

Systematics Collections Committee

Committee Members: S. Ticul Álvarez-Castañeda, Jeffery E. Bradley, Robert D. Bradley, Juan Pablo Carrera-E., Chris J. Conroy, 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 L. Malaney, Tabitha R. McFarland, Suzanne B. McLaren, Bryan S. McLean, Nancy D. Moncrief, Link E. Olson, Nicté Ordóñez-Garza, Caleb D. Phillips, Marcia A. Revelez, Duke S. Rogers, Dakota Rowsey, Richard D. Stevens, Cody W. Thompson, Nathan S. Upham, 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 restrictions, no collection accreditations were completed during 2021. However, the committee anticipates an ability to resume on-site accreditations and is actively engaged in recruitment of collections interested in undergoing the accreditation process and setting up visits.

(2) Two US collections and one Mexican collection have provided the committee with self-evaluation reports and are awaiting accreditation visits.

- a. Northern Michigan University (Kurt Galbreath)
- b. University of Oklahoma, Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History (Brandi Coyner)
- c. Colección Regional Durango (CRD), Durango, Mexico (Celia López-González)

(3) Self-evaluation documents were sent to two collections for potential accreditation or reaccreditation in conjunction with the annual meeting in Tucson, AZ.

- a. Arizona State University Natural History Collections, Tempe, AZ
 - i. Nathan Upham Curator of Mammals
 - ii. Dakota Rowsey, Vertebrate Collection Manager
- b. Arizona Museum of Natural History, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
 - i. Peter Reinthal – Curator
 - ii. Melanie Bucci, Collection Manager

(4) A large number of the SCC have been active participants in the *Museums and Emerging Pathogens in the Americas (MEPA)* consortium.

Main aims of MEPA include:

- a. Enhancing discoverability, digitization, and accessibility of Latin American mammal collections and tissue biorepositories
- b. Facilitating the linkage between natural history collections, emerging disease research, and One Health initiatives
- c. Adding/enhancing collections data for Latin American collections contained in the Survey and Directory of Mammal Collections of the Western Hemisphere

(5) The committee welcomed two new members: Tabitha McFarland, Museum of Southwestern Biology, University of New Mexico; and Dakota Rowsey, Arizona State University Biocollections.

(6) The committee accepted the resignation of Leslie Carraway, Brandi Coyner, and Paul Velasco in 2021. We emphatically thank them for the many decades of dedicated service to the committee.

(7) Conversion of the *Survey and Directory of Mammal Collections of the Western Hemisphere* into a digital format hosted on the ASM website was proposed last year. No progress was made in this effort as the ASM website was undergoing migration. This effort will be revived this year in collaboration with the Informatics Committee.

Action Items:

The Committee requests an annual budget of \$3000 in 2023.

(1) 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:

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. Dunnun, Chair
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