The Florida Museum of Natural History is Florida’s state museum of natural history, dedicated to understanding, preserving and interpreting biological diversity and cultural heritage.
As we join in the celebration of 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity, I am reminded of the “breadth” and “depth” of this Museum’s commitment to understanding, preserving and interpreting our natural world.

In terms of “breadth,” I would point to the recent $2.7 million grant received by Curator of Fishes, Larry Page, as part of the NSF Planetary Biodiversity Inventory program to survey the Cypriniformes (minnows, suckers, loaches) worldwide. His previous PBI catfish grant identified more than 500 species new to science with additional species being described each month. The current grant should have a similar impact.

The Moorea Biocode Project of Curator Gustav Paulay and his team of invertebrate zoologists illustrates what I mean by “depth.” Funded by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, this project departs from the taxon-specific survey approach. Instead, Paulay’s project is an intensive, thorough investigation of one place – in this case the tiny South Pacific island of Moorea (Tahiti’s neighbor) – to produce the first comprehensive inventory of all non-microbial life in a tropical ecosystem. A genetic barcode is created for every animal and plant collected, some of which are literally vacuumed from the ocean floor, in this novel biodiversity investigation.

Several spectacular collection gifts also contributed to our biodiversity focus this year. Notable among these is another magnificent gift from Bill and Nadine McGuire of Minnesota, who donated a collection of 100,000 butterflies and moths as well as 42,000 scientific books, periodicals and archival materials. Closer to home, Dr. Harry Lee of Jacksonville made a deferred gift of his important collection of mollusks comprised of more than 1 million fully cataloged specimens. Both gifts significantly expand the breadth and depth of our scientific collections.

Educating visitors about biodiversity is also central to our mission. A real estate gift from Aase and Rick Thompson of Gainesville, valued at more than $1 million, triggered a challenge gift of $3 million from David & Mary Ann Cofrin for renovation and expansion of our education facilities at the UF Cultural Plaza. Consistent with the Museum’s desire to preserve biodiversity and create a sustainable energy future, the Museum took a major step with the installation of a 75 kilowatt photovoltaic array on the roof of Powell Hall. This system produces about 10 percent of the building’s energy usage.

I trust this sampling of Museum activities provides a sense of the vibrancy and commitment that characterize our institution, and that you appreciate the varied accomplishments summarized in this report.

Douglas S. Jones, Ph.D.
Director, Florida Museum of Natural History
HOW THE MUSEUM saved my LIFE
By Colby Lowe, Exhibit Docent

Retirement makes me think of the phrase ‘be careful what you wish for.’ I got the move to Florida right and bought a sweet little house. Now what? I don’t play bridge or golf. There are only so many hours one can spend at the pool. I investigated volunteering for a political party and found out more of what I don’t like to do than what I like.

Someone suggested the Florida Museum of Natural History. Perfect, I thought. As a retired teacher this would restore some contact with children that I missed and I might learn something. The traveling exhibit Megalodon was just about to open so I took the exhibit training. Then I had a “lucky break” in my hip that meant missing school tours training. I say “lucky break” because I have stayed with the traveling exhibits and I love it.

First, as an exhibit docent, there is something new every few months so there’s no chance to get bored. There are plenty of children. Whether it is “Nigel Nose a Lot” in Grossology with his snot balloon, or Regina the Burmese python in ForEverglades, it is fun to watch the children’s reactions. There is also the fellowship with fellow docents. Where else would I meet college students? And folks who have been at this 38 years, ready to share their experience?

There are docent trips! I have been on a hay ride at Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park. We took a three-day journey to the Everglades, an event-filled trip with boat and swamp buggy rides and even an airboat ride. These trips are good for laughter and learning.

Speaking of learning…I have accumulated quite an array of ‘new to me’ facts. I learned that the Tuareg are more than a Volkswagen model. They are a tribe renowned for being nomads who crisscrossed the Sahara Desert with camel caravans of salt. Salt is so valuable as the only food preservative they know that they can’t travel without it and even use it as currency. The word salary comes from salt.

In Grossology I learned that my nose is a miracle, not only breathing and smelling but connecting to tear ducts to channel overflow tears. On your own you breathe first out of one nostril, then the other. Not to mention the advantages and disadvantages of mucus production. I could do five minutes on “the nose.”

Recently I remarked to a ranger on Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park, “learn something new every day.” He responded, “I think you are supposed to.” If that sounds right to you, come on down and check out volunteering at the Florida Museum. You will love it. It saved my life!
Collections and Research

The Florida Museum of Natural History houses more than 30 million scientific specimens. The collections include field notes, photographs, databases and libraries that complement the irreplaceable scientific value of the specimens themselves. Most of the Museum’s collections of plants, animals, fossil, and artifacts rank among the top 10 nationally and internationally.

During 2009-2010, the Museum’s collections and research programs had an outstanding year. Though its primary focus is on Florida, the southeastern United States and the Caribbean, Florida Museum research spans the globe. Museum researchers brought in a record $5.8 million in new and continuing multi-year grants to support field and laboratory research, collections and education ranging from Pre-K to Ph.D.

Among many others, exciting new projects include research on the evolution of plants and animals of the Panamanian isthmus, the diversity and evolutionary relationships of cyprinid fishes (minnows) worldwide, and the genetic make-up of the world’s most primitive flowering plant. These projects support and educate students from the University of Florida as well as others around the world who are training to become the next generation of scientists.
ANTHROPOLOGY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Caribbean Archaeology
The Caribbean Archaeology Division continued its leadership role on regional and international levels. The Museum curates the world’s second-largest systematic collection of Caribbean artifacts and hosted a number of international researchers to study the collection. The Museum program remains the only U.S. group working in all three of the Caribbean’s archipelagoes, with research in St. Lucia, Puerto Rico and the Turks & Caicos Islands. These investigations contributed to a complete revision of the islands’ cultural history and colonization. Participation in the international conference on Global Human Ecodynamics highlighted the importance of this region for long-term perspectives on global climate change. The program continues to focus on the historical role of humans in shaping landscapes, ecologies and behavior.

Ceramic Technology Lab
Ann Cordell studied prehistoric pottery from the Kolomoki site, Ga., in collaboration with Thomas Pluckhahn (University of S. Florida) to answer questions about manufacturing origins of the “Weeden Island” style of pottery in Northern Florida and Southern Georgia.

Environmental Archaeology
Kitty Emery, UF graduate student Erin Thornton and geochemists from McMaster University combined zooarchaeology with isotopic chemistry to trace climate change in the ancient Maya world. Their results suggest that several droughts affected the Maya, but had variable impacts on different sites across the region. The work finds that the droughts were insufficient to have caused widespread loss of animal biodiversity or of major water systems.

Florida Archaeology
At the Randell Research Center, the Museum’s archaeological facility on Pine Island in Southwest Florida, the historic Ruby Gill House was fully restored after severe damage sustained during Hurricane Charlie in 2004. The beautifully rehabilitated building accommodates offices and laboratories used by curator William Marquardt, associate scientist Karen Walker and colleagues as they study the ancient Calusa culture and conduct educational programs at the historically significant archaeological site.

Latin American Archaeology
Through an agreement with the government of Belize, curator Susan Milbrath and courtesy assistant curator Debra Walker coordinated the transfer of a major archaeological collection from Southern Methodist University to the Florida Museum. The collection, excavated in Cerros, Belize, includes field catalogs, maps, photographs, whole pots, and vast amounts of ceramic sherds, ground and chipped stone, faunal bone, shell, macrobotanical samples, metals and other materials. Dating to the late pre-classic period (350 BC-AD 150), the Cerros site is key to understanding the development of Maya civilization. It is the only intact early Maya collection excavated by archaeologists housed in the U.S.

Spanish Colonial Archaeology
The Historical Archaeology program continued its ongoing research on the initial settlement and colonization of St. Augustine, and completed a new summary report of excavations conducted at the Fountain of Youth Park Archaeological Site from the 1930s to present. Kathleen Deagan and Gifford Waters also directed excavations at the Nombre de Dios mission site in St. Augustine in an effort to better understand the area’s 16th-century and mission-period occupations. Curation upgrades of the pre-1970s collections of historic period Caribbean sites continued in the laboratory.

GENETICS RESOURCES REPOSITORY
The Museum added more than 12,000 DNA samples of plants, birds, amphibians, reptiles, fishes, butterflies, marine invertebrates and various animal tissues to its Genetics Resources Repository. This rapidly growing collection is featured in the Frontiers of Science display in the Collections are the Library of Life exhibit at Powell Hall, which opened in November 2010. This exhibit highlights the wide range of biological materials stored long term in the liquid nitrogen freezer.
INFORMATICS

The Informatics Division has been involved in a number of activities including development of the Museum's new database system. The system provides data management of currently eight million digitized objects and allows the public the ability to search, map and browse images of the specimens. In addition to the ongoing development of The Tree of Life Knowledge and Information Network (www.tolkin.org), a web application that supports biodiversity research and allows distant collaboration among scientists, more progress was achieved with the name registration database known as RegNum, which stores and manages phylogenetic definitions, and the Digital Florida initiative that provides museum-based collections information through interactive web resources.

NEONTOLOGY

Herbarium
Graduate student Kurt Neubig and research associate Skip Blanchard are reconstructing the evolutionary history of the “marsh mallows,” including the genus Kosteletzky, based on DNA data. This genus is widely distributed in tropical Africa and the New World and closely related to Hibiscus. Their evolutionary trees indicate a group of African species were the parental stock for ancient hybrids that gave rise to several modern species. Remarkably, this evolutionary story is very similar to hybridization among species of cotton, a closely related group that has undergone a parallel evolutionary history.

Herpetology
Herpetology’s crowning achievement this year was its National Science Foundation collection grant, received together with the Museum’s Ichthyology Division, to curate large scientific specimens in a safe, efficient manner and provide a better environment to conserve them for posterity. The specimens include crocodilians, large turtles, lizards and snakes. The Museum’s Herpetology collection is unusual because of the number of large specimens from throughout the world.

Ichthyology
Larry Page is principal investigator on a new $2.7 million award from the National Science Foundation to conduct a worldwide inventory of Cypriniformes, the largest order of freshwater fishes, including minnows, loaches and suckers. The four-year award is part of NSF’s Planetary Biodiversity Inventory initiative, which aims to catalogue every species on Earth by 2025. Page directed another Planetary Biodiversity Inventory grant from 2003 to 2009 to inventory catfishes worldwide. That effort has led to the description of 500 new catfish species and is expected to result ultimately in the description of 1,000 new species. The Cypriniformes project is expected to have similar results.

Invertebrate Zoology
From jagged volcanic peaks to a labyrinth of coral reefs, the Invertebrate Zoology team climbed, dove and hiked, and even vacuumed every habitat on Tahiti’s beautiful neighbor Moorea. The Moorea Biocode Project, supported by a grant from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, will create the first comprehensive inventory of all non-microbial life in a tropical ecosystem. In addition, a genetic barcode will be generated for every animal and plant collected, creating a DNA library that can be used to identify species from tiny tissue samples.

The Katharine Ordway Chair in Ecosystem Conservation
Three students, Jill Jankowski, Wendy Schelsky and Christine Stacey, finished their doctoral theses on birds, one in Illinois, one in Gainesville, and the other in Peru. One of Jankowski’s thesis chapters on Andean birds made the cover of the flagship journal Ecology, and she started a postdoctoral program at the University of British Columbia. Schelsky accepted a position at the Illinois Natural History Survey and Stacey started a faculty position at Westminster College in Utah.
Mammalogy
Florida Museum scientists have been surveying bats throughout the Caribbean with a focus this year on the Bahamas. Surveys show the common species on Eleuthera, Abaco and Long islands are doing well, but two uncommon species may be in serious decline. One exciting discovery was a bat living on Long Island that was previously only known from the Bahamas as a fossil. Future plans include using DNA sequences from the bats to estimate population sizes and make recommendations about conservation management.

Molecular Systematics and Evolutionary Genetics Laboratory
For the past decade, researchers in the Molecular Systematics and Evolutionary Genetics Laboratory have been studying the genetic basis for the origin of the flower. Recent discoveries show living relatives of the first flowering plants use the same genes to construct their flowers as more recently derived, and better studied, species. But the species express these genes differently, sometimes resulting in striking differences in structure of the flower. This research will assist in helping scientists better understand the source of the amazing variety in flowering plants.

Orchid Research
In the recent book Genera Orchidacearum (Volume 5, Oxford University Press) Mark Whitten, Norris Williams and Kurt Neubig provided nearly all the molecular phylogenetic trees for thousands of species in the subtribes Maxillariinae, Oncidiinae, Zygopetalinae and Stanhopeinae. These trees resulted in a major recategorization of approximately 10 percent of all orchids, which are the largest family of flowering plants.

Ornithology
Museum ornithologists expanded their research efforts in Peru, focusing on the deep, remote valleys in the country’s northern region, where unique birdlife inhabits the thorny deserts and dry forests. Dave Steadman, Andy Kratter, Scott Robinson and students Jessica Oswald and Oona Takano are partnering with Peruvian scientists to learn how today’s bird communities change with elevation, how much genetic isolation exists between the birds of adjacent valleys, and, by studying fossils, how birdlife has changed since the last ice age.

Invertebrate Paleontology
Invertebrate paleontology scientists continue to provide information and images to researchers and the public about new state and regional fossil discoveries. Two new genera and three new species of Eocene starfish were collected in Alachua and Citrus counties, and a new species of giant snail (up to 1 meter long) was discovered in similar-aged deposits in Jamaica. Museum invertebrate paleontologists also served as officers and board members of the Florida Paleontological Society and produced fossil identification guides used by hundreds of collectors from Florida and elsewhere.

Paleobotany and Palynology
Steve Manchester and colleagues discovered new paleobotanical sites near Bogota, Colombia, containing plant fossils informative about the early origin of the modern Neotropical Forest. As part of a new effort in South America, Manchester, with graduate student Fabiany Herrera, revisited and collected the famous Belen fossil fruit and seed flora of western Peru, last studied in 1939.

Vertebrate Paleontology
Associate Curator Jonathan Bloch continued his work on early primates, including several new studies on cranial anatomy using CT imaging that provided insight into the evolution of the brain. New collections of Paleocene-Eocene fossils from Wyoming and northern Colombia are being used to document biological responses to global warming, and fossils from the early Miocene of Panama included the discovery of the oldest camels from Central America. Graduate student Dana Ehret finished his dissertation on fossils sharks, including new data on the origin of the great white shark. Public digs of early Miocene fossils at Thomas Farm in Gilchrist County resulted in the recovery of a skull of the rare wolverine-like carnivore *Zdiolestes freundi*.

Ornithology Collection Manager Tom Weber is coordinating an NSF-funded $446,000 project to digitize the Museum’s analog bird-sound field recordings, one of the largest collections in the Western Hemisphere with 23,650 cataloged recordings representing about 3,000 species.

Craig Samuel has worked since 2006 as a volunteer for the Invertebrate Paleontology Division, where he collects, sorts and identifies fossils.

**PALEONTOLOGY**

**Invertebrate Paleontology**
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RESEARCH LOCATIONS

Florida – All counties, with special attention to Alachua, Broward, Calhoun, Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, Columbia, Dade, Duval, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Glades, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lee, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Marion, Nassau, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, St. Johns, Sarasota, Suwannee, Union, Volusia, Wakulla and Walton counties.


International – Bahamas, Bhutan, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, French Polynesia, Guyana, Honduras, Italy, Jamaica, Guatemala, Mexico, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, Thailand, United Kingdom.

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS, FACULTY and STAFF

Kurt Auffenberg awarded Florida Museum Thompson Van Hyning Award for meritorious service.

Reed Beaman appointed to serve as a Program Director at the National Science Foundation, Division of Biological Infrastructure for 2010-11.

Nico Cellinese received an NSF CAREER award.

Kathleen Deagan received Sen. Bob Edwards Award from the Florida Department of State. Awarded “In recognition of public service that has forever changed the course of Historic Preservation in Florida.”

Bruce MacFadden received Joseph T. Gregory Award for outstanding service to the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology. He also served as Program Officer at the National Science Foundation Division of Research on Learning, Lifelong Learning Cluster.

NEW GRANTS and CONTRACTS

During the 2009-10 fiscal year, the Florida Museum received $3.9 million in new grants and contracts from the following organizations:

• Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
• Florida Wildflower Foundation
• National Science Foundation
• The Ohio State University Research Foundation
• Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute
• University of Arizona
• U.S. Dept. of Commerce

TEACHING

ANG 4905 Individual Research in Anthropology, 23 credits
ANG 5172 Seminar in Historical Archaeology, 3 credits
ANG 6120C/ANT 4147C Environmental Archaeology, 3 credits
ANG 6150 Individual Research in Anthropology, 3 credits
ANG 6186 Economic Archaeology, 3 credits
ANG 6224 Painted Books of Ancient Mexico, 3 credits
ANG 6905 Individual Studies, 10 credits
ANG 6905/6945 Individual Studies in Anthropology, 4 credits
ANG 6910 Supervised Research, 3 credits
ANG 6915 Research Projects in Social, Cultural, and Applied Anthropology, 5 credits
ANG 6940 Supervised Teaching, 6 credits
ANG 6971 Research for Master’s Thesis, 13 credits
ANG 7979 Advanced Research, 6 credits
ANG 7980 Advanced Research, 20 credits

ANT 4907 Honors Scholar Research, 2 credit hours

ARH 6430 Museum Communities, 3 credits
ARH 6930 Museum Ethics, 3 credits

BOT/ZOO 5115 Paleobotany, 3 credits
BOT 6905 Individual Studies in Botany, 4 credits
BOT 6935 Herbarium Management, 1 credit
BOT/ZOO 6935 Topics in Biodiversity Informatics and Molecular Systematics, 2 credits
BOT 6971 Research for Master’s Thesis, 3 credits
BOT 7979 Advanced Research, 36 credits
BOT 7980 Research for Doctoral Dissertation, 32 credits

ENY 4396 Individual Research, 2 credits
ENY 6934 Seminar in Insect Biogeography, 2 credits

GLY 6971 Advanced Research, 3 credits
GLY 7979 Advanced Research, 4 credits
GLY 7980 Advanced Research, 8 credits

HIS 3931 Science in the Mall, 3 credits
HIS 4905 Individual Study, 6 credits

IDH 4905 Individual Work, 3 credits

PCB 6791 Research for Master’s Thesis, 13 credits

WIS 4934 Invasion Ecology of Amphibians and Reptiles, 4 credits
WIS 4934/WIS 6934 Topics in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, 3 credits
WIS 6940 Supervised Teaching, 3 credits
WIS 6971 Research for Master’s Thesis, 10 credits
WIS 7979 Advanced Research, 10 credits

ZOO 432 Marine Invertebrate Zoology, 6 credits (U. Washington)
ZOO 4905 Individual Studies in Zoology, 35 credits
ZOO 6905 Individual Studies in Zoology, 3 credits
ZOO 6910 Supervised Research, 3 credits
ZOO 6927 Avian Anatomy and Specimen Preparation, 3 credits
ZOO 6927 Methods of Phylogenetic Inference, 4 credits
ZOO 6927 Vertebrate Macroevolution and Development, 3 credits
ZOO 6927/GLY 6932 Island Biogeography and Paleontology, 3 credits
ZOO 6927/GLY 6932 Seminar in Vertebrate Paleontology, 1 credit
ZOO 6927/GLY 6932 Systematics and the Fossil Record, 3 credits
ZOO 7979 Advanced Research, 40 credits
ZOO 7980 Research for Doctoral Dissertation, 35 credits

Graduate Committees Served: 102
Graduate Committees Chaired: 76
Independent Studies Directed: 74
Traveling Exhibits Program – Museum on the Road!

Traveling exhibits give the Museum the opportunity to share its research and education efforts with a broad national audience, while also garnering income to support production of new exhibitions. This year, the Florida Museum traveled two exhibits. The 5,000-square-foot *Megalodon: Largest Shark that Ever Lived* showed at the Miami Science Museum, the Virginia Living Museum and the North Carolina State Museum of Natural Science. The 3,000-square-foot *TUSKS! Ice Age Mammoths and Mastodons* traveled to the Las Vegas Natural History Museum, the University of Texas and the State Museum of Pennsylvania.

Butterfly Science

The Museum opened a new permanent exhibition in the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity with an expansion of the butterfly gallery showcasing behind-the-scenes research and collections areas. The Museum, well-known for its amazing live *Butterfly Rainforest* exhibit, is also home to one of the world’s largest scientific collections of butterflies and moths. The new exhibits introduce visitors to ongoing science visible in the laboratories and collections areas. The Rearing Lab also was updated with a two-way audio system allowing visitors to talk to scientists, and new casework showcasing the lab’s emerging butterflies.

Changing Exhibits

Rotating temporary exhibits provide the Museum’s repeat visitors with new and diverse information. The changing exhibits also allow the Museum to stretch beyond its expertise, partner with community groups and collaborate with other institutions. This year the highly interactive *Amazing Butterflies* provided a great experience for families, *Amazon Voyage: Vicious Fishes and Other Riches* offered an exciting exploration of Amazon science, and *Quilting Natural Florida II* allowed the Museum to partner with a local quilting guild to produce a juried exhibit of international quilts featuring Florida natural history themes. In May the Museum opened *CSI: Crime Scene Insects*, which focused on the fascinating field of forensic entomology, including its history and use in crime solving.
The Museum made significant gains during the past year thanks to generous support from donors who believe in the importance of understanding and preserving biodiversity and cultural heritage. Private support makes a tremendous difference in the Museum’s success. Dr. William and Nadine McGuire’s gift of rare Lepidoptera specimens and books valued at more than $15 million helped the Museum maintain its ranking as the world’s leading butterfly and moth research center.

The Museum also received significant support from two Gainesville families. A real estate gift from Aase and Rick Thompson valued at more than $1 million triggered the completion of a $3 million challenge gift from Dr. David and Mary Ann Cofrin. Both gifts will support a Powell Hall expansion and renovation project, for which the Museum has received more than 25 percent of the needed funding.

A deferred gift of more than 1 million mollusk specimens to the Malacology collection from Dr. Harry and Sarah Lee documents the fauna’s changes over several decades. It also includes the world’s largest and most diverse private or museum collection of abnormally sinistral species, meaning they coil to the left. This significant gift also adds Dr. Lee to the Museum’s Legacy Society, which recognizes donors who make provisions in their estate to benefit the Museum.

Woodward “Woody” Hanson’s donation of the Hanson Family Archives presents a unique research opportunity for the Ethnography faculty and staff. The collection of more than 1,000 documents, images and artifacts from 1884 to the mid-1900s provides invaluable information about the historic places, people and institutions of Southwest Florida, including unrivaled insight into the community’s relationship with the neighboring Seminole and Miccosukee Indians.

Additional notable gifts include another significant ethnographic collection from I.S.K. and Sara Reeves, substantial Lepidoptera specimen donations from Drs. J. D. and Nancy Turner, Kent H. Wilson and Dr. Lowell Harris, as well as cash gifts to support the Florida Program for Shark Research, graduate student and faculty research, and the Discovery Room, among others.

Museum membership held steady during difficult financial times. The MembershipPlus program remained popular with 60 percent of new and renewing member selecting this option. The Museum Associates Board hosted another highly successful Passport fundraiser, generating more than $60,000 to support Museum research, education and programs. This year’s event – Passport to Key West – included the largest silent auction in the Museum’s history.

The Museum is extremely thankful for the support of friends, donors and volunteers who believe in the Museum and its mission. For more information about the new Legacy Society or other ways to support the Florida Museum of Natural History, please contact Josh McCoy in the Museum Development Office, 352-273-2086.
Educational Programming

Starry Night
In partnership with the UF Astronomy Department, Alachua Astronomy Club, NASA Space Grant consortium and GE Foundation, the Museum celebrated the International Year of Astronomy with a fun-filled night of astronomical proportions for the whole family. Activities for the Sept. 25 event included driving Lego moon rovers, seeing a portable planetarium show, viewing a moonscape in 3-D and joining astronaut, Capt. Winston Scott, for an inside look at what it takes to visit space. The event was extremely successful with more than 3,000 visitors.

Dinosaur Train Pre-K Day
Dr. Scott the paleontologist and Buddy the T. rex from the popular PBS TV show Dinosaur Train visited the Museum March 26 for a free public program. Presented in partnership with WUFT-TV/DT and the Early Learning Coalition of Alachua County, the event featured educational, dinosaur-themed activities and an opportunity for children to meet Buddy, star of the newest PBS KIDS show. Activities included dinosaur games, songs, coloring stations and a meet-and-greet session with Dr. Scott. Dr. Scott is Scott Sampson, a paleontologist, evolutionary biologist, educator, and research curator at the Utah Museum of Natural History. Scott also presented a free public lecture to discuss his latest research and new book, Dinosaur Odyssey: Fossil Threads in the Web of Life.
MESS guides distributed nationwide

Marvelous Explorations through Science and Stories teacher’s guides were made available on the websites of the Museum and national Office of Head Start. This early childhood science curriculum fosters children’s language and literacy development, problem solving, curiosity, and general knowledge. The guides include background information for the teacher, hands-on experiences that address science ideas covered by state and national standards, recommended children’s books and suggestions for reinforcing science learning across the curriculum.

WINGS selected as recommended National 4-H curriculum

Project Butterfly WINGS: Winning Investigative Network for Great Science was selected as a reviewed and recommended National 4-H curriculum. The WINGS Youth Guide, Leader Guide and interactive website encourage adolescent interest, understanding, and long-term involvement in science. The project also received a National Science Foundation grant of $86,757 for nationwide program dissemination and website additions and revisions.

Call the Wild apps developed with help of NSF grant

The Museum received nearly $500,000 from the National Science Foundation for the project Call the Wild: Fostering Understanding of the Nature of Science. Developed by scientists and educators at UF’s Florida Museum and IFAS Extension, Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens and Association of Zoos and Aquariums in collaboration with Odysseus Mobile Computing, Guide by Cell and Institute for Learning Innovation, the project examined the effectiveness of mobile phones for increasing visitor interest, engagement and understanding of the nature of science.

Prototypes incorporating different interpretive strategies and technology features were developed for exhibits on the bonobo, pygmy chimpanzee, Magellanic Penguin and alligator. The Call the Wild-Alligators and Call the Wild-Penguins applications created for the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens are available free through iTunes.
The McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity had a highly successful year, receiving significant contributions to its collections, participating in a number of biodiversity projects and conservation surveys, and hiring two new assistant curators.

Dr. William and Nadine McGuire of Minnesota donated more than 100,000 Lepidoptera specimens to the Museum, including many rare species from around the world. The donation also included cabinets, drawers and an exceptional scientific library of more than 42,000 books, journals and papers. Collectively the gift was valued at more than $15 million.

The new McGuire specimens include material from areas difficult to access, including Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Kurdistan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Turkistan and the smaller Central Asian Republics of the former Soviet Union. The donation also included more than 40,000 specimens of worldwide Papilionidae (swallowtail butterflies), many of which were not previously included in the McGuire Center collections.

Kent H. and Gene Wilson of Oklahoma donated a collection of more than 30,000 butterflies, considered the finest private or public museum holding in the U.S. for the swallowtail family. The collection includes specimens from extinct populations that are little known and poorly represented in the world’s museums.

New butterfly conservation projects and biodiversity surveys were started in collaboration with the Africa Butterfly Research Institute in Kenya, the Irvine Conservancy in California, Central University in Ecuador, Silliman University and University of San Carlos in the Philippines and the University of the West Indies in Jamaica.

After highly competitive searches, the Museum hired two assistant curators of Lepidoptera: Akito Kawahara of the University of Maryland and Jodranka Rota of the Smithsonian Institution. The new scientists provide expanded strengths in molecular biology, systematics and ecology to the McGuire Center curatorial staff.
HONOR ROLL 2009-2010

$1 Million or More
Harry & Sarah Lee
William & Nadine McGuire
Rick & Aase Thompson
Lowell Harris

$500,000 or More
Lewis & Frances Lee
Douglas & Sheila Jones
The Gainesville Sun Foundation, Inc.
Gainesville Community
Leonard & Libby Furlow
Ron & Dianne Farb
Sheila Dickison
Charles & Wanda Denny
Charles & Elizabeth Covell
Gladys Cofrin
Climb for Cancer Foundation, Inc.
Francis & Miranda Childress
Blue Water Bay
Anonymous

$2,500 or More
Anonymous
Association for Tropical Lepidoptera
Jim & Mary Brandenberg
Charles & Deborah Brix
CBS4-MY11
Celebrations Catering
David & Jacki Challoner
Community Foundation of Greater Lakeland
Community Foundation of New Jersey
Cox Communications, Inc.
John & Gretchen Coyle
Diamond Tours, Inc.
Entercom – KTK/SKY
Irvings Finkelstein
Flying Biscuit Cafe
Jamie Grooms & Lisa Wasshausen
Robert & Donna Ing
Thomas & Virginia Klein
Mark Meisel & Anna-Lisa Paul
Jacqueline Miller
Geoffrey & Ann Moore
Ray Nagle
Pineland Marina
American Platt
S & S Cleaners
Robert & Beverly Singer
Eileen Smith
Richard & Jean Smith
Linda Stevenson
Wachovia
Thomas & Martha Warner
Wells Fargo Foundation
Victor Yellen & Arlene Huszar

$1,000 or More
Virginia Amsler
Anonymous
Lawrence & Carol Aten
Kenneth & Laura Berns
Harvey Budd & Irene Silverman
John & Patricia Carlson
Joe & Ginny Cauthen
Sylvia Chappell
Alicia Churchill
David & Marion Colburn
Richard & Gloria Comstock
Marshall & Paula Criser
Roland & Joyce Daniels
Nick Davis & Sergio Marentes
Michael Dion
Teresa Dolan & Stanley Given
Philip & Barbara Emmer
Expedition Travel, Inc.
Fondation Internationale du Banc d’Arguin
Janie Fouke
Gainesville Regional Utilities
Peter & Lisa Gearen
Richard & Mary Ann Green
Harriett Hulbert
Richard Hulbert, Jr.
Informal Educational Products Ltd.
Robert & Lisa Nowak Jerry
Kelly Foundation, Inc.
David & Claudia Ladersohn
Dennis & Carrie Lee
Judy Locascio
Bruce & Jeannette MacFadden
William Marquardt
Joshua McCoy & Sarah Mendonca
Mac & Libby McGriff
Kenneth & Linda McGurn
Merrill Lynch & Co.
Foundation, Inc.
Robert Milbrath
Michael & Becky Moulton
Nancy O’Hare
Susanne & Lawrence Paper
Penniman Family Foundation
Annette Perry
Nancy Perry
Floyd & June Preston
Bill & Norma Pretsch
Progressive Restaurants, Inc.
Quilters of Alachua County
Day Guild
Davis & Judith Rembert
Marshall E. Rinker, Sr., Foundation, Inc.
Paul & Carole Schulz
Eric & Jennifer Scott
Jon & Beverly Sensbach
Graig & Kris Shaak
Shady Oaks Butterfly Farm
Shands at the University of Florida
Alan & Ellen Shapiro
Robert Spangenberg
Stevenson Architects, Inc.
C. Frederick & Aase B. Thompson Foundation
Paul and Christabel Vartanian
Karen Walker
Neil & Mary White
Joe & Evelyn Wilder
Norris & Nancy Williams

$500 or More
Richard Allen & Susan Martin
Alta Systems, Inc.
Anonymous
Christina & Juan Arango
AT&T Foundation
BBI Construction Management, Inc.
Brian & Kimberly Beach
Jon & Marty Berger
Eleanor Blair
Cape Coral Charter Schools
Donald & Cecilia Caton
Charles Perry Construction, Inc.
Catherine & Richard Crandall
Joshua & Sally Dickinson
Eva Dimitrov & James Betz
Betty Dunckel
Lamont DuPont
ExxonMobil Foundation
Jim Frongillo-Downer
Laura Gillman
Greater Pine Island Chamber of Commerce
Desta & Peter Hansen
Woodward Hanson
Giovanna Holbrook
Charles & Bobbie Lee Holden
Robert & Lynne Holt
Neil & Susan Johnson
James Kendrick
Suzanne & Kenneth Kirkpatrick
Paul & Leslie Klein
Alan Kroll & Shari Ellis
Cynthia Lammer
Robert & Phyllis Levitt
Norman & Roslyn Levy
Patsy & Daniel Lindamood
Deborah & Terry Lott
Bruce Mast & Lynn Findley
Mary May
F. Jack McCombs
Elizabeth Mobley
Joyce & Thomas Mutz
Darlene & Jeffery Novak
William & Sandra Olinger
Pine Island Pest Control, Inc.
Barbara & Laurence Purdy
Paul & Susan Robell
Arian & Edith Rosenbloom
Mel & Lorna Rubin
Mary & Robert Rude
Karl & Kathryn Schroeder
Harry & Christiana Shaw
John & Anne Shermeyn
Glenn & Celeste Shitama
Jeff & Susan Smith
Thomas & Susan Spain
Elizabth Styron & Robert Fulton
SunTrust Bank
Craig & Audrae Tisher
Trafalgar Elementary School
Stephen & Susan Tutko
UCF Research Foundation, Inc.
Maria Velazquez
Wallace Ward III
William & Victoria Winterer
Thomas & Tammy Wright

$10,000 or More
Anonymous
Blue Water Bay
Francis & Miranda Childress Foundation, Inc.
Climb for Cancer Foundation, Inc.
Glady's Coffee
Charles & Elizabeth Covell
Charles & Wanda Denny
Sheila Dickison
Ron & Dianne Farb
Leonard & Libby Furlow
Gainesville Community Foundation, Inc.
The Gainesville Sun
Douglas & Sheila Jones
Lewis & FrancesLee
Dale W. Schneider, Inc.
Bruce Walsh

$25,000 or More
Anonymous
AT&T The Real Yellow Pages
David & Katherine Dilcher
Thomas Emmel
Madelyn Lockhart
Mary Ross (d)
Mark & Deborah Simon
William & Rachel Tippit

$50,000 or More
William & Rachel Tippit
Mark & Deborah Simon
Sheila Dickison
Anonymous

$1 Million or More
Lowell Harris

Guests enjoy the annual Director’s Dinner in the Central Gallery.
HONOR ROLL 2009-2010

$250 or More
Alan Agresti & Jacalyn Levine
Richard & Barbara Anderson
Anonymous
Archaeological Consultants, Inc.
Carol Aronheim
Alan Barnes & Gail Ellison
Fiona & Grenville Barnes
Ray Barrett
Michael Barton & Leslie Florence
Beautiful Moments Party Rental
Paul Benedum, Jr.
Pete & Gudrun Bennett
Michael & Judy Blachly
Roger & Linda Blackburn
Jae Copeland
Ingrid Dieter
Delectable Collectables
Lee & Barbara Dockery
Richard & Virginia Dolder
Lynn & Joseph Domenech, Jr.
Paul & Polly Doughty
Gary Edinger & Cynthia Weygant
Donald & Mary Lou Eitzman
Evelyn Hemp
Florida Paleontological Society, Inc.
Robin & Lin Fox
Paul & Mary Ellen Funderburk
Gainesville Today Magazine
Jim & Ellen Gershaw
Ira & Gerri Gessner
Paul & Christine Gibbs
Joseph Glover
Elizabeth Haeseker & Hugh Popenoe
Tara Hamer Gill & Robert Gill, Jr.
David Harlos & Darcie MacMahon
Gene & Evelyn Hemp
Linda Hensley
Carletta & Jim Herring
Theresa Hirko
Clark & B. J. Hodge
Holborn Creative Media
Home Court Sports
Roy Hunt
Clayton & Linda Kallman
Gerald & Kathryn Kidder
Malcolm & Susan King
Carole Kircher
John & Kathleen Kish
Jay & Sharon Koons
Angel Kwolek-Folland & Nathan Folland
Marion Lasley
Kha Le-Huu & To-Lan Trinh-Le
Dawn & Paul Logas
Lost Art Gallery
Ralph & Bronia Lowenstein
Carlyle & Jane Luer
Tim Malles
Sarah & Robert Manley
Elizabeth Mann
Marineland’s Dolphin Conservation Center
Lauren McIntyre & Wilfred Vermerris
Cheryl & Steven Mersch
Phoebe & Richard Miles
Minotaur Maze Exhibits, Inc.
Dwayne Mundy & Penny Niemann
Margi Nanney
Max Nickerson
Toshikazu & Jennifer Nishida
Douglas & Catherine Noble
June Nogle
Bonnie Ogle
Jack & Sandra Ohanian
Su-Min Oon
James & Suzanne Orr
Stephen Peartoon & Cammy Abernathy
Brian & Susannah Peddle
Edward Petkus
Powderhouse Productions Corporation
Ralph Pressley
Andrew Rand
Colleen & Kenneth Rand
Anne & Charles Reynolds, Jr.
Regina Richardson
Russell & Brenda Robinson
Phyllis Rosier
Neil & Gain Rosin
John & Nancy Ross
Wuni & George Ryschkewitsch
Arthur & Phyllis Saarinen
Richard & Debbie Sadove
David & Rebecca Sammons
Beverly Sanders & Steven Benner
Brent & Kathryn Seagle
Joseph & Anne Shands
Terry & Marjorie Silverman
John & Glenda Sirmons
Rodney & DeeDee Smith
Southwest Capital Bank, N.A.
John & Sheila Spence
Jennifer Staiger & William Barichivich
Mary Stavropoulos
Ruth Steiner
James & Alice Talbert
Jon & Karen Thomas
Sharon & Joseph Thomas
Jon & Beverly Thompson
Michael & Heidi Toomey
Marie & William Tuck, Jr.
Heather & Kevin Vincent
Carl & Brenda Walls
Maria-Lourdes & Robert Walpole
David & Barbara Webb
David Webster & Dorothy Towne
Windfall Films
Charles & Maureen Wood
Christopher & Carol Woodyard
Deborah Zwetsch

Florida Museum Associate Board Members 2009-2010
Ann Moore, President
Lisa Wasshausen, Vice President
Carrie Lee, Secretary
Sam Golforth, Treasurer
Ginny Cauthen
Jacki Challoner
Joyce Daniels
Wanda Denny
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Leslie Klein, Emerita
Roslyn Levy
Bronia Lowenstein, Emerita
Bruce Mast
Susan Mastin
Ken McGurr, Emeritus
Bill Olinger
Annette Perry
Nancy Perry, Emerita
Harry Shaw
Ilene Silverman
Susan Spain
Aase Thompson
Audrae Tisher
Maria Velazquez
Victor Yellen, Emeritus

Memorial Gifts Received in Honor of
Adele Anderson
George Austin
Pope Cheney
Norman Roberts

Key: (d) = deceased

Custodian Melinda Augustus, featured in The Philosopher Kings, was recognized with a reception and screening of the documentary.
PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS


PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS continued


ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010 19


Program Assistant Shuronna Wilson celebrates with colleague Mary Windham during a July 2009 reception marking Windham’s retirement after 39 years at UF, including 25 with the Museum.


This Adonis blue butterfly, Polyommatus bellargus, is from South Tyrol in Austria.


Sourakov, A. 2009. Extraordinarily quick visual startle reflexes of skipper butterflies (Lepidoptera: Hesperiidae) are among the fastest in the animal kingdom. Florida Entomologist 92:653-655.


FY 2009-10 FINANCIALS

Revenue:

- State Allocations: $8.9 million (47%)
- Contracts and Grants: $5.8 million (30%)
- Earned Income: $1.9 million (10%)
- Gifts: $2.4 million (13%)

**TOTAL:** $19 million*

Expenditures:

- Exhibits and Public Programs: $3.9 million (25%)
- Collections & Research: $9.6 million (60%)
- Operations: $2.4 million (15%)

**TOTAL:** $15.9 million

* Includes $3.1 million in multi-year grant funds and gifts to endowments.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Museum expanded its Social Media communications initiatives as a way to connect with new audiences and provide news and information about the Museum's large number of ongoing activities.

- Facebook: 2,600 fans & growing
  - www.facebook.com/FloridaMuseum
- Twitter: 675 followers & growing
  - www.twitter.com/floridamuseum
- YouTube: 4.97 million in 08-09, 7 million in 09-10
  - www.youtube.com/FloridaMuseum
- Flickr: 1.76 billion in 08-09, 1.59 billion in 09-10
  - www.flickr.com/groups/floridamuseumofnaturalhistory/

*Beginning with this report, the “visit” and “page view” numbers have been recalculated to exclude traffic generated by search engine robots indexing the site. They now more accurately reflect visitation to the site initiated by human visitors only. Database query figures have always excluded search engine robot traffic.