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From: Faculty Research Development Office  
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competitions: NSF: Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections (ADBC) NSF 15-576

Date: August 21, 2017

This program seeks to enhance and expand the national resource of digital data documenting existing vouchered biological and paleontological collections and to advance scientific knowledge by improving access to digitized information (including images) residing in vouchered scientific collections across the US. The national resource is structured at three levels: a central coordinating organization, a series of thematic networks based on an important research theme, and the physical collections. The national resource builds upon a sizable existing national investment in curation of the physical objects in scientific collections and contributes vitally to scientific research and technology interests in the US. It will become an invaluable tool in understanding contemporary biological issues and challenges. This limited competition focuses on proposals for Thematic Collections Networks (TCNs). Priority will be given to innovative projects that 1) fill gaps in the effort to provide online access to specimen data for existing biological and paleobiological collections; 2) integrate with other ongoing digitization activities; and 3) increase the efficiency and lower the cost of digitization.

Budgets for TCN proposals should reflect the scope of work proposed and should not exceed four years in duration. Additional details can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15576/nsf15576.htm>. **The deadline for full proposals is October 13, 2017.**

This is a limited competition. Only *\*one\** Thematic Collections Networks proposal may be submitted by any one organization as the lead organization.

If you are interested in submitting a proposal to the Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections award, please send a statement of interest with a tentative project title and a brief description (200 words) by **noon, August 30, 2017** via e-mail to [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu). Please add the following to the subject line: **NSF ADBC – your name**. Based on the number of responses received, the Limited Competition Management Team may announce a call for preproposals.

Please distribute this notice to departments and individuals whom you believe would be interested.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us at [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu).

*If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact Corey Ford ([CFord@salud.unm.edu](mailto:CFord@salud.unm.edu)) or Cassandra Misenar ([CMisenar@salud.unm.edu](mailto:CMisenar@salud.unm.edu)) for more information.*