

## **SPNHC 2010 DemoCamp: Call for Demonstrations**

Submissions of proposals are solicited for DemoCamp session presentations at the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC) conference in Ottawa, May 31-June 5, 2010. DemoCamp provides a venue for creators to promote their technological solutions to advance the field of museum curation with broad applications for biology and biodiversity informatics.

Computer demonstrations are welcomed in any technologies relevant to biologists, collections managers, or biodiversity information managers. Technologies demonstrated may include, among other things, collections/ transaction management software, georeferencing web-based applications, and programs for analysis of data/ images. DemoCamp presentations should feature some of the latest developments in currently available products/ software/ applications as well as on-going research projects and prototypes. Live demonstrations of these technologies will raise awareness of new (and improved) tools available for data acquisition, documentation, and synthesis. Demonstrations will also provide a venue for idea exchange and feedback from potential users. Demonstration abstracts will appear in the conference proceedings.

### **Format**

The typical, strictly-timed format of a DemoCamp gives each presenter 15 minutes for a presentation plus 5 minutes for questions. *No PowerPoints or other "canned" presentations are allowed.* Only live demonstrations of functional software or applications may be presented.

Demonstrators must provide their own laptops with all necessary software installed. A projector and internet connection will be provided.

### **Submissions**

Demonstration proposals (abstracts) must be submitted by March 31, 2010. Abstracts should be prepared according to the guidelines defined on the conference website ([www.spnhc-cba2010.org/abstract.html](http://www.spnhc-cba2010.org/abstract.html)) and must be submitted electronically via the registration system at

[www.regonline.ca/spnhc\\_cba\\_2010](http://www.regonline.ca/spnhc_cba_2010). The submissions will undergo peer review. At least one author should register and attend the conference.

- ◆ The abstract should emphasize the purpose of the technology and the intended audience or users of the technology. What are the major components of the product? What is novel about the solution you present? Compare your technology with similar products if such exist. Is your product currently available to prospective users or still under development? Is your product proprietary or open source? Is it software or a web-based application?

In addition to the normal abstract submission requirements for SPNHC 2010, a COPY of your submitted abstract should be sent to the session organizer, Amanda Neill, at [aneill@brit.org](mailto:aneill@brit.org).

### **Accepted Abstracts**

All submissions will be acknowledged within a few days. Proposals will be reviewed for relevance, innovation, technical quality, and greatest predicted appeal to the SPNHC audience. Demonstrations will be selected by the DemoCamp organizing committee. Accepted abstracts will be required to provide a description of technical details (licensing, platforms supported, etc.) in a standard factsheet that will be distributed to all attendees.

Further details on the date and time of the demonstration session(s) will be determined and provided at a later date. Please send any inquiries to the session organizer at [aneill@brit.org](mailto:aneill@brit.org).

### **Important Dates**

- |                       |                                       |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • March 31, 2010      | Abstract submissions due              |
| • April 16, 2010      | Notification of acceptance/ rejection |
| • May 1, 2010         | Factsheets for accepted demos due     |
| • May 31-June 5, 2010 | SPNHC & CBA-ABC joint conference      |

### **Organizer**

Amanda K. Neill, Director of the Herbarium, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth TX USA