



NATURAL SCIENCE COLLECTIONS ALLIANCE

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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 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, public service, service to governmental entities such as public health, agriculture, homeland security, defense, natural resource conservation, and outreach activities for the betterment of society.

What we do – Science Policy

The NSC Alliance was formed to ensure that natural science collections have a voice in the halls of power. Indeed, the NSC Alliance is the single organization dedicated to advocating the interests of the natural science collections community, as opposed to specific institutional interests, single taxonomic interests, or single policy interests. The NSC Alliance works to advance policy issues, with a special focus on funding, that serve a broad cross-section of the community. Thus, through the Board of Directors and our strategic partnership with the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) and the AIBS Public Policy Office, NSC Alliance works to communicate the policy interests of the natural science collections community to key federal policy makers.

Independently and through coalition efforts, the NSC Alliance is working to secure increased funding for federal research programs centrally important to the collections community, among these are the National Science Foundation, US Geological Survey, and Institute for Museum and Library Services.

Through our strategic staffing arrangement with AIBS, NSC Alliance has an active, leader-

ship role in various Science policy coalitions, including the USGS Coalition, Biological Ecological Sciences Coalition, the Coalition for National Science Funding, and the Museum Working Group.

The NSC Alliance played an important role in prompting the federal effort to establish an Interagency Working Group on Scientific Collections. The IWGSC has launched an effort to identify federal collections and determine their resource needs.



What we do – Media Relations

The NSC Alliance provides a consistent and coordinated national voice for the collections community. NSC Alliance Board members and staff routinely provide reporters with valuable insights about breaking news that relates to natural science research, policy, and collection facilities. Moreover, the NSC Alliance is able to tap organizational membership when specific expertise is required to assist a reporter.

Membership benefits –

Annual Meeting

Each year, the NSC Alliance convenes an annual meeting to facilitate the exchange of best practices and innovative ideas among natural science collections professionals. In recent years, NSC Alliance has sought to increase the value and potential partnerships of these meetings by alternately meeting with AIBS and the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC).

Special Meetings and Symposia

As resources permit, the NSC Alliance convenes special meetings and workshops to facilitate the identification of community needs, innovative solutions, or to provide government and other stakeholders with timely information from the natural science collections community. In recent years, the NSC Alliance has convened meetings for the US Geological Survey which explored barriers to the digitization of collections data. In coming years, NSC Alliance will host workshops on behalf of an NSF funded collections research coordination network grant.

Washington Report

NSC Alliance members receive the electronic Washington Report. This valuable resource pub-

lished approximately twice each month provides current news about policy developments that impact the natural science collections community. These Reports also alert NSC Alliance members go the need to contact their elected representatives in Washington, DC.

Advocacy

NSC Alliance members have the opportunity to participate in various advocacy events on Capitol Hill. Additionally, the NSC Alliance is increasingly working toward the development of innovative policy initiatives – NSC Alliance members have the opportunity to contribute to these efforts and to become engaged in efforts to advance these policy proposals.

Be part of the solution – Join NSC Alliance today

Membership categories:

- Individual: \$100 (include credit card information and fax or mail with a check to address below)
- Institutional: please fill out below and NSCA will contact you with the application

Name: _____

Title: _____

Name of Institution: _____

Mailing address: _____

Mailing address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____ Web site: _____

Payment:

- Visa Mastercard American Express

Name: _____

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Credit Card Billing Address: _____

Signature: _____

Amount: _____