



US COLLECTION PARTNERS PRESENT

2023

ENVISIONING A

BIOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS

ACTION CENTER

Visions of an Action Center from NASEM Report Authors - Part 1

Pam Soltis, Andy Bentley, Barbara Thiers

MARCH 7, 2023

Housekeeping

- This webinar is being **recorded**. The recording will be **available online** at the webinar series Wiki page after the webinar.
- You may use the **chat** feature to interact with panelists and attendees, but please don't use it for asking questions.
- Please use the **Q&A** feature on Zoom to type in your questions for the speakers. Alternatively, you can use the **Raise Hand** feature on Zoom, and we will call on you to ask your question.
- We will also be using the **Discourse** platform to capture questions and comments; more on that later.
- Questions will be addressed **after** the presentations.



WEBINAR SERIES

MARCH 7

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Center from NASEM
Report Authors
Part 1

*Pam Soltis
Andy Bentley
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MARCH 14

Visions of an Action
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Part 2

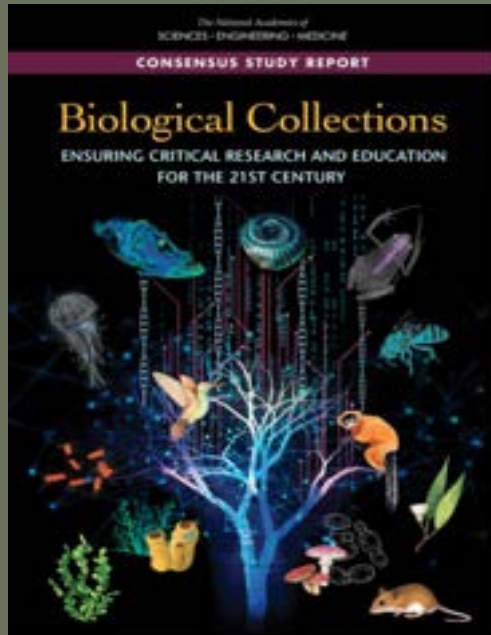
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MARCH 21

Responses to the
NASEM report with
presentations from the
IWGSC, AIBS, & BCoN

*Scott Miller
Kevin Hackett
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What is the Biological Collections Action Center?



NASEM 2020

Action Center for Biological Collections



BCON 2019

Central Organizing Unit



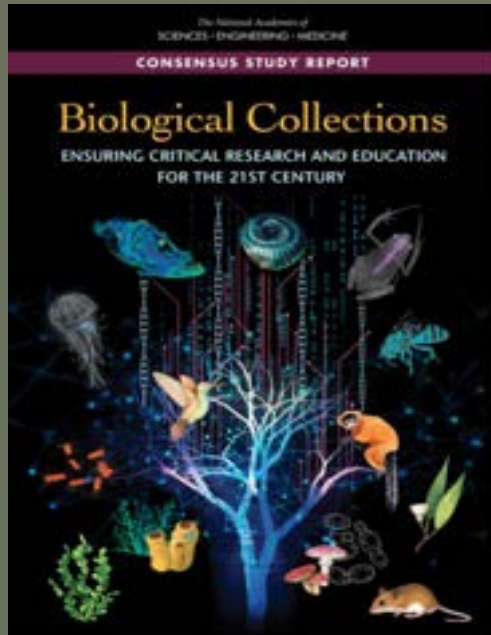
AUGUST 09, 2022

FACT SHEET: CHIPS and Science Act Will Lower Costs, Create Jobs, Strengthen Supply Chains, and Counter China

[BRIEFING ROOM](#)[STATEMENTS AND RELEASES](#)

In President Biden's first year in office, the Biden-Harris Administration has implemented an industrial strategy to revitalize domestic manufacturing, create good-paying American jobs, strengthen American supply chains, and accelerate the industries of the future. These policies have spurred an historic recovery in manufacturing, adding 642,000 manufacturing jobs since 2021. Companies are investing in America again, bringing good-paying manufacturing jobs back home. The construction of new manufacturing facilities has increased 116 percent over last year.

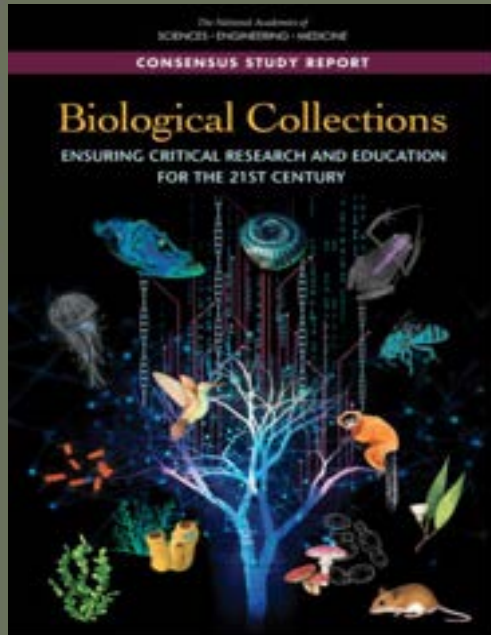
What is the Biological Collections Action Center?



NASEM 2020

Although the biological collections community is **motivated and active**, many of the community's endeavors to communicate the role of collections and position them and their associated metadata as critical infrastructure for addressing societal problems are **disconnected and uncoordinated**. A **collaborative action center would facilitate and connect all relevant and interested parties**, including living and natural history collections leadership, curators, and managers, university administrators, public and private funders, and the scientific communities that use collections, among other entities whose perspectives and needs are important to the future vitality of biological collections. **Currently, there are no shared mechanisms, meeting spaces, or virtual platforms that bring together all of these relevant and interested parties.**

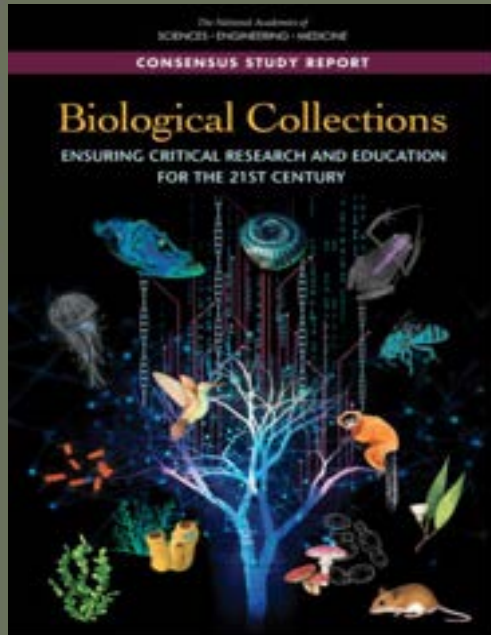
What is the Biological Collections Action Center?



NASEM 2020

Recommendation 8-1: The National Science Foundation, in collaboration with other institutions that provide funding and other types of support for biological collections, should help **establish a permanent national Action Center for Biological Collections to coordinate action and knowledge, resources, and data-sharing among the nation’s biological collections** as they strive to meet the complex and often unpredictable needs of science and society. Such an action center should **include a physical space and cyberinfrastructure to develop and implement collaborative strategic efforts and further build and nurture communities of practice** for research, education, workforce training, evaluation, and business model development, among other community-wide needs.

What is the Biological Collections Action Center?

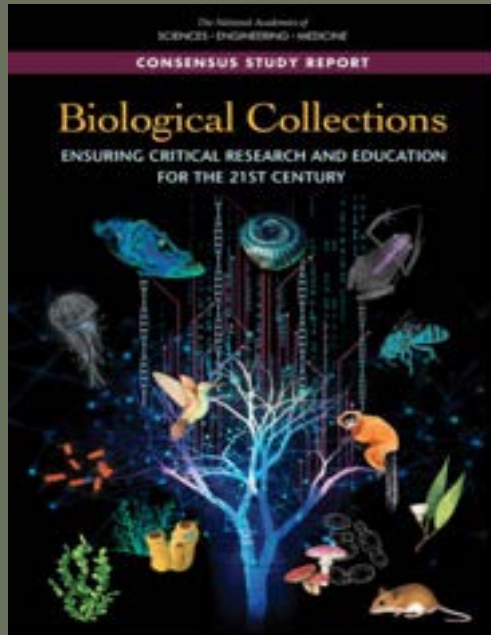


NASEM 2020

Preamble:

- Collections community is **motivated and active**
- But many community endeavors are **disconnected and uncoordinated**
- **Collaborative** action center
- **Facilitate and connect** stakeholders
- **No shared mechanisms, meeting spaces, or virtual platforms**

What is the Biological Collections Action Center?



NASEM 2020

Recommendation 8-1:

- **National Science Foundation**, in collaboration with **other institutions** that provide funding and other types of support for biological collections
- **Permanent** national Action Center
- To **coordinate** action, knowledge, resources, data-sharing
- **Physical space**
- **Cyberinfrastructure**
- Implement **collaborative strategic efforts**
- **Nurture** communities of practice



Envisioning an Action Center For Biological Collections

Pamela S. Soltis
Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida
iDigBio



iDigBio

Integrated Digitized Biocollections

Envisioning an Action Center For Biological Collections

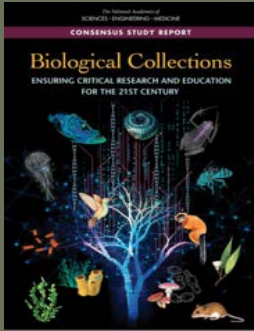
Progress & Innovation

- Digitization
- Data Use
- Collaboration

We need:

- Permanent Center
- Innovations
- Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion

Developer & Clearinghouse for Community Best Practices



Envisioning an Action Center For Biological Collections

- Collaborative
 - Connected
 - Permanent
 - Coordinator
 - Facilitator
 - Developer
 - Innovator
- NSF & other partners
 - Physical space
 - Linked by cyberinfrastructure
 - Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion
 - Best practices



Biological Collections Action Center

Andrew Bentley
Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas

Biological Collections Action Center

Hub for collaboration and coordination. Clearinghouse for a number of important national initiatives. Aligning of individual projects and initiatives.

- **Digitization** - iDigBio + - provide continuous funding and home for digitization initiative – ADBC/TCN/PEN, specimen data portal, training, workshops
- **Policy, visioning and leadership** - BCoN + and others
- **Data integration/attribution** - realize the dream of the Digital Extended Specimen through:
 - Community coordination, development and engagement
 - Necessary cyberinfrastructure support - digital repository, collections registry, metrics
- **Clearinghouse** - best practices, standards, policy (Nagoya, ABS, permitting, etc.)
- **National Orphan collections** discovery and clearinghouse - SMP
- **Personnel and workforce support** - training, professional development, workshops
- **Community engagement** - biological, zoo, living collections, research, societies and international communities
- **Synthesis/Data Center** collaboration and coordination



The Outward Focus of a Biological Collections Action Center

Barbara M. Thiers

Instructor, Univ. Colorado MFS program

Research Associate, Denver Botanic Gardens

Director Emerita, New York Botanical Garden Herbarium

The Outward Focus of a Collections Action Center

Broaden the use of U.S. biological collections and collections-derived data

Target Areas for a Broadened Focus

- The scientific community
- Other national and international data initiatives nationally and internationally
- The general public (“K to grey”)



JOURNAL ARTICLE
The Changing Uses of Herbarium Data in an Era of Global Change: An Overview Using Automated Content Analysis
 J. Maxon Herberling, I. Alan Prather, Stephen J. Tonsor
 BioScience, Volume 68, Issue 10, October 2019, Pages 812–822,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/biz094>
 Published: 04 September 2019



speciesLink





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THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION



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