

SPNHC Special Interest Groups: Topics for Discussion  
June 02, 2010 - 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (Eastern Time)  
Location: Tabaret Hall

1. Transport of specimens – dangerous goods and country specific issues (Andy Bentley)  
A discussion of outstanding dangerous goods shipping issues and update on our latest progress with regulatory bodies. Also a discussion of various country specific shipping issues (veterinary inspections, permits, etc.) being encountered by shippers and receivers, in an attempt to clarify or resolve these through a web-based listing.
2. Destructive Analysis (Sula Vanderplank)  
From frog toes to thin sections of minerals, we all must deal with the same demand to compromise specimen integrity to allow increase in knowledge.
3. WEB 2.0: The potential to improve collections access and data quality (Kelly Sendall)  
"Web 2.0" usually refers to web applications that enable information sharing, interoperability, user-centered design, and collaboration on the internet. Examples include web-based communities, hosted services, web applications, social-networking sites, wikis, and blogs. The potential for Web 2.0 applications with NH collections will be explored.
4. Creative Destruction - How to survive in and with your new building (Deb Trock)  
This session is designed for people who have either recently moved or are planning new buildings or expanded space. Topics will include, but are certainly not limited to: space allocation for staff and collections; building systems, what works and what doesn't; establishing emergency management procedures and IPM in your new space; thinking past opening day.
5. Integrated Pest Management (Sue Ryder)  
This session is very much a discussion group so feel free to contact the coordinator [S.Ryder@nhm.ac.uk] in advance with topics or concerns you may have about any aspect of IPM. If you are setting up an IPM programme from first principles or have concerns about treatments, policy, procedures we can share experiences to find practical solutions and useful recourses.
6. Orphan collections and their excess baggage (Ann Molineux)  
Examine the implications and obligations involved with adoption of collections no longer wanted by other institutions. Explore issues relating to the legality of the original collection and its transfer into your own repository. Become aware of the real problems that your institution may be inheriting, along with the attractive or scientifically valuable specimens.
7. Volunteers: Building and keeping a viable workforce (Katherine Day)  
Discuss key aspects of operating an effective Volunteer Programme within your collections. Explore ideas such as: defining the volunteer's role, recruitment (finding the right "fit"), keeping your volunteers engaged and recognizing their efforts.
8. Conservation and "The Rest of the Museum" (Carolyn Leckie and Luci Cipera)  
Best Practices for ensuring "Preservation Concerns" are integrated into the work of the "Rest of the Museum", e.g. exhibits, building contractors, educational programming, catering functions, marketing etc. Share resources, successful experiences and sample procedures that have worked best for you!
9. Botany Collections Management: (Jennifer Doubt and Linda Hollenberg)  
This SIG will cover some of the issues currently facing herbarium personnel such as Material Transfer Agreements, databasing/digitization efforts and shipping/permitting challenges. Participants will receive an e-mail in advance of the SIG soliciting other topics for discussion.