

NIBA RCN: Organizing and Sustaining a National Community

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Have you heard of the Network Integrated Biocollections Alliance?

- What do you know about NIBA?

NIBA Strategic Plan Key Objectives

- (1) Digitize data from all US biological collections, large and small, and integrate these in a Web-accessible interface using shared standards and formats.
- (2) Develop new Web interfaces, visualization and analysis tools, data mining, georeferencing processes and make all available for using and improving NIBA resources.
- (3) Create real-time upgrades of biological data and prevent the future occurrence of non-accessible collection data through the use of tools, training, and infrastructure.

Implementation Plan

Recommendations

- (1) Establish an organizational and governance structure that will provide the national leadership and decision-making mechanism required to implement NIBA and to fully realize its Strategic Plan.
- (2) Advance engineering of the US biocollections cyberinfrastructure.
- (3) Enhance the training of existing collections staff and create the next generation of biodiversity information managers.
- (4) Increase support for and participation in NIBA by the research community and a broad spectrum of stakeholders.
- (5) Establish an enduring and sustainable knowledge base.
- (6) Infuse specimen-based learning and exploration into formal and informal education.

NIBA RCN

- A transformative national initiative
- A result of NSF listening and responding to calls from the biocollections community
- An effort to build, organize and sustain a new community of practice
- A five-year effort
- Synergistic, collaborative, and cooperative with iDigBio and ADBC, but hopefully NIBA will go beyond these efforts (e.g. new linkages to government collections, knowledge users)

The NIBA RCN will...

- Establish an Advisory Council (in-process)
- Evaluate the recommendations from the Implementation Plan to determine whether still relevant and to prioritize efforts
- Establish Implementation Working Groups that will develop sustainable plans to move elements of NIBA forward

Initial Organizational Partners

- American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS)
- iDigBio
- Natural Science Collections Alliance (NSC Alliance)
- Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC)

Builds on Prior Work

- Collections Web Research Coordination Network
- Strategic Plan for NIBA
- Implementation Plan for NIBA
- All of the work being done via iDigBio

Opportunities

- Please answer the phone when we start calling, and please feel free to call us.
- www.NIBAlliance.org -- sign-up to receive updates.
- Twitter @NIBAlliance

NIBA Core Contacts

Robert Gropp (AIBS & NSCA)

Larry Page (NSCA & iDigBio)

Richard O'Gady (AIBS)

Andy Bentley (SPNHC)

Chris Norris (SPNHC)

Pleased to announce that yesterday Anna Monfils (Central Michigan University) and Barbara Thiers (NYBG) agreed to serve on Advisory Council. More names coming soon!

Logo...

- If you have suggestions for a logo or would like to develop and submit one, we will happily consider and provide full credit if we use it.

Thanks

- We wish to thank everyone who has participated in a workshop or working group or planning meeting, or any other activity as part of the Collections Web RCN or at a meeting to develop the Strategic or Implementation Plan for NIBA
- We also thank NSF for providing support for this effort

For more information

- Twitter: @NIBAlliance
- LinkedIn: NIBAlliance Group
- Website: www.NIBAlliance.org

In other news...

- Beyond the Box
- <http://beyondthebox.aibs.org>
- \$1M Innovation Prize Competition