CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH COLLECTIONS (CBRC)

Mission

The Center enhances collection-based research and education in biodiversity, zooarchaeology, paleontology, and related disciplines by facilitating digital research within the College of Arts and Sciences and by providing shared infrastructural and data management support for IU’s biological research collections. The Center focuses on collections of biological specimens, including fossils and archaeological remains, that have shared taxonomic, geographic, and temporal metadata requirements. The Center also coordinates policy, develops digital infrastructure, provides shared resources, facilitates educational outreach, and serves as a collaborative research platform for IU’s biological and paleontological specimen collections. It helps support data management and digitization for research grants that use IU’s collections. The Center interfaces with partners to develop the specific digital infrastructure needed for biological collections and collaborates with other collections to develop shared infrastructure and best practices.

CBRC Management

The Center is run by a Director and Executive Committee consisting of the faculty and research scientists who oversee IU’s Biological Collections.

- Claudia C. Johnson, Director, (Earth and Atmospheric Sciences);
- P. David Polly, IU Paleontology Collection, (Earth and Atmospheric Sciences);

CBRC Employees

- Dr. Jessica Miller-Camp (starts Nov 1), Project coordinator. Provides training in digitizing equipment and digital processing; provides support and training for the Specify collection database system; finds solutions for data management and digital research problems; works with IUB Libraries and UITS on development of digital repository.
- Open, Graduate RA manager of William R. Adams Zooarchaeology Collection. Manages hourly workers and volunteers, prioritizes and supervises curatorial tasks, trains students on digitizing equipment.

CBRC Priorities for 2018-19

- Specify Digital Collection Management Database for IU collections.
- Training in Digital Research.
Two new external grant proposals for digitization of and research on IU collections.

External Grants


3. **National Science Foundation Grant DBI-0846697. 2009-2013.** Infrastructure upgrade, curation and data basing of Indiana University Collections. L.L. Scheiber (PI), P.D. Polly, C. Johnson and E. Elswick (Co-PIs) ($475,302).

Specimens digitized (to date)

- IU Herbarium (photos): 153,751
- IU Paleontology (photos): 2,918
- IU Paleontology (3D scans): 60
- IU Zooarchaeology (3D scans): 110

Publications (2017-18)


**Presentations (2017-18)**


