

University of Colorado Colorado Museum of Natural History



Mission: The University of Colorado Museum fosters exploration and appreciation of the natural environment and human cultures through research, teaching, and community outreach. We provide academic training for graduate students in Museum and Field Studies; build, conserve, and interpret research collections; and offer exhibits and educational programs for the University and the public.

- Established by the Board of Regents in 1902. Reports to Vice Chancellor for Research/Graduate School Dean.
- **Staff:** Faculty Director; Assistant Director; 9 Faculty Curators – tenure-track/tenured in A&S departments of Anthropology, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, or Geological Sciences; 8 Collections Managers; 16 professional/unclassified staff; 20 Graduate Assistants and Research Assistants; 6-8 research appointees/year (PRA/RA); 3 instructors/year; 62 Museum Associates and Curators Adjoint (unpaid status).
- **Space:** The Museum is housed in three buildings: Bruce Curtis Museum Collections (MCOL), Clare Small (CLRE), and Henderson (HEND).
- **Collections:** Four million objects & specimens in Anthropology, Botany, Entomology, Paleontology, and Zoology – largest museum in the Rocky Mountain region.
- **Budget:** Fiscal year 2006 expenses were \$2,862,806, of which 69% (\$1,983,866) was budgeted by General Fund appropriation. Total grant expenditure for the period was \$736,912, 26% of total, and 7% greater than the prior fiscal period. 16 new grants, \$406,372, were awarded through the Museum, and the Public Section received community and campus awards totaling \$6,500. \$70,035 was awarded through a faculty's affiliate institute. Museum faculty continued participation in \$977,690 in previous awards active through cognate departments.



- **Since the last Program Review in 1998/1999, the Museum has:**
 - Hired six faculty members, two of whom are women of color.
 - Received accreditation

by the American Association of Museums, an honor achieved by only 18 of 500 university natural history museums and only 5% of all 17,500 US museums.

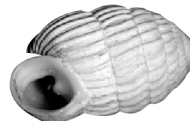
- Mounted or upgraded 37 exhibitions and presented 193 public programs; received 139,000 visitors.
- Awarded 61 Museum & Field Studies Master of Science degrees and certificates.
- Received over \$3.93 million in grants.

- **Research:** Museum research encompasses ecology, evolution, biogeography, and human culture, and spans a range of academic disciplines, reflected by the broad scope of the Museum's collections. Emerging themes include bioinformatics, archaeology of Native American cultures, and evolution of extant and extinct plants and animals. In the past six years, Museum faculty (ranging in number from 7 to 10) published 5 refereed books, 80 refereed articles and chapters, 23 non-refereed articles, 11 reviews, 27 technical research reports, and 26 papers in non-refereed conference proceedings. They presented 105 papers at professional meetings and gave 73 invited presentations.



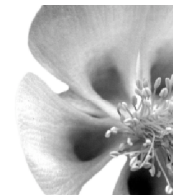
- In 2005, then Museum Director Linda Cordell (now emeritus) was elected to the National Academy of Sciences, the highest honor bestowed upon an American scientist.

- **Teaching:** Museum faculty teach in their respective departments and in the Museum and Field Studies Program (MFS): 35 MFS courses and 41 cognate department courses (since 1998/1999). Between 1999 and 2004, an average of 9 Museum faculty served as primary advisors for 20 MFS students per year (2 MS students per adviser, on average) and four Professional Certificate students. In addition, they advised 26 graduate students in cognate departments. On average, Museum faculty collectively served as committee members for 8 MFS and 48 cognate department students, supervised 11 independent study/UROP/URAP undergraduate students per year, and taught 6 MFS and 7 cognate department courses per year.



- **Outreach:** The Museum is an institution for University outreach through exhibits, programs and, increasingly, the Internet. The Museum:

- exhibits travel to other institutions throughout the region, state, and nation.
- hosts K-12 classes and teacher workshops, and loans education "kits" to area schools.
- has a growing membership, an advisory board of community leaders and alumni, and an advisory board of undergraduate students assisting outreach development.



- **Centrality:** The Museum strongly supports the University's mission and the UCB strategic plan through its research, education, and outreach. The Museum serves both the University and the people of Colorado. The Museum provides unique research and educational resources, complementing the strengths of other campus units in the achievement of the University's mission.

