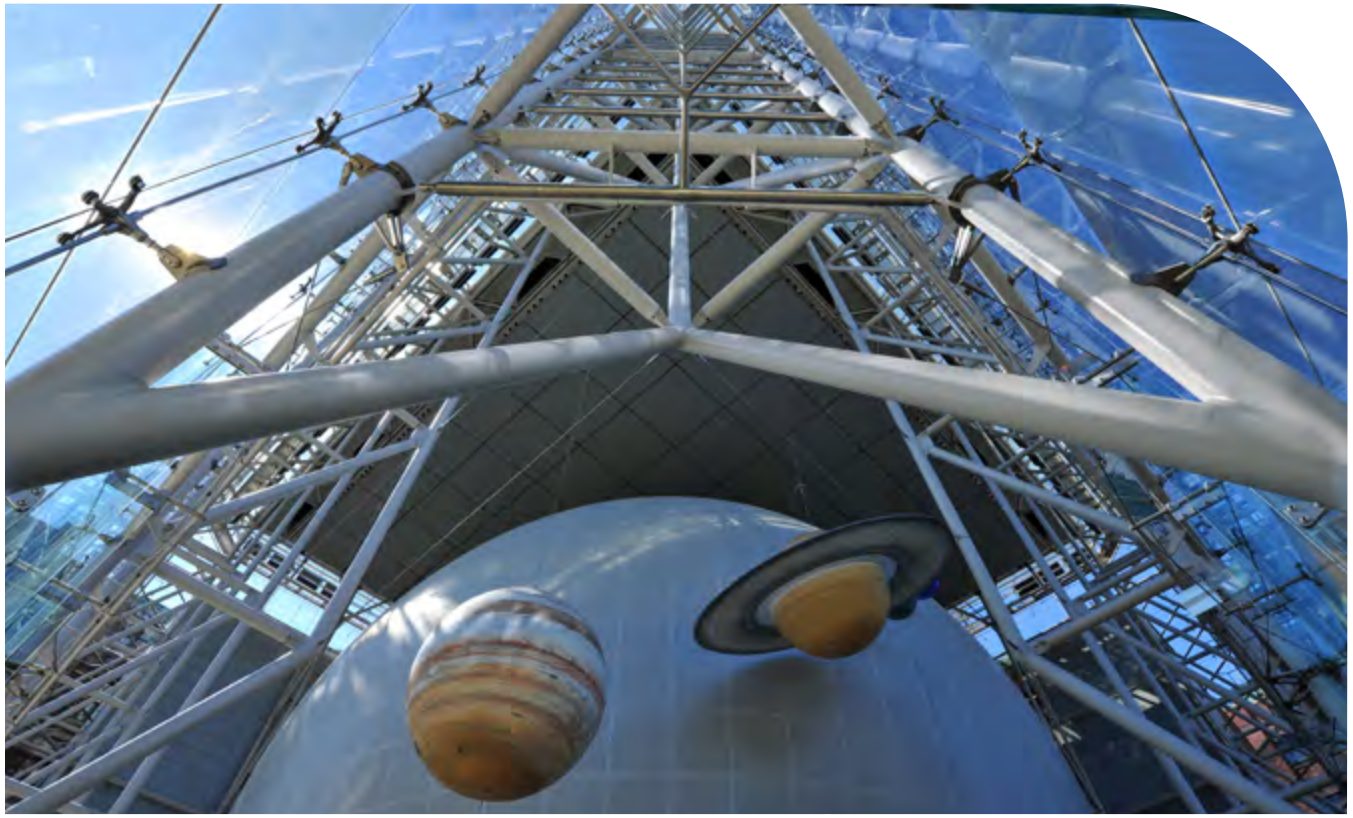

American Museum of Natural History

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

AMNH KNOWS HOW TO MAKE CUTTING-EDGE SCIENCE

interesting, relevant, and accessible to the general public.

– **Anthony Z.,** via Facebook

Students in the Museum's Robotics Camp learn how to design and build robots.

In fiscal year 2010, the Museum prepared to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Frederick Phineas and Sandra Priest Rose Center for Earth and Space.

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The new fountain at the center of the Arthur Ross Plaza, installed as part of the renovation of the iconic 77th Street façade, was turned on April 1, 2010.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT

The fiscal year 2010 was a remarkable year for the American Museum of Natural History. Despite what many consider to be one of the most difficult and volatile financial climates in recent memory, during 2010 the Museum experienced many important milestones across all areas of the institution. In the face of these economic challenges affecting our city, nation, and world, the Museum worked to balance institutional progress with fiscal prudence. In doing so throughout this past year, we had help from many friends and supporters who share in the Museum's achievements of 2010, including all of you, no matter how you support us—through financial contributions, by visiting the Museum, by being a Member, by spreading the word about all that we do, or by keeping an eye on what we're doing online—in short, by sharing with us an interest in science and culture and a passion for exploring the world that surrounds and inspires us. Thank you!

While the year saw a number of significant achievements, two areas of particular note were attendance and the Museum's emerging work in the digital arena.

The Museum has seen a tremendous upsurge in attendance in the past few years and this year welcomed approximately five million visitors, the highest attendance in its history. Remarkably, nearly 40% were visitors to New York from overseas, a testament to the institution's growing international presence.

Our visitors came, of course, to see beloved icons such as the blue whale and the dinosaur halls, but also to enjoy the wide variety of special exhibitions, events, and programs held this year. These included the major exhibitions *Traveling the Silk Road: Ancient Pathway to the Modern World*, which took visitors on an immersive, experiential journey along the Silk Road, the "information superhighway" of ancient times; and *Race to the End of the Earth*, which recounted the amazing story of Roald Amundsen and Sir Robert Falcon Scott competing to be the first human to set foot on the South Pole, among many others reported on throughout this report.

While we love to see the halls and galleries teeming with families, school groups, and visitors of all backgrounds who are curious about the world around us, the Museum no longer measures its audience simply by the number of people who come through our doors. Through an active program of touring exhibitions and collaborative relationships with institutions around the world, this year Museum exhibitions, Space Shows, and other content were seen in more than 100 venues in more than 20 countries worldwide—reaching millions more as well, of course, as online visitors.

The Museum has been steadily building a digital presence. One notable example is the Museum's YouTube video, "The Known Universe," which became a viral sensation this year and, with more than seven million views, one of that site's top science videos of all time. "The Known Universe" is built on the Museum's unparalleled Digital Universe—an exquisitely detailed, four-dimensional, fully authentic atlas of the universe maintained by the astrophysicists and data visualization staff of the Rose Center for Earth and Space. It takes viewers on a thrilling and inspiring journey from Earth to the edge of the known universe and back. The Museum now has more than 80 videos on YouTube, giving viewers an opportunity to go behind the scenes in collections areas, to talk with curators about their research and exhibitions, to learn about public programs, and even to glimpse feeding time in the *Lizards & Snakes: Alive!* exhibition, which was on view during the summer of 2010.

Also this year, the Museum launched its first iPhone applications beginning, naturally, with Dinosaurs, which had 130,000 downloads in the first three weeks alone. And in July, the Museum launched its groundbreaking Explorer app, with Bloomberg as founding sponsor. Explorer is an "internal GPS" personal navigation system, the first of its kind in any Museum in the world, and it solves one of the most basic challenges of visiting our Museum—with so much to see and so many galleries to visit, how do you find your way around and how do you manage to see exactly what you want to see? Visitors may download Explorer on their own devices or borrow an iPod touch at the Museum at no cost.

Of course, it is the Museum's scientific enterprise that provides the foundation for everything that we do and that we share with the public. This year, the Museum achieved an all-time high in competitive federal grant funding for research and educational activities, an important external validation of the vital relevance and impact of our work.

The Richard Gilder Graduate School, the only museum-based Ph.D.-granting graduate school in the nation, received full accreditation in the first year it was eligible to apply, and the Museum has now admitted three classes of superbly promising young scientists into its Ph.D. program in comparative biology. Scientists in the Divisions of Anthropology, Invertebrate Zoology, Vertebrate Zoology, Paleontology, and the Physical Sciences, and in the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation and the Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics, all continued their varied and exciting work, which is described in more detail in the Science section of this Annual Report.

Chartered from its founding as an institution to provide "public instruction," the Museum strongly embraces a commitment to educate the public about science and culture, improve science literacy among the general public, and address the national crisis in science education. Knowing that good science learning comes from good science teaching, this year the Museum provided professional development programs to more than 4,300 K–12 science teachers and hosted over 500,000 schoolchildren visiting with their classes. For the general public the Museum presented hundreds of programs ranging from family workshops to the annual Kwanzaa celebration to the Museum's immensely popular new monthly SciCafe program, which was launched with founding support from Judy and Josh Weston. SciCafe offers adults an opportunity to meet scientists in a casual café setting around a variety of provocative and intriguing topics in science, which this year included the biological basis of greed and altruism, the future of stem cells, and even why humans have sex. Through such programs as SciCafe and myriad others for people of all ages and backgrounds, the Museum continually reinforces the

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT

Traveling the Silk Road: Ancient Pathway to the Modern World **opened in November 2009 and ran through August 2010.**

relevance of science to people's daily lives, demystifies the science-based issues of our time, and makes science a great reason to interact with others, whether that means families learning together or friends sharing a night out.

The Museum's signature science education program Urban Advantage, a consortium of eight science-based cultural institutions together with the New York City Department of Education, continued to grow in numbers of participants and impact. This year, Urban Advantage served 386 teachers and 37,586 students in 174 schools throughout the five boroughs of New York City. Another measure of the impact of programs like Urban Advantage is the ability to bring them to scale, even on a national basis. Urban Advantage is now emerging as a model program that other cities are seeking to replicate. To that end, the Museum continued to consult with representatives from several other U.S. cities hoping to create Urban Advantage programs with their own school systems. As the summer drew to a close, Denver was preparing to launch its own Urban Advantage program for 2010–2011.

Programs such as Urban Advantage, which represent formal, structured partnerships between schools and institutions like the Museum, are pointing the way to a more active, prominent role for non-school-based institutions like ours in helping to remediate the crisis in science education. Indeed, based on the strength of its work, the Museum is increasingly being called upon to take a leadership stance in forging a new role for so-called "informal" science institutions in education reform, teacher training, and student achievement. Institutions like the Museum bring to the challenge not only scientific and educational expertise, but the involvement of working scientists, the real "stuff"—collections of real specimens and artifacts that bring the power of reality to learning—that provide students and teachers alike the opportunity to engage in hands-on, inquiry-based learning.

In March 2010, the Museum was invited to represent the field of science-based cultural institutions in testimony before the House Committee on Science and Technology on the subject of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education, just one example of how the Museum is increasingly engaged at the center of the national conversation on science education, student achievement, and workforce preparedness.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT

More than 700 students exhibited 310 science projects at the 2010 Urban Advantage Science Expo.

All of these initiatives mentioned, as well as the many others detailed throughout this report, are just the latest ways that the Museum interprets and realizes its mission in science and education for a new era, employing new tools, ways of interacting, and technologies to bring the thrill of science and the wonder of human culture to people wherever they are.

In the end it all comes down to people: connecting individuals to science and nature as well as to each other. That means our scientists collaborating with each other and colleagues around the world in new ways. It means educators working with teachers, and exhibition designers working with collaborators across the globe. It means our staff, who makes the place work for our many audiences and who do so with commitment and passion despite the many challenges they face. It means our Trustees, who guide and steward this great institution for today's and future generations. It means our many donors, Members, and volunteers, who connect with what we do and so magnificently support our mission. And it means all of our visitors who, either by walking through our doors or accessing our content in their local museum or online, are deepening a personal connection with science and culture and with the Museum itself.

We are privileged to do this meaningful work, to share the inspiration of the natural world with so many, and we hope you continue to join us on this thrilling and ever-new journey of discovery!

Lewis W. Bernard
Chairman

Ellen V. Futter
President

THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

is one of a kind–a must-visit for New Yorkers and tourists alike.

–**Dan R.**, via Yelp

Visiting from Sao Paolo, Brazil, Jessica Pottini explores the Hall of Primates.

SCIENCE

A leading research institution, the Museum is home to more than 200 scientists working across the broad disciplines of anthropology, biology, paleontology, earth and planetary sciences, and astrophysics, and a world-class collection of more than 32 million specimens and artifacts. Through its Richard Gilder Graduate School, it is also the only U.S. museum to award the Ph.D. degree.

A fossil preparator works on a specimen in the Museum's Division of Paleontology.

SCIENCE

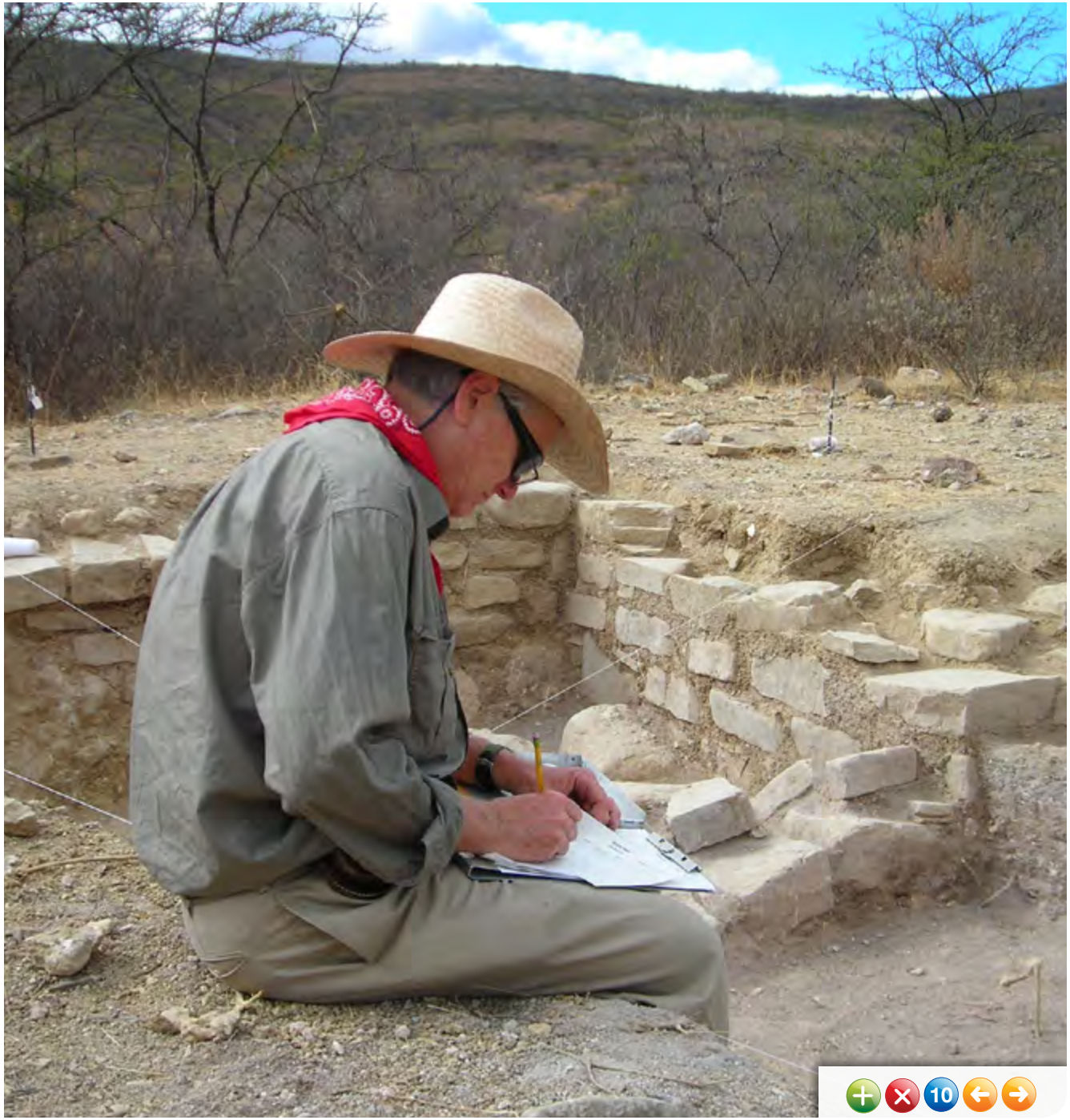
In fiscal 2010, Museum scientists continued to pursue research within the core divisions of Anthropology, Invertebrate Zoology, Paleontology, Physical Sciences, and Vertebrate Zoology, as well as under the auspices of the Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics and the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation. An active fieldwork program, conducted at sites all over the world, contributed to the Museum's extraordinary collections and to research that produced more than 400 publications. The Museum's scientific work was also supported by its superb collections, laboratories, research library, and imaging facility. In addition to the support described below, several activities, including expeditionary work, were supported by the Altman Endowment Fund for Scientific Research.

Notable achievements of the past year are noted below.

DIVISION OF ANTHROPOLOGY

The Anthropology collections were enriched by several important gifts this year. On behalf of Chuck Thurow, the Dale G. Hillerman Collection gave the Museum an important collection of more than 300 prints made between the 1950s and the 2000s by prominent artists from the Haida, Kwakwaka'wakw, Makah, Nuu-Chah-Nulth, Quinault, Salish, Tlingit, and Tsimshian tribes of the Pacific Northwest, among others. A gift from Charles O. Eshelman included three Northwest Coast masks and a Chilkat blanket. Douglas Mayhew gave the Museum more than 100 pieces from the Naga of the India/Burma border, a gift that complements earlier collections of Naga material and expedition films and photographs in the Library Special Collections.

Curator Robert Carneiro completed a book, *The Evolution of the Human Mind: From Supernaturalism to Naturalism, an Anthropological Perspective*, as well as publications on



Continuing archaeological fieldwork in Oaxaca, Mexico, Curator Charles Spencer spent the summer of 2009 excavating the remains of structures in a Zapotec ceremonial precinct dating to 300–100 B.C.

Curator Laurel Kendall photographed votive paper attendants of the Mother Goddess in Hanoi on a research trip in spring 2010.

topics ranging from the relationship between archaeology and ethnology to modern capitalist culture. Dr. Carneiro retired from a distinguished career at the Museum and will continue to contribute as curator emeritus.

Assistant Curator Alex de Voogt initiated research on Nubia as a source of data on the history and migration of writing. He continued his research on the distribution of mancala and mancala-like games in the Middle East as a way of understanding the dispersal of people and their activities over time and across continents.

Division Chair Laurel Kendall published *Shamans, Nostalgias, and the IMF: South Korean Popular Religion in Motion*, a book on the contemporary South Korean shaman world based on 30 years of observation that argues that this is a highly innovative religious practice that has responded to the needs and anxieties of contemporary South Korean society.

Curator Charles S. Spencer continued his long-standing research on the cultural evolution of complex societies. With Research Associate Elsa M. Redmond, Dr. Spencer carried out archaeological excavations at the El Palenque site near San Martín Tilcajete in the Oaxaca Valley, Mexico.

Curator Ian Tattersall investigated the diversity of hominids in the European Pleistocene and worked more broadly on the origins of Homo sapiens as an anatomical and cognitive entity. He also extended his work on the species-level systematics of the Malagasy lemurs and reappraised the influence of Charles Darwin on the current shape of paleoanthropology. Dr. Tattersall retired from a distinguished career at the Museum and will continue to contribute as curator emeritus.

Curator David Hurst Thomas conducted more than four months of archaeological survey and excavation on St. Catherines Island, documenting the oldest known human presence on the island and the oldest pottery north of Mexico. Generous support for Dr. Thomas's work on St. Catherines Island was provided by the Edward John Noble Foundation.

Assistant Curator Paige West conducted field research in Papua New Guinea on the social and ecological effects of oil palm plantations and was instrumental in developing a local school that offers an innovative curriculum in biocultural diversity education.

Curator Peter Whiteley continued his research on "Crow-Omaha" kinship systems, comparing all known examples of this type worldwide and applying the POY4 phylogenetics software developed by his research collaborator, **Curator Ward Wheeler** from the Division of Invertebrate Zoology, to generate new explanations of kinship phenomena.

DIVISION OF INVERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

Curator James Carpenter published extensive documentation of Afrotropical biodiversity, including catalogs of the Madagascar Vespidae fauna and the first installment of a catalog of Afrotropical potter wasps.

Curator Rob DeSalle's work is described in detail in the Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics section.

Curator David Grimaldi continued his fieldwork with an international team conducting research on extensive deposits of 50-million-year-old amber from western India and explored 65-million-year-old deposits, which also contain amber, in the Hell Creek Formation of South Dakota. He published 15 scientific papers this past year on diverse groups of living and fossil insects, including flies, wasps, and termites, among others.

Curator Lee Herman submitted a revision of Procirrina, a subtribe of the Paederinae in the beetle family Staphylinidae, and worked on a revision of the genus Oedichirus of the same subfamily and family.

SCIENCE

Associate Curator Susan Perkins continued her microbial research on several fronts, including her studies of the evolution of malaria parasites in diverse species. In April, she began her one-year tenure as a program director in the National Science Foundation's Division of Environmental Biology.

Peter J. Solomon Family Curator Norman Platnick and Scientific Assistant Nadine Dupérré led a Constantine Niarchos expedition to Ecuador. Fifteen participants in the National Science Foundation (NSF)-sponsored, Museum-led Planetary Biodiversity Inventory project on the goblin spider family Oonopidae spent three weeks collecting at a wide variety of sites on the slopes of the Andes. Dr. Platnick retired from a distinguished career at the Museum and will continue to contribute as curator emeritus.

Associate Curator Lorenzo Prendini published 10 papers, among them a monographic revision and phylogenetic analysis of the blind cave scorpion family Typhlochactidae demonstrating that adaptation to life in caves is not an evolutionary dead end.

Assistant Curator Estefanía Rodríguez continued her research exploring the relationships among deep-sea chemosynthetic and polar sea anemones and contributed to the Museum's marine invertebrate collection, managing the donation of 665 lots of Antarctic sea anemones, totaling more than 2,000 specimens, to the Museum's Cnidaria collection, a 20% increase. Dr. Rodríguez's research is supported by the William T. Golden Fund.

Curator Jerome Rozen, along with Museum research scientist John Ascher, received a three-year National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to establish a collaborative database pooling bee collection data involving 10 institutions around the country.

Curator Randall T. Schuh published a revision of the large Australian plant-bug genus *Wallabicoris* in co-authorship with Paola Pedraza of the New York Botanical Garden. He also collaborated on an updated second edition of his textbook *Biological Systematics: Principles and Applications.*

Curator Mark Siddall conducted expeditionary field work in Peru, finding the highest leech species and new species from the Amazon; organized an international science meeting, Hennig XXIX, in Hawaii, and discovered and described the leech *Tyrannobdella rex*.

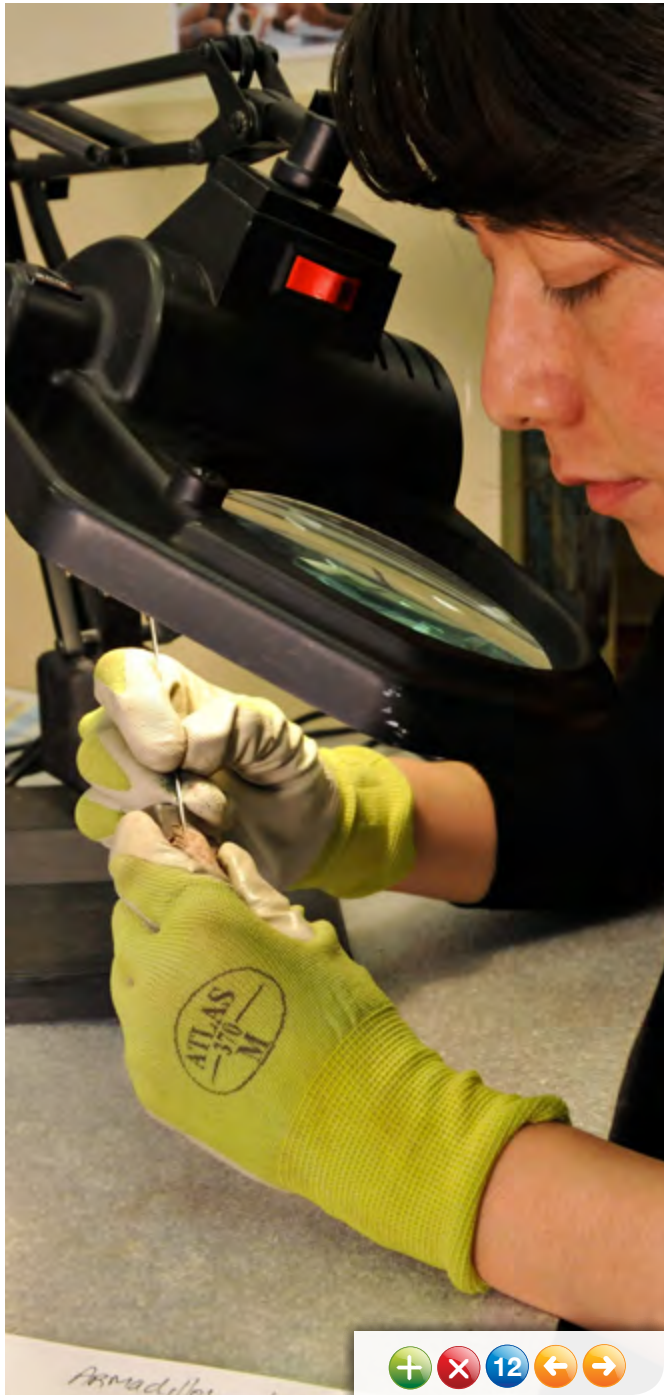
Division Chair Ward Wheeler continued his work in theoretical and empirical systematics. He produced publications concerning the theoretical mathematical properties of various support measures and a description of novel algorithms for phylogenetics. He also produced a metazoan analysis based on nearly 1,500 molecular loci. Dr. Wheeler worked with **Curator Peter Whiteley** from the Division of Anthropology to use phylogenetic trees in the study of human kinship systems.

DIVISION OF PALEONTOLOGY

Curator Niles Eldredge continued his study of Charles Darwin's contributions to western science, reevaluating some of his early seminal work. Dr. Eldredge retired from a distinguished career at the Museum and will continue to contribute as a curator emeritus.

Dean of the Richard Gilder Graduate School and Frick Curator John Flynn continued studies of carnivore phylogeny and the evolution of Southern Hemisphere faunas, particularly in South America. Dr. Flynn was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and was the Clara Jones Langston Lecturer in Vertebrate Paleontology at the University of Texas-Austin.

Curator-in-Charge of Fossil Invertebrates Neil Landman continued work on ammonite communities near and just after the end-Cretaceous extinction event along the Eastern and Gulf Coast seaboards. He also spearheaded the successful efforts to acquire a CT scan facility at the Museum through the National Science Foundation.



Fossil preparator Ana Balcarcel works on the upper jaw of a notoungulate, an extinct hoofed plant-eater native to South America.

Curator Ed Mathez, second from right, accompanied H.R.H. Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark, H.R.H Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden, and H.R.H. Crown Prince Haakon of Norway on an expedition to Greenland. The trip included a visit to this site at 77.5° North latitude, where scientists are drilling through the ice cap to acquire a climate record.

Curator-in-Charge of Fossil Fish John Maisey continued his investigation of the anatomy and systematics of some of the earliest known sharks and their relatives. This work takes him often to the European synchrotron facility in Grenoble, France, which provides high resolution three-dimensional representations of the internal cranial anatomy.

Curator-in-Charge of Fossil Mammals Jin Meng continued his work on the evolution of rodents and rabbits as well as the interrelationship between climatic change and faunal history in the Asian interior. A vigorous field program took Dr. Meng to some of the most remote parts of China.

In addition to his institutional duties, **Provost of Science Michael Novacek** was active in leading the ongoing multi-institutional work on the National Science Foundation (NSF)-sponsored mammalian Tree of Life project. With **Division Chair Mark Norell**, Dr. Novacek also worked on the 20th annual Mongolian Paleontological Expedition in conjunction with the Mongolian Academy of Sciences.

Division Chair and Curator-in-Charge of Fossil Amphibians, Reptiles, and Birds Mark Norell worked on a variety of projects concerning the evolution of birds from typical dinosaurs. In February, he traveled to Romania to describe a new and very unusual dromaeosaur. In addition, Dr. Norell curated the exhibition *Traveling the Silk Road: Ancient Pathway to the Modern World*.

DIVISION OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES

ASTROPHYSICS

Division Chair Mordecai-Mark Mac Low studied the formation of planets and stars in accretion disks. He also modeled supernova-driven galactic winds from galactic disks and bulges, and hypersonic turbulence in star-forming interstellar gas clouds.

Associate Curator Ben R. Oppenheimer won the prestigious Blavatnik Award for Young Scientists from the New York Academy of Science. His Palomar Observatory-based survey of nearby stars for exoplanets discovered objects orbiting several famous stars. Dr. Oppenheimer served on a National Research Council committee that prioritized the next 10 years of NASA space missions in astrophysics.

Curator Michael Shara identified 10,000 pre-supernova candidates (Wolf-Rayet stars) from 50,000,000 field stars in his infrared Galactic Plane Survey. He used the Hubble Space Telescope for a similar survey of the nearest “grand design” spiral galaxy, M101. Dr. Shara also located a second dwarf nova with a classical nova shell, strongly supporting his theory that one evolves into the other.

EARTH AND PLANETARY SCIENCES

Associate Curator Denton Ebel studied particles from comet Wild 2 returned by the NASA Stardust mission. He also investigated the chronology of the earliest solar system solids, magnetic fields on the earliest planetary bodies, and the Cretaceous-Tertiary extinction impact event recorded in New Jersey streambed sediments.

Curator George Harlow published major work on subduction-related processes at preserved collisions of tectonic plates, as recorded by jadeitites (jadeite jade). He showed that aqueous solutions that precipitated jadeitites sampled both continental sediment and altered oceanic basalts.

Curator James Carpenter carried out fieldwork in Singapore and Southeast Asia, collecting colonies of endemic primitively social hover wasps.

Curator Edmond Mathez and his team are studying the Bushveld Complex, an enormous fossil magma body in South Africa and the world's major source of several important metals. They demonstrated that a significant amount of magma was lost from near the top of the solidifying body and proposed that the missing material is represented by a sequence of lavas now sitting on top of the Bushveld.

Curator James Webster simulated magma formation by melting rocks at high temperature and pressure in the experimental petrology laboratory, providing important new insights into the formation of metallic ore deposits and how explosive volcanic eruptions occur. A proposal to continue financial support for the AMNH-Physical Sciences Research Experiences for Undergraduate Students program for the next six years was approved by the National Science Foundation (NSF).

DIVISION OF VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

The Division of Vertebrate Zoology includes four areas: Ichthyology (fishes), Herpetology (reptiles and amphibians), Mammalogy (mammals), and Ornithology (birds). This year the division unveiled a revised website and continued work on a centralized computer database for all collections. Data for Ichthyology, Herpetology, and Mammalogy specimens are now online; data entry for Ornithology is 85% complete. The Osteological Preparation Lab cleaned over 650 skeletons for inclusion in the collections.

ICHTHYOLOGY

Herbert R. and Evelyn Axelrod Curator Melanie L. J. Stiassny and team continued National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded survey work on fishes of the Congo River basin. Results to date corroborate strong habitat partitioning in the lower Congo River and provide a framework to investigate patterns of speciation.

Associate Curator John Sparks continued National Science Foundation (NSF) research on bioluminescence in marine fishes and the evolution of hearing in fishes. A Constantine Niarchos study on the systematics and biogeography of Malagasy/Australian cavefishes continued. Fieldwork included surveys of marine fishes in Vietnam, which resulted in the acquisition of about 15,000 specimens, including numerous new species.

Curator Scott Schaefer continued research on Andean fishes, covering topics on biogeography, diversity, relationships, and anatomy. Investigations are based in part on original fieldwork and involve data sets derived from both DNA sequence and computed tomography.

HERPETOLOGY

Associate Dean of Science for Collections and Curator Darrel Frost continued work on his online catalog of amphibians of the world, as well as systematic studies of amphibian phylogenetics.

Associate Dean of Science for Education and Exhibition and Associate Curator Christopher Raxworthy continued his chameleon systematic research and conducted fieldwork in the Seychelles, Mauritius, and Madagascar, surveying for chameleons and other reptiles and amphibians. His fieldwork in Madagascar was featured in *The New York Times* Science section and the "Scientists at Work" blog.

MAMMALOGY

Curator Ross D. E. MacPhee continued National Science Foundation (NSF)-supported investigations in west Antarctica and received funding for an Antarctic biogeography workshop. He published two papers in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, one on late survival of North American mammoths, the

The Division of Invertebrate Zoology houses more than 24 million specimens, which represent about 500,000 species.

other on climate change and muskoxen distributions during the late Quaternary. In addition, Dr. MacPhee curated the exhibition *Race to the End of the Earth*.

Division Chair Nancy Simmons and team continued work on a large collaborative National Science Foundation (NSF) study to build a Tree of Life for mammals and on a project to use dental features to place many fragmentary fossil taxa into phylogenetic trees of bats. Simmons also began work on a new NSF-supported project to assess relationships of New World Leaf-nosed bats.

Curator Robert Voss continued National Science Foundation (NSF)-supported research on the marsupial family Didelphidae. Voss also edited a volume of the *Bulletin of the American Museum of Natural History* honoring the career contributions of Department of Mammalogy curator emeritus Guy Musser.

ORNITHOLOGY

The department continued active research, collection, and training programs. Six successful expeditions were launched to Peru, Singapore, British Columbia, and parts of the U.S. These resulted in many new tissue, skeletal, and skin specimens.

Curator-in-Charge Joel Cracraft published two major papers on the phylogenetics of the suborder of passerine birds Tyranni as part of his long-term avian Tree of Life initiative. With collaborators from Brazil, he developed a new model for the biogeographic history of Amazonia.

Associate Curator George Barrowclough and team completed a molecular study of phylogeny and geography of the Green Woodpecker in Europe and the Near East.

ROSE CENTER FOR EARTH AND SPACE

HAYDEN PLANETARIUM

The Office of the Director of the Hayden Planetarium operates out of the Department of Astrophysics in the Rose Center for Earth and Space. Its mission is to bring the frontier of astrophysics to the public via exhibitry, books, public programs, and online resources.

In fiscal 2010, **Frederick P. Rose Director of the Hayden Planetarium Neil deGrasse Tyson** continued to serve on the committee of astrophysicists appointed by the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences to prioritize astrophysics projects and funding in the coming decade.

Dr. Tyson's book *The Pluto Files: The Rise and Fall of America's Favorite Planet*, chronicling his first-hand experience with the adverse public reaction to the demotion of Pluto from its planet status, was published in January 2009. A PBS NOVA special of the same name, hosted by Tyson, premiered in March 2010.

On March 15, 2010, Tyson moderated the 2010 Isaac Asimov Memorial Debate on the topic "Moon, Mars, and Beyond: Where Next for the Manned Space Program?" (See p. 47).

RICHARD GILDER GRADUATE SCHOOL

The second year of academic operations for the Richard Gilder Graduate School, faculty, students, and staff continued to build on a successful first year launch of the program.

Over the summer of 2009, most of the students in the inaugural class of the Ph.D. program in comparative biology worked in the field, from Mongolia to the Caribbean, while some took a field-based class in marine biodiversity in Canada offered by Curator Mark Siddall. In the fall, all

CBC scientists carried out research on coral reef biodiversity at Palmyra Atoll.

students passed their qualifying examinations and advanced to candidacy.

In September 2009, the second class of students matriculated to the graduate school: John Denton (living and fossil fishes, computational biology), Alejandro Grajales (genomics of marine invertebrates, evolution in "extreme environments"), Ed Stanley (evolution and life history traits of "spiny-tailed" lizards) and Isabelle Vea (living and fossil scale insects, amber fossils).

November 2009 marked the Richard Gilder Graduate School's receipt of institutional accreditation from the New York State Board of Regents and the Commissioner of Higher Education. This landmark achievement took place after only a single year of academic operations.

In December 2009 the Richard Gilder Graduate School began its third admissions cycle, which resulted in four new students being admitted to its Comparative Biology Ph.D. program. Three additional students were admitted to Columbia University as part of the Richard Gilder Graduate School collaborative Ph.D. programs. In addition, at least nine new postdoctoral fellows will come on board through various Richard Gilder Graduate School fellowships, including the Gerstner Scholars program, the Museum's Chapman fund, and other programs.

CENTER FOR BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

The Center for Biodiversity and Conservation (CBC) continued its efforts to help diminish critical threats to global biological and cultural diversity in marine, freshwater, and terrestrial environments.

On the global stage, **Director Eleanor J. Sterling** represented the Museum at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP-15) in Copenhagen in December 2009. In 2010, the CBC hosted the North American launch of the International Year of Biodiversity and a program on the vital role of biodiversity in children's health.

In the Pacific, the CBC's field studies at the Palmyra Atoll National Wildlife Refuge yielded data on sea turtle population health and genetics, ecological interactions, and threats.

Under the direction of **Dr. Christopher Filardi**, biodiversity scientist for Pacific Programs, the CBC advised on the first protected-areas legislation for the Solomon Islands, a region of exceptional biodiversity.

In the Bahamas, **Senior Conservation Scientist Dan Brumbaugh** and **Outreach Program Manager Meg Domroese** continued to coordinate the Bahamas Biocomplexity Project's research, outreach, and training efforts.

Associate Director Felicity Arengo collaborated with the High Andes Flamingo Conservation Group and Bolivian authorities to vastly expand an important Ramsar-listed wetlands region from 51,000 to nearly 1.5 million hectares.

Capacity development continued to be a primary focus via the Network of Conservation Educators and Practitioners (NCEP). Led by **Drs. Nora Bynum and Ana Luz Porzecanski**, NCEP expanded training in Bolivia, Peru, Lao PDR, Vietnam, the Solomon Islands, and Madagascar.

The Southwest Research Station has worked towards expanding its educational role by attracting more local classes from Tucson's middle schools and high schools.

Support for CBC programs in Bolivia, Peru, Madagascar, Vietnam, Lao PDR, and Solomon Islands was generously provided by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

The CBC's Metropolitan Biodiversity Program, run by **Elizabeth Johnson**, continued to educate local residents about the importance of urban-dwelling invertebrates through its fourth annual Great Pollinator Project and the first-ever New York City Cricket Crawl.

The past year was highly productive for the CBC's Biodiversity Informatics Facility, whose projects focused on modeling Arctic vegetation responses to climate change; conservation capacity building in Southeast Asia; using remote sensing data to predict distributions for birds in North American forests; and examining the biogeography of chameleons in Madagascar.

Late in the fiscal year, the CBC began work on the Student Conference on Conservation Science for graduate students, recent post doctoral fellows, and early career professionals scheduled for November 2010.

The CBC and National Center for Science Literacy, Education and Technology (NCSLET) shared the honors as the Seminars on Science online course "Water: Environmental Science" won Best Professional Development Solution category at the 2010 CODiE Awards, which recognize excellence in business software, digital content, and education technology industries.

SOUTHWESTERN RESEARCH STATION

The Southwestern Research Station (SWRS) in Arizona continues its growth and development. Partial funding is in place for the construction of new dormitories and the renovation of nine units located in three triplexes. A grant has been submitted to the National Science Foundation for the remainder of the funding needed and is pending.

With generous funding from David Rockefeller and from Emily H. Fisher and John Alexander, SWRS also added a new education building and attracted more local classes. SWRS is working with state and federal agencies to reintroduce the endangered Chiricahua leopard frog back into the area.

SACKLER INSTITUTE FOR COMPARATIVE GENOMICS

The Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics (SICG) continued its cutting-edge efforts to apply techniques from molecular evolution and genomics to elucidating the patterns and processes of the diversity of life on the planet, assembling a Tree of Life, and identifying and ameliorating genetic threats to endangered species; to develop and support conservation strategies for retaining genetic diversity; and to map evolutionary relationships among organisms to understand the patterns of emerging infectious diseases. SICG science facilities and programs now support 40 graduate students and 12 postdoctoral DNA Barcoding

Initiative for Conservation (DBIC) fellows. New efforts were supported by significant funding from the Alfred P. Sloan and Richard Lounsbery Foundations. Additional research includes the largest genotyping effort focused on conservation of large cats, funded by the Panthera Corporation and the Cullman Program for Molecular Systematics, generously funded by the Lewis B. and Dorothy Cullman Foundation.

AMBROSE MONELL COLLECTION FOR MOLECULAR AND MICROBIAL RESEARCH

The Monell Collection currently houses 67,037 samples of tissue and DNA representing 6,731 species. The collection increased in fiscal year 2010 by 12,773 samples.

Since 2001, loans of 8,939 samples have been made to scientists worldwide for genetic analysis. The AMCC prepared and supplied more than 6,000 vials in collecting kits to researchers worldwide, including vials for fatalities of threatened and endangered species resulting from the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill that affected Florida's National Parks.

The work of the Sackler Institute is also made possible through the generous support of the Mortimer D. Sackler Foundation, Ambrose Monell Foundation, the Korein Foundation, the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the Department of Defense's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).

OFFICE OF THE CONSERVATOR OF NATURAL SCIENCE COLLECTIONS

The Office of the Conservator of Natural Science Collections oversees conservation efforts across the five scientific divisions, including preventive conservation, collections monitoring, disaster planning and preparedness, risk management, and training for collection management staff, registrars, and exhibition staff. **Director of Conservation Lisa Elkin** assists the associate dean of science for collections in prioritizing

The Museum's collection of moths and butterflies, some 3.5 million specimens, is among the five largest in the world.

More than 3.5 million specimens representing over 35,000 species are archived in the Museum's Vertebrate Zoology collections, ranging from tiny fish and lizards to ostriches, elephants, and even whales.

needs in collections, developing strategies for collections preservation planning, and sourcing funds for collections improvements. In 2010, the Museum received a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), Museums for America program to accomplish a risk evaluation of all collections on exhibit. The office continues to dedicate significant time to the training of conservation interns in the relatively new field of natural science collections conservation.

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

In 2010, the Office of the Registrar assisted with the installation of two major temporary exhibitions, *Traveling the Silk Road: Ancient Pathway to the Modern World* and *Race to the End of the Earth*, as well as a photography exhibition and a number of temporary loans highlighted in the Grand Gallery and in the Morgan Memorial Hall of Gems. The traveling exhibitions registrars oversaw loans for 12 traveling exhibitions and supervised complex installations and de-installations of these shows at host museums throughout the U.S. and in Canada, China, Australia, and Taiwan.

Throughout the year, the registrars assisted scientific staff with wildlife permit questions and applications, organized a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Regulations workshop for Museum scientific staff, and hosted popular behind-the-scenes tours of the permanent collections for two groups of USFWS.

LIBRARY SERVICES

The Library continued to build on efforts to increase access to, preserve, and grow its collections. The published papers of the annual James Arthur Lecture were digitized and added to the growing body of Museum publications available in our digital repository.

As a founding member of the Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL)—a consortium of 12 major natural history museums libraries, botanical libraries, and research institutions to digitize and preserve the legacy literature of biodiversity—Library

staff continued to be involved in BHL efforts to incorporate additional publications and enhance tools offered for research. In March, the Library hosted BHL's annual Institutional Council's meeting.

The Museum received a large gift of 2,462 books from the estate of Ronald S. Wilkinson, a historian of science.

MICROSCOPY AND IMAGING FACILITY

The Microscopy and Imaging Facility (MIF) provides research staff with time and training on advanced imaging technology, including a computed tomography scanner, two scanning electron microscopes, a laser scanning confocal microscope, specimen preparation instrumentation, and a digital image processing suite.

This year, the MIF acquired a new GE Phoenix V/tome/x Dual-Tube Computed Tomography Scanner under a Major Research Instrumentation grant funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), a new Zeiss Laser Scanning Confocal Microscope funded through NASA, and a Nordif Electron Backscatter Diffraction system. These recent acquisitions include some of the most advanced imaging technology available, serving to further museum research initiatives.

More than 100 research staff, students, and visiting scientists used the facility's resources in 2010. Major scientific projects include high-resolution imaging of interstellar dust samples and morphological characterization of invertebrates.

An image of a *Nautilus pompilius*, a newly hatched specimen recovered in Fiji in the 1930s, taken with the new CT scanner.

THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY HAS A LONG TRADITION OF EXPLORATION,

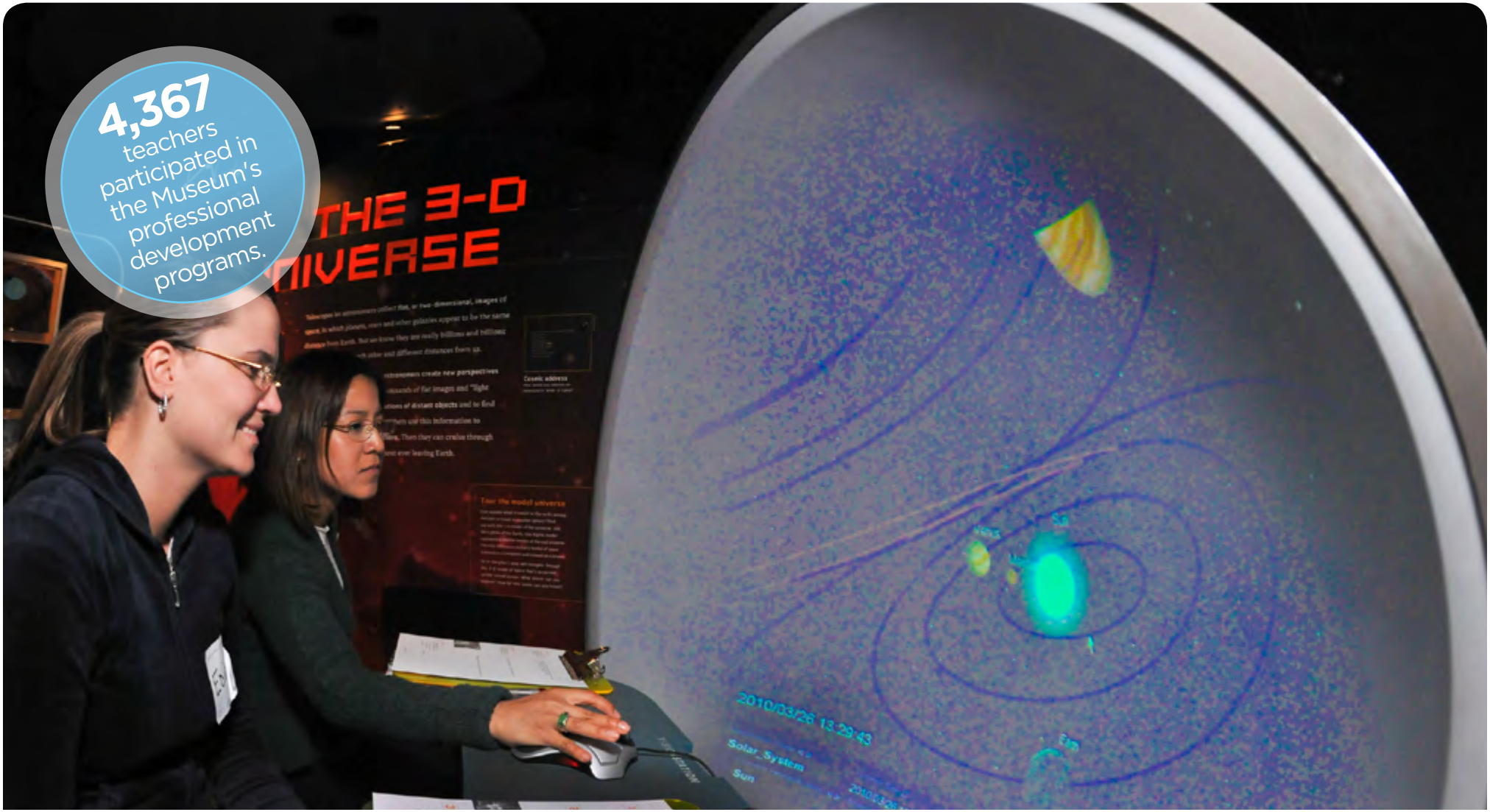
including the anthropological work of the Jessup North Pacific Expedition of 1897, the zoological and ethnographic work undertaken by Herbert Lang and James Chapin in the Congo Basin from 1909 to 1915, the multidisciplinary Central Asiatic Expeditions of the 1920s led by Roy Chapman Andrews, and the seven Archbold Expeditions to New Guinea and Australia that took place between 1933 and 1964. Fieldwork is a core component of the Museum's research and collection development activities. The Museum sends out approximately 120 field expeditions each year and offers students in the Richard Gilder Graduate School the opportunity to participate in expeditions as part of their training.

Selected FY2010 expeditions are highlighted below.

WE LOVE THE DISCOVERY ROOM...

the hands-on displays are set up so that exploration is totally natural, and even though we visit often, there is always something new to discover.
–**Christine E.**

The Discovery Room welcomes approximately 115,000 visitors each year.



Teachers explore interactive exhibits in the *Discovering the Universe* Moveable Museum during a professional development event.

EDUCATION

The Museum's work in education represents an innovative leap forward in defining how science-rich cultural institutions can support lifelong science learning in 21st-century America.

EDUCATION

Children as young as two meeting small vertebrates. Teens receiving mentoring while working on scientific research projects. Teachers mastering the art of imparting the process of scientific inquiry, and adults of all backgrounds keeping the Museum's doors open late into the evening with conversations about astronomy, world cultures, or the eroding Arctic icecap and its impact on global security. In 2010, learners of all ages and backgrounds found relevance and rigor in the wide slate of educational offerings at the Museum that supported their academic progress, their careers, their interests, and their role as informed citizens.

MASTERING THE ART OF TEACHING SCIENCE

In fiscal 2010, the Museum's increasingly important work in teacher professional development and commitment to measuring its impact on children's engagement and achievement in science contributed to enhancing teaching in science and supporting college preparedness for a new generation of students.

The Museum's work with teachers of science in pre-K to grade 12 schools is one of the longest-running and most dynamic aspects of its education programs. Museum founder Albert Bickmore offered the first workshops for New York City public school science teachers at the Museum in 1880. The Museum has always provided what few other classrooms could—an environment rich in scientific resources, collections, and committed knowledgeable science educators. Educating teachers of science, whether in New York City or throughout the nation, has remained an institutional priority.

As the nation has fallen behind in student achievement in science, teaching science and the so-called STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) disciplines has become an even more critical imperative—as has the Museum's leadership role in this field. Several longstanding and new initiatives define how teachers draw on the resources and expertise of the Museum.

Students in the Science and Nature Program examine a cow heart in a Veterinary Science class.

EDUCATION

The Saltz Internship program offers high school students the opportunity to work as educators in the Museum's halls.

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR URBAN ADVANTAGE MIDDLE SCHOOL INITIATIVE

The Museum has created an intensive approach to professional learning for schools that participate in the Urban Advantage Middle School Initiative, a pioneering education program spearheaded by the Museum that helps 7th and 8th graders pursue investigations at eight science-rich New York City institutions—including the New York Hall of Science, the Bronx Zoo, the New York Aquarium, the New York Botanical Garden, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, the Queens Botanical Garden, and the Staten Island Zoo, in addition to the Museum—and to complete their science exit project, a requirement of the New York City Department of Education for advancement to high school. The Urban Advantage Leadership Institute is a series of professional development workshops aimed at whole school improvement in the teaching and learning of middle school science that creates opportunities for cross-disciplinary learning, drawing on disciplines such as social studies and language arts. Teams from participating schools—including the principal, assistant principal, science teachers from all the grades, the parent coordinator, and a representative of one of the Urban Advantage partner institutions—convene for a multi-day program that focuses on mastering inquiry learning, engaging students in informal science experiences to provide relevance and inspiration, examining student data with a view to developing strategies to address differentiated student learning, involving families at school and during Museum visits, and measuring outcomes for teachers and students. The Leadership Institute has been funded by the Educational Foundation of America.

eSCIENCE

In a new partnership with the New York City Department of Education, the Museum is working with more than 30 schools across grades 4 through 10 in two of Brooklyn's critical-needs districts on a professional development program that supports teachers' mastery of scientific content, use of technology in classroom instruction, and informal science learning. Museum educators will work on-site with teachers during the next three years to develop curricula that use state-of-the-art technology, such as "eportfolios," online educational tools that allow teachers and students to create websites that reflect educational goals and measure achievement. The Museum's cutting-edge science media such as Science Bulletins and the OLogy website will be part of a new "toolkit" that teachers can use to engage students in science learning. A grant from the Louise Calder Foundation enabled the Museum to begin developing a new web-based interface for teachers that maps its science media assets to the scope and sequence of science learning that is recommended by the New York City Department of Education. The scope and sequence is aligned to the New York State standards for science learning in order to prepare students for college and empower them with 21st-century skills.

SEMINARS ON SCIENCE

Through a total of 51 offerings over six sessions, the Seminars on Science online course program served approximately 1,091 educators in fiscal 2010. The newest offering, Water: Environmental Science, won the Best Professional Development Solution category at the 2010 CODiE Awards, which recognize excellence in business software, digital content, and education technology industries.

EDUCATION

LIFELONG LEARNING

Informal learning has often been called the opportunity for "lifelong learning," as it affords the opportunity for education, knowledge acquisition, skill-building, and inspiration outside of school.

The Museum's pipeline of out-of-school programs for toddlers through undergraduates includes some of the most sought-after classes and camps in New York City. The content of the classes, which span many areas of science, nature, and cultural education, provides the opportunity for engagement that ranges from simple enjoyment to rigorous research.

Highlights from 2010 are listed below.

SCIENCE AND NATURE PROGRAM

This one-of-a-kind early childhood program within the Museum incorporates both formal and informal education for children ages two through 12 and their families. Its unique approach enables parents to become actively involved in supporting their children's science learning, whether at the Museum or at home. By beginning early in the pre-school years, the program establishes the foundations for development of scientific skills of observation and inquiry. Its emphasis on appreciation and awareness of the natural world–not always readily accessible to city children–has been demonstrably successful. The Science and Nature Program has also succeeded in establishing long-term partnerships with early childhood programs in public schools and community centers in Manhattan and the Bronx, such as Goddard Riverside and Phipps Community Development Corporation. Partnerships include visits to the Museum for children, parents, and teachers, as well as professional development for Head Start staff. The durability of these relationships means that science has a definite presence in the curricula of these sites.

The Science and Nature Program is expanding and adding sections at all age levels to accommodate new applicants as

The Sackler Educational Laboratory for Comparative Genomics and Human Origins offers special programs for school groups and general visitors.

The Museum's Science and Nature Program celebrated its 12th year of partnership with the Goddard Riverside Community Center's Head Start Program.

most children and families remain in the program throughout their elementary school careers, establishing the Museum as a place of great importance, in addition to school and home, where young people find the formative experiences that shape their lives.

YOUTH INITIATIVES

The pipeline's programs include **Adventures in Science**, a series of hands-on workshops and camps that explore a variety of scientific topics; **After-School Program**, science courses for high school students; **Lang Science Program** a multi-year program that includes courses during the school year and throughout the summer; the **Saltz Internship Program,** an intensive learning and work experience for high school students to bring to life scientific concepts in the Museum's halls; the **Museum Education and Employment Program (MEEP)**, a paid summer internship to develop and present tours to summer visitors; and the **Science Research Mentoring Program (SRMP)**, a highly competitive multi-year program for high school students funded by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation.

New York Life Foundation supports the Museum's outreach efforts to recruit and retain students from groups under-represented in the sciences with a grant that supports the After School Program, Lang Science Program, and Museum Education and Employment Program.

MUSEUM EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

In May 2010, the Museum revived its Museum Education and Employment Program (MEEP), bringing back the college-aged portion of its science education pipeline. MEEP's 35 participants received a month of training to learn the scientific and anthropological content of the Museum's exhibition halls and to develop a theme-based tour. For the rest of the summer, MEEP participants led tours for the thousands of children attending the Museum with their camp groups, enhancing these visitors' educational experience at the Museum.

SCIENCE RESEARCH MENTORING PROGRAM

The NASA-supported Science Research Mentoring Program (SRMP) offers five free astrophysics and Earth and planetary sciences courses, taught by Museum educators and scientists, through the Museum's After School Program. The 18 top students are then offered a mentorship with one of the scientists during the school year, including participation in their mentor's research. The program focuses on students from groups underrepresented in the sciences.

EDUCATION

A student in the Science and Nature Program mounts a butterfly for preservation (left). MEEP participants work with specimen carts in the fossil halls.

In June 2010, the Museum graduated its first cohort of students who had spent two years in the National Science Foundation-supported Science Research Mentoring Program. The 33 students had taken foundational and lab skills courses, followed by a year-long mentorship with a Museum scientist that included research in the biological sciences or anthropology. Students presented their research in June; all high school seniors in the group gained acceptance to college, including to highly competitive institutions such as Carnegie Mellon, Dartmouth, Duke, Stanford, the United States Naval Academy, and Wesleyan. Survey data indicated that the majority of graduating SRMP students planned to pursue a career in science, medicine, or engineering.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

The Museum's Education Department also offers a rich array of courses, lectures, and programs for adults, providing opportunities for immersion in authentic science research, access to experts, and participation in debate on significant scientific and cultural issues throughout the year.

MEASURING IMPACT

The Museum supports its education research and practices with a multi-pronged approach to measuring impact on students, teachers, families, and audiences of all ages. Every education program's development and implemention includes surveying participants' knowledge, creating measures of engagement, and working with outside evaluators and researchers. The Museum aligns its work in evaluation, assessments, and research with state and national standards in addition to creating its own measures that go beyond even these benchmarks.

Measurable outcomes have been demonstrated for all programs, beginning with the early childhood programs in **Science and Nature**, which serve two- to 12-year-olds. The Program encourages the development of science vocabulary, inquiry, and knowledge of the natural environment. Evidence collected from parents shows how children extend or apply what they learn in the Museum to everyday experiences: for example, a five-year-old who said he was a "carnivore" when refusing to eat vegetables. Collectively, these whimsical statements serve as indicators of how foundations for science learning are acquired.

In 2010, the Institute for Education and Social Policy at New York University completed a preliminary impact analysis of the Museum's Urban Advantage program. Based on 2007-08 New York City middle school data, the percent of students at Urban Advantage schools who met the science standards was 53.5 percent, an increase of almost 10 percent from the previous year, compared to 48.6 percent among non-Urban Advantage schools—a statistically significant difference.

I LOVE THIS PLACE! I COULD SPEND THE WHOLE DAY HERE getting lost among the exhibits. The Hayden Planetarium is an absolute joy, my favorite place in New York City. –**Karen S**., via Yelp

Visitors from Osaka, Japan, use the scales in the Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Hall of the Universe, which display weights on Mars, Jupiter, and other celestial bodies.

The major exhibition *Traveling the Silk Road: Ancient Pathway to the Modern World* included an interactive table-top map of the legendary trade route.

EXHIBITION

The Exhibition Department interprets the work of the Museum's scientists and highlights the Museum's world-class collections using the latest technology and design approaches to explore important scientific and cultural subjects in major temporary exhibitions.

EXHIBITION

Visitors of all ages, learning levels, and backgrounds visited the permanent and special exhibitions created by the Museum's Exhibition Department in fiscal 2010.

MAJOR TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

TRAVELING THE SILK ROAD: ANCIENT PATHWAY TO THE MODERN WORLD

Traveling the Silk Road, which brought to life the most celebrated trade route in human history through evocative sights, sounds, and artifacts, was at the Museum from November 14, 2009, to August 15, 2010, in Gallery 3.

Named for the treasured fabric that attracted traders from all over the world, the Silk Road stretched 4,600 miles from the far reaches of China through Central Asia and the Middle East and spread scientific knowledge, technological advances, folklore, art, history, and religious beliefs. This exhibition transported visitors to four ancient cities along the route via re-creations of ancient settings that featured life-sized models, engaging videos, and hands-on activities to tell the story of the Silk Road's golden age, from AD 600 to 1200, and its influence on the world in the centuries that followed. More than 90 exceptional cultural artifacts from museums around the world as well as from the Museum's own anthropology collections enriched the visitor's experience of this fascinating world.

Traveling the Silk Road was divided into seven sections and highlighted four ancient cities that embodied different aspects of the trade route.

The entry included three life-sized camel models decked out in full caravan regalia and loaded with trade goods against a 120-foot-long mural depicting a desert landscape. A map showing the network of trade routes that constituted the Silk Road sent the visitors on their journey.

The first stop: **Xi'an**, China's Tang Dynasty capital, which by this time had been transformed into a cosmopolitan city—the largest in the world with more than a million residents—by the

In the Baghdad section of the exhibition, visitors tried out a working model of an ancient Islamic astrolabe.

A Museum artist works on a model of a camel for *Traveling the Silk Road: Ancient Pathway to the Modern World.*

luxury silk trade. Xi'an featured a display of live silkworms, a video, and a massive replica of a Tang-era loom from the China National Silk Museum in Hangzhou, in addition to a Chinese Buddha statue and an ancient reliquary from the Metropolitan Museum of Art that highlighted the diffusion of Buddhism.

Next, lush **Turfan** transported visitors to a night market with silks, jewels, furs, feathers, fruits, spices, and fragrances. A detailed reproduction of its irrigation system demonstrated how this oasis city tapped rainwater, melting snow, and glaciers to provide water for its people and crops.

In **Samarkand**, visitors viewed a computer-animated book of illustrated tales from China, Central Asia, and the Middle East. Samarkand, in present-day Uzbekistan, was a major trading city for long-distance caravan merchants and a center of fine papermaking and metalwork. Artifacts in this section included a Chinese print of a Buddhist prayer from AD 947, a 13th-century Koran from Columbia University, Persian coins, and a 1,300-year-old silver bowl from Iran. An interactive electronic tabletop map invited visitors to discover the links among cultures, technology, and geography along the Silk Road.

Baghdad showcased a hub of commerce and scholarship in its golden age. A sophisticated working model of a water clock and an ancient Islamic astrolabe were featured along with some extraordinary Islamic glass cups and a decorative glass bottle and pitcher, dating from AD 500 to 1000, from the Corning Museum of Glass.

The next section charted the shift from land to maritime routes in the ninth and tenth centuries. It featured a scale model of an Arabian sailing ship, a gift from the Government of the Sultanate of Oman, through the Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center, Washington, D.C. A second, full-size model of part of a ship included a walk-through portion that revealed a cargo of ceramics and elaborate metalwork. The conclusion included an engaging epilogue connecting the Silk Road to today's global economy.

Traveling the Silk Road: Ancient Pathway to the Modern World was curated by Mark Norell, chairman and curator-in-charge of the Division of Paleontology at the Museum, with guest co-curator William Honeychurch, of the Department of Anthropology at Yale University, and consultant Denise Leidy, curator of the Department of Asian Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The exhibition was designed and produced by the American Museum of Natural History's Department of Exhibition.

The exhibition was organized by the American Museum of Natural History in collaboration with Azienda Speciale Palaexpo, Roma, Italy and Codice. Idee per la cultura srl, Torino, Italy; the National Museum of Australia, Canberra, Australia and Art Exhibitions Australia; and the National Museum of Natural Science, Taichung, Taiwan and United Daily News, Taipei, Taiwan.

The presenting sponsor of *Traveling the Silk Road* was MetLife Foundation. Additional support was provided by Mary and David Solomon. The Silk Road Project Residency, which organized live performances in the exhibition on Sunday afternoons, was generously supported by Rosalind P. Walter. The Museum greatly appreciates Nancy Fessenden's support for Yo-Yo Ma and The Silk Road Project collaboration on the residency and other exhibition programs.

EXHIBITION

RACE TO THE END OF THE EARTH

Race to the End of the Earth, which ran from May 29, 2010, to January 2, 2011, in Gallery 4, told one of the most stirring tales of Antarctic exploration: the contest to be first to the South Pole. The exhibition focused on the challenges that two competing explorers—Norwegian Roald Amundsen and Captain Robert Falcon Scott of the British Royal Navy—faced as they undertook their 1,800-mile journeys from the edge of the Ross Ice Shelf to the Pole and back in 1911–1912.

The exhibition also examined the legacy of the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration by linking these expeditions with past and present research on this unique continent.

Race to the End of the Earth featured photographs, paintings, and rare artifacts from the expeditions. Interactive exhibits depicted Antarctic travel 100 years ago, as well as what it is like to conduct research there today. The exhibition re-created how Amundsen and Scott prepared for their polar journeys and how they met, or were defeated by, the numerous hurdles they faced.

The **Introduction** immersed visitors in a soundscape that simulated the icy, windswept Antarctic landscape. A film introduced the two leaders, their goals, and their crews and posed the question, "Who will reach the South Pole first?"

First Glimpses examined early exploration of the region, when no one knew whether Antarctica was a continent or a collection of islands. Objects in this section included an interactive map, a copy of Captain James Cook's *A Voyage toward the South Pole,* and paintings depicting the ships of Sir James Clark Ross, who discovered the ice shelf that now bears his name.

The Race Begins highlighted Scott and Amundsen's early years. Visitors followed each man's journey from his homeland to the Antarctic, learning about their crews and ships: Scott with 64 men on the *Terra Nova*, and Amundsen with 18 men on the *Fram*. Artifacts included Scott's and Amundsen's pocket watches, a replica of a scenic painting, and a camera and a violin from the vessels.

The exhibition included detailed life-sized re-creations of Scott's and Amundsen's base camps, including Scott's hut, depicted here, and the Norwegians' underground workrooms.

EXHIBITION

Two Teams, One Goal focused on both crews' base camps. While viewing life-sized re-creations of Scott's hut and Amundsen's underground workrooms, visitors learned what the men ate and wore, what they did in their spare time, and how they prepared for the land journey. Scott's scientific investigations, highlighted in a diorama depicting a dangerous five-week expedition to collect penguin eggs, were also featured in this section. Original artifacts on display included a sledge, medical kit, and man-hauling gear as well as Amundsen's skis, gun, and wolf-fur coat.

To the Pole followed each team on their journey to the South Pole and featured Amundsen's binoculars, a replica of a Norwegian tent, and a re-creation of daily rations. On December 14, 1911, Amundsen and his men became the first to reach the South Pole, leaving a flag and the tent for Scott to find. The British would not reach the Pole until nearly five weeks later.

Back from the Pole described how each team fared on their return journeys. Amundsen and his crew returned to base camp ahead of schedule in January 1912 and set sail to announce their victory. Scott's team was not so lucky. One crewmember died in February; another disappeared in March. The remaining men perished during a nine-day blizzard the same month. The world did not learn of their fate until almost a year later, when the men were found frozen in their sleeping bags. Artifacts in this section included Scott's sealskin overshoes, one of his final letters, and geological samples the team had collected. A video recounted the end of each team's journey.

Antarctica Today highlighted events in Antarctica since the race and offered a look at the continent today. An interactive map allowed visitors to visualize weather systems and ocean currents, watch an iceberg calve, and learn about how climate change in this area may affect the planet. A model of a leopard seal, underwater footage of sea creatures, and casts of fossils were featured in addition to garments and a prefabricated igloo used by the U.S. Antarctic Program.

Museum Members explore the interactive exhibits in *Race to the End of the Earth* during the Members' preview.

Senior Project Manager Stephen Quinn paints the background of the Emperor Penguin diorama for *Race to the End of the Earth*.

The exhibition was curated by Ross D. E. MacPhee, curator in the Department of Mammalogy, Division of Vertebrate Zoology, and was designed and produced by the American Museum of Natural History's Department of Exhibition. Special thanks went to the Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge, England, and The Fram Museum, Oslo, Norway, for their invaluable assistance during the creation of this exhibition.

Race to the End of the Earth was organized by the American Museum of Natural History, in collaboration with Musée des Confluences, Lyon, France, and Royal BC Museum, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

Generous support for *Race to the End of the Earth* was provided by the Eileen P. Bernard Exhibition Fund, Marshall P. and Rachael Levine, and Drs. Harlans B. and Natasha Levine. Additional support was provided by the Government of the United Kingdom and the National Science Foundation under Grant No. ANT 0636639.

SEASONAL EXHIBITIONS

A perennial favorite returned to the Museum for its third installation featuring more than 200 live frogs: *Frogs: A Chorus of Colors* (May 30, 2009–January 3, 2010) in Gallery 77.

Lizards & Snakes: Alive! (March 6–September 6, 2010) in Gallery 77, a returning exhibition, showcased more than 60 live lizards and snakes representing 27 species from all over the world.

The Butterfly Conservatory: Butterflies Alive in Winter (October 10, 2009–May 31, 2010), returned for its 12th successful year.

OTHER TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

SPIDER SILK

A spectacular and extremely rare textile, woven from golden-colored silk thread produced by more than one million golden orb spiders in Madagascar, was displayed from September 23, 2009, to October 13, 2010, in the Museum's Grand Gallery. This contemporary textile measured 11 feet by 4 feet and took four years to create using a painstaking technique developed more than 100 years ago.

The curator was Ian Tattersall, curator emeritus in the Division of Anthropology, with consulting by Norman Platnick, curator emeritus in the Division of Invertebrate Zoology. The textile was on loan from Simon Peers and Nicholas Godley.

WALLACE'S CABINET

On the 150th anniversary of the publication of Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection,* a long-lost collections cabinet reportedly designed by and belonging to Alfred Russel Wallace (1823–1913)—the influential British naturalist and thinker whose independent insights and writings on evolution spurred Darwin to finish his seminal work—was on display in the Grand Gallery (November 24, 2009–March 22, 2010). The beautifully crafted rosewood cabinet contained nearly 2,000 sorted specimens, material that Wallace likely collected while in the tropics and in England.

The curator for the Wallace cabinet was David Grimaldi, curator in the Division of Invertebrate Zoology.

The following exhibitions were produced with support from the Arthur Ross Foundation:

In the IMAX Gallery, *Highway of An Empire: The Great Inca Road* (October 17, 2009–September 26, 2011), an exhibition of more than 50 striking photographs featured the 25,000 miles of roads and trails that the Incas built six centuries ago in South America.

In the Akeley Gallery, *On Feathered Wings* (June 15, 2008–May 1, 2011) presented spectacular photographs of birds in flight.

Alfred Russel Wallace's cabinet offers a rare glimpse into the methods of the influential British naturalist and thinker.

The "Locomotion" interactive exhibit from *Extreme Mammals* won the 2010 Silver Communicator Award of Distinction.

AWARDS

Extreme Mammals: The Biggest, Smallest, and Most Amazing Mammals of All Time

Graphic Design USA Inhouse Design Award 2010

2010 Silver Communicator Award of Distinction for "Locomotion" interactive

2010 Silver Communicator Award of Distinction for "Isolation" video

HOW's In-HOWse Design Merit Award; awarded one of 80 chosen from a pool of 1,200

Traveling the Silk Road: Ancient Pathway to the Modern World

2010 Silver Communicator Award of Distinction for "Silk Road Map" interactive exhibit

2010 Silver Communicator Award of Distinction for "Silk Road: Inside View" video

Recognized by the American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA), in the premier graphic design awards program. *Traveling the Silk Road* was one of 126 examples of outstanding design selected from a pool of 2,500 entries.

2010 CINE Award for "Stories of the Silk Road" video

AS A LATINA FROM THE BRONX, I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FASCINATED by the history of the indigenous peoples of the Americas. The Museum was the place to go see actual artifacts–so much better than a textbook or anything a teacher could describe.
–**Roseann S.**, via amnh.org

Lori Repass, visiting from North Carolina, explores the artifacts in the Hall of Mexico and Central America.

Mobile applications offer a unique way of communicating the Museum's mission.

DIGITAL MUSEUM

In a world with a diverse array of channels for creating and sharing information, the Museum takes advantage of digital platforms to reach a global audience.

DIGITAL MUSEUM

The Digital Media team was established in fiscal year 2009 to extend the reach of the Museum's collections, exhibitions, and educational programs through new and emerging channels. The Museum continued to build its digital presence in fiscal 2010 through several key initiatives.

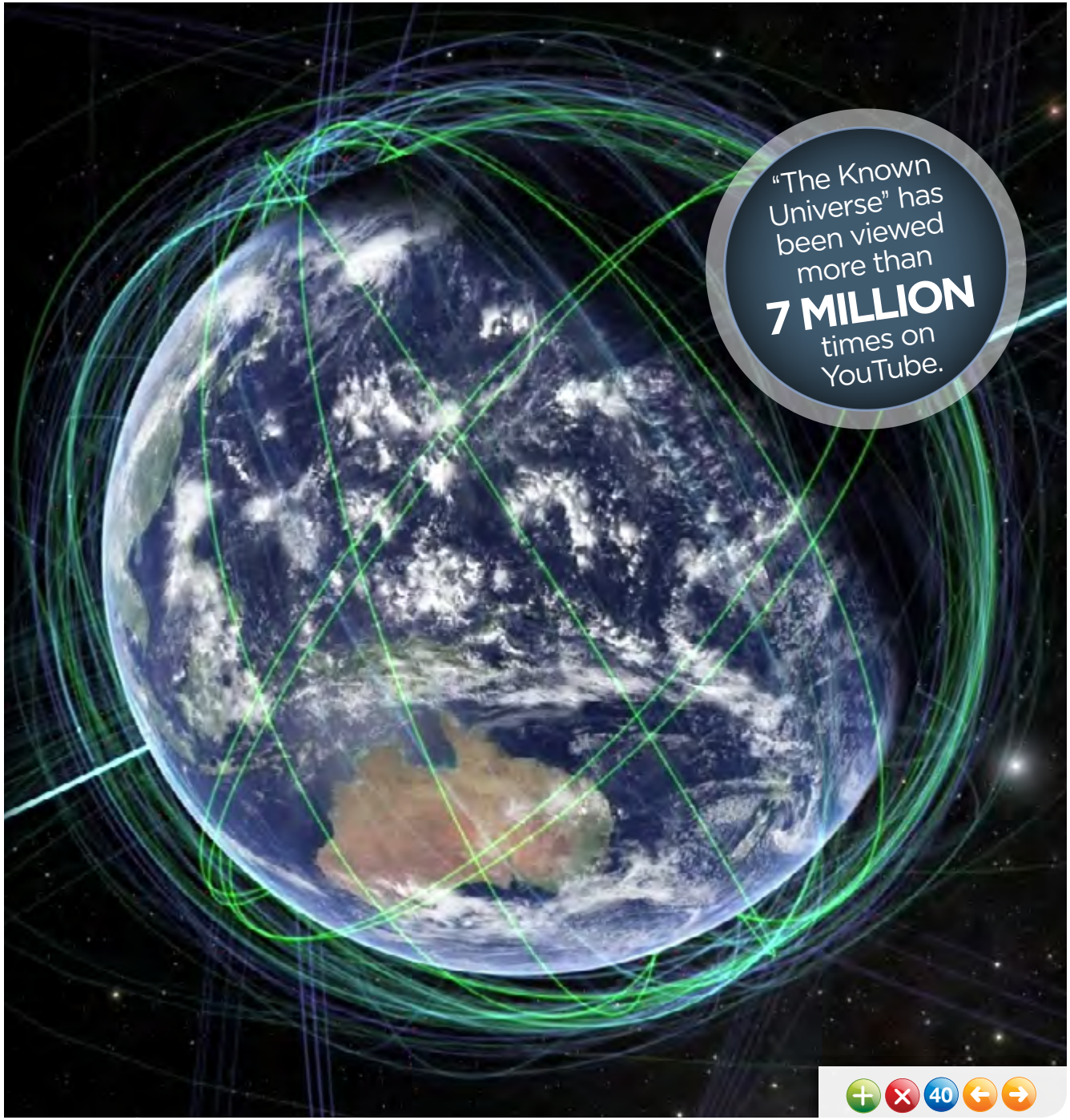
In November 2009, the Museum updated its website, amnh.org, to highlight current exhibitions and programs and to simplify the process of planning a visit online.

In addition, the Museum continued to build its digital presence by creating a YouTube channel for original online videos and by launching its first official mobile application for iPhone and iPod touch.

"THE KNOWN UNIVERSE" ON YouTube

On December 15, 2009, "The Known Universe"—a six-minute visualization of a journey from Earth to the edge of observable space and back—was first posted on the Museum's YouTube channel. Since then, it has been watched more than 7 million times by viewers around the world.

Produced by the Museum, "The Known Universe" was developed using the Digital Universe Atlas, the world's most complete four-dimensional map of the cosmos, which is maintained by astrophysicists and data visualization staff working in the Hayden Planetarium in the Museum's Rose Center for Earth and Space. "The Known Universe" was developed for the exhibition *Visions of the Cosmos: From the Milky Ocean to an Evolving Universe* at the Rubin Museum of Art in New York City from December 11, 2009, through May 10, 2010.



The Digital Universe Atlas, the world's largest map of the cosmos, was created and is maintained by the Hayden Planetarium at the American Museum of Natural History.

DIGITAL MUSEUM

AMNH.ORG YouTube CHANNEL

The Museum dramatically expanded its original online video offerings and earned a strong following on the official AMNHorg YouTube channel, which became one of YouTube's most-viewed channels among non-profits.

The Museum's YouTube channel showcases scientific research, collections, exhibitions, and public programs to diverse audiences around the world, with the goal of providing online visitors with unique access and an engaging experience. Examples include "*The Science of Journey to the Stars*," which featured Curators Mordecai Mark Mac-Low and Ben Oppenheimer discussing the creation of the Museum's Space Show. Posted on the Museum's YouTube channel in November 2009, the video earned more than 50,000 views. A video about the Museum's ichthyology collection, posted in June 2010, featured Curator Melanie L. J. Stiassny, who led viewers on an exclusive tour that highlighted several specimens in this world-class collection.

In addition, the Museum's YouTube channel features videos about major exhibitions; videos produced by Science Bulletins, the Museum's online and exhibition program that highlights the latest developments in the fields of astrophysics, Earth science, biodiversity, and human biology and evolution; and videos about other newsworthy events.

DINOSAURS APP FOR iPHONE AND iPOD TOUCH

Mobile applications serve as innovative educational tools and offer a unique means of communicating the Museum's mission to a global digital audience. Taking advantage of the latest technologies to bring an iconic collection to a broader audience, the Museum launched its first application for the iPhone and iPod touch on February 1, 2010, with Dinosaurs: American Museum of Natural History Collections.

Dinosaurs, which features more than 800 stunning images from the Museum's vast archives, is accessible to audiences of all ages and provides dinosaur enthusiasts with an entirely new way to discover the Museum's premier paleontological collection, one of the largest in the world. Accompanying text includes the science behind each featured species, stories about specimens' discoveries, and profiles of famous fossil hunters.

In the first three weeks, the app was downloaded more than 140,000 times in all 90 markets served by the Apple App Store. Dinosaurs remained the number-one educational download on the iTunes store for months after its release and was downloaded more than 300,000 times over the course of fiscal 2010.

The release of an app is only the beginning of its digital lifespan. Each application in the American Museum of Natural History Collections platform allows the Museum to regularly update content and showcase additional items in the collections while keeping its growing online audience connected and engaged.

Museum exhibitions are developed by research scientists in collaboration with the Museum's renowned design, media, and exhibition teams.

GLOBAL CONTENT DISSEMINATION

Numerous exhibitions, Space Shows, the Digital Universe Atlas, and Science Bulletins produced by Museum scientists and staff were seen in more than 20 countries during fiscal year 2010, broadening the reach of the Museum's exhibitions and educational content far beyond its walls.

GLOBAL CONTENT DISSEMINATION FY 2010

SCIENCE BULLETINS

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

THE DIGITAL UNIVERSE

AMNH'S atlas of the observable universe

SPACE SHOWS

- **Field Trip to the Moon**
- **Cosmic Collisions**
- **SonicVision**
- **The Search for Life:** Are We Alone?
- **Passport to the Universe**

TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS

- **The Endurance:** Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition
- **Water:** H2O = Life
- **Einstein**
- **Dinosaurs:** Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries
- **Darwin**
- **Climate Change:** The Threat to Life and A New Energy Future
- **Mythic Creatures:** Dragons, Unicorns, & Mermaids
- **The Nature of Diamonds**
- **The Horse**
- **Gold!**
- **Lizards & Snakes:** Alive!
- **The Genomic Revolution**
- **Extreme Mammals**

On February 10, 2010, more than 400 people gathered in the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life for the United Nations' North American launch of the International Year of Biodiversity.

AMNH CONVENES

As part of its mission to discover, interpret, and disseminate knowledge, the Museum brings together experts, policymakers, students, and the public at large each year to encourage connections and to foster dialogue about some of the most compelling issues of our time.

SCICAFE AT THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

October 2009–June 2010

In fiscal 2010, with founding support from Museum Trustee Judy Weston and her husband, Josh, the Museum launched an exciting monthly series to bring together inquisitive minds for an informal evening of cocktails and conversation about cutting-edge science topics. Led by Museum scientists as well as by outside experts, SciCafe drew hundreds of visitors to the David S. and Ruth L. Gottesman Hall of Planet Earth each month for discussions that ranged from advances in stem cell technology to new species of fishes.

Right: Ben Oppenheimer, associate curator in the Department of Astrophysics, discussed exoplanets at the inaugural SciCafe in October 2009.

Left to right: Paolo Galizzi of the Fordham University School of Law; Marjorie Kaplan of Animal Planet Media at Discovery Communications Inc.; Veerle Vandeweerd of UNDP Environment and Energy Group; Ahmed Djoghlaf, Convention on Biological Diversity; Olav Kjørven, UNDP; Director of the Bureau for Development Policy; Tran Triet, Phu My Lepironia Wetland Conservation Project; Eleanor Sterling, director of the Museum's Center for Biodiversity and Conservation; Theodore Roosevelt IV, Museum Trustee; and Carter Ingram, Wildlife Conservation Society at the launch of the International Year of Biodiversity.

UNITED NATIONS LAUNCHES INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF BIODIVERSITY AT THE MUSEUM

February 10, 2010

The Museum hosted the United Nations for the North American launch of the International Year of Biodiversity, so designated to raise global awareness of the immense variety of life on Earth and to invite action to safeguard the essential networks on which all life depends. U.N. ambassadors, Museum Trustees, and other invited guests gathered at the Museum as the evening opened with comments by Michael Novacek, provost of science, who introduced Olav Kjørven, U.N. assistant secretary-general, and Ahmed Djoghlaf, executive secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

A special preview of the television series "LIFE," a co-production of BBC and Discovery Channel, was followed by a panel discussion that included Charles McNeill, UNDP senior policy advisor; Veerle Vandeweerd, UNDP director of the Environment and Energy Group; Tran Triet, representative of the Phu My Lepironia Wetland Conservation Project; Paolo Galizzi, Fordham University School of Law; Morten Wetland, Norway's Permanent Representative to the U.N., and Eleanor Sterling, director of the Museum's Center for Biodiversity and Conservation.

Director of the Hayden Planetarium Neil deGrasse Tyson, who moderated the debate, was joined by five distinguished panelists.

10TH ANNUAL ISAAC ASIMOV MEMORIAL DEBATE

March 15, 2010

More than 900 people gathered in the Samuel J. and Ethel LeFrak Theater on March 15, 2010, for the 10th annual Isaac Asimov Memorial Debate: "Moon, Mars and Beyond: Where Next for the Manned Space Program?"

Frederick P. Rose Director of the Hayden Planetarium Neil deGrasse Tyson led the discussion with five distinguished panelists: Kenneth Ford of the Institute for Human and Machine Cognition, Lester Lyles (ret.) of the United States Air Force, Paul Spudis of the Lunar and Planetary Institute, Steven Squyres of Cornell University, and Robert Zubrin, founder of the Mars Society. The panelists debated key issues related to science, launch hardware, international competition, national security, and political will. At the end of the discussion, Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin made a surprise guest appearance by phone.

The debate was preceded by the best-attended reception to date, where Museum patrons and supporters were introduced to Dr. Tyson and panelists.

IDENTIFICATION DAY

May 22, 2010

Identification Day—an annual day-long public program during which Museum scientists attempt to identify visitors' shells, rocks, insects, feathers, bones, and more—became an opportunity in 2010 to celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity and to showcase the Museum's world-class research collections.

These collections, which together form an essential record of the diversity of life and are housed in the Museum's science divisions, took center stage at talks by scientists including ornithologist Paul Sweet and entomologist Lou Sorkin, who also discussed how threats to different species affect ecosystems around the world.

Visitors at the 2010 Identification Day had the chance to learn more about the Museum's world-class research collections and how threats to different species affect ecosystems around the world.

Left to right: Provost of Science Michael Novacek introduced the distinguished panel, which included Curator Ward Wheeler, Dr. Jane Carlton, Curator Rob DeSalle, Curator Mark Siddall, and Dr. Paul Planet.

SPOTLIGHT ON MUSEUM'S EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY RESEARCH AND HUMAN HEALTH

June 3, 2010

Ongoing collaborations between the Museum's evolutionary biologists and medical researchers at other institutions have given the Museum a growing role in understanding various threats to human health, from flu pandemics to malaria to the ravages of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. In June, the Museum hosted medical and science journalists to attend a breakfast and panel discussion that highlighted some of this work.

The panel included three curators from the Museum's Division of Invertebrate Zoology who work under the auspices of the Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics: Rob DeSalle, who moderated, Mark Siddall, and Ward Wheeler. They were joined by three medical scientists: New York University School of Medicine's Jane Carlton, Albert Einstein College of Medicine's Robert Burk, and Columbia University's Paul Planet.

More than 700 students brought 310 science projects to exhibit in the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life, the Grand Gallery for the 2010 Urban Advantage Science Expo.

URBAN ADVANTAGE 2010 SCIENCE EXPO

June 12, 2010

More than 700 public middle school students from all five boroughs of New York City exhibited 310 science projects in the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life, the Grand Gallery, and the Hall of Northwest Coast Indians in June, in a grand finale to an extraordinary sixth year of the Urban Advantage Middle School Initiative.

The pioneering education program, spearheaded by the Museum, has helped thousands of seventh- and eighth-graders to complete their science exit projects, a requirement of the New York City Department of Education for advancement to high school, by guiding teachers and students on how best to use the science resources and expertise of eight science-rich New York institutions: the Museum; Brooklyn Botanic Garden; The New York Botanical Garden; New York Hall of Science; Queens Botanical Garden; Staten Island Zoological Society; and the Wildlife Conservation Society's Bronx Zoo and New York Aquarium.

The program has grown dramatically since it was launched in 2004 with 60 teachers and 35 schools. In 2010, the program supported more than 300 teachers in more than 150 middle schools—fully one-third of all New York City public middle schools—and served more than 37,000 New York City students.

The 2010 Museum Dance, sponsored by Lilly Pulitzer, was held in the Akeley Hall of African Mammals.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Museum enjoyed many successful benefit events in fiscal year 2010, with special thanks to Museum Trustees and event leadership.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Family Party event leaders in the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL FAMILY PARTY

October 20, 2009

More than 1,500 parents and children came together for this spectacular event. Led by Diana DiMenna and Allison Mignone, the 2009 event was the most successful ever, raising over $640,000. Tiffany & Co. was lead sponsor of the event, which featured a special activity to learn about the Mohs scale, a hardness scale developed as a criterion for mineral identification. Scholastic sponsored the popular Build-a-Book activity.

The party engaged a spectrum of ages and learning levels. Created in collaboration with Museum scientists, the Museum "ScienceCenter" gave guests the opportunity to interact with live animals and learn about extreme specimens. The "Expedition Program" featured a talk by Carter Emmart, director of astrovisualization, who took guests on a virtual journey through the night sky in the Hayden Planetarium.

Chairs Kathy and Tom Freston arrive at the Museum Gala.

MUSEUM GALA

November 19, 2009

Over 600 guests attended the annual Museum Gala, which raised over $2.5 million. The chairmen of the evening were Museum Trustees Jodie and John Eastman, Kathy and Tom Freston, and Alice and Lorne Michaels. The live auction was hosted by Tom Brokaw along with Jamie Niven of Sotheby's. The evening concluded with a special performance by Dave Matthews.

Event leaders Michael T.M. Jones, Dana Wallach Jones, and Zibby and Andrew Right at the Museum Dance.

THE MUSEUM DANCE

April 15, 2010

The Museum Dance, *Spring Safari*, was sponsored by Lilly Pulitzer and featured an exquisite dinner in the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life followed by dessert and dancing in the Akeley Hall of African Mammals. The Museum Dance was chairevd by Fabiola Beracasa, Dana Wallach Jones and Michael T.M. Jones, Ivanka Kushner, Tinsley Mercer Mortimer, Emilia Fanjul Pfeifler, Andrew and Zibby Right, and Arden Wohl. Nearly 1,000 guests, including many members of the Junior Council, attended the Museum Dance this year and helped raise $400,000, making the event the most successful Museum Dance to date.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Event leaders with moderator Lynn Sherr and Museum President Ellen V. Futter at the 20th annual Environmental Lecture and Luncheon.

20TH ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL LECTURE AND LUNCHEON

April 21, 2010

Museum Trustees Mary C. Solomon, Constance Spahn, and Katheryn P. Kempner and Museum friends Suzanne H. Cochran and Catherine B. Sidamon-Eristoff chaired this year's luncheon and panel discussion on "Green Design for the Urban Home." The discussion was moderated by Lynn Sherr, former correspondent for ABC News' "20/20," and featured green-design experts who addressed topics ranging from home construction and organization to interior design. The panelists were Rob Watson, chairman, CEO, and chief scientist of EcoTech International; Joshua Wiener, CEO and founder of Silverlining Interiors Inc.; and Robin Wilson, a nationally recognized eco-friendly and healthy home interior designer. The luncheon raised over $515,000.

Trustee Roger C. Altman (right) with honoree William D. Green.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL CORPORATE DINNER

June 17, 2010

The annual Corporate Dinner honored William D. Green, chairman and CEO of Accenture, for his distinguished service to science and education. The dinner raised over $1.4 million to support Museum programs. Roger C. Altman, Joe Forehand, Harold McGraw III, and Ivan Seidenberg served as chairmen for the event.

President Ellen V. Futter, Chairman Lewis Bernard, and Senior Vice President for Development and Membership Lynn DeBow celebrated the restoration of the 77th Street façade.

CAMPAIGN AND FAÇADE RESTORATION CELEBRATION

October 8, 2010

More than 100 guests attended a celebration of the completion of the Museum Campaign and restoration of the historic 77th Street façade and Arthur Ross Plaza. Museum Trustees, friends, and staff enjoyed a reception while marking the opening of the 77th Street entrance with a ribbon-cutting ceremony led by President Ellen V. Futter. Dinner was held in the Grand Gallery, where guests were treated to a cake that paid homage to the newly renovated façade.

The Museum appreciates the support of the City of New York in this historic renovation, specifically Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor, City of New York; Christine C. Quinn, Speaker, The Council of the City of New York; Gale A. Brewer, Member, The Council of the City of New York; Scott Stringer, President of the Borough of Manhattan; Adrian Benepe, Commissioner, Department of Parks and Recreation; David J. Burney, Commissioner, Department of Design and Construction; Kate D. Levin, Commissioner, Department of Cultural Affairs; Robert Tierney, Chairman, Landmarks Preservation Commission; and Helen Rosenthal, Chair, Community Board 7, Manhattan.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Traveling the Silk Road: Ancient Pathway to the Modern World **opened in November 2009.**

TRAVELING THE SILK ROAD: ANCIENT PATHWAY TO THE MODERN WORLD OPENING

November 10, 2009

Nearly 400 guests celebrated the new major temporary exhibition *Traveling the Silk Road: Ancient Pathway to the Modern World*. Guests enjoyed a reception in the Theodore Roosevelt Rotunda and a private viewing of the exhibition.

Race to the End of the Earth **opened in May 2010.**

RACE TO THE END OF THE EARTH OPENING

May 25, 2010

More than 500 guests, including a strong contingent of Junior Council members, came to the Museum to celebrate the new exhibition *Race to the End of the Earth*. Guests enjoyed a reception in the Akeley Hall of African Mammals and a private viewing of the exhibition.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

The Harriet and Robert Heilbrunn Cosmic Pathway seen at night.

Despite extremely difficult economic conditions, the Museum remained financially strong during fiscal year 2010. During fiscal year 2010, the Museum's net assets increased by $3.5 million, from $663.8 million to $667.3 million.

Due to continued strength in visitor attendance and revenue from admissions and auxiliaries as well as private and public fundraising, and also as a result of reductions in operating expenditures, the Museum was able to generate positive net unrestricted operating revenues of $61,741 after transfers of designated contributions and other revenues to plant and long-term investments, and after transfers to fund payment of debt service.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

UNRESTRICTED OPERATING RESULTS

During fiscal year 2010, the Museum's annual Unrestricted Operating Revenues and Support decreased by $7.0 million, from $174.7 million to $167.7 million. Attendance-related revenues continued to grow in fiscal year 2010, reaching a new peak of $42.4 million, despite difficult global economic conditions.

The Museum continued to receive significant operating and programmatic backing from Trustees, other individuals, foundations, and corporations, as well as the City of New York, the state of New York, and the federal government. Contributions and grants used to fund Museum operations, including a portion of net assets released from restrictions, totaled $56.8 million during fiscal year 2010. Included in this total is unrestricted operating support from the City of New York, including support for certain energy and pension expenses, totaling $17.0 million. The City also provided substantial capital support to the Museum (see "Capital Expenditures" below).

Support for annual operations from the Museum's endowment—which is calculated by taking 5 percent of the average of 12 quarterly market values, ending March 31 prior to the succeeding fiscal year—fluctuates according to market conditions. During fiscal year 2010, endowment support for Museum operations totaled $27.9 million.

While annual Unrestricted Operating Revenues and Support decreased by $7.0 million during fiscal year 2010, annual Unrestricted Operating Expenses, together with transfers to fund payment of debt service and other transfers to plant and long-term investments, decreased by $6.9 million, from $174.6 million to $167.7 million, resulting in positive net unrestricted operating revenues during fiscal year 2010 of $61,741.

UNRESTRICTED OPERATING REVENUES, SUPPORT, EXPENSES, AND TRANSFERS FISCAL YEAR 2010

Revenues and Support

25% Visitor contributions and admissions

24% Contributions and grants*

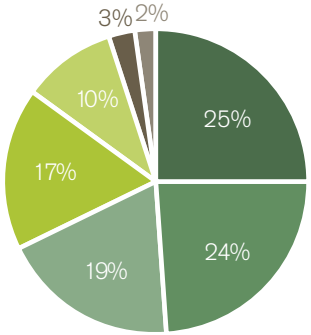
19% Auxiliary activities

17% Endowment and related funds*

10% The City of New York

3% Membership

2% Miscellaneous revenue and other fees



Unrestricted Operating Revenues and Support

Expenses

32% Scientific research, education, and exhibition

17% Guardianship, maintenance, and operating costs

14% Cost of goods sold and other expenses of auxiliary activities

10% General and administrative

8% Transfers to fund payment of debt service

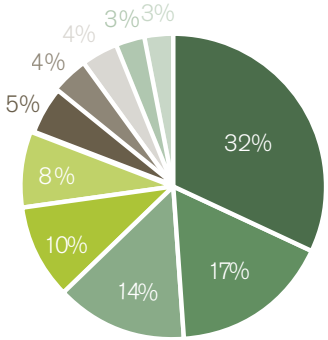
5% Visitor services

4% Fundraising and membership

4% Communications

3% Other transfers

3% Information technology



Unrestricted Operating Expenses and Transfers

*Includes a portion of net assets released from restrictions

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

The Museum continued to fund priority capital improvement projects to meet infrastructure and security needs in fiscal year 2010, as well as exhibition hall renovations and new scientific facilities. The $21.1 million invested by the Museum in its physical plant concentrated on such major projects as the multi-year restoration and renovation project on the Central Park West side of the Museum.

As in the past, the Museum funded most of its capital improvements from a variety of sources, including the City of New York, private donations, and the Museum's endowment.

The Museum recognized a non-cash depreciation expense of $23.0 million during fiscal year 2010 and also wrote off equipment with remaining value of $0.7 million. Net of depreciation expense and write-offs, the value of the Museum's physical plant decreased by $2.6 million, from $457.8 million to $455.2 million.

DEBT AND OTHER LIABILITIES

The Museum's liabilities increased by $25.7 million during the fiscal year 2010, from $387.5 million to $413.2 million owing primarily to an $8.7 million increase in the market value of the Museum's interest rate swap obligations (as a result of lower long-term interest rates), a $6.5 million increase in short-term borrowing for capital projects, and a $4.6 million increase in the Museum's accrued post-retirement and other benefits. The amount of the Museum's long-term debt decreased by $0.3 million, from $272.2 million to $271.9 million.

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

The return on the Museum's endowment during fiscal year 2010 was +12.6%, as worldwide markets began to rebound from difficult economic circumstances. As a result, the market value of the investments within the Museum's endowment increased by $39.5 million during fiscal year 2010, to $507.5 million. During the fiscal year, the Museum received cash gifts and pledge payments to the endowment totaling $13.1 million and made planned withdrawals for Museum operations and capital investment totaling $31.5 million.

The Museum's endowment asset allocation is intended both to drive investment return and to provide protection in volatile markets. The Museum's endowment funds are invested by leading investment managers in diversified equity and fixed income securities and are overseen by the Museum's Investment Committee. During fiscal year 2010, mindful of continued volatility in equity and credit markets, the Museum did not make any large changes to its asset allocation. As of June 30, 2010, the Museum's endowment was invested as follows:

Marketable Equities	
Domestic equities	13%
International equities	15%
Emerging markets equities	1%
Global equities	1%
Total marketable equities	30%
Absolute return/hedge funds	37%
Marketable fixed income	12%
Marketable real assets	3%
Private investment partnerships	14%
Cash equivalents	4%
Total	**100%**

THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTS

The Museum has continued to benefit greatly from the generosity of its private and public supporters. During fiscal year 2010, the Museum raised a total of $46.3 million in support of its operations, programs, capital improvements, and endowment—a major endorsement of the importance and social impact of the Museum's work in science, education, and exhibition. As a result, the Museum was able to continue to balance its operating budget, grow its endowment, and make improvements to its physical plant despite extremely difficult financial circumstances.

Charles H. Mott
Treasurer

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Dusky farmerfish are on display in the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life.

CONDENSED SUMMARY OF CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

These statements are summarized and excerpted from the audited financial statements. A complete set of the audited financial statements is available at amnh.org.

Assets	FY 2010	FY 2009
Cash and other operating assets	$ 66,220,388	$ 68,855,415
Contributions and grants receivable, net	37,893,009	48,707,821
Long-term investments, at fair value	521,220,829	475,956,278
Plant and equipment, net	455,180,804	457,823,158
Total assets	**$ 1,080,515,030**	**$ 1,051,342,672**

Liabilities	FY 2010	FY 2009
Accounts payable and other liabilities	$ 139,768,827	$ 115,298,733
Loan from the Trust for Cultural Resources	273,426,679	272,235,000
Total liabilities	**$ 413,195,506**	**$ 387,533,733**
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	$ 377,484,101	$ 371,811,451
Temporarily restricted	143,209,197	150,624,901
Permanently restricted	146,626,226	141,372,587
Total net assets	**$ 667,319,524**	**$ 663,808,939**
Total liabilities and net assets	**$ 1,080,515,030**	**$ 1,051,342,672**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES–UNRESTRICTED

These statements are summarized and excerpted from the audited financial statements. A complete set of the audited financial statements is available at amnh.org.

Operating Revenue and Support	FY 2010	FY 2009
Investment return designated for operations	$ 19,609,014	$ 20,124,704
Contributions and grants	25,307,204	25,034,922
Operating support from the City of New York	16,968,262	18,657,314
Visitors contributions and admissions	42,413,644	39,623,484
Membership fees	5,484,942	5,568,133
Auxiliary activities	31,485,074	36,378,080
Miscellaneous fees and other revenue	3,692,343	4,581,618
Net assets released from restrictions	22,788,371	24,700,433
Total operating revenue and support	**$ 167,748,854**	**$ 174,668,688**
Operating Expenses		
Scientific research	$ 32,349,735	$ 33,868,745
Education	14,346,214	12,397,615
Exhibitions	7,276,766	6,906,830
Membership	1,561,195	2,007,991
Visitor services	7,824,321	9,355,762
Auxiliary activities	23,201,967	24,262,002
General and administrative	16,779,021	17,581,443
Fundraising	5,027,053	5,862,624
Communications	6,698,456	6,286,766
Information technology	5,384,443	5,381,342
Guardianship, maintenance and operating costs	28,473,237	30,316,368
Total operating expenses	**$ 148,922,408**	**$ 154,227,488**
Designated contribution and transfers to plant and long-term investment	$ 18,764,705	$ 20,393,672
Operating revenue and support in excess of (less than) operating expenses, designated contributions, and transters	**$ 61,741**	**$ 47,528**

Non-Operating Revenue, Support and Expenses	FY 2010	FY 2009
Revenue and support for plant		
Contributions, grants, and miscellaneous income	$ 5,367,404	$ 2,466,966
Capital support from the City of New York	854,739	14,217,283
Net assets released from restrictions	2,662,471	850,000
Transfer from long-term investments and operations to plant	19,355,705	17,919,672
Net (loss) gain on bond refinancing and other activities	(32,009)	840,546
Plant expenses		
Interest expense not capitalized	$ 12,973,666	$ 12,933,472
Change in value of interest rate swaps	9,477,848	9,689,460
Depreciation and amortizaiton	23,020,955	22,583,795
Plant expenses not capitalized	1,033,420	248,382
Long-term investments and other		
Contributions and bequests	$ 2,794,714	$ 1,627,019
Investment loss in excess of amounts designated for operations	17,899,498	(86,507,168)
Contributions re-designated by donor	–	(71,641)
Net assets released from restrictions	7,957,770	6,460,637
Transfers from plant and operations to long-term investments and other, net	(591,000)	2,474,000
Other pension-related changes	(4,152,494)	525,402
Changes in unrestricted net assets	**$ 5,672,650**	**$ (84,604,865)**

FY2010 included events leading up to the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Rose Center for Earth and Space.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

As of June 30, 2010

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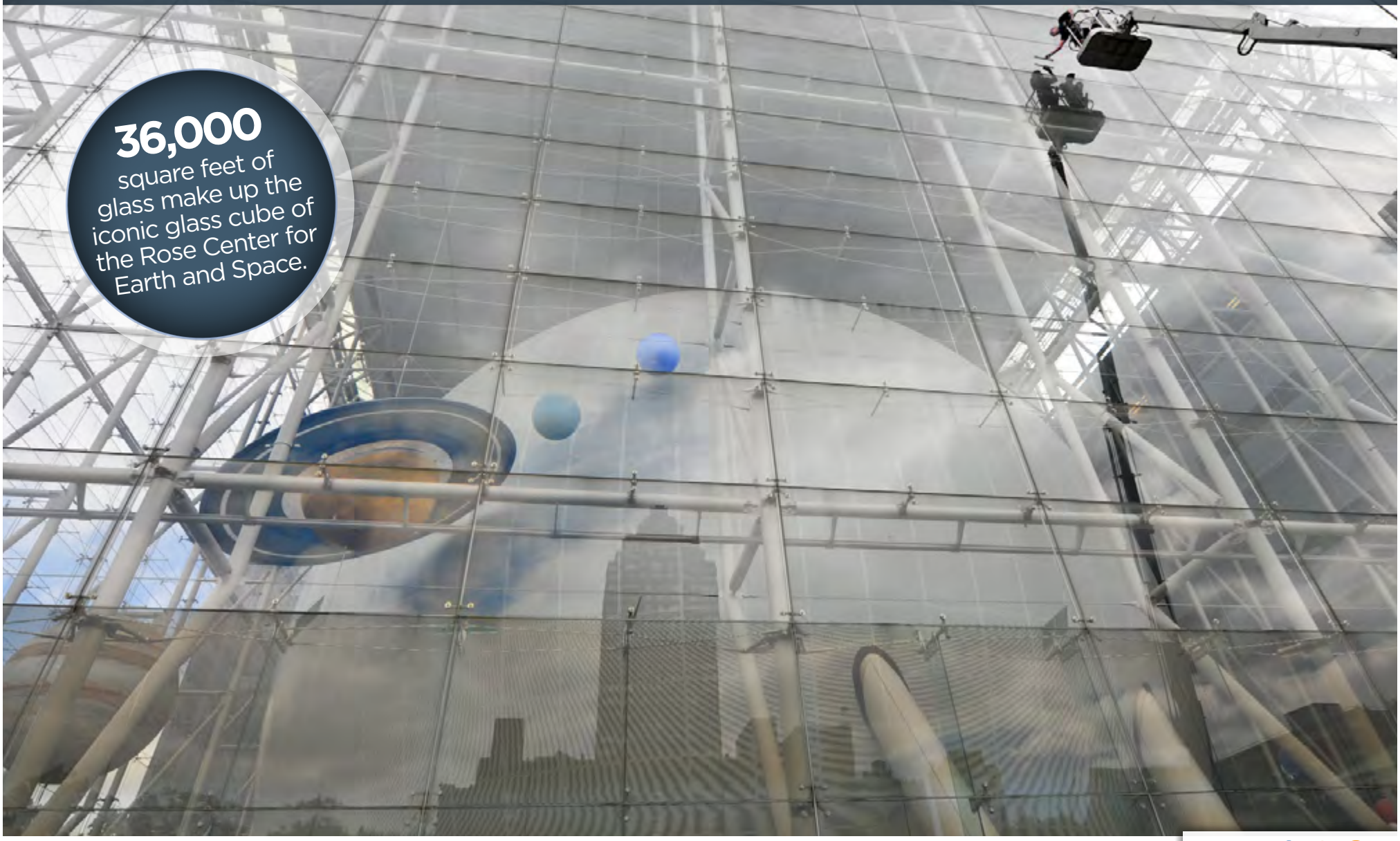

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The tiger diorama in the Hall of Asian Mammals depicts an area at the base of the Himalayas where swamp borders on woodland.

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