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Newsletter of the American Society of  
Parasitologists

Parasitology, Harold W. Manter Laboratory of

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Fall 12-30-2014

## American Society of Parasitologists Newsletter, v. 36, nos. 3-4, Fall-Winter 2014

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ASP Newsletter

Vol 36. Nos. 3-4.

Fall, 2014

# The American Society of Parasitologists



## Newsletter

*Usually Published Quarterly by the American Society of Parasitologists*

**ASP Newsletter:** Released to the UNL Digital Commons, December 24, 2014

### From the Editor

Consider publishing your poems, creative writing, essays, or photographs in the ASP Newsletter. As you have seen in the past, we have included interesting and, sometimes, controversial "non peer-reviewed" white papers in the ASP Newsletter. Send me a link to your favorite lecture on parasites or consider providing an actual parasite lecture. Your contribution is valuable and anything sent in to me will be considered for publication. There are only a very few items that I have rejected over the years. You might even be able to put the contribution into your resume or as we call it these days, your curriculum vitae.

Sincerely,

Scott Lyell Gardner, Ph.D.



**Figure 1.** Larval *Taenia* from *Meriones*. Gobi desert, Mongolia, 2012.

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## Report to the ASP from President David S. Lindsay



First report to the ASP from David S. Lindsay. ASP Newsletter column, David ,ASP President, 2015

### **Self-archiving of publications from the Journal of Parasitology**

Hello members of ASP.

I hope you all enjoyed our recent meeting in New Orleans. It was held at an excellent facility, the meeting organization and planning was great, and the local arrangements committee did an wonderful job. Everything went smoothly and hopefully everyone enjoyed them selves. I had a great time and ran in to many old friends from my early days at ASP and saw many of the same hardworking graduate students form recent meetings.

I am pleased to be writing you as incoming President. I have been a member since 1981 when I began graduate school at Auburn University. I have been fortunate to have been associated with and mentored by many members of our society over the following 34 years. I have been able to attend and present at 25 of the meetings held during that time. I still remember meeting individuals from the first ASP conference I attended which was at



Athens, Georgia in 1985 (and I remember the roaches in the dorm room). I was excited to meet the “famous” researchers that I had been following in the Journal of Parasitology. I have been fortunate to see many of the same individuals every year that I have attended. I have been privileged to know many of our current leaders since they began attending as graduate students. I believe that it is important for students to attend and present their research at our regional and national meetings. This fosters personal friendships and loyalty to our society besides exposing the students to the recent research advancements in our field. We are all brought together by our love of parasitology and of conducting research. We always seek the latest and most accurate articles on our topics of interest to help us develop a better understanding of our research problems.

The first paper I ever published as first author was in the Journal of Parasitology. It was accepted before I began graduate school in 1980. It was the life cycle of *Cystoisospora suis* in baby pigs and I did the work as a technician working at the University of Georgia, State Diagnostic and Investigational Laboratory in Tifton Georgia. My boss Dr. Barry P. Stuart was an excellent pathologist and energetic researcher. He frequently reminded me that it was important to publish your research and we published several papers during the two years I worked with him. My first paper was hand typed on a self-correcting typewriter. My parasitology mentors (Bill Current, John V. Ernst, and Byron L. Blagburn) at Auburn University emphasized the importance of research and publishing in high quality journals like the Journal of Parasitology.

Before the Internet, you would go to the library and look through journals for articles that interested you. If you found an interesting article you would send a reprint request card in the US mail to the corresponding author asking them to send you a reprint of their publication. If you had published a paper the interested individuals would send you a reprint request card asking for your paper. It was the recipient's obligation to send a reprint to the requester. If you published a paper, you predicted the numbers of reprints that you would need and paid an extra fee to the publisher and they supplied you with the needed numbers of reprints. If you were a stamp collector reprint request cards from foreign scientists were an excellent way to get stamps from foreign countries. I always looked forward to checking the US mail to see if I got any requests for reprints or if I had been sent papers I had requested. This system was somewhat slow and was costly due to the postal charges. This system has largely been replaced over the last 10-15 years and most interested individuals can get PDF's from the Internet. Remnants remain of the reprint request system and the e-mail address of the corresponding author is published on the author line on the title page with the note “Correspondence should be sent to”. Most of us now get e-mail requests for PDFs of papers often with the requester's comments that they did not have access to the journal the paper was published in. With out hesitation most of us reply to the e-mail and attach a PDF.

Services like “ResearchGate” actively solicit PDFs of papers for their site. These publications can then be downloaded by members and used. This form of “self- archiving” seems to be a win-win proposition with everyone exchanging information freely. It does bring up issues of copyright, publishers policy, and the impact of “self-archiving” on the



American Society of Parasitologists' financial well-being. Gail McMillan, a Virginia Tech librarian, provided me with this website Sherpa/Romeo (<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/>) that contains a search engine which provides the answers to copyright and self-archiving policies of many journals.

I also recently had a discussion with Peter Burns of Allen Press, the publisher of the Journal of Parasitology, asking questions about self-archiving and the recommendations/policy of Allen Press on this and related issues. I was hoping to become better informed and not violate any copyright laws. He let me know that the copyright belongs to American Society of Parasitologists and that the role of Allen Press is to protect the financial interests of the Journal. With that in mind, here are some questions or issues I brought up with him.

**On self archiving on “ResearchGate” or related sites.** It is not the policy of Allen Press to allow self-archiving on these cites because this practice adversely affects the financial status of the Journal and therefore the Society. **There is no time limit** after which you can self-archive on these cites. The ½ life of the Journal of Parasitology is greater than ten years and the papers retain their value making it difficult to determine how long a prohibition should be.

**On self-archiving ones full research publications on their personal or institutional web page.** Allen Press discourages the posting of full PDFs on these cites. They recommend posting the abstract of the paper with a link to the Journal site containing the PDF of the article.

Authors can chose to pay extra fees and have their papers published as open access in the Journal of Parasitology. Some granting sources now require that material published on their funded research be published as open access. We all can agree that “open access” is an excellent method to provide scientific information to ALL scientists no matter what their or their countries economic condition may be at the current time.

Allen Press acknowledges that the area of open access and self-archiving are evolving as our means of communication rapidly increase. They will abide by industry standards and adapt as they change. This statement from the Journal of Parasitology website (<http://journalofparasitology.org/page/permissions>) spells out the self-archiving policy for regular and open access articles published in the Journal of Parasitology. **“Full versions of The Journal of Parasitology articles, including Open Access articles, may not be reposted on any website, including institutional repositories or authors’ personal websites. However, we welcome links to the article on [www.journalofparasitology.org](http://www.journalofparasitology.org).”**

We all know that we can trust the information published in the Journal of Parasitology but what about papers in some of the relatively new for profit journals? The Directory of Open Access Journals <http://doaj.org/> is an interesting website that provides “an online directory that indexes and provides access to quality open access, peer-reviewed journals”. This





site is necessary because in recent years there has been a flood of “predatory publishers” who publish “new open access” journals. The reader is directed to Beall's List <http://scholarlyoa.com/publishers/> of potential, possible, or probable predatory scholarly open-access journals to find current information on journals that fall or potentially fall in to the category of “predatory publishers”. The website provides reviews, assessments and descriptions of these journals so researchers can make informed decisions whether they want to submit articles, serve as editors or on editorial boards of these journals.

The American Society of Parasitologists needs and wants your continued support. Please plan on attending our national meeting whenever possible and be active in the society. Publish your best papers in the Journal of Parasitology to help keep our society strong and help us continue to grow. Be an active member and nominate deserving individuals to elected office and volunteer to chair sessions at our annual meeting and otherwise be active. The names and e-mail address of committee chairs are posted on our website. Do not hesitate to contact them with any suggestions for improvement or with specific issues you wish addressed.

The ASP council has been actively discussing and evaluating ways to improve our society, increase member participation, include students in society activities, and recruit and keep new members. The more members our society has the more influence we can have on policy makers at the University, State and National levels. We will report on these efforts in upcoming newsletters or special communications as needed.

I wish you all best for the coming year and hope to see you in Omaha, Nebraska June 25-28, 2015.

Sincerely

David S. Lindsay  
President American Society of Parasitologists



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POSTED: From President Lindsay

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**As a leader of innovation and scientific discovery, the United States should welcome first responder experts to share information on Ebola that helps stop the spread of the disease. The American Society of Parasitologists believes that scientific discovery and communication are critical to controlling this devastating disease.**

On October 28, 2014 the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (LDHH) and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (HSEP) sent a letter (<http://sherwood-astmh.informz.net/InformzDataService/OnlineVersion/Public?mailingInstanceId=4362069>) to members of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH). It stated that they have instituted the following public health advisory, effective immediately for ASTMH members attending their annual meeting November 2-6, 2014 in New Orleans.

**“NOTICE TO TRAVELERS:**

**From a medical perspective, asymptomatic individuals are not at risk of exposing others; however, the State is committed to preventing any unnecessary exposure of Ebola to the general public. As part of that commitment, we have requested that any individuals that will be traveling to Louisiana following a trip to the West African countries of Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone or have had contact with an EVD-infected individual remain in a self-quarantine for the 21 days following their relevant travel history. In Louisiana, we love to welcome visitors, but we must balance that hospitality with the protection of Louisiana residents and other visitors.”**

The leadership of ASTMH replied with a statement praising their members working in West Africa and stating, “The Society firmly believes that policies (see Notice) that hinder the work of healthcare workers are ineffective and counterproductive.”

On behalf of the members of the American Society of Parasitologists (ASP), our governing Council publicly supports the members of ASTMH that are affected by this legal but reactionary (perhaps scientifically unfounded) travel ban imposed by LDHH and HESP.

The mechanisms underlying the transmission of infectious diseases are complex and our knowledge increases rapidly, resulting in new treatment protocols and prevention recommendations. Those methods appropriate 3-6 months ago may have changed and been replaced by more effective methodologies. Many of



the presentations at the ASTMH meeting will provide current information of Ebola. Your proposed restrictions mean that many scientists with expertise in Ebola will not be able to personally present their information from the platform, nor will they be able to interact one-on-one with others researching this deadly disease. The latter exchanges are extremely important since many ideas for research originate from casual interactions outside the lecture hall.

The ASP heartily supports members of ASTMH. In doing so, we encourage all elected officials to follow the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and end unfounded travel bans for individuals who have traveled to Ebola endemic areas in an effort to treat patients and control this fatal disease.

## ASP METING DATA

Gear up for the exciting **Annual Meeting of the ASP in Omaha.**  
(<http://amsocparasit.org>).

**Save the date!**



### **90th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Parasitologists**

June 25-28, 2015

Hilton Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska





## UPDATE ON THE USNPC MOVE TO THE SMITHSONIAN

The first specimens of the US National Parasite Collection (USNPC) have arrived at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History (NMNH). The curators at the United States Department of Agriculture – Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS) in Beltsville, Maryland and the Smithsonian Institution “Move Crew” have been hard at work carefully packing the parasite collection since August, 2014. This first delivery included most of the type specimens on slides with the rest of the collection scheduled to arrive over the next few weeks.



**Figure 2.** Bins containing USNPC display specimens that will be placed in display cases after fumigation is complete.

We also welcome Deanna Chapa (USDA-ARS Biologist) who has joined the team implementing the transfer. Deanna’s prior experience was with molecular biology and database management at the USDA facilities in Beltsville, MD and also Lubbock and Weslaco, Texas. We are excited to have her on board!

During the move, all loan requests for USNPC specimens are being postponed. Loan activity will resume in stages as subsets of the USNPC are relocated to the NMNH and assigned United States National Museum (USNM) catalog numbers. The NMNH continues to accession new specimens and assign catalog numbers to specimens considered type material and referenced in pending publications.



**Figure 3.** Anna, (with the notepad), Eric Hoberg, and members of the SI ‘move crew’ in the facility in Beltsville discussing how the USNPC is organized.

Information about procedures for donation of specimens, policies for loans, including requests for destructive sampling, and arranging scientific visits can be found at the web site for the NMNH Department of Invertebrate Zoology (<http://invertebrates.si.edu>). The web interface of the NMNH Department of Invertebrate Zoology specimen catalog can be accessed at: <http://collections.nmnh.si.edu/search/iz/>. The final version of the USNPC database as it existed on 30 May 2014, is available as a single downloadable Excel or text file from the NMNH Department of Invertebrate Zoology website (<http://invertebrates.si.edu/parasites.htm>) –last accessed on 23 Dec, 2014 (ed.).

**New material/specimens should be sent with advance notice to:**

ATTN: IZ Collections Manager – NMNH Invertebrate Zoology, Smithsonian Museum Support Center, 4210 Silver Hill Road, Suitland, MD 20746, USA.

Please go to the NMNH Department of Invertebrate Zoology website (<http://invertebrates.si.edu>) for updates on the transfer and transition of the NPC.

Contributed by Anna J. Phillips (Smithsonian’s NMNH; [phillipsaj@si.edu](mailto:phillipsaj@si.edu) ) and Eric P. Hoberg (USDA-ARS; [Eric.Hoberg@ars.usda.gov](mailto:Eric.Hoberg@ars.usda.gov))



## **FREE Parasitology Lab Exercises - JANOVY**

John Janovy's parasitology lab exercises (BIOS 385 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln), 2006-2010, can be obtained as a free download in several different e-book formats from:

<http://www.smashwords.com/books/view/362387>.

Those exercises should also be available free on nook and some other e-readers (but probably not kindle, at least yet). His exams and Friday quizzes from that same course, in that same period, are also available free from:

<http://www.smashwords.com/books/view/350906>.



## ASP – Zazzle Stuff – Support the ASP!

Parasitologists: Have you bought your ASP t-shirt yet? Check out our Zazzle storefront, with official ASP and JP branded products. Shirts in several styles and colors, as well as holiday ornaments, water bottles, playing cards, iPhone cases, and more. All make great gifts! Show your parasite pride! <http://www.zazzle.com/parasitologists>

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PARASITOLOGY**

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## **Visit and “Like” the ASP FACEBOOK Page.**

The ASP has a FACEBOOK page. Stop in and check it out. Like it and make it a place that is useful for parasitology and sharing data about parasites. The Manter Laboratory has a FACEBOOK page, too, and many other collections are using social media to keep others informed. You can get to the ASP FACEBOOK page by visiting the home page of the ASP.

## **Journal of Parasitology ON-LINE at UNL Digital Commons.**

The oldest issues (starting in 1914 and running up to now about 1980 - we are now updating the archive up to 2012) are available online free to anyone at the UNL Digital Commons. You can get there by visiting the ASP web page and following the links. Or go here:

<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/jrnlparasitology/>

The Journal is there in addition to many scientific papers by Manter Laboratory Associates and collaborators. Feel free to look around.





## **The Natural Science Collections Alliance Washington Report**



### **NATURAL SCIENCE COLLECTIONS ALLIANCE**

1444 I STREET NW SUITE 200 WASHINGTON, DC 20005 TEL: 202 628 1500 WWW.NSCALLIANCE.ORG

#### **NSC Alliance Washington Report, Volume 5, Issue 11, December 11, 2014**

##### **In this Issue:**

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#### **Policy News from NSC Alliance**

Through the NSC Alliance partnership with the American Institute of Biological Sciences, we are pleased to provide NSC Alliance members with the following public policy update. With proper





attribution to NSC Alliance, all material from these reports may be reproduced or forwarded. **We encourage you to share this report with colleagues at your institution. Anyone interested in receiving copies of the NSC Alliance Washington Report may subscribe at [www.NSCAlliance.org](http://www.NSCAlliance.org) -- it's free!**

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding any of the following items, please contact NSC Alliance director of public policy Dr. Robert Gropp at 202-628-1500 x 250 or at [rgropp@aibs.org](mailto:rgropp@aibs.org).

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### **\$1 Million Available for Digital Innovation**

The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) and the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) have launched the [Beyond the Box National Digitization Innovation Competition](#). The initiative will award \$1 million to the individual or team who develops a novel way to accurately and efficiently capture digital images of insect specimens and their associated data from a standard museum drawer of insects.

“The Beyond the Box Digitization Competition is designed to inspire the ingenuity of the American public, and to engage scientists, engineers, and everyday inventors, in an effort to solve a problem that has been slowing the rate of scientific discovery,” said Dr. James L. Olds, Assistant Director for the Directorate for Biological Sciences at NSF.

Whether through the beauty of a butterfly, agricultural significance of a honeybee, or the public health implications of a mosquito, insects influence the quality of human life every day.

“Insects are an amazingly diverse group of organisms that represent an overwhelming amount of living biological diversity on Earth,” said AIBS President Dr. Joseph Travis. “Very few insect species are pests and most play important roles in our ecosystems. They pollinate many of our crops, recycle nutrients and energy, and are sources of food for the other animals in the food chain. Unfortunately, despite all we know about insects, we have yet to describe all of the species of insects and, in fact, we are still discovering new species at a surprisingly high rate.”



There are believed to be more than 1.5 million identified species of insects on Earth. This is hypothesized to be three times the number of all other animal species combined. Amazingly, it is estimated that there are 10 quintillion (10,000,000,000,000,000,000) insects alive in the world. That's more than one billion times the number of people.

"We share the planet with so many insects, wouldn't it be wonderful if when we find a new one in our backyard we could take a picture of it and have that matched to an image in a museum somewhere. We could learn the name, understand what its role in the ecosystem is, or understand if it is an invasive species that might devastate our garden or nearby crop fields," said Dr. Norman Johnson, Director of the Triplehorn Insect Collection at The Ohio State University, and the Chairman of the Planning Committee that established the rules for the competition.

For more than 250 years, scientists have collected millions of insects from around the world. These specimens are now held in more than 1,000 natural science collections in universities and museums across the United States alone. Unfortunately, many of these specimens remain unknown to science, education, natural resource and public health managers, and the general public. Quite simply, they have been locked away in cabinets.

"With technological advances in robotics, imaging, data capture and management, among other areas, it is now possible to develop new tools to digitally capture images of insect specimens and their associated data," said Johnson.

"This is important work that is going to solve some persistent challenges, advance science and engineering, and is also likely to generate new tools that may have secondary commercial applications," said Olds.

Through the Advancing Digitization of Biological Collections program, NSF has pledged \$100 million over ten years to support biodiversity collections research.

Other fields of biology have made progress digitizing specimens and sharing the data with research, education, and other user communities. Plant scientists, for example, have been



developing innovative ways to image herbarium sheets. Despite these developments, insects have remained a challenge.

Johnson states, “we need to find a way to move from two dimensional to three dimensional images.”

Insects are delicate and have small labels associated with them that have information about the specimen, such as its name and where it was collected. “These specimens and their associated data provide irreplaceable information about the history and nature of life on Earth, but it is not easy to capture this data in a cost-effective way that does not damage the specimen or label. We need a creative solution that will solve this problem,” said Johnson.

“AIBS is pleased to partner with NSF on this endeavor,” said Travis. “This is a unique opportunity to move science and technology forward with a leap instead of a small step.”

Official contest rules and guidance are available at [beyondthebox.aibs.org](http://beyondthebox.aibs.org). Inquires related to the contest must be submitted on the website, where the questions and answers will be posted.

The contest opened on 5 December 2014 and will close at 11:59 p.m. on 4 September 2015. A winner will be selected following a competitive judging process and on-site demonstration by the finalists.

### **Congress Releases Final Funding Plan for FY 2015**

With only days left before a stopgap funding measure expires, Congress finally found agreement on federal funding levels for fiscal year (FY) 2015. The deal was reached more than two months after the fiscal year began.

The lead negotiators on the deal released a joint statement about the legislation: “As we close in on our December 11 deadline, we now ask that the House and Senate take up and pass this bill as soon as possible, and that the President sign it when it reaches his desk,” wrote Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) and Representative Harold Rogers (R-KY). “The American people



deserve the certainty of a continuously functioning and responsible government, and the knowledge that both parties in Congress have heard their demands and have worked cooperatively on their behalf.”

Notably, the National Science Foundation would receive a 2.4 percent increase over the current level, for a total of \$7.34 billion. This is higher than President Obama requested, but less than the amount passed by the House of Representatives. Research funding would grow by \$125 million and education programs would be boosted by nearly \$20 million. This would enable the agency to award 350 new competitive grants in 2015.

The bill has yet to be voted on by either chamber of Congress, but is expected to be considered soon.

### **Results of NSC Alliance Board Elections**

Three new board members and two incumbent board members have been elected to the NSC Alliance Board of Directors.

- Dr. Robert J. Baker was re-elected to the Board of Directors. Dr. Baker is Director and Curator of Mammals and Genetic Resources in the Natural Sciences Research Laboratory at the Museum of Texas Tech University. His research centers on genome organization and evolution biology of mammals.
- Dr. Joseph A. Cook was re-elected to the Board of Directors. Dr. Cook is Director of the Museum of Southwest Biology at the University of New Mexico. His research interests include biotic conservation, historical biogeography, and systematics, speciation, and natural history of subterranean mammals.
- Dr. Shelley James is an Associate Botanist at the Pacific Center for Molecular Biodiversity at the Bishop Museum. Her research interests include the flora of New Guinea, herbarium curation and digitization, and conservation genetics.
- Dr. Gil Nelson is a Faculty Researcher at the Institute for Digital Information and Scientific Communication at Florida State University. He is also a writer who specializes in botany, natural history, and ecology in Florida.



- Dr. Rebecca Rundell is an Assistant Professor at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Her research focuses on the patterns of biological diversification and the factors underlying those patterns.

NSC Alliance would also like to thank outgoing board members Dr. Warren Allmon, Dr. Hank Bart, Dr. James Hanken, Dr. Leonard Krishtalka, Dr. David Mindell, Dr. Bonnie Styles, and Dr. Quentin Wheeler for their service for the past six years. Per the organization's bylaws, representatives at large are limited to serving two consecutive three-year terms.

### **Help NSC Alliance Help You: Share Your Thoughts**

Next week, the NSC Alliance Board of Directors will meet in Washington, DC for its winter meeting. Among the items on the agenda is a discussion of how the organization can work more effectively with its member institutions to advance our common interests. The Board is also interested in ideas for growing the membership. If you have any suggestions, please share them with NSC Alliance President Larry Page at [lpagel@flmnh.ufl.edu](mailto:lpagel@flmnh.ufl.edu) or Robert Gropp at [rgropp@aibs.org](mailto:rgropp@aibs.org).

### **NPS Releases Draft Rule Regarding Curation of Archaeological Collections**

The National Park Service is proposing changes to the regulations regarding curation of federally owned and administered archeological collections. The rule, if adopted, would establish definitions, standards, and procedures to dispose of particular material remains that are determined to be of insufficient archaeological interest. There is not currently a defined process for disposition of such materials.

The draft rule would apply to artifacts, objects, specimens, and other physical evidence, including human remains, of a historic or prehistoric resource and of historic or prehistoric cultures. It would not impact any material remains regulated by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

Public comment on the draft rule will be accepted until 17 February 2015. For more information,



visit <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-11-18/html/2014-26839.htm>.

### **Paper Assesses the Value of Natural History Collections**

An article in the December 2014 issue of *BioScience* considers the benefits of natural history collections and offers advice for the financial support of such collections. "Assessing the Value of Natural History Collections and Addressing Issues Regarding Long-Term Growth and Care" was written by several research staff at the Natural Science Research Laboratory at the Museum of Texas Tech University. Access the article at <http://bioscience.oxfordjournals.org/content/64/12/1150.abstract>.

### **Article Proposes Changes to Italian Collections**

A new paper in *ZooKeys* looks at the future of Italian natural history collections. According to the paper's authors, "Italian natural history museums are facing a critical situation, due to the progressive loss of scientific relevance, decreasing economic investments, and scarcity of personnel." The proposed solution is to create a network of museums that function as a "metamuseum." Read the article for free at <http://zookeys.pensoft.net/articles.php?id=4280>.

### **Bee Specimens Provide Insights on Pollinator Declines**

An article in the New York Times highlights the role of entomological collections in understanding the decline of bee species. Although the plight of honeybee species has garnered much attention in recent years, many species of wild bees are also in trouble.

To understand why, a group of researchers looked at bee specimens from the American Museum of Natural History, the New York State Museum, and several collections housed at universities. The scientists documented that the diversity of bees in New England declined by 15 percent over the last 140 years.

By identifying the types of pollen stuck to the specimens' legs, the researchers were able to document changes in the availability of native plant that are food sources for pollinators.





Read the article at

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/25/science/clues-to-bees-history-tucked-away-in-drawers.html?ref=science>.

### **Crowd Funding Campaign for Collections Digitization**

Florida State University's Robert K. Godfrey Herbarium has launched a crowd funding campaign until 15 December in order to raise \$2,000 to support citizen science programs. The donations will enable the herbarium to convene more than one hundred people from the Tallahassee region to learn about local biodiversity and the role of biodiversity specimens in research and education.

Visit

<http://spark.fsu.edu/Projects/121/Blazing-a-New-Trail-for-Sustainability-with-Citizen-Science> to donate and for more information.

### **Graduate Student Leaders Sought to Shape Science Policy**

Applications are being accepted for the 2015 AIBS Emerging Public Policy Leadership Award. This award recognizes graduate students in the biological sciences who have demonstrated initiative and leadership in science policy. Recipients receive first-hand experience at the interface of science and public policy.

Winners receive:

- A trip to Washington, DC, to participate in the Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition Congressional Visits Day, an annual event that brings scientists to the nation's capital to advocate for federal investment in the biological sciences, with a primary focus on the National Science Foundation. The event will be held in late spring 2015. Domestic travel and hotel expenses will be paid for the winners.
- Policy and communications training, including information on the legislative process and trends in federal science funding.
- Meetings with congressional policymakers to discuss the importance of federal



investments in the biological sciences.

- A one-year AIBS membership, including a subscription to the journal *BioScience* and a copy of "Communicating Science: A Primer for Working with the Media."
- An award certificate and membership in the EPPLA alumni network.

The 2015 award is open to U.S. citizens enrolled in a graduate degree program in the biological sciences, science education, or a closely allied field. Applicants should have a demonstrated interest in and commitment to science policy and/or science education policy. Prior EPPLA winners and AIBS science policy interns/fellows are not eligible.

Applications are due by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on Sunday, 18 January 2015. The application can be downloaded at <http://www.aibs.org/public-policy/eppla.html>.

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