SEND MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES TO:

membership@nscalliance.org

or

Dr. Robert Gropp at 202-628-1500 x 250

Natural Science Collections Alliance

Membership Benefits
Benefits for Members of the NSC Alliance

**Representation in Washington, DC and Beyond**
- Your membership supports advocacy for increased funding and other natural science collections policy interests before Congress, the White House and federal agencies.
- Your membership provides your institution with access to our Natural Science Collections Policy Advocacy meeting in Washington, DC.
- Your membership entitles your organization to participate in Biological Sciences Congressional District Visits each August.
- Your membership connects your organization to other national organizations promoting scientific research and education.
- Your membership provides your faculty and staff with access to the NSC Alliance Washington Report.

**National and Scientific Leadership**
- NSC Alliance members are recognized leaders of our community who promote our interests to university leadership, boards of trustees, and other organizational leaders who can advance our endeavors.
- NSC Alliance members serve on committees and task forces that address our collective needs, such as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act advisory committee, the Biodiversity Collections Network Advisory Committee, and the iDigBio External Affairs Committee, among others.
- NSC Alliance members benefit from strategic partnerships. For example, the NSC Alliance has just entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Florida to cosponsor the annual Digital Data Conference and to assume a leadership role in planning future conferences which can be hosted at member institutions.

**Information and Resource Sharing**
- NSC Alliance members are connected to other institutional leaders and can share resources and strategies for tackling issues ranging from negotiating permits and creating strategies for engaging institutional leadership to developing impactful outreach and public engagement programs.

**Professional Development Opportunities**
- The NSC Alliance is the place for curators, scientific staff, and institutional administrators to expand their professional networks.
- Individuals affiliated with NSC Alliance members receive significant discounts on professional development programs (for example, communications and team & interdisciplinary science) offered by our strategic partner, the American Institute of Biological Sciences.

Recent Accomplishments

- Successfully lobbied the National Science Foundation to restore the Collections in Support of Biological Collections program — a program the agency had terminated.
- Helped shape the U.S. State Department negotiating position with respect to Genetic Benefit Sharing regulations under the Nagoya Protocol. The U.S. position now reflects our concerns.
- Provided testimony to Congress advocating for increased federal funding for the National Science Foundation, U.S. Geological Survey, Institute for Museum and Library Services, and Smithsonian Institution.
- Contributed to national media attention focused on orphaned biodiversity collections.
- Played a leadership role in the development of a new long-term vision for the use of digitized biodiversity collections data.
- Contributed to the development of IsoBank — an initiative that includes linkages to natural history museums, specimens, and data.

Coming soon...

**Resource Sharing and Exchange**
- Collections facilities statements for grant proposals
- Data management plans for best practices and online publication of data
- Podcasts — possible topics are interviews with administrators, engaging local stakeholders, science communication topics