Funding Opportunities: Natural History Collections at NSF

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January 27, 2016



Funding Opportunities

- ·Research Resources: Collections
 - -Collections in Support of Biological Research (CSBR)
 - -Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections (ADBC)

Collections in Support of Biological Research (CSBR)

- Ongoing since ca. 1993 (in various forms)
- Supports activities to secure important collections
- · Focus on urgency, impact, innovation, accessibility

ANNUAL; NSF 15-577; August 8, 2016

Second Monday August



CSBR - Challenge:

Mobilize collections "dark data"

- · Collections hold priceless biodiversity information
- Much inaccessible, inconsistent
 - Ancillary data may not be linked, usable
 - Identifying knowledge gaps impossible
 - Use of data for modeling, meta-analysis unreliable





Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections (ADBC) - Program Goals

- Digitize (image) existing, vouchered, curated specimens owned by non-federal U.S. collections
- · Include available ancillary material
- Build on existing resources
- Innovate to improve process
- · Collaborate to increase numbers of specimens
- Research grand challenges as rationale for digitizing specimens
- Link to & collaborate with national resource: iDigBio
- · Train next generation and inform public
- Deadlines are the 2nd Friday in October (15-576)

ADBC – Thematic Collections Networks (TCN)

- Research justification for specimens
- Assessment of importance of specimens for the theme
- Innovative and efficient methods to lower cost
- Collaboration across institutions and across collection types
- Project management plan, task analysis, data management
- 2-4 year awards
- Integration with iDigBio (data, outreach)

ADBC – Partners to Existing Networks (PEN)

- Add information to existing network projects
- · Should fit the TCN why appropriate
- Fill in gaps for coverage and increase specimens to meet research theme
- Enhance outreach/training/education
- Improve data management of collection
- Increase collaboration and accessibility
- 1-3 years with TCN additional support (25K)
- PEN proposals may continue beyond term of TCN if TCN continuing to be active (society, etc.)

Question: Fit of FSML collections to Programs and/or Active Awards?

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