

Systematics Collections Committee

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Mission:

The Systematic Collections Committee advises curators worldwide in matters relating to collection administration, curation, and accreditation, and maintains a directory of mammal collections. The Committee also surveys existing collections approximately once each decade and maintains a list of curatorial standards for managing a collection-accreditation program under the auspices of the Society.

Information Items:

(1) The Collection of Mammals at the Museum of Southwestern Biology, University of New Mexico was inspected in June, 2007, and awarded accreditation in May, 2008.

(2) The mammal collection of El Colegio de la Frontera Sur (ECOSUR), at the campus of San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas, México was inspected in August, 2007 and awarded accreditation in May, 2008.

(3) The Chair of the Systematic Collections Committee attended a meeting organized by the National Park Service focused on the issues regarding ownership and stewardship of specimens collected in National Parks. The meeting took place on April 2, 2008 in Washington, D.C. Many NPS staff voiced concern about the paucity of scientists working in the parks, and the need for data to inform management plans. The Chair of the SCC found the meeting to be productive and informative, and feels that attending future similar meetings (likely to occur based on the fact that all members of the April meeting expressed enthusiasm for future meetings) would help to establish general guidelines for collecting in parks that would be agreeable to both the NPS and the ASM.

Action Items: None

Respectfully submitted,
William Stanley, Chair
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