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American Society of Parasitologists

Newsletter

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From the *Editor* of the Newsletter

Consider publishing your parasite poems, posting a link to your favorite "parasite lecture," providing an actual parasite lecture, or otherwise send "something" in to the editor. Your contribution is valuable and anything sent in to me will be considered for publication. See below.

Sincerely,

Scott Lyell Gardner, Ph.D.

CONTENTS

Pages	Topic
1.	Editors note and contents
2.	Post docs available
3.	Call for award nominations
3.	Data on Taxonomy - Local to Global
4.	Taxonomists in Parks - USA
9.	Manter Lab Facebook Page
10.	Field Photography
12.	"Introduction to Nematodes" and "History of the Society of Nematologists"
13.	NSC Alliance Washington Report
17.	Current Officers of the ASP
18.	Call For Papers. - ASP Meeting -
19.	Credits / ASP Affiliates.



Postdoctoral Positions in Parasitology

We have two potential postdoctoral positions, each contingent upon funding, available on or after April 1, 2012. The first is in parasite ecology and the second, in parasite molecular systematics. The positions will be held in the laboratory of Dr. David Marcogliese, St. Lawrence Centre, Environment Canada, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Parasite ecology: This project consists of two components. The first will examine the use of parasites of fishes in the Athabasca River and its tributaries as indicators of pollution and environmental stress. The second will examine the combined effects of natural stressors (parasites) and anthropogenic stressors (pollution from various sources) on fish health, using a variety of potential bioindicators (e.g., ecotoxicology, histology, immunology). Knowledge of parasites of freshwater fishes, experience with analysis of ecological data, and/or experience with ecotoxicological biomarkers are considered assets for this position.

Molecular systematics: This project consists of discrimination of a variety of parasite species belonging to diverse taxa using molecular techniques. The project focuses on invasive and potentially invasive species of parasites in fish and amphibians. Target species include selected trematodes, cestodes, nematodes, monogeneans, and myxozoans. Experience in molecular taxonomy and the analysis of molecular data is required. Experience in classical parasite taxonomy and knowledge of parasites of freshwater fishes are considered assets.

Successful candidates will also have the opportunity to participate in other ongoing projects in our laboratory.

To be placed on the eligibility list, applicants must apply to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Visiting Fellowships in Canadian Government Laboratories Program (http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PD-NP/Laboratories-Laboratoires/index_eng.asp). Further information on these awards can also be found on this site. While there are no deadlines, this process may take some time to complete, so early application is encouraged to ensure candidates qualify for the positions.

For more information on the positions and projects, please contact:

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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PARASITOLOGISTS 2011-2012 CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Please remember to take a look at the Call for Award Nominations (see attached) and send your award nominations to the respective award committee chairs by January 16, 2012. Information concerning the awards is also available at <http://asp.unl.edu> (awards link).

WEB SITES OF INTEREST - Taxonomy -

<http://www.wired.com/wiredscience/2011/01/extinction-of-taxonomists/>
(Popular article on extinction of taxonomists - Wired Magazine - why do we care? This is a good article about the problem -Ed.).

<http://www.cbd.int> (Convention on biological diversity)

<http://www.eti.uva.nl/> (Data on taxonomy and a link to the world taxonomists database)

<http://wbd.etibioinformatics.nl/bis/index.php> (The world Biodiversity Database)

<http://www.cbd.int/gti/documents.shtml> (A link to the global taxonomy initiative)

<http://www.bionet-intl.org/opencms/opencms/index1.jsp>
(A link to the global network for taxonomy)

BioNET - the global network for taxonomy - is an international initiative dedicated to promoting the science and use of taxonomy, especially in the economically poorer countries of the world. To date the network comprises ten government-endorsed regional networks, the 'Locally Owned and Operated Partnerships' (LOOPs), encompassing institutions and 3,000 individuals in over 100 countries, and a Secretariat in the UK hosted by CABI, an international not-for-profit organisation.



DEVELOPING A MODEL FOR A TAXONOMISTS-IN-PARKS PROGRAM - USA

As more and more United States national park units become involved in biodiversity discovery activities such as Bioblitzes and All Taxa Biodiversity Inventories (ATBI's), the need for taxonomists, especially those specializing in traditionally under-surveyed taxa (e.g., most invertebrates, microbes, fungi, non-vascular plants) is increasing significantly. Given that morphology-based taxonomy is becoming something of a lost skill and science, and fewer and fewer trained taxonomists have the time or resources to assist parks in what has often been a volunteer capacity, there is an urgent need for the National Park Service to develop a program that encourages amateur and professional taxonomists to participate in biodiversity discovery activities, and also creates rewarding opportunities for beginning and advanced students of taxonomy in some of the most naturally diverse ecosystems in the country. Parks, in turn, will benefit from this expertise by exponentially increasing their knowledge of the biodiversity on their lands, disseminating this information to visitors, and using it to guide their management actions. A fundamental goal of the program will be to forge collaboration between taxonomists and national parks that will also encourage the training of a new generation of taxonomists to lead the quest for biodiversity discovery in the future.

Examples of biodiversity discovery activities in the national parks:

Biodiversity discovery activities take many forms: they can last a weekend or multiple years, might focus on one group or "All Taxa," might put a strong emphasis on public participation or be mostly scientist-driven, can take place in a small urban park or a vast, remote, wilderness. For example:

i. **Great Smoky Mountains NP All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory (ATBI)**—Large, remote and naturally diverse park with multi-year project that encompasses All Taxa. Taxonomists specializing in a wide array of taxa come to the park to collect specimens, and often take specimens back to their home institutions to make identifications. Public outreach and education are usually led by the park and their non-profit partner organization, but also by scientists.

ii. **Boston Harbor Islands NRA ATBI**—Multi-year effort in a small, urban park, focused on arthropods. One lead scientist at a local university organizes and implements a structured sampling scheme (i.e., many trapping stations sampled regularly), and sends specimens out to various taxonomists for identification. Most taxonomists do not come to the park. The lead scientist and park education staff collaborate on education and outreach materials/activities.



iii. Yosemite NP targeted taxonomic studies— Longer-term scientist-led projects focusing on particular taxa (e.g., lichens) and/or habitats (e.g., cave arthropods, alpine butterflies). Taxonomists may come to collect, or may be sent specimens after they are collected by others (including park staff, volunteers). Public participation and education are less emphasized.

iv. Acadia NP Bioblitz— Annual event. Taxonomists focus on one arthropod order (or several minor orders) and come to the park for a weekend to collect specimens with up to 100 other registered participants (including park staff, entomological society members), and try to identify as many species as possible on site. The bioblitz generally focuses on a different arthropod order each year.

v. National Geographic-sponsored Bioblitz— Annual event for the ten years leading up to the NPS 2016 Centennial. A different park, always near a major urban center (e.g., Indiana Dunes NL, Santa Monica Mountains NRA, Biscayne NP, Saguaro NP), hosts the event. During one weekend, taxonomists and other biologists specializing in a wide array of taxa document as many species as possible on site. The event is highly publicized and draws thousands of public participants, including children.

The Taxonomists-in-Parks (TIP) program will need to be structured to accommodate the full spectrum of biodiversity discovery activities while addressing the many issues common to all biodiversity projects and creating novel opportunities for promoting taxonomy in parks:

I. Parks need to find taxonomists.

Parks need a way to advertise opportunities to taxonomists. Currently within NPS, there exists a "Geoscientists-in-the-Parks" program that matches geologists with particular projects in parks for three-month to year-long positions. These are competitive positions, and applications are processed through the Geological Society of America, which also advertises the positions to its members. It is possible that a Taxonomists-in-Parks program could follow this model by forming a partnership with a national organization such as the American Institute for Biological Sciences (AIBS), that could then promote and advertise opportunities in different parks to taxonomists through its 160 member societies and natural science collections. Additionally or alternatively, such an organization might keep a register of taxonomists, perhaps organized into taxonomic working groups (TWGs), who are interested in participating in biodiversity discovery activities, and to which parks could go directly when they have a need for expertise in a particular group.

II. Who makes up the taxonomist pool.

Taxonomists-in-Parks will likely include academic systematists, ecologists, and their graduate students; other professional taxonomists; skilled amateur taxonomists; and



retired taxonomists and professionals on sabbatical leave who might be able to reside in a park for several months. There must be a process for assessing each taxonomist's qualifications, especially important for skilled amateurs who may have no professional credentials, publications, memberships (e.g., references from other taxonomists in the same or a related specialty, entomological societies etc.). The TIP program will also provide opportunities for younger high school and undergraduate students to participate in biodiversity projects in supporting roles (see section VIII below).

III. Compensation for taxonomists.

The National Park Service is in a position to support and invigorate the field of taxonomy by sponsoring scientifically rewarding opportunities for taxonomists across NPS lands. One important role of the TIP program will be to generate a competitive taxonomy funding source to which parks and/or taxonomists could apply for project grants, similar to grants offered by Great Smoky Mountain NP, in partnership with its non-profit partner, Discover Life in America. Other funding opportunities might include competitive scholarships for graduate students of taxonomy working in national parks (similar to The Canon National Parks Science Scholars Program, initially a collaboration between NPS, Canon, and AAAS). For some projects, payment-in-kind to taxonomists may be appropriate. For instance, where extensive field work is required, taxonomists might receive free lodging in the park. Although a common form of compensation among taxonomists is the acquisition of duplicate specimens collected during a study, relinquishing ownership of specimens collected on NPS lands is currently precluded by NPS Director's Orders (see section V below).

IV. Rigorous science.

In order for the TIP program to attract funding from scientifically-focused sources such as the National Science Foundation, it will be critical that the scientific merit and rigor of taxonomist-led biodiversity discovery activities are robust, and that proposals are subject to peer review in the scientific community. This does not preclude or diminish related emphases on outreach and education in biodiversity discovery activities, but the science must be able to stand on its own merit. As part of this process, study proposals and work plans must include clear objectives and methods, and details such as the duration and extent of field surveys, the expected or actual numbers of specimens to be identified, the responsibility and format for data entry, the ultimate repository for specimens, outreach and/or education commitments, timelines, and budgets.

V. The fate of specimens collected during a biodiversity discovery activity.

Many taxonomists, especially if working in a park with unusual species, are keen to keep series of interesting specimens for their institutional collections. In fact, for projects not on federal lands, specimens are often considered to be appropriate compensation for taxonomists' participation in biodiversity projects. Most parks have



no collection facilities to store the vast numbers of specimens often collected in biodiversity discovery activities, and so must rely on university museums and other institutional collections to house their specimens. This would appear to be a mutually beneficial situation: taxonomists desire specimens, and parks need places to deposit specimens. However, because all specimens collected on park lands are considered "resources that are part of the natural and cultural heritage of the country and are collected, preserved, and interpreted for public benefit" (Director's Order #24, NPS Museum Collections Management), the NPS always retains ownership of specimens, and gives them to institutions only on permanent loan. Annual audits and reports for the loaned specimens are required by NPS, and many collection managers feel these to be an unreasonable burden, and are unwilling to keep NPS specimens in their permanent collections. As biodiversity discovery activities across the country generate more and more millions of specimens, this is an issue that will come up repeatedly, and will need to be addressed at a national level. The development of a TIP program will help guide this discussion.

VI. Data transfer from taxonomists to parks.

In every biodiversity discovery project, identified specimens are ultimately entered into a NPS-maintained database and so become useable information for the park. Because a single project can generate hundreds of thousands of specimens, it is critical that data input and transfer are as seamless as possible. Parks have consistently had problems on two fronts: choosing/modifying/creating a biodiversity database that will be useful for their own purposes and allow access to other parks and the public, and receiving data from taxonomists in various formats that can be tedious or impossible to import directly into their own databases. Oftentimes, parks receive identified specimens back from taxonomists with no electronic specimen records at all, and it is then up to park staff to enter the data from scratch. Ideally, the TIP program will require that parks have a database in place that meets their needs and will accept the type of information that biodiversity discovery activities will likely generate (e.g., taxonomic, locality, and specimen information, images, sounds, DNA barcodes) and taxonomists will be required to submit specimen data in a pre-specified electronic format to the park.

VII. Emphasis on outreach and education.

One unique aspect of conducting biodiversity discovery activities in a national park versus other federal lands, is that national parks have a legal mandate to accommodate and educate park visitors. Therefore, outreach and education are typically important components of any biodiversity discovery activity. Because many of the taxa being discovered are little-known to the public and, most likely, to park staff, it is important that taxonomists contribute something more about their organisms of interest than just species lists. There are many ways for taxonomists to share information and/or enthusiasm about less-appreciated species. Examples include *activities* such as leading a field walk with the public, giving a public presentation at the park, or mentoring students (see section VIII), and *educational*



materials such as high resolution images, a display of pinned or wet specimens, or accessible natural history information (e.g., species pages for the web, accounts of interesting species that can be highlighted by park interpreters, etc.). The TIP program will require taxonomists to include some component of outreach/education in their work plan.

VIII. Engaging high school and undergraduate students in the process of biodiversity discovery.

Although younger students will not possess the taxonomic expertise to provide species level specimen identifications, there are many opportunities for students in the biodiversity discovery process that can directly support taxonomic efforts. For instance, one bottleneck in biodiversity inventories focusing on invertebrate taxa is the tremendous number of specimens that are collected with traps, and which must be processed before species identifications can be made. Processing includes countless hours of work emptying traps and separating specimens from debris, separating and identifying specimens to order (or family) level, pinning or point mounting insects, making and attaching locality labels to specimens, etc. With some training and oversight, these tasks can easily be performed by students with no previous taxonomic experience. The TIP program proposes to include support for "student taxonomists." Parks with active projects could partner with local colleges and/or high schools to bring students to parks to assist in sampling or on-site processing, as well as setting up programs within school science labs. Appropriate mentoring (including training and guidance for mentors) will be critical to assure that student taxonomists perform high quality work.

IX. Training future taxonomists.

One practical way for the NPS to have access to more skilled taxonomists in the future is to promote and support the training of taxonomists in national parks. A network of Research Learning Centers in different eco-regions of the country could provide physical sites for hosting regional taxonomy field courses. The TIP Program would equip lab spaces with microscopes and other necessary equipment, and hire taxonomists to teach intensive, taxon-focused classes to upper level students, amateurs, and professionals. Ideally, courses would be held in conjunction with proposed or ongoing biodiversity discovery activities in the park network, and would contribute data to these inventories. This type of place-based learning would also facilitate further collaboration between taxonomists, taxonomists-in-training, and parks within different regions.

X. Virtual taxonomy.

Increasingly accessible technology allows amateur photographers to produce high resolution images of even very small insects, and these digital photos may provide valid documentation of species if they can be reliably identified by experts. Websites



like BugGuide.net, to which amateur photographers and entomologists upload images of arthropods in the hopes of having them identified, are also appreciated by experts who regularly peruse the site and make taxonomic determinations (where possible), because the images can provide new information on species ranges or natural history. Additionally, many researchers now have access to imaging hardware and software that produces high-resolution images of preserved specimens, often allowing species level identifications to be made. The TIP Program could facilitate the creation of a NPS website similar to BugGuide but serving a broader range of taxa. Images might come from bioblitz participants, park staff, or other researchers, and taxonomists would be invited to visit the website on a regular basis to make determinations where possible. Alternatively, NPS might be able to partner up with existing sites like BugGuide or the Encyclopedia of Life (EOL), with similar objectives.

XI. Field guides and taxonomic keys.

The combination of taxonomists spending more time conducting inventories in national parks, an emphasis on training future taxonomists in parks, and increased access to high quality images of park flora and fauna will set the stage for the creation of regional field guides and taxonomic keys. This presents another opportunity for collaboration with the Research Learning Centers, and an excellent means of transferring biodiversity information to park visitors and staff, citizen scientists, and others.

The National Park Service is requesting feedback from taxonomists regarding the development of a "Taxonomists-in-Parks" program. For more information, please see the notice below and attachment.

Please send any comments and suggestions to Jessica Rykken (jrykken@oeb.harvard.edu) or Sally Plumb (Sally_Plumb@nps.gov) by December 20, 2011.

MANTER LAB ANNOUNCES - FACEBOOK PAGE

The Harold W. Manter Laboratory of Parasitology has established a FACEBOOK page to enable faculty and staff to provide timely and useful data to students and parasitologists. Check it out at:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/HW-Manter-Laboratory/205311326206533>

FIELD PHOTOGRAPHY - A FEATURE OF THE ASP NEWSLETTER



Figure 1. An old coca press - photographed at Chichijipa, Bolivia 1985.



Fig 2. Laguna Colorada, September, 1986.

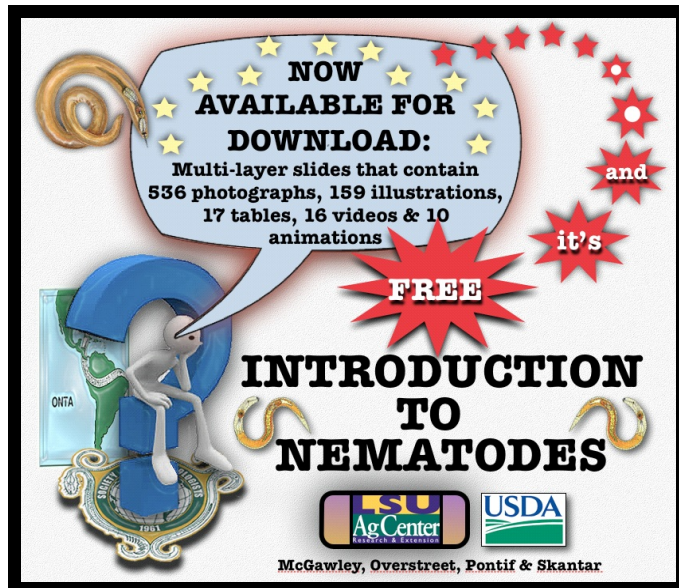


Fig 3. Nevada Sajama, Oruro, Bolivia, 1986.

NEW MULTIMEDIA /MULTI-PLATFORM PRESENTATIONS AVAILABLE - SOCIETY OF NEMATOLOGISTS

“Introduction to Nematodes” and “History of the Society of Nematologists” are newly released (July, 2011) multimedia/multi-platform (Macintosh and PS compatible) presentations that can be downloaded for FREE (for educational purposes) from the internet. These presentations are available on the websites of The Society of Nematologists (www.nematologists.org) and the Organization of Nematologists of Tropical America (www.ontaweb.org). The “Introduction to Nematodes” presentation contains 123 multi-layered slides in which are embedded 536 photographs, 159 illustrations, 17 tables, 16 videos and 10 animations. The “History of the Society of Nematologists” presentation reviews the formation and evolution of SON over the last 50 years. These productions, over

2 years in the making, were sponsored by the Education Committee of SON and authored by LSU AgCenter nematologists E.C.McGawley, C. Overstreet and M.J. Pontif and USDA molecular biologist, A. M. Skantar.



See: Organization of Nematologists of Tropical America (ontaweb.org) and the Society of Nematologists (nematologists.org) with links from the European Society of Nematologists and the American Society of Phytopathology.



NSC ALLIANCE WASHINGTON REPORT, VOLUME 1, ISSUE 8, MAY 25, 2010

NSC Alliance Washington Report, Volume 2, Issue 15, December 1, 2011

In this Issue:

- * NSF Announces New Grant Program to Foster Innovation
- * Congress Approves Budget Increase for NSF
- * Comments Sought on International Biodiversity Platform
- * Funding Opportunity for Collections Preservation from IMLS
- * Birding Club Enjoys Viewing Ornithological Specimens

Policy News from NSC Alliance

Through the NSC Alliance partnership with the American Institute of Biological Sciences, we are pleased to provide NSC Alliance members with the following public policy update. If you have any questions or require additional information regarding any of the following items, please contact NSC Alliance director of public policy Dr. Robert Gropp at 202-628-1500 x 250 or at rgropp@aibs.org.

NSF Announces New Grant Program to Foster Innovation

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is launching a pilot grant program to support bold interdisciplinary research. The Creative Research Awards for Transformative Interdisciplinary Ventures (CREATIV) is the first grant award



mechanism launched by NSF as part of a new initiative to promote interdisciplinary research and education.

CREATIV will provide up to \$1 million for up to five years for each proposal for interdisciplinary and potentially transformative research. The program is unique in that proposals will only be evaluated by internal merit review by NSF program officers.

The program is part of a broader initiative introduced by NSF Director Subra Suresh. "INSPIRE [Integrated NSF Support Promoting Interdisciplinary Research and Education] is aimed to encourage cross-disciplinary science," said Suresh. "INSPIRE will help to break down any disciplinary barriers that may exist within NSF and encourage its program managers to use new tools, collaboration modes and techniques in the merit-review process to widen the pool of prospective discoveries that may be hidden from or circumvented by traditional means." NSF expects to announce other efforts within INSPIRE in fiscal year 2013.

Proposals for CREATIV will be accepted through 15 June 2012. More information is available at http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2012/nsf12011/nsf12011.jsp?WT.mcid=USNSF25&WT.mc_ev=click.

Congress Approves Budget Increase for NSF

Seven weeks into the current fiscal year (FY), Congress finally reached a compromise on the FY 2012 spending plans for several federal departments and agencies. The package of three appropriations bills, which was signed into law by President Obama on 18 November, includes a budget increase for the National Science Foundation (NSF). Other science agencies did not fare as well.

NSF will receive \$7.0 billion, a 2.5 percent increase over fiscal year 2011. Notably, this is more than either the Senate or the House of Representatives had previously agreed to in their respective spending plans. The increase was likely partially a response to an aggressive last-ditch advocacy campaign waged by the scientific community.

For FY 2012, NSF's Research and Related Activities account, which funds the Directorate for Biological Sciences, Geosciences, and other scientific disciplines, will receive a \$155 million increase. The Major Research Equipment and Facility Construction account will receive \$167 million, a \$50 million increase. This is short, however, of the agency's requested funding



level, which could influence construction of the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON). NSF does have the option to transfer up to \$50 million from research accounts to the equipment account in order to fully fund construction projects. The budget for the Education and Human Resources account will be cut by \$32 million (3.7 percent). This reduction includes the termination of the Graduate STEM Fellows in K-12 Education program.

Comments Sought on International Biodiversity Platform

The Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is seeking input from the scientific community on the IPBES work program and operating procedures. Comments will help to shape the platform's work to identify knowledge needed, policy support tools, and capacity building needs. Input on the rules of procedure will be used to shape the initiative's operations.

IPBES is an international effort that aims to strengthen the interface between the scientific community and policymakers regarding biodiversity and ecosystem services. As proposed, IPBES will operate similarly to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

The creation of IPBES was endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2010. Since then, delegates from the world's nations have met to negotiate the details of the framework for the new initiative. The international community is expected to meet again in the spring of 2012 to continue negotiations.

Comments on both draft documents are being accepted through 15 December 2012. More information is available at <http://www.ipbes.net/>.

Funding Opportunity for Collections Preservation from IMLS

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has announced the availability of funding for museums to improve management of their collections. Connecting to Collections Statewide Implementation Grants are available to provide safe conditions for collections; to develop an emergency plan; to assign responsibility for collections care; and to work collaboratively



to increase public and private support for, and raise public awareness about, collections care. Up to \$250,000 is available for each grantee.

IMLS will be hosting a webinar about the program on 15 December 2011 at 2:00 – 3:00 pm (ET) and 5 January 2012 at 2:00 – 3:00 pm (ET).

The deadline to apply is 1 February 2012. More information is available at <http://www.ims.gov/applicants/detail.aspx?GrantId=5>.

Birding Club Enjoys Viewing Ornithological Specimens

As described in a recent article in The New York Times, some birding enthusiasts are not just interested in seeing live birds. The Nuttall Ornithological Club, the nation's oldest birding group, enjoys infrequent visits to the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology to view feathered specimens. Learn more at:

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/29/science/nations-oldest-birding-group-serves-a-s-a-collective-memory.html?_r=2&ref=science.

The **Natural Science Collections Alliance** is a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit association that serves as an advocate for natural science collections, the institutions that preserve them, and the research and education that extend from them for the benefit of science, society, and stewardship of the environment. NSC Alliance members are part of an international community of museums, botanical gardens, herbariums, universities, and other institutions that house natural science collections and utilize them in research, exhibitions, academic and informal science education, and outreach activities. Website: [HTTP://www.NSCAlliance.org](http://www.NSCAlliance.org)



CURRENT OFFICERS OF THE ASP

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Armand Kuris - President

Eric (Sam) Loker - President Elect

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Dennis Minchella - Secretary-Treasurer

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Mark Siddall - Council Member-at-Large

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Kym Jacobson - Council Member-at-Large

Robin Overstreet - Council Member-at-Large

Timothy Yoshino - Council Member-at-Large

Kyle Luth - Student Representative



CALL FOR PAPERS

The 87th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Parasitologists Richmond, VA July 13-16, 2012

The state that will play host to the 87th annual ASP meeting is a history buff's mecca. Virginia is the birthplace of many of our country's founding fathers, including 8 U.S. presidents, notably George Washington, our first president, and Thomas Jefferson, our third president and the principal writer of the Declaration of Independence. Richmond, the state capital and our host city, also has a history as storied as the state. Situated on the James River, Richmond served as a port for many of the agricultural products that were produced in our young country and is still today a booming port for many products coming from the Tidewater areas of eastern Virginia. And as we all know, Richmond was the seat of the confederacy during the Civil War. It is also the site of the St. John's Church where Patrick Henry made his famous speech that included the phrase, "Give me liberty or give me death". There are several other sites worth seeing in the city including Belle Isle and Brown's Island, two islands located in the James River, the Edgar Allan Poe Museum, the Hollywood Cemetery where 2 U.S. presidents are buried, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts where you can see the largest collection of Fabergé Eggs outside of Russia and the Reconciliation statue, built in 2007, which recognizes the city's period of slavery.

You can stroll through downtown Richmond to many of the shops, museums and eateries, visit Jackson Ward, which was called the "Wall Street of Black America" because of the financial acumen of people such as Maggie L. Walker, who started the St. Luke Penny Savings Bank for African Americans, tour the Arthur Ashe Athletic center that honors our nation's first nationally recognized African American tennis star, visit the Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens in nearby Henrico county, shop in Carytown or stroll through Shochoe Bottom, formerly a Powhatan Native American fishing village. Whatever your choice, Richmond provides a wide array of experiences and opportunities for a fun meeting. The meetings will be held at the Omni Hotel and the Chairperson of the local arrangements committee is Dr. Ghislaine Mayer, from Virginia Commonwealth University (gmayer@vcu.edu). See you in Richmond on July 13-16, 2012.



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Newsletter

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Note to Members -

The ASP Newsletter welcomes news stories, articles, and poetry. Please send your text electronically to the editor as an e-mail and attach as an MS Word document. Drawings, photographs, charts, or tables can be sent as B/W TIF files at 300 dpi. Please send TIF files one at a time. A general rule is to limit photograph size to 3x5". You may attach both text and graphic files to your email message.

AFFILIATES of the ASP

Annual Midwestern Conference of Parasitologists

Helminthological Society of Washington

New England Association of Parasitologists

Northern California society of Parasitologists

Parasitology Section, Canadian Society of Zoologists

Rocky Mountain Conference of Parasitologists

Southeastern Society of Parasitologists

Southern California Society of Parasitologists

Southwestern Association of Parasitologists