

DRAFT Agenda  
NSF Collections-Based PRFB Symposium & Workshop  
Nov 7-9, 2017  
Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

**Tuesday, Nov 7 (Day 1)**

Participants arrive, check in to Courtyard by Marriott Boston-Cambridge [777 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA 02139](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/boscy-courtyard-boston-cambridge/)  
<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/boscy-courtyard-boston-cambridge/>

All meals are “on your own”, either at the hotel (breakfast) or around Harvard Square (lunch & dinner); costs covered by per-diem.

3-4pm Install posters, for poster session I (using poster boards in Northwest Lab, B1 level)

5-7 pm Dinner

**Northwest Labs Lobby and cafe**

7:00-9:00 pm: Poster Session I (18 PRFB posters) and mixer.; welcome by Jim Hanken at some point during mixer.

**Wednesday, Nov 8 (Day 2):**

7-9:00 Breakfast

**Science Center Hall C**

9:00-9:30 The NSF PRFB - RUBC Program, Building Networks, and Assessment  
- Scott Edwards

9:30-10 Museums as Scientific Infrastructure - Joe Cook

10-10:30 Coffee Break

10:30 am-12 pm Lightning Talks by PRFB Postdocs

12-1:30 Lunch

**Haller Hall, MCZ**

1:30-2:00 Panel: Federal Collections and Federal Career Trajectories

David Schindel (Smithsonian, Interagency Working Group on Scientific Collections) and Mike Vanni (formerly NSF)

2-3:30 Tours of MCZ and Herbarium collections

3:30-3:45 Coffee break, light refreshments

3:45 - 4:15 International perspectives on collections in research: a skype with **Ian Owens (?)**

4:15 – 5 Postdoctoral stories from the front lines: sharing stories of NSF-funded collections postdocs

- What opportunities were enabled by this experience?
- What lessons do you take from this experience moving forward? reflecting?
- What challenges in research did you face? Did collections yield the data you were looking for?
- Was there a learning curve in how to mine data from collections?
- Have you been able to contribute to collections resources, with specimens or metadata?

5-6:30 Dinner

**Northwest Labs B103 (currently only until 7:15 but will work on extension)**

6:30-7:45 Research Talks (20 minutes each)

- Julia Clarke: “Syrinxes and Sound Production in Dinosaurs and Relatives”
- Charles Davis: Old Plants, New Tricks: “Creating and Leveraging a Virtual Herbarium for Phenological Research”
- Maureen Kearney: “Expanding the Boundaries of Natural History Knowledge to Transform Science and Society”

**Northwest Labs Lobby and cafe**

7:45-9 pm Poster Session II and mixer

**Thursday, Nov 9 (Day 3)**

7-8:30 am Breakfast

**Northwest Labs B101 (currently only until 12:00 but will work on extension)**

9:00 - 10:00 Research Talks (20 minutes each)

- Susan Perkins: “Collecting in the Cabinets (and Freezers): Museum Parasitology and Microbiome Studies”
- Dave Blackburn “The Digital Encyclopedia of Frogs”

10:00-10:30 Panel Discussion: New Directions for Collections (or Ian Owens here?)

10:30-11:00 Open Discussion on the RUBC PRFB program: justification for continuation?

11:00-11:15 Coffee break

11:15–11:45 NSF Opportunities (Muriel Poston)

11:45– 12:00 Wrap up: Scott Edwards

12:00 Exit Assessment

12:15 Conference ends