Minutes of Internal Advisory Committee Meeting on February 5, 2020

Date/Time: Wednesday, February 5 2020, 2:00-3:00 PM Eastern

Attendees: Allie Blackwell (iDigBio); Andrew Miller (Microfungi); Ashley Dineen (EPICC); Bruce Lieberman (Paleoniches/Cretaceous World); Cat Chapman (iDigBio); Catherine Early (oVert); David Jennings (iDigBio); Deb Paul (iDigBio); Diego Barroso (MiCC); Erica Krimmel (iDigBio); Gil Nelson (iDigBio); Jen Zaspel (TPT); Katie Pearson (CAP); Michael Denslow (SERNEC); Norine Yeung (PILSBRY); Petra Sierwald (InvertEBase); Ryan Allen (SoRo)

Informational Items:

US Collections Catalog Merger with GrSciColl

- iDigBio US Collections List to be migrated/merged with GrSciColl at GBIF
- Collections list will be maintained at GrSciColl/GBIF facilities
- Herbarium data synchronized with Index Herbariorum data
- iDigBio US Collections List page should function as normal, but will instead pull data from GBIF servers
- This will create a more centralized, streamlined, transparent, and up-to-date global catalog of collections

Summit 2020

- The 10th Annual Summit for ADBC is to be hosted in Alexandria, VA, at the Westin:
  - Large crowd expected, capping at 650?
  - Conjunction with GBIF Board of Governors meeting, as well as TDWG involvement
  - Preconferences Sun-Tues, GBIF and TDWG executive meetings, standards workshops
  - Tuesday: TDWG, GBIF, iDigBio; new TCN Orientation Tuesday afternoon
  - Wednesday to be focused on maturing TCNs, and last decade of digitization, US and international
- Smithsonian is involved with planning
  - TCN symposium to be a "high-profile activity", perhaps a plenary?

Transition from Adobe Connect to Zoom

- Participants are generally happier with Zoom over AC
- AC contract up for renewal in May

TCN Updates

- TORCH
  - Ramping up efforts
  - Some participants waiting for digitization equipment
    - Lightboxes hard to find locally; Jason Best developed a new system, shipped out 3-5 boxes with structures to hold the camera
      - Texas A&M Corpus Christi received one of these units
      - Based on Ortery
      - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KVy86RhvSudAE0pw4HIWS4J5Z4fUp237QUGAkeMAnNg/edit?usp=sharing Assembly instructions
  - Identified/identifying students to be hired on to the project
    - Texas A&M Corpus Christi
    - Oklahoma State in process of interviewing and hiring data manager
  - Organizing digitization workshop to be held at BRIT in March
    - 30 confirmed attendees
    - Workshop may need to be postponed
  - Most current progress is work previously done for TX and OK under other grants
  - Progress in georeferencing at Texas Tech University
    - Michael Moody uploaded a georeferencing guide
      http://mossmatters.com/protocols/protocol/Georeferencing_Guide.html
- TPT
  - Hired ~50 people so far
    - Technicians, students, interns, in addition to existing group
  - Ordered, delivered, and tested imaging systems to the 8 imaging hubs
  - Manufactured and delivered over 20 vial and slide scanning trays to members of TPT, continuing production for 20 more
  - Assembled a Working Group for biodiversity informatics
    - Wanting to address issue of host data that comes with digitized parasite specimens
      - Want to make data accessible on multiple digitization platforms; modifying platforms
    - Integration with GLOBI

- Over 70,000 associations currently on GLOBI
  - o Issues with searchability in eMu installations
    - Synthetic installation of Symbiota at MPM to make eMu collections more searchable
  - o Onboarding with taxonomy and curation management with TaxonWorks
  - o Upcoming workshop, over 60 people to attend
    - Imaging, georeferencing workflows, documents
  - o
- PILSBRY
  - o Personnel issues, deaths of a potential postdoc researcher and PI leading to delays…
  - o Each institution is databasing, all ledgers digitized, linked to specimen records
    - Over 27,000 specimens databased
    - 800 georeferenced records
  - o Workflow workshop in Hawaii on Feb 13th and 14th
  - o Building taxonomic authority file
    - Goal to keep historical information while keeping names up to date
  - o Sixteen people hired; undergrads, volunteers, high school students baccalaureates
- SoRo
  - o Partway through 3rd year
    - 315,000+ new database entries
    - 864,000+ new images
    - 120,000+ georeferences
  - o 63% of data entry, 101% of barcoding, 106% of imaging, and 21.5% of georeferencing goals
  - o Most participants working directly in the database, working directly with images for data entry
  - o Integrating Rancho Santa Ana Gardens
  - o All funded participants in SEInet infrastructure
- SERNEC
  - o Mature TCN
  - o All PIs are "closed out"; lead institution most active in terms of keeping portal going
  - o Much of work on "closing out", Notes from Nature expeditions, etc
  - o Surpassed digitization goals; over 4.9 million records in SERNEC portal
    - Lots of georeferencing, transcription to be done still
  - o
- CAP
  - o Second year
  - o 52% imaging goal met so far
    - Several institutions completed their collections completely in terms of imaging, have moved on to transcription and georeferencing
      - 10% of transcription and georeferencing goals
  - o Working towards phenological scoring; developed tool for Symbiota for users to score traits
  - o Developing a course-based undergraduate research based experience program at Cal Poly

- Each undergrad can have a research project involving phenological scoring
- Microfungi
  - Moved MyCoPortal from UF servers to Illinois with minimal downtime
  - Out of 105 collections, over 65 are live collections, maintained within the MyCoPortal
  - Focus largely on support for the portal
- Cretaceous World
  - Initial goal 168k specimens, 405k currently
  - Exceeded imaging and georeferencing goals
  - Two outreach projects
    - New version of Digital Atlas of Ancient Life app
      - Now available on Android
    - New chapter on evolution on the Digital Encyclopedia of Ancient Life
      - Discusses evolution in the fossil record
- InvertEBase
  - Finishing up InvertEBase TCN
  - 3 institutions have submitted final reports
    - Others to finish August 2020
  - Issue with collections not providing updates on a regular basis
    - Internal workflows regarding what schedule the IPT gets updated/refreshed
    - Aim to streamline this and see how to best manage this issue
  - Digitization works well, but problems with precuration
    - If precuration of e.g. taxonomic unit is not optimal, digitization goes slower
    - Want to make precuration more efficient
- oVert
  - 9,900 specimens scanned on MorphoSource, about 50% of goal
  - A few PENs, including one at UTCT focused on mobilizing historical CT data from past decade of CT scanning, putting onto MorphoSource
  - Upcoming workshop in March
    - 10 participants on using different visualization software for CT data, training on uploading to MorphoSource
  - Hiring a postdoc for the final year of the grant's funding, may apply for extension
  - Outreach with middle and high school teachers
  - Staining specimens, then CT scanning them
- EPICC
  - In NCE year
  - Hit final digitization goal, about 114%
    - Goal of 1.6 million specimens, at 1.8 million specimens digitized
    - Photographed 160% of the goal
    - Hit georeferencing goal, 33,000 localities georeferenced

- o Field experiences coming online; expecting third experience to come online at the end of February
- o Currently polling participants to see who may be attending geology conferences in the Fall