

Systematics Collections Committee

Committee Members: S. Ticol Álvarez-Castañeda, Jeffery E. Bradley, Robert D. Bradley, Leslie N. Carraway, Juan Pablo Carrera-E., Chris J. Conroy, Brandi S. Coyner, Guillermo D'Elia, Katrina Derieg, Carl W. Dick, Robert C. Dowler, Jonathan L. Dunnum (Chair), Kurt E. Galbreath, Eliecer E. Gutiérrez, John D. Hanson, Carlos A. Iudica, Thomas E. Lee, Jr., Rafael N. Leite, Burton K. Lim, Consuelo Lorenzo, Darrin P. Lunde, Holly L. Lutz, Jason Malaney, Suzanne B. McLaren, Bryan S. McLean, Nancy D. Moncrief, Link E. Olson, Nicté Ordóñez-Garza, Caleb D. Phillips, Marcia A. Revelez, Duke S. Rogers, Richard D. Stevens, Cody W. Thompson, Nathan S. Upham, Paul M. Velazco, Andrea E. Wishart.

Mission:

The Systematic Collections Committee advises curators worldwide in matters relating to collection administration, curation, and accreditation, and maintains a directory of mammal collections. The Committee also surveys existing collections approximately once each decade and maintains a list of curatorial standards for managing a collection-accreditation program under the auspices of the Society.

Information Items:

- (1) Due to COVID-19 quarantine restrictions, no collection accreditations were completed during 2020.
- (2) The committee anticipates an ability to resume on-site accreditations this coming year and will actively engage in recruitment of collections interested in undergoing the accreditation process.
- (3) Two collections have provided the committee with self-evaluation reports and requested accreditation visits.
 - a. Northern Michigan University (Kurt Galbreath)
 - i. SCC members Cody Thompson and John Hanson have agreed to do site visit once NMU opens up.
 - b. University of Oklahoma, Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History (Brandi Coyner)
 - i. Open and ready to receive SCC members for a site visit, in process of identifying potential evaluators.
- (4) The committee proposes to begin conversion of the Survey and Directory of Mammal Collections of the Western Hemisphere into a digital format hosted on the ASM website. The goal is a searchable collections directory database which can be easily updated with current collection statistics and contact information. This effort would be in collaboration with the Informatics Committee and the Mammal Diversity Database.
- (5) The ASM has long stated its support for and desire to increase the inclusion of Latin American mammalogists and collections. With this aim, the committee proposes to engage with a newly initiated group, *Museums and Emerging Pathogens in the Americas (MEPA)*, to enhance discoverability, digitization, and accessibility of Latin American mammal collections and tissue biorepositories in an effort to support Latin American collections and facilitate

bridging the gap between natural history collections, emerging disease research, One Health initiatives and greatly enhance the quality of the collections data contained in the Survey and Directory of Mammal Collections of the Western Hemisphere.

(6) The committee welcomed two new members: Katrina Dering of the Natural History Museum of Utah and Consuelo Lorenzo from El Colegio de la Frontera Sur, Chiapas, Mexico.

(7) The committee accepted Eric Rickart's resignation in September 2020. We heartily thank Dr. Rickart for over 30 years of dedicated service to the committee and ASM.

Action Items:

(1) The Committee requests a reinstatement of our previous annual budget of \$2000 and an increase of \$1000 in 2022. The SCC has not utilized its allotted budget in many years due to the generosity of SCC committee members who have used personal funds when doing accreditation visits. As this is not guaranteed to occur going forward, we request funds to assist with travel costs for up to three site visits of mammal collections and genetic resources for the accreditation programs.

(2) Funds are also requested to support the initial costs associated with initiating the development of an online collections database (e.g., server space, domain costs, software, consulting fees) hosted on the ASM website.

Proposed budget:

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| Travel for 2 persons/site visit (airfare or car)..... | \$1200 |
| Hotel accommodations as needed..... | \$600 |
| Food..... | \$200 |
| Online collections database development..... | \$1000 |
| Total | \$3000 |

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan L. Dunnum, Chair
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