



# AUBURN UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

BRIANNE VARNERIN, COLLECTION MANAGER



# MUSEUM OVERVIEW

- One building
  - One alcohol room and multiple dry rooms
- 9 collections
- 5 collection managers, 8 curators
  - Student volunteers
  - NO operating budget
- All on Specify



# AUM INVERTEBRATE COLLECTION

- 14000 accessioned lots, 8000 are mollusks
  - 8200 in 70% EtOH, 5800 dry
- 20 phyla, focused on Annelida and Echinodermata
- All 7 continents, focused on Antarctica
- Absorbed 2 private shell collections and one small University collection
- Backlog: ~600 in the museum, >10,000 in curator's lab



# DIGITIZATION

- Digitize as we catalog/accession
- Slow process, only me currently
- Challenges:
  - Standardization of data entry in the past
  - Lack of QA/QC in past
  - Freshwater and marine are integrated
- Future- smooth operation of reliable workers that I can oversee and check at regular intervals