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Subject: NSF Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections (ADBC) NSF 13-569

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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 United States. The information associated with various collections of organisms, such as geographic, paleogeographic and stratigraphic distribution, environmental habitat data, phenology, information about associated organisms, collector field notes, and tissues and molecular data extracted from the specimens, is a rich resource providing the baseline from which to further biodiversity research and provide critical information about existing gaps in our knowledge of life on earth. 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 United States. It will become an invaluable tool in understanding contemporary biological issues and challenges

The ADBC Program expects to make 4 to 12 awards. The total amount available across all awards in this program for FY2014 is \$10,000,000 pending availability of funds. More details can be found at <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2013/nsf13569/nsf13569.pdf>. The deadline for full proposals to the NSF is October 17, 2014.

**This is a limited competition; only one Thematic Collections Networks (TCN) proposal may be submitted by any one organization as the lead organization. (Organizations may be involved in more than one collaborative effort as a non-lead proposal.)** It is expected that TCN projects will be collaborative efforts among several institutions. **Please submit your 3-page preproposal (plus budget and CV; all documents in a SINGLE PDF file, 11 point font) by NOON on Monday, September 8, 2014 to [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu) with the subject line indicating: NSF-13-569 - your name.** No late submissions will be considered. The pre-proposal should address the major points that will be included in the proposal narrative (including a description of: the project, specimens to be digitized and the research theme; How the project will integrate newly digitized collections data with established standards and existing databases and the information gaps filled by the proposed project; deliverable goals; and a training plan for participants and students to explain how training is integrated into the project.) The 3-page narrative should be accompanied by a **draft budget overview** and an **abbreviated PI CV**. The scoring will be weighted as follows: proposal narrative (70%), draft budget overview (15%), and abbreviated PI CV (15%).

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact Susan De Los Santos ([sdelossa@unm.edu](mailto:sdelossa@unm.edu) or 277-0272) or Monica Fishel ([mlfishel@unm.edu](mailto:mlfishel@unm.edu) or 277-8114).