



Natural Science Collections Alliance

2015 Accomplishments

- Successfully re-nominated LindaLee (Cissy) Farm to serve on the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Review Committee. She previously chaired the committee from 2013-2015. NSC Alliance initially nominated her based on the recommendation of the Bishop Museum.
- Provided testimony to House and Senate Appropriations Committees in support of increased funding for research, curation, and digitization of natural history collections from the National Science Foundation and the Department of the Interior.
- Held a science briefing for policymakers in Washington, DC, in December 2015 on progress toward the goal of digitizing the nation's biodiversity collections. The event also showcased ways to use crowdsourcing and citizen science in natural history collections.
- NSC Alliance identified and nominated members to participate in the Biodiversity Collections Network "Collections Communication Workshop" that was held at The Field Museum in September.
- Provided comments to the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee about what should be included in legislation to reauthorize the National Science Foundation.
- Members of the NSC Alliance Board met with Senate Commerce Committee staff to discuss NSF reauthorization and the importance of sustained federal support for natural history collections based research.
- Sponsored the Biological Sciences Congressional District Visits event. NSC Alliance members invited lawmakers to visit their institutions.



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- Objected to a proposal by Department of the Interior for a new information request from non-federal collections about management of Interior artifacts and specimens.
- Opposed the Illinois Governor's efforts to close the Illinois State Museum.
- Cosponsored the plenary session on collections for the 21st century at the 2015 SPNHC annual meeting.
- Participated in the Biodiversity Collections Network.
- Participated in the USGS Coalition, an alliance of more than 70 organizations dedicated to the continued vitality of the US Geological Survey and its programs.
- Rallied the collections community to influence pressing science policy issues, including federal funding for research and science education.
- Provided regular policy and news updates via the NSC Alliance Washington Report. The newsletter is freely available. Subscribe at www.nscalliance.org.

About NSC Alliance

The NSC Alliance is a nonprofit association that supports natural science collections, their human resources, the institutions that house them, and their research activities for the benefit of science and society. Our 100 institutional members are part of an international community of institutions that house natural science collections and utilize them in research, exhibitions, academic and informal science education, and outreach activities. www.nscalliance.org