levels. As always, please, do contact Australasian institutions prior to shipping to ensure biosecurity and shipping documentation is correct for safe passage of valuable specimens.

During the year, MAHC with HISCOM (Herbarium Information Systems Committee) has focused on developing tools, datasets, and procedures for disambiguating agents and linking them to standardized unique identifiers. Many members of MAHC are also sharing ideas and information with the Natural History Collections Network, established after the SPNHC—TDWG 2018 meeting in Dunedin, New Zealand, and an Australasian Specify Community Users Group was also established for conversation and “local” advice. Many collections are now looking at Indigenous Ecological Knowledge data within collections, and how best to share (or not share) such information, including collaborations with the Atlas of Living Australia to automate the redaction of information from images. Most collections have been active throughout the year, providing a diverse range of specimens and tissues for the Genomics for Australian Plants project (<https://www.genomicsforaustralianplants.com>). A funding program for curatorial exchange between institutions was also established in 2022, by the Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria (CHAH), and many look forward to hearing of the success of their proposals for the sharing of knowledge and curatorial assistance.

Participants in the activities of CHAH, MAHC and HISCOM can be found online at <https://chah.gov.au/>

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

NATURAL SCIENCES COLLECTIONS ASSOCIATION (NatSCA)

As last year, our 2021 conference and AGM was also conducted online. The event, titled “Changing the World: Environmental Breakdown and Natural Science collections,” aimed to explore the role of natural science collections in addressing or engaging with one of the planet’s biggest issues—environmental breakdown. All of the talks were recorded and are now free to access through our YouTube page:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5VcGY4WITGigF4Q_h7M8eA

At our AGM, two new Trustees were also elected to the committee. They are Laura McCoy, Curator at Manx National Heritage, and Laura Soul, who is National Learning Programmes and Partnerships Manager at The Natural History Museum, London.

Our Bill Pettit Memorial Award for the conservation of collections went to 3 projects in 2021, including the Batemans Ichthyosaurs and the taxidermy of a wild Beaver from Devon, UK. Further details about these fascinating projects can be found on our online blog (<https://natsca.blog/>).

In January 2022, we also established “NatSCA Lunchtime Chats,” a membership-only feature to connect and inspire our community while we are all still working from home and unable to be together. These chats offer an opportunity to share the day-to-day happenings of working in natural history collections, showcasing little victories, and revealing wonders. They are held on the last Thursday of each month via Zoom. If you are a NatSCA member, feel free to join in!

As always, we offer deep gratitude to the whole NatSCA committee and all our wonderful volunteers who keep everything moving.

Respectfully submitted,
Bethany Palumbo, SPNHC Representative to NatSCA

NATURAL SCIENCE COLLECTIONS ALLIANCE (NSC Alliance)

No report submitted.
John Bates, NSCA President and SPNHC Representative to NSC Alliance

PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY (PS)

The next meeting of The Paleontological Society (PS) will be held during the Geological Society of America (GSA) meeting in Denver, Colorado, October 9–12, 2022.

The PS Collections Subcommittee will be organizing a topical session, “From Field to Repository: Addressing Theoretical and Practical Issues in Paleontological Collecting and Collections,” to be included in the technical program during GSA 2022 in Denver. The abstract submission form will open on May 1 and can be found at <https://community.geosociety.org/gsa2022/home>. The abstract submission deadline is July 19, 2022.

For more information, go to GSA 2022 meeting <https://community.geosociety.org/gsa2022/home>, and The Paleontological Society <http://www.paleosoc.org/>.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Cundiff, SPNHC Representative to PS

SMALL COLLECTIONS NETWORK (SCNet)

Several exciting opportunities are developing to promote collections of all sizes, and SCNet continues to promote the value of regional collections research, education, and outreach. If you are interested in further promoting and supporting regional collections through SPNHC, please reach out to Anna Monfils (monfi1ak@cmich.edu) or Erica Krimmel (ekrimmel@fsu.edu).

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Monfils, SPNHC Representative to SCNet

SOCIETY OF HERBARIUM CURATORS (SHC)

No report submitted. No representative named.

SOCIETY OF VERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGY (SVP)

The 81st Annual meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology was hosted 1–5 November as a virtual event 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 annual SVP Business meeting. The 2022 SVP meeting is planned for 31 October–5 November in Toronto, Canada.

The SVP has now formally established a Collections and Repository Committee (proposed as of the two previous reports), to address collections concerns not currently covered by the Government Affairs and Preparators Committees. The Collections and Repository Committee (CRC) is tasked with addressing policy and issues that arise related to the curation, conservation, and funding thereof, of vertebrate paleontological specimens. This committee is comprised of curators and collections managers and will include the SPNHC representative to SVP.

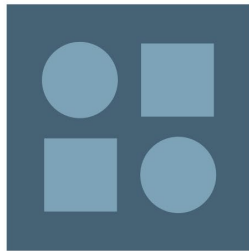
The SVP wishes to remind SPNHC members that it offers several awards and grants that might have relevance to

those interested in paleontology. These include grants [<https://vertpaleo.org/awards/>] to promote student research and fieldwork, like the Estes, Patterson, Wood, and Field Training 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

Appended April 4, 2023



SPNHC

ADVANCING COLLECTIONS CARE

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

DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020



4114 Legato Road
5TH Floor
Fairfax, VA 22033

P: 703.591.5200
F: 703.385.3572

WWW.BSB.CPA

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

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

DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020

CONTENTS

	Page
Independent Accountants' Review Report	1
Statements of Financial Position December 31, 2021 and 2020	2
Statements of Activities For the Years Ended December 31, 2021 and 2020	3
Statements of Cash Flows For the Years Ended December 31, 2021 and 2020	4
Statements of Functional Expenses For the Years Ended December 31, 2021 and 2020	5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6 - 9



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, 2021 and 2020, 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.

Burdette Smith & Bish, LLC

Fairfax, Virginia
February 1, 2023

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020

(REVIEWED)

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
ASSETS		
<hr/>		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 362,289	\$ 317,678
Accounts receivable	9,261	8,803
Inventory	24,654	28,624
Total Current Assets	<u>396,204</u>	<u>355,105</u>
INVESTMENTS	<u>126,548</u>	<u>113,119</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 522,752</u>	<u>\$ 468,224</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
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CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,224	\$ 6,904
Deferred revenue	2,340	1,600
Total Current Liabilities	<u>4,564</u>	<u>8,504</u>
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	516,028	458,060
With donor restrictions	2,160	1,660
Total Net Assets	<u>518,188</u>	<u>459,720</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 522,752</u>	<u>\$ 468,224</u>

See accompanying notes and independent accountants' review report.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020

(REVIEWED)

<u>2021</u>	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Revenue, gains, and other support:			
Membership dues and subscriptions	\$ 26,945	\$ -	\$ 26,945
Publication sales	34,689	-	34,689
Contributions	5,468	500	5,968
Investment income, net	26,653	-	26,653
Net assets released from restrictions:			
Satisfaction of program restrictions	-	-	-
Total Revenues, Gains, and Other Support	93,755	500	94,255
Expenses and losses:			
Program	12,153	-	12,153
General and administrative	23,634	-	23,634
Total Expenses	35,787	-	35,787
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	57,968	500	58,468
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	458,060	1,660	459,720
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 516,028	\$ 2,160	\$ 518,188
<u>2020</u>	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Revenue, gains, and other support:			
Membership dues and subscriptions	\$ 28,180	\$ -	\$ 28,180
Publication sales	14,097	-	14,097
Contributions	9,772	800	10,572
Investment income, net	20,728	-	20,728
Net assets released from restrictions:			
Satisfaction of program restrictions	-	-	-
Total Revenues, Gains, and Other Support	72,777	800	73,577
Expenses:			
Program	25,484	-	25,484
General and administrative	12,750	-	12,750
Total Expenses	38,234	-	38,234
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	34,543	800	35,343
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	423,517	860	424,377
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 458,060	\$ 1,660	\$ 459,720

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, 2021 AND 2020

(REVIEWED)

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
<u>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</u>		
Cash received from members and customers	\$ 68,342	\$ 53,519
Cash paid for program and support services	(36,955)	(7,682)
Interest and dividends received	13,224	7,107
Net Cash Provided By (Used In) Operating Activities	<u>44,611</u>	<u>52,944</u>
<u>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</u>		
Net Cash Provided by (Used In) Investing Activities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN		
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	44,611	52,944
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>317,678</u>	<u>264,734</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$ <u>362,289</u>	\$ <u>317,678</u>
 RECONCILIATION OF CHANGE IN NET ASSETS TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Increase (decrease) in net assets	\$ 58,468	\$ 35,343
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	-	-
(Gain) loss on valuation of investments	(13,429)	(13,621)
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	(458)	30,242
(Increase) decrease in inventory	3,970	6,592
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	(4,680)	(6,282)
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue	740	670
Net Cash Provided By (Used In) Operating Activities	<u>\$ 44,611</u>	<u>\$ 52,944</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, 2021 AND 2020**

(REVIEWED)

<u>2021</u>	<u>Program Services</u>	<u>General and Administrative</u>	<u>Total Expenses</u>
Bank charges	\$ -	\$ 846	\$ 846
Shipping and mailing costs	728		728
Cost of goods sold	3,971	-	3,971
Dues and subscriptions	-	3,228	3,228
Newsletter and journal	7,059	-	7,059
Election costs	-	89	89
Insurance	-	3,264	3,264
Membership	395	-	395
Professional fees	-	14,049	14,049
Treasurer's office supplies		2,158	2,158
	<u>\$ 12,153</u>	<u>\$ 23,634</u>	<u>\$ 35,787</u>
<u>2020</u>	<u>Program Services</u>	<u>General and Administrative</u>	<u>Total Expenses</u>
Awards	\$ 1,144	\$ -	\$ 1,144
Bank charges	-	1,203	1,203
Cost of goods sold	6,575	-	6,575
Dues and subscriptions	-	891	891
Newsletter and journal	17,416	-	17,416
Insurance	-	3,179	3,179
Membership	349	-	349
Miscellaneous	-	1,118	1,118
Professional fees	-	6,000	6,000
Treasurer's office supplies	-	359	359
	<u>\$ 25,484</u>	<u>\$ 12,750</u>	<u>\$ 38,234</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, 2021 AND 2020

(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 community. 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 net assets without donor restrictions if the restrictions expire in the fiscal year in which the contributions are recognized. All other donor-restricted contributions are reported as increases in net assets with temporary or permanent donor restrictions depending on the nature of the restrictions. When a restriction expires, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions.

Member support received in advance of the membership period is recorded as deferred revenue 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 of America established a framework for measuring fair value, clarifying the definition of fair value within that framework and expanding disclosure about fair value measurements. U.S. GAAP established a three-tiered fair value hierarchy with Level 1 representing quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market, Level 2 representing quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market that is non-active or with other than directly or indirectly observable inputs, and Level 3 representing estimate values based on unobservable inputs. Related disclosures are segregated for assets and liabilities measured at fair value based on the level used within the hierarchy to determine their fair values.

Use of Estimates

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

Cash Equivalents

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

Inventory

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

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020

(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 Society. The Society'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 Society or by the passage of time. Other donor restrictions are perpetual in nature, whereby 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 2018 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, 2021 AND 2020

(REVIEWED)

NOTE 2 – Inventory

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

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Ideas and Practical Solutions - Vol 1	\$ 71	\$ 189
Managing the Modern Herbarium	888	1,073
MuseumWise: Workplace Words Defined	5,528	5,535
Museum Studies	707	706
Health and Safety	14,329	14,698
Preventive Conservation	3,131	6,423
	<u>\$ 24,654</u>	<u>\$ 28,624</u>

NOTE 3 – Investments

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

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Mutual funds	\$ <u>126,548</u>	\$ <u>113,119</u>

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

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

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Unrealized gain (loss) on market value	\$ 13,429	\$ 13,621
Interest and dividends	13,224	7,107
	<u>\$ 26,653</u>	<u>\$ 20,728</u>

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020

(REVIEWED)

NOTE 4 – Net Assets

Net assets consist of the following at December 31:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
<u>With Donor Restrictions:</u>		
Christine Allen fund	\$ 2,160	\$ 1,660
Total With Donor Restrictions	<u>\$ 2,160</u>	<u>\$ 1,660</u>
<u>Without Donor Restrictions:</u>		
Undesignated	\$ 516,028	\$ 458,060
Total Without Donor Restrictions	<u>\$ 516,028</u>	<u>\$ 458,060</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	\$	337,642
Certificate of deposit		24,647
Other investments		<u>126,548</u>
	\$	<u>488,837</u>

As part of liquidity management, the Society has a policy to structure its financial assets to be available as general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due. In addition, as part of 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 at December 31, 2021 are sufficient to cover all of its obligations.

NOTE 6 – Expense Allocation

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

NOTE 7 – Subsequent Events

The Society evaluated its December 31, 2021 financial statements for subsequent events through February 1, 2023, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.