

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) A site visit for the accreditation of the mammal collection at Texas Tech University was conducted by Robert Dowler and Tom Lee on 6 April 2017. The reaccreditation will be considered at the annual committee meeting. We have additional collections, primarily in Mexico, that are interested in getting ASM accreditation. One problem to be considered in the coming year is the lack of funds for conducting site visits.

(2) The Committee continued to work on the survey of mammal collections of the western hemisphere and hopes to have a report completed for dissemination and publication in 2017. Progress on this will be reported as a poster by Jon Dunnun, Robert Dowler, and the Committee at the Annual Meeting in Moscow, Idaho.

(3) A subcommittee (Jon Dunnun, Marcia Revelez, Burton Lim and Caleb Phillips) was tasked with review of a proposed ASM Standards for Genetic Resource Collections similar to the ASM standards for mammal collections. The subcommittee will report on the final document for presentation to the ASM Board of Directors at our Annual Meeting.

Action Items:

(1) Caleb D. Phillips should be added to the Committee.

(2) The Board approved funds for 2017 publication costs of the collection survey; the survey is nearing completion but may not make the deadline for publication during 2017. In that event, the Committee requests continuation of the funds to 2018.

Respectfully submitted,
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