



Summit IV Wrap-up



**30th Annual Meeting of SPNHC
FLMNH, 17-23 May 2015**

**May 17: 2nd Symposium on Collections for the 21st Century
iDigBio, NSCA, FLMNH
(likely to be student-based)**

**October 2015: Summit V
5th year of iDigBio's
NSF Award**

**Many other events scheduled -
see links on the iDigBio website**

TCNs and iDigBio
Huge amount going on.



Research Coordinating Network – get involved!

Robert Gropp, Director Public Policy Office, AIBS and NSC Alliance



SPNHC

ADVANCING COLLECTIONS CARE

The Society For The
Preservation of Natural
History Collections

- **Advancing Education & Outreach**
- Needs to be a greater emphasis in coordinating activities within and among TCNs
- Citizen science activities – excellent outreach (iDigBio, etc.)
 - Work that needs to be done gets done
 - Public is involved





- **Project Management, Administration, & Mentoring**
- Each TCN should write a project management plan. Things to address are who is doing what, metrics for progress measurement, and how to manage communication, risk, and change.
- A good plan will head off disasters before they happen – anticipate and mitigate issues early.
- Each TCN should have someone with assigned project management responsibilities – person doesn't necessarily need to be full-time, but needs to be invested and committed.



- **Project Management, Administration, & Mentoring (cont'd)**
- Lead PIs should delegate responsibilities – don't attempt to do everything.
- Some useful tools:
 - iDigBio Wiki: documentation, communication, collaboration
 - Adobe Connect: collaboration, virtual meetings
 - Open Atrium: open source, Drupal-based, and has modules for such things as calendars, case management



- **Future Uses of Data in Research**
- Primary research interests are in patterns of spatial and temporal variation; need to include Deep Time
- Data cleaning – some basic modifications by iDigBio (e.g., standardizing USA vs US vs U.S.A., etc.), other changes require community effort via annotations
- Use of specimen images for field ID – extension of apps like LeafSnap or development of new algorithms for matching images
- Integration with other data and with other resources (such as iPlant)
- Attribution of data: need methods and metrics of data use (that are consistent with those of other aggregators)
- *Virtual and/or face-to-face mtg of Research Working Group in coming year*



- **Data Management (very wide topic)**
- Annotations to data
- Deletions of data
- Data transformation (iDigBio archives all raw records and keeps newer versions as data are improved (e.g. spelling of geog names).
- Getting changes back to provider: Filtered Push and/or Kurator
- Attribution: VertNet has a publication on this and tells scholars how to cite data (scholarly attribution: citing data in publications)
 -Bigger issue is data use; data that aren't published, etc. (e.g., by state agencies, NGOs). iDB is developing means of doing this.
- *We are likely to form new working groups.....let us know of interest*



- **Using the iDigBio API to Address Research Uses**
- *The iDigBio portal exposes APIs (i.e. services) that can be used programmatically by developers of biodiversity research applications to add data to the iDigBio store or access and search data already available.*
- Reviewed capabilities of APIs
- APIs are stable; more info on website
- Pls contact iDigBio if you have more use cases



- **Citizen Science Projects**
- *Engaging the public in digitization of specimens or use of digital specimen data for research*
- Transcriptions centers: how do we find more transcribers?
- How does training occur?
- Tutorials are available.
- Using incarcerated populations seems especially effective.
- We should think about sending transcribed data back to transcribers to keep them engaged.
- Let transcribers create own projects of special interest to them.
Increased productivity.



- **Next Steps for the iDigBio Portal**
- (nice demo by Alex)
- Feedback can be provided; there is a button on website
- Please suggest changes, improvements, additions
- New features could include
 - annotation with feedback to providers (feedback should be consistent)
 - attributions
 - higher taxa, common names
- More information should be made available; some examples are information on parasites, various types of relations among taxa



- ***Open Forum***
- Broader distribution of information on iDigBio/ADBC; we need to go to more meetings and advertise
- More modules should be developed for undergrad and grad education
- Like to see more emphasis on bringing under-represented groups into collections community
- Would like to see more information on resources for education on our website; more info on opportunities to join activities
- Restructure E&O subcommittee to bring in more representation from ADBC & other communities.

Wrap-UP



- *What else??*

- &

Thank you!

Muchas gracias!

谢谢!

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Obrigado!

Cheers mate!

Merci!

Tak!



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