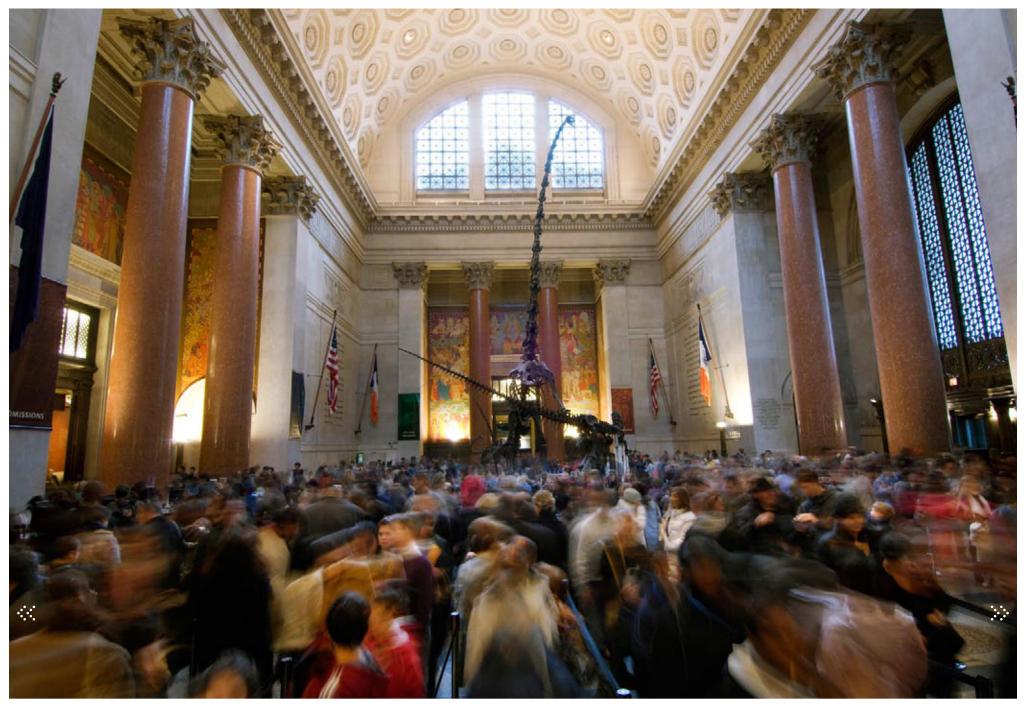


AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY 2007/2008 ANNUAL REPORT >>





"This place alone would warrant another trip to New York City. The lobby with the Barosaurus and Allosaurus will take your breath away."



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We are delighted to welcome you to the first Annual Report of the American Museum of Natural History to be published solely online. An online report is not only more environmentally friendly; it also offers a dynamic experience to the Museum's growing international audience and reflects the Museum's increased use of digital technologies and media in scientific research, education, and exhibition. We hope you enjoy exploring this Annual Report in this new format, covering the period of July 1, 2006, to June 30, 2008.

The most significant and exciting event during this time was the launch of the <u>Richard Gilder Graduate School</u> at the Museum. On October 26, 2006, the Museum received authorization from the New York State Department of Education to grant the Ph.D.

degree and became the first and only museum in the United States with such authority. In this unprecedented endeavor, we acknowledge the leadership of the Graduate School Curatorial Task Force, consisting of scientists Ward Wheeler, Nancy Simmons, Eleanor Sterling, and Mark Norell, along with the entire curatorial staff, for their vision and hard work, guided by Museum Provost Michael J. Novacek. The Gilder Graduate School is in the capable hands of its first Dean, John J. Flynn, formerly Chairman of the Museum's Division of Paleontology. We note with special gratitude and admiration the leadership support of Richard Gilder, for whom we are honored to name the new Graduate School.

Perhaps the most visible change within the Museum during this period was the tremendous increase in visitors. In fiscal year 2008, the Museum set an attendance record of more than four million on-site visitors, including a record 36% made up of international tourists. The number of school groups also increased by 14% in fiscal

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Weston Pavilion entrance, Columbus Avenue at 79th Street

year 2008. In addition, to provide a fun and educational opportunity for families during "off" hours, the Museum launched a sleepover program that remains one of the most popular tickets in town.

Through a dedicated effort to work in partnership with national and international collaborating institutions, Museum exhibitions, space shows, and other resources now reach many millions through presentation at venues worldwide. In fiscal year 2008, Museum exhibitions and space shows were presented in 56 national and international locations, and multimedia Science Bulletins reached 41 other locations, and more than 13 million people visited www.amnh.org.

The increased excitement about the Museum is almost certainly the result of a consistently compelling, varied, and highly topical and timely program of offerings.

This begins with our scientific work, which underpins everything the Museum does in exhibition and education. In addition to launching the Gilder Graduate School, the Museum's scientists achieved much during this period, as detailed in the Science report accessible below. Four curators' research was featured on the covers of respected scientific publications: Christopher Raxworthy's environmental analysis of Madagascar and Denton Ebel's research on chondrules were featured on covers of *Science*; and Ward Wheeler's research on the evolutionary history of insects and Nancy Simmons's work on bats were featured on covers of *Nature*. Grant funding of scientific work also continued to be exceptionally strong in 2008. And we offer warm congratulations to Charles Spencer, Curator in Anthropology, who was elected to the prestigious National Academy of Sciences in fiscal year 2008, joining his previously elected Anthropology colleagues David Hurst Thomas and Robert Carneiro.

During this period, scientists' work was showcased to the public in a number of exhibitions and new halls, most notably the new Anne and Bernard Spitzer Hall of Human Origins. The new hall is the first in the world to combine evidence from the fossil record with genomic science to tell a comprehensive story of *Homo sapiens*. Thanks go to Curators Ian Tattersall of the Division of Anthropology and Rob DeSalle of the Division of Invertebrate Zoology for their superb work, as well as to David Harvey, Senior Vice President for Exhibitions, and the entire exhibition team. We extend deep thanks to Anne and Bernard Spitzer for their leadership support of the hall and the Museum.

The Spitzer Hall is part of a substantial renovation and restoration of the Museum's historic south side, which also included restoration of the Grand Gallery and the much-needed conservation, restoration, and reinstallation of the Great Canoe, one of the Museum's most beloved icons. Of course, the largest project on the south side is the ongoing restoration of the historic 77th Street façade—the magnificent Romanesque Revival "castle." This massive, multi-year project has been supported by the City of New York and private donors and will revitalize the Museum's south "face."

We were also pleased in fall 2006 to rename the Museum's iconic dinosaur halls—the Hall of Saurischian Dinosaurs and the Hall of Ornithischian Dinosaurs—the David H. Koch Dinosaur Wing, in honor of Trustee David Koch's magnificent support for the Museum's scientific research. As well, the Museum restored and reopened one of its most treasured galleries, the Audubon Gallery, with the exquisite exhibition *The Unknown Audubons*. The exhibition featured rarely known mammal paintings from the Museum's collections, by John James Audubon and his sons.

The Museum's temporary exhibition program continued to cover a wide range of subjects in the natural sciences, physical sciences, and anthropology, as the Museum

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The 77th Street restoration project in progress

curated, designed, and fabricated exhibitions that opened in New York and toured internationally. The very beautiful Gold exhibition, supported in part by the Tiffany & Co. Foundation, was curated by James Webster, Curator and Chair of the Division of Physical Sciences, and Charles Spencer, Curator of Anthropology, and continued the Museum's tradition of examining natural substances that have both unique physical properties and rich cultural histories. Mythic Creatures, curated by Mark Norell, Curator of Paleontology, and Laurel Kendall, Curator of Anthropology, was one of the Museum's most highly attended exhibitions, with more than 500,000 visitors. We are grateful to the MetLife Foundation for its longtime support and its partnership on Mythic Creatures. The Museum's work in environmental conservation was spotlighted in Water: H₂O=Life, curated by Eleanor Sterling, Director of the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation. Water: H₂O=Life was made possible by the generous partnership of the Tamarind Foundation and JPMorgan Chase. And the spectacular exhibition The Horse, curated by Ross MacPhee, Curator of Mammalogy, and Sandra Olsen, Curator of Anthropology, Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, was met with great critical acclaim from various sources, including an editorial in The New York Times. The Museum appreciates the support of Trustee Rosalind P. Walter for *The Horse*.

The Museum continued to present selective exhibitions of live animals that emphasized endangered or bellwether species, telling a larger story of biodiversity and ecosystem complexity. Frogs: A Chorus of Colors and The Butterfly Conservatory returned by popular demand, and the Museum premiered Lizards and Snakes: Alive!, organized by Associate Dean and Curator of Herpetology Darrel Frost, along with Curatorial Associate David Kizirian and Postdoctoral Fellow Jack Conrad.

The Museum continued its tradition of bringing together the scientific community through international conferences whose topics ranged from cluster supercomputing to the Tree of Life, including the annual Symposium of the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation. In fiscal year 2008, the Museum convened its first major summit on science education, Science Generation: A National Imperative. The distinguished roster of participants, including Timothy Geithner; Newt Gingrich; Robert Hormats; Nicholas Negroponte; Vartan Gregorian; James B. Hunt, Jr.; Joel Klein; and many others, represented a range of fields-not just education, but government, non-profit, business, and even students and parents-reflecting one of the overarching themes of the summit: that every sector of society must-and can-be part of the solution to improve science education.

A model program showcased at the summit was the Museum's Urban Advantage, a consortium of eight New York City zoos, botanical gardens, and other science-based cultural institutions, led and organized by the Museum. Urban Advantage works in formal partnership with the New York City Department of Education to utilize these institutions' resources in improving student achievement in science at the middleschool level. Launched in 2004, the program reached 257 teachers, 27,500 students and their families, and 156 schools-more than 30% of New York City public schools that include the 8th grade-in fiscal year 2008. We extend thanks to Mayor Michael Bloomberg, the City Council and Speaker Christine Quinn, and the Department of Education and Chancellor Joel Klein for their leadership support of Urban Advantage. A model program, Urban Advantage is now being studied by consortia in Denver and Miami for possible local application.

Urban Advantage is part of the Museum's newly established David S. and Ruth L. Gottesman Center for Science Teaching and Learning. The Gottesman Center brings together the Museum's wide variety of programs to enhance school capacity, teaching schoolchildren, training teachers, and developing curriculum materials that are tied to

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The Rose Center for Earth and Space

national science standards. We extend our deep thanks to David and Ruth Gottesman for their support of the Gottesman Center and their longstanding leadership support of the Museum's efforts in education and exhibition.

These programs and others too numerous to mention here deepen and extend the Museum's fulfillment of its mission in science and education. But none of them would be possible without a strong financial foundation. The Museum's financial position was substantially strengthened during this two-year period, as reflected by two external bond rating agencies' decisions to upgrade the Museum's bond ratings in fiscal year 2008. Standard & Poor's issued a rating of AA, and Moody's Investor Services issued a rating of Aa3. Great strides were made in the fundraising campaign *The New Challenge*, and by June 30, 2008, the campaign had raised a total of \$795 million against its \$850 million goal. With two years still to go, the campaign was 94% complete.

This success is due to the generosity of many donors—individuals, foundations, corporations, and government partners. First and foremost, we are deeply indebted to the Trustees, who have not only contributed magnificently to lead the campaign, but who have also contributed their hard work and vision in spearheading the campaign to such success. In addition to gifts from donors already mentioned above, leadership gifts were received during this period from a number of Trustees, most notably the late Arthur Ross, who contributed a gift of \$1 million prior to his death and an exceptional testamentary gift of \$10 million to provide ongoing support for the Arthur Ross Terrace and the Arthur Ross Hall of Meteorites. Mr. Ross and his wife, Janet, also supported a new plaza as part of the 77th Street restoration project currently underway. Trustee Roger Altman established the Altman Fund for Scientific Research with a contribution of \$2 million, and Trustee Sibyl R. Golden and the Golden Family Foundation pledged \$1 million to provide fellowships for Ph.D. candidates in the

Gilder Graduate School. Trustee Mary Solomon and her husband David also pledged \$1 million to support a range of programs and the development of new exhibitions.

An anonymous individual donor made a magnificent endowment gift of \$5 million, and the Estate of Mrs. Frits Markus made two gifts totaling \$3 million to endow the Museum's public programs. A group of eight friends of the Museum made a combined gift of \$2.65 million to name the Barosaurus exhibit in the Museum's Rotunda entrance. Helaine Lerner made a \$1.5 million gift through the Tamarind Foundation to sponsor the Museum's groundbreaking $Water: H_2O=Life$ exhibition and increase awareness of water conservation.

Katheryn C. and Thomas L. Kempner pledged \$1 million to name the Kempner Gallery of Human Evolution within the Spitzer Hall. And The Dyson Foundation made a pledge of \$1 million to support the broad scope of the Museum's educational work.

Foundations making significant gifts during this period included the William Randolph Hearst Foundations, which pledged \$3 million in support of our education programs and exhibitions. An anonymous foundation donor made a challenge grant, pledging \$1.5 million in endowment support for the Education Department. The Rockefeller Foundation made a grant of \$1 million to support the fall 2008 exhibition *Climate Change: The Threat to Life and A New Energy Future* and the related educational activities, and the Louis Calder Foundation made a pledge of \$1 million to support education programs at the Museum. The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation made three significant new grants to support various research initiatives of the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation.

The past two years have also been strong years in corporate giving. A special mention and thanks go to Bloomberg for its \$4 million pledge to support a Wayfinding

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REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

project that will help visitors navigate the Museum. JPMorgan Chase made a magnificent pledge of \$1.5 million to be sole corporate sponsor of the Water: H₂O=Life exhibition and to support its integrated education materials and public programs. And Bank of America was sole corporate sponsor of Climate Change: The Threat to Life and A New Energy Future exhibition, with a \$1.25 million pledge.

In addition to these gifts, the Museum is reliant on the support of the City of New York, the State of New York, and a wide variety of federal sources. We thank New York Governor George E. Pataki for his support and friendship during his tenure. The City of New York has been an extraordinary and longstanding partner in our efforts to serve the City and its people. We thank the Mayor of New York Michael Bloomberg, the City Council and Speaker Christine Quinn, Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Commissioner Kate Levin, Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education Joel Klein, Commissioner of Parks and Recreation Adrian Benepe, and New York City Comptroller William C. Thompson, Jr., for sharing and supporting our mission of science and education and helping to ensure the Museum is an effective, engaging, and safe destination for our millions of visitors.

Last but certainly not least, during fiscal year 2008, the Museum underwent its tenyear reaccreditation from the American Association of Museums. This included completing a comprehensive, institution-wide self-study and hosting a visiting committee on April 23 and 24, 2008. Accreditation was awarded enthusiastically, with praise directed to all areas. The report, issued in July 2008, stated that "The Museum set out to reinvent what it means to be a museum, and particularly a science museum, in the 21st century and has developed many programs, exhibits, and operational strategies that are models for the field." As to the scientific program, the report noted, "In many areas, the research pursued is intellectually and conceptually on the cutting edge and redefines what has traditionally been understood to constitute 'collections-based research' in natural history museums." In Education, the report continued, "AMNH has made commendable strides in improving educational outreach and impact." And in Exhibition, "AMNH is a national and international leader in the development of new permanent and temporary major exhibitions."

For all these accomplishments, a huge measure of thanks goes to the scientists and staff of the Museum, a group of exceptionally talented, dedicated, and hardworking men and women. Together with a devoted and knowledgeable corps of volunteers, they contribute extraordinary energy, intelligence, and passion, bringing the Museum's mission to life for millions of people around the world.

The report further observed that "AMNH's growth has been made possible by a policy of carefully balancing aggressive advancement with prudent fiscal management towards the overall goal of maintaining financial equilibrium." We end with this comment because, in addition to being gratifying, it also speaks to the Museum's stability in changing conditions. As outstanding as the 2007-2008 fiscal years have been for the Museum, the climate has now shifted and continues to shift dramatically. Though we cannot yet fully gauge how severe the challenges will be or how deeply they will affect the Museum, we can say with confidence that the Museum confronts these challenges with a strong financial foundation. It will, as it has in the past, respond to changing external conditions in ways that demonstrate both financial prudence and a commitment to maintaining scientific and educational excellence, sustaining institutional momentum, and pursuing strategic opportunities.

Your support is essential to our success in all climates, and especially in challenging ones, and we thank you for your partnership and friendship.

Chairman

Ellen V. Futter

President

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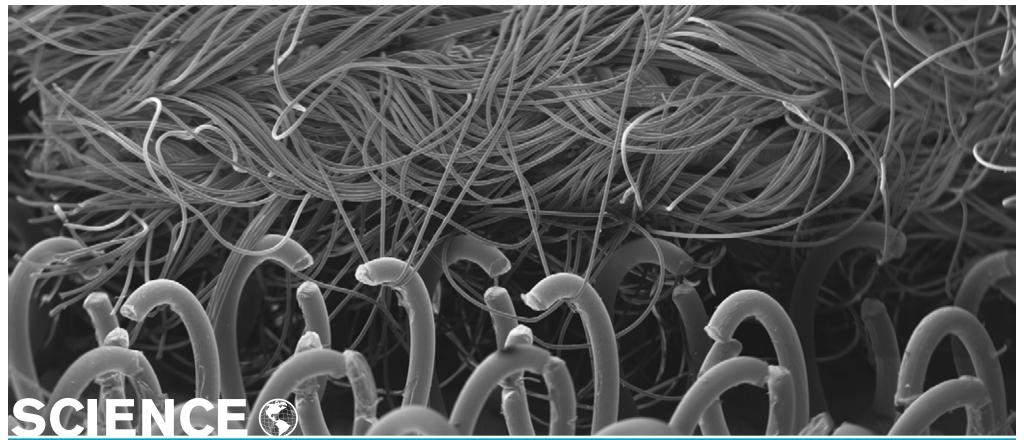
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"The Museum set out to reinvent what it means to be a museum, and particularly a science museum, in the 21st century and has developed many programs, exhibits, and operational strategies that are models for the field."



A microscopic image of Velcro taken with the Zeiss EV060 Variable Pressure Scanning Electron Microscope

Since the American Museum of Natural History's founding in 1869, its scientific resources have grown into one of the world's most important records of nature, life, and human culture. Today, more than 200 scientists are immersed in an astonishing variety of research, training, laboratory work, management of 32 million specimens and artifacts, and a groundbreaking new PhD program.

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Construction of the Richard Gilder Graduate School

During fiscal years 2007 and 2008, Museum scientists continued myriad research endeavors and initiated an array of exciting new pursuits across the five divisions—Anthropology, Invertebrate Zoology, Paleontology, Physical Sciences, and Vertebrate Zoology—as well as with the Sackler Institute of Comparative Genomics and the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation. In addition to their research and fieldwork, they reported nearly 1,000 publications in all.

AMNH scientific collections also grew significantly, with the addition of specimens and artifacts from expeditions, purchases, gifts, and other sources. AMNH science expeditions continue to travel to such far-reaching areas as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mongolia, Malaysia, Venezuela, Mexico, South Africa, Chile, Madagascar, and China; over the past year, such expeditions have contributed greatly to an overall growth of nearly 65,000 specimens and artifacts in the Museum's collections.

AMNH collections contain nearly 32 million specimens and artifacts in total and are actively used by in-house scientists, research associates, and students. They also act as a resource for exhibitions, loans, and outside researchers visiting the Museum. Today, the Museum is in one of the most active periods of collecting in its history, including building new types of collections such as a frozen tissue facility and vast electronic databases supporting genomics and astrophysics research. Nearly 8,500 specimens and artifacts were loaned for scientific research or exhibition during these fiscal years, and the equivalent of 3,400 days was spent visiting the collections on-site by Museum staff and outside parties.

A particular highlight was the completion of a Mellon-Foundation large-scale project focusing on the duplication (digital and microfilm) of the Museum's collection catalogs. This effort is part of the Museum's overall disaster recovery program and will ensure the long-term preservation of these records. The information contained within the catalogs—a list of objects and specimens from the collection, including date and location—is vital to the institution's mission and the scientific community. The collection catalogs contain nearly 500,000 catalog cards and 110,000 ledger book pages, all of which have been scanned to produce roughly 805,000 images. These images are being converted to archival-quality microfilm, which will be stored securely offsite, and the digital images will be placed on a network hard drive.

In addition, a new Collection Trustee Policy was approved in June 2008 and applies to all who manage, work with, or use the AMNH collections.

A crowning achievement during these fiscal years was the establishment of the pioneering Richard Gilder Graduate School. On October 23, 2006, the American Museum of Natural History became the first museum in the Western Hemisphere to receive authorization to become a degree-granting institution. The New York State Board of Regents granted permission to the Museum to amend its charter as such, and New York State authorized a Comparative Biology PhD program, as well as the conferral of honorary degrees. In May 2007, Dr. John J. Flynn, then AMNH Department Chair and Curator-in-Charge of Paleontology and Frick Curator of Fossil Mammals, was named the first Dean of the graduate school. The graduate school was officially named the Richard Gilder Graduate School in honor of Trustee Richard Gilder, whose leadership and support played a pivotal role in the formation of the school. Additionally, major gifts were received from Norma Hess, Hess Foundation, Inc., and Sibyl R. Golden, Golden Family Foundation, to support student fellowships.

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500,000 cultural artifacts make up the Museum's vast Anthropology collections.

Gilder students will take classes and conduct research in the newly constructed graduate school complex on the fifth floor of the historic 77th Street building, under construction during fiscal years 2007 and 2008. This complex, which houses a teaching lab, lecture hall, and bi-level student lounge with individual work stations, will be open to all graduate students studying and researching at AMNH, including those from the Museum's long-term partnerships with Columbia University, CUNY, NYU, and Cornell. Gilder School student housing will be provided by the International House on the Upper West Side.

More notable achievements took place within the five core Science divisions, as well as the Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics, the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, AMNH Library Services, and the Microscopy and Imaging Facility.

DIVISION OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Established in 1873, only four years after the Museum was founded, the <u>Division of Anthropology</u> is dedicated to the study of human culture and biology.

In fiscal years 2007 and 2008, the Division of Anthropology pursued research projects including archaeology of Native American peoples from South America, Mesoamerica, and North America; the ethnology of Asia and South America; and the physical anthropology of humans from all times and places.

In 2007, a two-day visit by the External Review committee chaired by Dr. Jeremy Sabloff earned the Division a positive report that noted its "distinguished group of curators" and recommended the hiring of two additional curators to fill vacated positions and grow the Division further. In response, the Museum recruited two new Assistant Curators of Anthropology in spring 2008.

The Division also organized and hosted (in collaboration with Dr. Monique Scott in the Department of Education) the colloquium "New Directions in Collaborative and Engaged Anthropology," held at the Museum on April 1, 2008. Twelve guests spoke in four panel discussions, which contributed to great strides in the Division's future plans for engaged research and public outreach.

<u>Dr. Robert Carneiro</u> continued work on both a monograph about manioc, the principal crop of most Amazonian tribes, and a revision of his article "A Theory of the Origin of the State," originally published in 1970; this revision seeks to enhance the article's original theory and will be titled "The Circumscription Theory: A Clarification, Amplification, and Reformulation."

<u>Dr. Laurel Kendall</u> furthered her study of material goods imputed with magic and how they fare in new markets, which included extending her research in both Vietnam and Korea. Dr. Kendall participated in this project at the invitation of the Vietnam Museum of Ethnology (VME) and was partially funded by a VME grant from Ford Vietnam. She also consulted with VME in planning an exhibit to introduce non-Catholic Vietnamese to Catholic culture in Vietnam.

She also completed a manuscript that witnesses thirty years of encounters and observations in the Korean shaman world and addresses the ways in which these practices persist in South Korea, where social, demographic, and economic changes have been profound. Dr. Kendall also served as co-curator for the critically acclaimed and popular exhibition *Mythic Creatures* (May 26, 2007–January 6, 2008).

<u>Dr. Charles Spencer</u> continued his ongoing research on the rise of the early Zapotec state in Oaxaca, Mexico, and early chiefdom societies in Barinas, Venezuela. Spencer and Research Associate Dr. Elsa M. Redmond completed their monograph (an AMNH

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From left to right: A fifth-generation carver works on the head of an Apostle in northern Vietnam; Excavations at El Palenque near San Martin Tilcajete, Oaxaca

anthropological paper) "Archaeological Survey in the High Llanos and Andean Piedmont of Barinas, Venezuela."

Dr. Spencer conducted two months of productive archaeological research amidst political turmoil in Oaxaca in July and August 2006, as well as extensive fieldwork in 2007.

As the Literary Fiduciary of the late <u>Dr. Craig Morris</u>'s professional data, unpublished manuscripts, and related research materials, Dr. Spencer also worked closely with Dr. Alan Covey, a former post-doctoral fellow in Anthropology (2003–2005) and now an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Southern Methodist University, to continue Dr. Morris's long-time research on Huanuco Pampa.

In April 2007, Dr. Spencer was elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences and was formally inducted in April 2008 in Washington, DC, where he gave a presentation about the evolution of the early Zapotec state in Oaxaca.

Dr. Spencer also served as curatorial advisor to the major temporary exhibition *Gold* (November 18, 2006–August 19, 2007).

Dr. Ian Tattersall served as co-curator of the new Anne and Bernard Spitzer Hall of Human Origins. In conjunction with the exhibition, Dr. Tattersall completed two companion books—one for adults and one for children—working with his co-curator, Dr. Rob DeSalle of the Sackler Institute of Comparative Genomics. Dr. Tattersall also finished editorial work on the three-volume Handbook of Paleoanthropology, which was published in 2007 to serve as a resource for graduate education.

Dr. Tattersall's major research activity focused on hominid systematics, the evolution of human cognition, and activity rhythms and diversity among the Malagasy strepsir-rhine primates.

Dr. David Hurst Thomas published a three-part, 1,136-page monograph titled *Native American Landscapes of St. Catherines Island, Georgia*, describing three decades of ecological research on St. Catherines Island with the help of colleagues and students. While Dr. Thomas wrote more than 90% of the text, the monograph contains contributions from 25 additional scholars. Peer reviewers have termed this volume "an absolutely magnificent study [that] will profoundly influence the way in which archaeology is done in the southeastern United States for years to come."

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publications were reported by the Division of Anthropology in fiscal years 2007 and 2008.

Anne and Bernard Spitzer Hall of Human Origins

Dr. Thomas also directed 3.5 months of archaeological excavations on St. Catherines Island, funded by the Edward John Noble and St. Catherines Island Foundations, and was awarded a large research grant in December 2007 to fund new fieldwork on St. Catherines Island.

<u>Dr. Peter Whiteley</u> focused much of his scholarly attention on the completion and publication of "The Orayvi Split: a Hopi Transformation". His theoretical perspective on Orayvi was presented at the International Congress of Americanists (Seville, Spain) in July 2006 and at the Society for American Archaeology annual meetings (Austin, TX) in April 2007. Theoretical results of his reanalysis of Western Pueblo social forms and kinship organization were presented at the University of Virginia in September 2007.

Dr. Whiteley has developed a derivative project with Dr. Ward Wheeler of the Division of Invertebrate Zoology to compare all Crow-Omaha ("semi-complex") kinship systems globally, developing and testing hypotheses about the socio-evolutionary position of these kinship systems.

DIVISION OF INVERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

The Division of Invertebrate Zoology brings together a broad range of systematic and methodological expertise at the Museum, including all aspects of research and collections management dealing with nonvertebrate animals. Fiscal years 2007 and 2008 included a long list of accomplishments for the Division's diverse group of curators.

Of <u>Dr. James Carpenter</u>'s various ongoing projects, the most significant is the near-completion of the Hymenoptera Tree of Life, a five-year project funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). Carpenter represented all superfamilies of Hymenoptera, with sequence data from five genes for about 150 species. This project is the first comprehensive analysis of higher-level phylogenetic relationships within Hymenoptera.

With Dr. Ian Tattersall of the Division of Anthropology, <u>Dr. Rob DeSalle</u> co-curated the new Anne and Bernard Spitzer Hall of Human Origins, incorporating his work in the

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From left to right: Curator Dr. Susan Perkins releases a lizard at the Museum's Southwest Research Station; Bryan Falk, RGGS student; Curator Susan Perkins; and Emmanuel Asare, NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates student, at the Museum's Southwest Research Station.

field of genomics to tell the story of human origins. He also concluded research for NSF-supported work on the Plant Genome Research Program and the Frontiers in Integrative Biological Research program.

Four books co-authored by DeSalle were published in 2007 and 2008, and two more were completed and set for publication in 2009.

<u>Dr. David Grimaldi</u> continued work in association with an NSF Systematics grant for research on insects in Cretaceous amber and the origin of modern biological communities. He taught a course on Insect Diversity at Columbia University, where he serves as Adjunct Professor in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology.

Dr. Grimald also continued his work in the eastern United States on prospecting and excavating for Cretaceous amber outcrops.

<u>Dr. Lee Herman</u> continued work on a long-term study of the classification and phylogeny of the staphylinid subfamily Paederinae. He also undertook revisions of the subtribe Procirrina and the New World species of the genus *Oedichirus*. For many years, he has worked on a catalog of the taxa and associated literature for the Staphylinidae; catalogs for 28 subfamilies have been published, and a catalog for the Paederinae is nearly ready for publication.

<u>Dr. Susan Perkins</u>, collaborating with University of Vermont scientists Ellen Martinsen and Joe Schall, conducted the most comprehensive phylogenetic analysis of malaria parasites to date, finding that switches in the insect vectors used have caused diversification of these important parasites.

Dr. Perkins also completed long-term studies of lizard malaria parasites and conducted research, with postdoctoral researcher Eric Waltari, on the co-phylogenetic patterns of small mammals, ticks, and the apicomplexan parasite *Babasia microtis* in Alaska and British Columbia, using both genetic and ecological niche modeling methods.

Dr. Perkins also contributed to the continent-wide avian influenza surveillance program and, with others, sequenced complete genomes from 23 strains of the St. Louis Encephalitis virus.

Peter J. Solomon Family Curator <u>Dr. Norman I. Platnick</u> focused on leading a <u>Planetary Biodiversity Inventory (PBI)</u> project on the goblin spiders of the family Oonopidae. This seven-year project, which received more than \$3.1 million in support from the National Science Foundation and international sources, involved 45 researchers in 10 countries during fiscal years 2007 and 2008. It is likely the most ambitious project ever attempted in spider systematics, as the extensive preliminary data indicate that the previously described 474 oonopid species represent only about 20% of the actual global diversity of the group.

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new Phymatopsallus species were described by Dr. Randall Schuh as part of a National Science Foundation award.

At the 17th International Congress of Arachnology in Brazil, Dr. Platnick received the Pierre Bonnet Award for Devoted Service to the Advancement of Arachnology. He presented the keynote address at the launch of the International Institute for Species Exploration at Arizona State University.

Dr. Platnick's efforts also continued on the World Spider catalog, which received its scheduled semi-annual updates. The catalog has been described as the most-cited work in all of arachnology and has been adopted by Species 2000 and the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF).

Dr. Lorenzo Prendini's activities during the two-year period concentrated on data acquisition, analysis, and management of four grants (NSF-REVSYS Vaejovidae; NSF-BS&I Solifugae; ABRS Urodacidae; and NSF-AToL Spider Phylogeny). Field expeditions by Prendini, colleagues, and students to Argentina, Australia, Chile, Brazil, Ecuador, Jamaica, Malawi, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Peru, South Africa, Tanzania, Turkey, the Seychelles, Venezuela, and the southwestern US resulted in the collection of several thousand specimens and tissue samples, greatly increasing Museum holdings of scorpions, minor arachnid orders, and myriapods. Prendini also had seventeen papers (nine published, eight in press) accepted for publication during the review period.

Dr. Jerome Rozen conducted fieldwork on the biology, immature stages, and evolutionary relationships of bees in Austria and Belize in 2007, in Turkey and Egypt in 2007 and 2008, and on St. Catherines Island, Georgia, in 2007. He reports that in 2008 the Bee Course, which he organized at the Museum's Southwest Research Station in Arizona, celebrated its 10th anniversary this year. Dr. Rozen also reports that the achievements of John Ascher, Manager of the AMNH Bee Database Project, over the past year include first authorship of the recently completed World Bee Checklist (19,000+ species) and near doubling of the AMNH Bee database, now including 65,000 georeferenced specimen records and 89,700 literature records, all dynamically mapped online.

Dr. Randall Schuh's research activities were strongly oriented toward work done in association with a five-year, NSF-funded Planetary Biodiversity Inventories (PBI) award for the study of true bugs, for which he is the principal investigator. Significant among those works was a revision of the Phymatopsallus group of genera from western North America involving the analysis of 31 species, including the description of nine new genera and 15 new species.

Among his other research activities, Dr. Schuh described a new family of true bugs, Curaliidae from Florida, in collaboration with PBI Postdoctoral Fellow Christiane Weirauch, T.J. Henry from the US Department of Agriculture, and S.E. Halbert from the Florida Division of Plant Industry.

Curator Dr. Mark Siddall continued his NSF-, Revisionary Systematics Grant-, and Partnerships for Enhancing Expertise in Taxonomy (PEET)-funded work in training graduate and undergraduate students in alpha taxonomy, systematics, and phylogeny of leeches. In addition to overseeing five students on the grant, Siddall focused on identifying and bar coding globally invasive leech species, leading to the recognition that there are several species of European Medicinal Leeches, as opposed to the single Hirudo

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From left to right: Siddall and his research team drive a 4x4 vehicle over a crocodile-infested river in Kasanka National Park, Zambia.; Siddall readies a dozen African medicinal leeches on his forearm for preservation in the field at Kasanka National Park in Northern Zambia

medicinalis. Siddall also oversaw the completion of a microsatellite library for examining gene flow within putative species and among closely related or cryptic species groups.

Another major project on Dr. Siddall's agenda was the development of a Tree of Life for the phylum Annelida, based on multiple nuclear and mitochondrial loci (always including the barcoding locus). His research provided a foundation for PhD candidate and Kade fellow Vincent Rousset's annelid studies. Analyses of the origins and relationships of all orders and families of polychaetes were completed, resulting in the most definitive statement of annelid phylogeny to date. Siddall also conducted fieldwork in North America, French Guyana, and South Africa to collect the Giant Amazonian Leech and the notorious Hippo Leech.

Division Chair <u>Dr. Ward Wheeler</u> continued his research in empirical and theoretical systematics, publishing work on the systematic relationships among true bugs (with Curator Randall Schuh), spiders and kin (with Curator Lorenzo Prendini), and metazoa (based on over 150 genetic loci). With graduate student Andres Varon, the POY4 phylogenetic analysis software was released to the scientific community and has already found its way into publications.

DIVISION OF PALEONTOLOGY

The <u>Division of Paleontology</u>, divided into two departments for invertebrates and vertebrates, studies the history of life on Earth through the discovery, analysis, and comparison of fossil remains of dinosaurs, mammals, birds, fishes, reptiles, and invertebrates.

In fiscal years 2007 and 2008, the Division of Paleontology saw numerous achievements from its talented team of curators and continued its legacy of historic expeditions and research.

As well, the Division regrets to note the passing of curator emeritus Malcolm McKenna on March 10, 2008.

During these fiscal years, the Division commenced two major collaborative research initiatives funded by the NSF's Assembling the Tree of Life project. The first was an award granted to curators Novacek, Flynn, and Meng (in addition to Curator of Vertebrate Zoology Nancy Simmons and collaborators at other institutions) entitled "Collaborative Research: Resolving Mammalian Phylogeny with Genomic and Morphological Approaches." An award was also granted to curator Norell and outside

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"Profound biological discoveries will come not only from a further look inward, but also in an outward look, to myriad biological species. A critical step is to link the emerging information on genes, form, and species diversity in a way that powerfully informs our understanding of the evolution of life."

| MICHAEL NOVACEK, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, PROVOST, AND CURATOR IN THE DIVISION OF PALEONTOLOGY |

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From left to right: An ammonite fossil; Curator John Flynn in Chile

collaborators entitled "Collaborative Research: Understanding the relationships of coelurosaurian dinosaurs and birds using a total evidence approach."

Extensive work was also completed by the Vertebrate Paleontology curators to bring the label copy and video interactive terminals in the fourth-floor fossil halls up to date.

<u>Dr. Niles Eldredge</u> devoted his research to studying the writings of Charles Darwin, particularly those discussing his take on proto-phylogenetics. The *Darwin* exhibit, which he co-curated, continues to travel the world. In 2007, Dr. Eldredge was granted an AIBS President's Citation Award and an honorary degree, *Laurea Honoris Causa* in Biology, by the Universita'degli Studi dell'Insubria.

<u>Dr. John Flynn</u> continued his research on mammalian paleontology and evolution, primarily of the southern continents in India, Chile, and Madagascar, and pursued a large-scale project on the interrelationships of carnivorans using a total evidence approach.

Dr. Flynn participated in the AMNH and Mongolian Academy of Sciences (MAS) expeditions to Mongolia's Gobi Desert and also traveled to the Amazon Basin of Peru, India, and Angola.

Dr. Flynn was appointed Dean of the Richard Gilder Graduate School in January 2007. He was awarded the Joseph T. Gregory Award for outstanding service to the welfare of vertebrate paleontology from the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology on October 20, 2007.

<u>Dr. Eugene Gaffney</u> concentrated his research on fossil and living turtles. In November 2006, his career-defining, 700-page monograph on the evolution of the side-necked turtles was published. Dr. Gaffney retired from his position as a curator in the Division as of June 30, 2007.

<u>Dr. Neil Landman</u>'s work centered on continuing his research on ammonites, especially those near the boundary between the Cretaceous and the Tertiary periods. He continued his fieldwork on the Atlantic coastal plain and in the American West, bringing back large collections of ammonites. In particular, one spectacular ammonite fossil from Canada Fossils was put on display in the recently renovated Grand Gallery in 2007.

Dr. John Maisey continued his research on the evolutionary history, anatomy, and phylogeny of Paleozoic sharks.

<u>Dr. Jin Meng</u> continued to research the paleontology and geology of Asian mammals, conducting extensive field work in the Tertiary beds of northwestern China during the summers of 2006, 2007, and 2008. A paper announcing the discovery of an enigmatic gliding mammal from northeastern China during the Early Cretaceous period was published (with coauthors) in *Nature* in 2006.

<u>Dr. Mark Norell</u> continued his work on the evolution of dinosaurs and birds. In 2007, he published papers (with coauthors) in *Science* that showed anatomical structures associated with the presence of feathers in *Velociraptor*, as well as changes in body size in

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Left: Dr. Michael Novacek in the Gobi Desert

the evolution of dinosaurs closely related to birds. With curator and Provost Novacek, Dr. Norell co-led the 17th and 18th installations of AMNH and MAS expeditions to Mongolia's Gobi Desert. In July 2007, he worked in the Late Cretaceous beds of Gansu province in China, on a joint expedition with Beijing University and the Gansu Department of Land Resources; he also spent a week excavating at Ghost Ranch in New Mexico with his students in June 2008.

Dr. Norell served as co-curator of the highly acclaimed and very popular exhibition *Mythic Creatures* (May 26, 2007–January 6, 2008), which began an international tour in March 2008. He was reappointed Chair of Paleontology as of July 1, 2008.

<u>Dr. Michael Novacek</u>, who also serves as Senior Vice President and Provost of Science at AMNH, focused his non-administrative work on researching the early evolution of mammals and collaborating on the NSF-funded Tree of Life Mammal project. In 2007, he published a paper (with coauthors) in *Nature* on the biogeography of fossil eutherian mammals near the Cretaceous-Tertiary extinction event.

On the non-technical front, Novacek published his book, *Terra: Our 100-Million-Year-Old Ecosystem—and the Threats That Now Put it at Risk.* The book was recognized as one of *Booklist's* "Best Science Books of 2007".

DIVISION OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES

The Division of Physical Sciences includes the Departments of Astrophysics and Earth and Planetary Sciences. Scientists in the Division focus on such topics as the origin and evolution of planets, stars, and galaxies; the origins of jade minerals; the direct detection of extrasolar planets; and the evolution of volatiles such as water and carbon dioxide during volcanic eruptions.

ASTROPHYSICS

A team led by Kade fellow Anders Johansen, graduate student Jeffrey Oishi, and Curator Dr. Mordecai-Mark Mac Low proposed a new mechanism for planetesimal formation to address the problem of meter-sized boulders quickly falling into the sun, first identified more than 30 years ago. In addition, graduate student Yuexing Li worked with Dr. Mac Low and other collaborators to show that gravitational instability, acting in galactic disks, can explain the rate of star formation within the disks, as well as the relationship between central black hole or nuclear cluster mass and stellar mass. Working with Dr. Mac Low, postdoctoral Fellow Simon Glover demonstrated that molecular hydrogen can form quickly in turbulent interstellar clouds, supporting suggestions of short lifetimes for star-forming molecular clouds. Graduate student Moo Kwang Ryan Joung, also collaborating with Dr. Mac Low, simulated the driving of turbulence in interstellar gas by supernova explosions.

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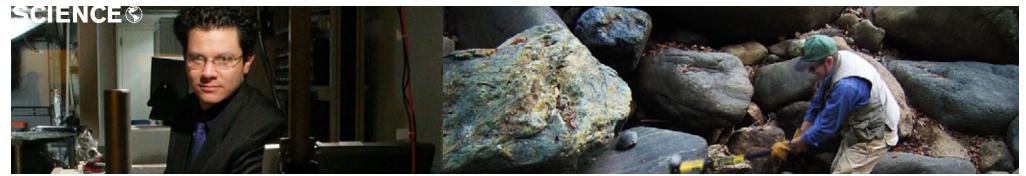
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From left to right: Ben Oppenheimer; Dr. George Harlow sampling metabasalt on Río El Cintillo, El Progreso department, Guatemala

Curator <u>Dr. Ben R. Oppenheimer</u>'s achievements in comparative exoplanetary science included the direct imaging of a protoplanetary disk. His group, which includes chief instrumentation scientist Anand Sivaramakrishnan, research scientist Douglas Brenner, and PhD students Sasha Hinkley, Neil Zimmerman, and Kade Fellow, Alexis Carlotti. The Gemini Planet Imager is destined for first light on the 8-m Gemini South telescope early in 2011.

The group also developed a new state-of-the-art cornagraphic imaging spectrograph deployed to the 200-inch Hale telescope at Palomar Observatory in Southern California. This instrument has begun a new survey, the most sensitive of its kind in the world, to study the chemistry of planets, protoplanetary disks, and other objects in system scale environments of the 200 nearest and youngest stars.

Components of Oppenheimer's temporary exhibit "Looking for New Worlds" will contribute to the permanent Rose Center exhibitry.

Curator <u>Dr. Michael Shara</u> and collaborators pursued dynamical models of globular clusters using the Museum's cluster of teraFLOPS speed GRAPE IV gravity accelerator boards. Collaborating with Dr. Shara, research scientist Sebastien Lépine completed a survey of high proper motion stars by cataloging those seen from the Southern Hemisphere. The results were applied to the measurement of proper motions of faint ultraviolet-bright sources in the Galactic Plane; the discovery of distant companions to nearby stars and the measurement of the frequency of wide binary systems; the creation of a new classification of the metallicities of low mass stars; and the discovery and measurement of new brown dwarfs.

Other departmental activities included a 30-person consortium led by research scientist Orsola De Marco, studying whether planetary nebulae arise from interactions of binary stars during the final phases of their evolution.

Dr. Anand Sivaramakrishnan also led a multi-institution effort to develop and prototype a special technique for NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, the successor to the Hubble Space Telescope. This technique will enable a search for protoplanets and young Jovian planets orbiting young stars in the constellation of Taurus.

EARTH AND PLANETARY SCIENCES

Associate Curator <u>Dr. Denton Ebel</u> pioneered the use of three-dimensional CAT scanning technology to understand the origins and properties of meteorites from the Museum's collections.

Additionally, Dr. Ebel spent time investigating samples of dust returned from the Comet Wild 2 by the NASA Stardust mission.

Dr. George Harlow led expeditions to study jadeitites and related rocks from Guatemala to understand high-pressure subduction zones and the role of water in transporting dissolved rock components. Jadeitites are rare rocks crystallized from water at high pressure. His team has revealed that chemical components of continental sediments are found in jadeitites and ultimately in arc-volcanoes. He also devoted time to investigating the mineralogy of the Mogok Gem Tract in northern Myanmar, the source of the finest rubies and a panoply of other gems.

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1,300

amphibian and reptile specimens were catalogued from collections made during Curator Christopher Raxworthy's fieldwork in Madagascar.

From left to right: Christopher Raxworthy; A Calumma tsaratananense in Madagascar

Curator <u>Dr. Edmond Mathez</u> undertook two expeditions to South Africa, working with graduate student Jill VanTongeren to understand how the Bushveld magma body evolved and interacted with the rock above it, bolstering our understanding of the evolution of the region, which supplies most of the world's platinum, as well as the evolution of Earth's crust during the Proterozoic era. Dr. Mathez and colleagues also studied changes in electrical conductivity associated with rock fracture, helping to shed light on the origin of electrical phenomena preceding earthquakes.

Curator <u>Dr. James Webster</u> and research scientist Dr. Charles Mandeville led an expedition to collect rock samples from the 2006 eruption of Mount St. Augustine, determining the samples' pre-eruptive abundances of volatile components.

Dr. Webster also performed experiments to determine the solubilities of volatile substances including water, chlorine, carbon dioxide, and sulfur dioxide in melts from Mount Somma-Vesuvius in Italy and Crater Lake.

<u>Dr. Charles Mandeville</u> and colleagues also developed a new secondary ion mass spectrometry analytical technique to measure sulfur isotopic composition of silicate glasses, which he will use to measure sulfur isotope compositions in magmas from Krakatau and Galunggung volcanoes in Indonesia, Crater Lake in Oregon, Mount St. Augustine in Alaska, and Mount Etna in Italy.

DIVISION OF VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

The <u>Division of Vertebrate Zoology</u> comprises four departments: Herpetology (reptiles and amphibians), Ichthyology (fishes), Mammalogy (mammals, including primates), and Ornithology (birds).

Most curators maintain active, global-scale field research programs in addition to conducting specimen-based morphological or molecular studies at the Museum. Major research projects in the Division included work on marsupials; bats; extinct West Indian primates; frogs; chameleons; catfishes; fresh-water African and Andean fishes; Southeast Asian marine fishes; birds from around the world; and Pleistocene mammals from the Arctic.

HERPETOLOGY

In the Department of Herpetology, Curator <u>Dr. Darrell Frost</u> continued to work on his online catalog of amphibians of the world, as well as systematic studies of amphibian phylogenetics.

Associate Curator and Associate Dean of Science for Education and Exhibition <u>Dr. Christopher Raxworthy</u> was awarded an NSF grant to study chameleon systematics and biogeography in Madagascar and the Indian Ocean. Based on this work, he also contributed more than 1,300 amphibian and reptile specimens to the Museum collections.

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52.5 million

Age of the most primitive bat in the world, described in 2008 by Curator Nancy Simmons.

Dr. Nancy Simmons handles a live bat.

ICHTHYOLOGY

Postdoctoral Fellow Luis Fernandez worked with Curator <u>Dr. Scott Schaefer</u> on the phylogenetics of trichomycterid catfishes. As part of another NSF-supported project, the revision of the astroblepid catfish, Curator Schaefer collected freshwater fishes at elevations ranging from 600 to 1,800 meters in the Merida Andes of Venezuela.

Associate Curator <u>Dr. John Sparks</u>, Postdoctoral Fellow Dr. P. Chakrabarty, and student Zachary Baldwin conducted fieldwork in Indonesia, Qatar, Oman, Madagascar, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, southern India, and Thailand as part of Sparks's NSF-sponsored project on bioluminescence and ponyfishes. This work led to the discovery of several species new to science and added to AMNH collections of marine fishes.

Dr. Sparks and Chakrabarty also conducted fieldwork in Madagascar as part of a project on the systematics and biogeography of Malagasy gobioid cavefishes, and Dr. Sparks completed a Museum *Bulletin* on Malagasy cichlids. Dr. Sparks also initiated a 3-year NSF-supported project to study the evolution and diversification of hearing in Malagasy and South Asian cichlids.

Curator <u>Dr. Melanie Stiassny</u> and Postdoctoral Fellow Robert Schelly conducted field-work in the Democratic Republic of Congo as part of Stiassny's NSF-sponsored survey and inventory of the fauna of the lower Congo River rapids. Schelly also collected fishes in the Salonga National Park of DR Congo; an extraordinarily large number of important new fish specimens have been added to the departmental collection as a result.

In June and July 2008, Dr. Stiassny and graduate students Hugo Escobar and Jake Lowenstein returned to Bas Congo Province of DR Congo. The team was accompanied

by NSLET geographer Ned Gardiner and USGS Hydrologist John Shelton, who deployed state-of-the-art Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers to document channel morphology and in-stream water velocity along a stretch of the lower Congo River. With NSF support, Dr. Stiassny also developed an AMNH *Science Bulletin* video documentary featuring her Congo research.

Elsewhere in the department, Postdoctoral Fellow Leo Smith published an important phylogenetic analysis of percomorph relationships and an intriguing paper on the evolution of venom in fishes, and Postdoctoral Fellow Fernandez continued research on trichomycterid catfishes and collected fishes in Colombia.

MAMMALOGY

Curator <u>Dr. Nancy Simmons</u> and Postdoctoral Researcher Norberto Giannini worked on a collaborative NSF-supported project to build a Tree of Life for mammals and continued their work on evolutionary relationships of Old World Fruit Bats, along with Postdoctoral Fellow Francisca Almeida. Dr. Simmons and her colleagues in the US, Canada, and Germany made the cover of *Nature* with their description of the most primitive bat ever discovered, *Onychonycteris*, an animal that could fly but not echolocate, answering the long-standing question of which key adaptations originated first in the evolution of bats.

Curator <u>Dr. Ross MacPhee</u> continued his work on extinct late Quaternary mammals in various parts of the world, in collaboration with Spanish, Cuban, Canadian, Russian, and other colleagues in the Yukon. Completed investigations included analysis of the implications of the first full-scale, species-level supertree of extant mammals; new evidence for late survival of island endemics in the West; and additional work on the

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2.4 million

records were migrated to the electronic database of Vertebrate Zoology collections in 2007 and 2008.

From left to right: A mammoth lower jaw found on the Taimyr Peninsula tundra in arctic Siberia; a female Monarcha richardsii, endemic to the Solomon Islands

significance of mammoth and muskox paleogenetics for understanding end-Pleistocene megafaunal population collapses. He also worked with Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellow Pere Bover on the general problem of the causes and consequences of insular mammal extinctions.

With colleagues from McMaster University in Ontario, Dr. MacPhee participated in a major ancient DNA study of mammoths that revealed the last living mammoths to have been exclusively derived from New World populations, and he also began a major new NSF-supported initiative in West Antarctica to search for Eocene mammals on Seymour Island.

Dr. MacPhee also curated the major temporary exhibition *The Horse*, which opened at the Museum on May 17, 2008.

Curator <u>Dr. Robert Voss</u> continued his collaborative, NSF-supported work on the evolution of marsupials with Dr. Sharon Jansa at the University of Minnesota. Their previous work was summarized in a monograph submitted by Voss and Jansa for publication in the AMNH *Bulletin* series.

Collections Manager <u>Darrin Lunde</u> worked with Curator Emeritus Dr. Guy Musser and Research Associates Ken Aplin and Kris Helgen to complete three revisionary manuscripts on New Guinea mammal fauna.

ORNITHOLOGY

Curators <u>Dr. Joel Cracraft</u> and <u>Dr. George Barrowclough</u> continued their work to build an avian Tree of Life at the generic level. They completed large phylogenetic trees for suboscine and oscine birds, as well as raptorial birds, nightjars, and swifts and hummingbirds.

The two curators were also co-organizers of a symposium at the North American Ornithological Congress in Veracruz, Mexico, in 2007, attended by many students and staff in the Department.

DIVISION OF VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY COLLECTIONS

The Division of Vertebrate Zoology continued work on a major initiative to develop a centralized computer database for their collections. This system, which is web-accessible, brings together catalog records previously maintained in six separate databases, as well as data never before captured electronically (including digital images of important specimens, CT scans, X-rays, photographs, and sound recordings).

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15,000+

acres of coral reef surrounding

Palmyra Atoll in the South
Pacific are protected and studied through the Palmyra
Atoll Research Consortium.

From left to right: A new frog species found in the mountains of Lao Cai Province, Vietnam.; CBC Director Dr. Eleanor J. Sterling

CENTER FOR BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

The Center for Biodiversity and Conservation (CBC) was created in June 1993 to bring the Museum's extensive scientific and educational resources to bear in conservation decisions and actions. In fiscal years 2007 and 2008, the CBC furthered its mission to mitigate critical threats to global biological and cultural diversity through ongoing research around the world, education and public outreach in New York City and abroad, training programs, and an extensive list of publications. Field research included expeditions to The Bahamas, Palmyra Atoll, the Solomon Islands, South America, Mainland Southeast Asia, and the Galapagos Islands.

The Bahamas

The Bahamas Biocomplexity Project (BBP), an interdisciplinary research effort led by the CBC, combined the studies of marine biodiversity, oceanography, economics, and social issues in order to improve the design of networks of marine protected areas for biodiversity conservation and fisheries sustainability.

South America

CBC Associate Director <u>Dr. Felicity Arengo</u> continued her work with the Grupo de Conservación de Flamencos Altoandinos, a regional initiative in South America that conducts research and raises awareness of flamingo ecology and wetland conservation.

Galapagos Islands

CBC Director <u>Dr. Eleanor J. Sterling</u> worked on field research projects to achieve a better understanding of the ecology and conservation of Galapagos giant tortoises and the co-evolutionary relationship between giant tortoises and cacti.

Mainland Southeast Asia and Vietnam

The CBC's wide-ranging involvement in the conservation of Vietnam's biodiversity reached its 10-year mark, with more than 60 peer-reviewed journal articles to date, as well as the production of the award-winning book *Vietnam: A Natural History*. The CBC also initiated fieldwork in Vietnam to conserve the critically endangered Saola, an ungulate (hoofed mammal) endemic to the region.

New York City

Here in New York, the CBC made strides with two "citizen science" projects, led by CBC Postdoctoral Fellow <u>Dr. Chanda Bennett</u>, to address recent declines in two of North America's native animal populations: honeybees and bats.

In addition, the Invertebrate Conservation Program continued to lead the Scarabaeinae (scarab beetle) Research Network (ScarabNet) of ecologists and taxonomists working to assemble the taxonomic and practical tools needed to include invertebrate groups in conservation planning and priority setting.

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Right: Visitors at Water: H_oO=Life

Palmyra Atoll

In 2006, Dr. Sterling was elected to lead the newly formed Palmyra Atoll Research Consortium, a collaborative initiative comprised of outstanding scientific and academic institutions. She and other CBC scientists spearheaded research projects on coral reef ecology and restoration and endangered sea turtles.

Solomon Islands

CBC Biodiversity Scientist for Pacific Programs Dr. Christopher Filardi continued his collaborative studies of avian diversification in the Solomon Islands. With initial funding in place from The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and through the CBC's close partnership with Conservation International's Conservation Economics Program and Melanesia Center for Biodiversity Conservation, Dr. Filardi initiated or strengthened community-based protected areas at four key sites across the Solomons.

Southwestern Research Station

The Southwestern Research Station (SWRS), located in the Chiricahua Mountains of southeastern Arizona, and the CBC worked on a master plan for the physical structures of the station, placing an emphasis on sustainable "green" design principles. As part of this effort, the SWRS recently installed a constructed wetlands system to treat wastewater sustainably and initiated an energy-efficiency lab renovation. The SWRS also continued to host scientists and naturalists from around the world who travel there for the area's extraordinary biodiversity.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

CBC Spring Symposium

On April 26 and 27, 2007, the CBC Spring Symposium, "Small Matters: Microbes and Their Role in Conservation," focused on microbial diversity and ecology. Some 35

presenters provided an assessment of the extensive diversity of microorganisms; their roles in ecological processes; their interdependence and effect on the planet; and how microbes can and should be incorporated into conservation biology. In addition, 46 posters were exhibited over the two days. The authors represented institutes and agencies in 25 US states and 10 countries.

The links between biological and cultural diversity were the focus of the 2008 symposium, held April 2–5, "Sustaining Cultural and Biological Diversity in a Rapidly Changing World: Lessons for Global Policy." The ambitious program included three days of plenary presentations, panel discussions, and poster presentations. Of some 310 participants from 40 countries, 108 were invited speakers or panelists, 24 displayed posters, and seven hosted discussions in an informal setting in the Museum's Powerhouse. Working groups were formed to prepare recommendations for the 2008 meetings of the World Conservation Congress, the United Nations' Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Living With Nature

On October 20, 2006, the CBC partnered with the New York City Soil and Water Conservation District to present the conference "Living With Nature: Sustaining the Metropolitan Region's Biodiversity Through Local Action." The day-long event brought together more than 200 people—representatives of non-profit environmental organizations, businesses, government agencies, and others—to examine the role of sustainability in conserving the New York metropolitan region's biodiversity. Topics for discussion included architecture and green cityscapes; consumer choice; education; food systems; natural systems; and transportation. Underlying each topic area was the importance of local action in conserving the New York metropolitan region's biodiversity.

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An agricultural irrigation project in the Mekong Delta

In conjunction with the conference, the CBC hosted an all-day resource fair at the Museum on Saturday, October 21, 2006. CBC staff and representatives from local organizations shared ideas and hands-on activities to empower people to help conserve biodiversity in their everyday lives.

Water: H₂O=Life and World Water Day

The popular exhibition *Water: H₂O=Life* (November 3, 2007–May 26, 2008) was curated by CBC Director Dr. Eleanor Sterling. On March 22, 2008, the Museum held its first celebration of World Water Day in conjunction with the exhibition, including a resource fair in the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life and panel discussions focusing on international water issues, sustainable water resources in New York City, and the traditional roles of women in managing domestic water resources in developing countries.

TRAINING AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The CBC's Network of Conservation Educators and Practitioners (NCEP) is an active global initiative that seeks to develop and disseminate open educational resources on managing and sustaining biological and cultural diversity. In fall 2007, NCEP launched its new online journal, <u>Lessons in Conservation</u>.

In summer 2007, the CBC officially launched the Enhancing Diversity in Conservation Science Initiative, which is staffed by CBC Postdoctoral Fellow Dr. Chanda Bennett and CBC Biodiversity Specialist Michael Foster. The Diversity Initiative aims to address the obstacles undermining the recruitment and retention of historically underrepresented groups.

In spring 2008, the CBC launched its new website, <u>cbc.amnh.org</u>, an engaging and accessible resource for information on biodiversity and its importance.

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Students at work in the Sackler Institute labs

THE SACKLER INSTITUTE FOR COMPARATIVE GENOMICS

The Institute for Comparative Genomics, renamed the <u>Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics</u> in 2007 in recognition of the major support of the Mortimer D. Sackler Foundation, explores genomics as a comparative discipline, rather than a single-species discipline. This approach allows scientists to map the evolutionary relationships among a wide range of organisms and to use that knowledge for such applications as understanding the evolutionary patterns of emerging infectious diseases like avian flu, currently being studied under a US Department of Defense grant, to anticipate and potentially stem future pandemics.

The Sackler Institute's research facilities, shared among its scientific staff, include three state-of-the-art molecular laboratories, a powerful parallel computing facility, and the Ambrose Monell Cryo Collection, a large and growing frozen-tissue repository. The Monell Collection is independent of the five Museum research divisions and is a facility of the Sackler Institute; as a central repository, however, it is connected to all zoology departments. The Sackler Institute also provides tools and technologies to postdoctoral fellows and graduate students, offering unparalleled opportunities to collaborate with Museum scientists.

Significant ongoing funding for the Sackler Institute comes from the Sackler Foundation, The Lewis B. and Dorothy Cullman Foundation, the Ambrose Monell Foundation, for which the frozen tissue collection and two postdoctoral research fellowships are named, and government sources. In the past, support has also been provided by the Starr Foundation.

ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2007, <u>George Amato</u> was named Director of the Sackler Institute and Administrator of the Monell Collection alongside Curator-in-Charge Darrel Frost, with whom he directs and provides curatorial oversight for the collection.

During fiscal years 2007 and 2008, the Sackler Institute continued to focus on developing a comprehensive Tree of Life for species; new methods in molecular systematics and analyses; and the world's largest species tissue repository to facilitate and archive the molecular aspects of Tree of Life work, DNA barcoding, and other molecular evolution research. The Sackler Institute also worked to further biodiversity conservation; studied the diversity and evolutionary relationships of microbes; applied non-human genomics research to understanding human health and disease; and provided innovation in comparative bioinformatics through facilities and programs capable of high-capacity, high-speed computation and analysis. In September 2007, the Sackler Institute was host to "DNA Barcoding," the 3rd International Symposium on Conservation Genetics, sponsored by the American Genetic Association and the American Museum of Natural History.

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Nuclear DNA genes for

genera of birds have been sequenced in building the largest-ever Tree of Life of living birds at the Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics.

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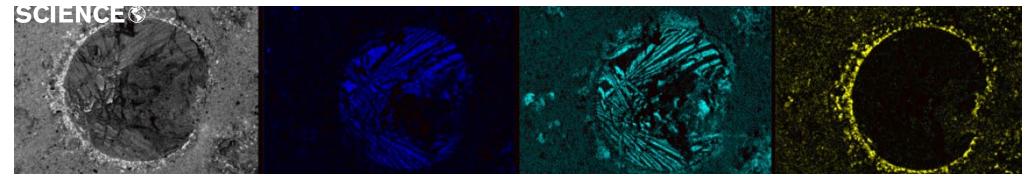
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This meteorite chondrule was mapped using Position-Tagged Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy on Hitachi Cold Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope.

LIBRARY SERVICES

The <u>Library</u> of the American Museum of Natural History was established in 1869, with the founding of the Museum, and has since become the largest independent natural history library in the Western Hemisphere, housing nearly half a million printed items, as well as extensive non-print collections that span the full range of all the natural sciences and date back to the 15th century. The Library's primary collecting foci are zoology, paleontology, Earth and planetary sciences, biodiversity and conservation, anthropology, and archaeology.

Each year the Library adds, as requested by scientific staff, approximately 1,500 monographs and 8,250 print journal issues. Currently, it receives 3,800 serial titles in print from subscriptions, gifts, and through exchange. Of these, 1,350 are also available

A Museum workman poses with a Mastodon skeleton mounted for display.

online. Natural history materials have a much longer shelf life than those of other scientific areas, and the disciplines covered require an all-encompassing information repository, including archival, photographic, and other media, and rare book materials, in addition to exhaustive collections of books and periodicals.

During these fiscal years, the Library was happy to make available to the scientific community at large the full runs, in electronic form, of all the Museum's scientific publications and Annual Reports. Interested parties who can connect to the Web may now instantly and freely download each publication, right up to the most current issue.

In another major achievement, a web exhibit, "Picturing the Museum: Education and Exhibition at the American Museum of Natural History," supported by funds from the Metropolitan New York Library Council (MEtRo) through the New York State Regional Bibliographic Databases Program, was launched in spring 2008. The site includes a selection of historic photos, scanned from original negatives, from the larger AMNH Library Image Database, which presently includes close to 200,000 records.

MICROSCOPY AND IMAGING FACILITY

The Microscopy and Imaging Facility (MIF) provides research staff with time and training on some of the most advanced imaging technology available, furthering departmental research initiatives. More than 100 research staff made use of the facility's imaging resources in 2007. The MIF acquired a Zeiss Evo60 Variable Pressure Scanning Electron Microscope (VP-SEM) under a Major Research Instrumentation grant from NSF.

The VP-SEM has also been used for the production of video clips to educate the public about Museum exhibitions. •

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"I know that what our children learned at AMNH will last them a lifetime."



The Museum's Education Department offers programs, materials, and services fostering discovery, science literacy, and lifelong learning for audiences of all ages and backgrounds, both within the Museum and far beyond its walls.

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460,000

children visit AMNH with school or camp groups annually.

A summer school group visits the Museum

In the past two fiscal years, the <u>Education Department</u> has increased the reach and impact of its existing programs, while also breaking new ground to address the national scientific literacy crisis and connect audiences with the latest issues and developments in science.

NATIONAL EDUCATION SUMMIT SCIENCE GENERATION: A NATIONAL IMPERATIVE

On April 8–9, 2008, AMNH convened a national summit to address one of the country's most urgent challenges: the science education deficit in the United States *Science Generation: A National Imperative*. American students have fallen far behind their peers around the world in science and math achievement; fewer students are preparing for jobs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and science literacy among the general public is low. Yet we live in a world driven by science and technology, perhaps more than ever before. Science is central to our economies, our health, our security, our understanding of global culture, and our capacity to address the global biodiversity and climate crises. Basic scientific knowledge is essential to both informed citizenship and effective leadership in this new century.

The summit presented 38 speakers: leaders in business, education, science, media, philanthropy, non-profit and civic organizations, informal education and science institutions, and politics, including Congressman Bart Gordon (D-Tenn); former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich; NBC News correspondent Tom Brokaw; *New York Times* science writer Natalie Angier; New York City Department of Education Chancellor Joel Klein; and many others, including leadership from National Science Foundation, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and NASA. More

than 230 individuals attended, representing museums, businesses, philanthropy, education, and civic leadership in 28 states; also included were parents, middle and high school students from New York City public schools, and Museum scientists and educators.

Science Generation: A National Imperative was a milestone for the American Museum of Natural History. By taking a lead role in the discussion to improve science education nationwide and create a scientifically literate citizenry, the Museum is helping to pave the way for reform.

THE DAVID S. AND RUTH L. GOTTESMAN CENTER FOR SCIENCE TEACHING AND LEARNING

The Museum feels a special responsibility to support the work of schools and is therefore closely aligned with the public education system. The Gottesman Center for Science, Teaching, and Learning extends Museum resources into the formal K-12 education system in New York City and nationwide. The goal of the Gottesman Center is to improve student learning and performance and teacher effectiveness in the critical area of science education through curriculum support, professional development, and strategic partnership programs.

The Center provides service to more than 460,000 children who visit AMNH with school or camp groups annually. Approximately 29% of all students in New York City's public elementary and middle schools visit free of charge on field trips each year. Instructors and volunteers lead groups through the halls and facilitate hands-on activities, and AMNH provides comprehensive guides for teachers to enrich the Museum experience before, during, and after their visits.

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"[Urban Advantage] enhances our science curriculum and helps us to prepare our middle school students for the challenges of high school, college, and life beyond their school years." ا اود المارة على المارة ال

Students present their 8th-grade science exit projects with Urban Advantage.

Throughout 2007 and 2008, the Gottesman Center expanded its <u>Urban Advantage</u> program, a unique collaboration with six other New York City science-based institutions, led by AMNH, to strengthen 7th and 8th grade science education. In fiscal year 2008, the program provided invaluable support to some 250 teachers in 150 New York City schools, preparing more than 27,500 students for their required science "exit projects." The Museum also continued its Science Explorations collaboration with Scholastic, Inc., to bring interesting stories about Museum scientists' work to students throughout the country via Scholastic's website and in-school magazine.

In addition to its programs for children and students, the Gottesman Center also provides professional development programs that cultivate science and social-studies knowledge among more than 6,700 educators at all levels each year. Conferences, distance learning seminars, evening lecture series, and graduate-level courses offer direct contact with scientists and content specialists, inquiry-based learning experiences, and standards-aligned resources. Many programs offer the opportunity to earn certificates of continuing professional education and credits toward advanced degrees in science education through the City University of New York.

SEMINARS ON SCIENCE

The American Museum of Natural History developed <u>Seminars on Science</u>, its online professional development program, to give teachers across the United States and around the world access to cutting-edge research and powerful classroom resources. Online courses rich in imagery, videos, interactive simulations, and vibrant discussions connect participants to the Museum's scientists, laboratories, expeditions, and specimens.

For the past eight years, *Seminars on Science* has been a leader in online professional development in science, reaching more than 3,500 teachers across the United States. Through partnerships with eight institutions of higher education (including City University of New York and Bank Street College), the National Science Teachers Association, and others, the program is providing both current and future teachers with a deeper understanding of science and scientific inquiry—as well as graduate and/or professional development credit. Independent evaluation reveals that teachers prefer *Seminars on Science* to other locally available professional development programs. All courses have been correlated to the National Science Education Standards.

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5,847

education professionals have benefitted from the Gottesman Center's on-site professional development programs.

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"[It is] serving a tremendous potential for education for people to learn about the water resources we have on this planet."

JONATHAN BULKLEY, PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN AND EXPERT ADVISOR FOR WATER: H2O=LIFE |

Young visitors at Water: H2O=Life

During the past two years, the program has developed new courses on Evolution and the Solar System. *Seminars on Science* has also developed new partnerships with the International Baccalaureate Organization and Framingham State College.

Enrollments have grown by more than 60% since the program's founding, with approximately 1,100 enrollments expected during the coming year. Future plans include the development of new courses, new partnerships, and the infusion of recent e-learning developments. The program is poised for future scale, sustainability, and impact.

WATER: $H_2O=LIFE$

As a recognized leader in science education, the Museum created the <u>Water</u> exhibition as a springboard for learning opportunities, engaging in direct outreach to schools and providing teacher training materials. The Museum also offered a host of public

programs to amplify the educational content of the exhibition, exploring specific topics in greater detail and extending the exhibition's reach to a broader audience.

The Museum's Education Department developed more than 40 resources and programs to explore and address the core concepts of the exhibition on-site, online, and in print. The educational efforts were targeted at four primary audiences: families, adults, youth, and educators.

On-site family programs, developed to meet the needs and interests of a diverse family audience, reached almost 10,000 visitors and included fairs, cultural performances, demonstrations, interpretive programs, and interactive theater. The Museum also developed rich online resources to deepen the educational impact for exhibition visitors and provide access and information to those who were not able to experience it in person.

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Students in the Sackler Lab adjacent to the Hall of Human Origins

Programs for the adult audience featured high-level discussions of the complex and multifaceted issues surrounding water use and scarcity. The diversity of adult programs also provided opportunities for learning and engagement to a broad range of adults, from committed Museum members to those who had never before visited.

The content of the *Water* exhibition naturally lent itself to excellent opportunities for engaging youth and children. From foundational scientific concepts for preschoolers to hands-on activities for elementary students to in-depth courses for older children, the education programs provided accessible and rewarding ways for youth to explore core concepts from the exhibition.

For educators, the exhibition contained a wide variety of topics that directly correlated to national and state education standards, providing a clear tie-in to school programs. The central themes of *Water* addressed physical science, chemistry, biology, and social studies, and the Museum was able to create unique materials and programs to help educators take advantage of each content area.

LIFELONG LEARNING IN THE HALL OF HUMAN ORIGINS

In February 2007, the Museum opened the <u>Anne and Bernard Spitzer Hall of Human Origins</u>. This new permanent exhibition presents the remarkable history of human evolution using evidence from two different scientific perspectives. The innovative hall

combines the most up-to-date discoveries in the fossil record with the latest in genomic science to explore the most profound mysteries of humankind: who we are, where we came from, and what is in store for the future of our species.

The Hall of Human Origins is also the first permanent exhibition at the Museum to incorporate a teaching laboratory, the Sackler Educational Laboratory for Comparative Genomics and Human Origins. The Sackler Lab is fully equipped with modern genetic technology and an array of artifacts and casts, some produced at and exclusive to the American Museum of Natural History.

Scientists and educators in the Sackler Lab help visitors explore questions raised by the exhibition and allow visitors to examine the latest cutting-edge methodologies in evolutionary science. The Sackler Lab serves as a setting for formal learning (with school groups) during the school week and informal learning (with public audiences) on evenings and weekends. The lab sessions for school groups cover a variety of topics, including genetics, genomics, cellular biology and hominid anatomy. Prominent Museum scientists use the Sackler Lab to teach adult classes on topics such as human evolution and evolutionary theory and methodologies. Many additional educational programs, including after-school courses, professional development for teachers, and fossil camps, also rely on the resources of the space, making the Sackler Lab an integral component of the Museum's overall educational offerings.

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EDUCATION M

EDUCATION AWARDS

OLOGY

2008 Technology & Learning Award of Excellence: Legacy Award for the OLogy website redesign

Finalist, Distinguished Achievement Award: Curriculum/Science Instruction/Technology: Websites (Grades K-5), from the Association of Educational Publishers

2008 Great Web Sites for Kids: General Science, from The Association for Library Service to

RESOURCES FOR LEARNING

2007 & 2008

Association of Educational Publishers

SCIENCE BULLETINS

Curriculum/Science Instruction/Technology/ Websites (Grades 9-12), from the Association of Educational Publishers

2008 Finalist, 23rd Annual Codie Awards: Best Multi-Media Solution, from the Software & Technology & Learning Award of Excellence:

Professional Development/Technology/ Informational Websites/Adult Learning, from the Association of Educational Publishers

Curriculum/Science Instruction/Technology/ Websites (Grades 9-12), from the Association of Educational Publishers

and News/Documentary/Public Service

BIOBULLETIN VIDEOS

2008 EcoFocus Short Film Competition Awards: C. David Aguar Award for Excellence in Environmental Cinematography, "The Last Wild Horse: The Return of the Takhi to

Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival: Best Use of New Media, Science Bulletin: "Our Oceans, Ourselves" (podcast and website)

SCIENCE EXPLORATIONS

Periodicals/Editorial/Series (Grades 6-8), Science World, from the Association of **Educational Publishers**

2007 & 2008

Periodicals/Editorial/Series (Grades K-5), SuperScience, from the Association of **Educational Publishers**

Learning Magazine's Fourteenth Annual Teacher's Choice Award: Website

Distinguished Achievement Award Curriculum/ Science Instruction/Technology/Websites (Grades 6-8), Soar with Bats, an online Science Explorations feature, from the Association of Educational Publishers

Websites (Grades 6-8), Investigate the Giant Squid, an online Science Explorations feature, from the Association of Educational Publishers

SEMINARS ON SCIENCE

Professional Development/Instructional Technology/Websites (Adult Learning), Educational Publishers

2008 Learning Magazine's Fifteenth Annual Teacher's Choice Award: Solar System course

Finalist Beacon Award: Web Site/Marketing, from the Association of Educational Publishers

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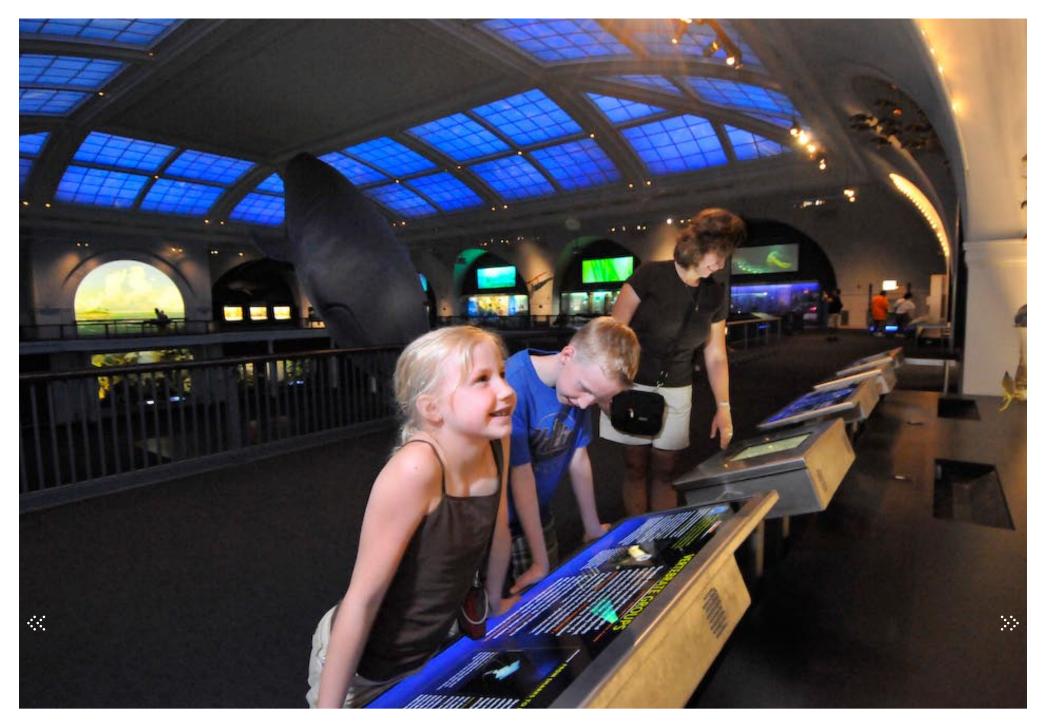
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"[AMNH] is one of those rare places that doesn't lose any of the magic it had when you were a kid."



In fiscal years 2007 and 2008, the American Museum of Natural History broke new ground with its permanent and special exhibitions. The exhibitions of these two years continued the tradition of bringing to life the Museum's world-class collections and scientific research, educating the public about major issues, and broadening past technological and creative horizons.

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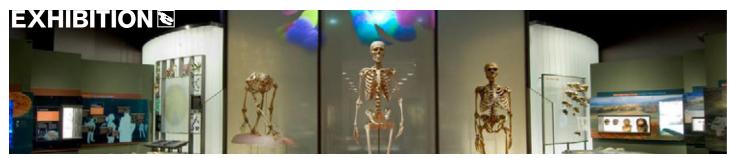
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hominid fossil casts and artifacts are on display in the Hall of Human Origins.

The CINE Golden Eagle Award-winning entry display in the Hall of Human Origins

When developing new exhibitions, the Museum aims to choose topics relevant to the interests and concerns of its millions of visitors each year. But the true accomplishment lies in giving those topics new dimensions that are informative and engaging for visitors of all ages, learning levels, and backgrounds, and incorporating public outreach through related programming that resonates with those who visit the exhibitions—and those who can't. To achieve this multifaceted goal, the Museum utilizes a vast array of new and traditional media, empowering visitors to learn about, understand, and discuss the most pressing—and sometimes controversial—issues of our time.

PERMANENT EXHIBITIONS

ANNE AND BERNARD SPITZER HALL OF HUMAN ORIGINS

On February 10, 2007, The Anne and Bernard Spitzer Hall of Human Origins opened its doors. Conveying to Museum visitors the remarkable history of human evolution, the innovative Spitzer Hall combines up-to-date discoveries in the fossil record with the latest genomic science to explore profound mysteries of humankind: who we are, where we came from, and what may be in store for the future of our species.

Co-curated by Ian Tattersall, Curator in the Division of Anthropology, and Rob DeSalle, Curator in the Division of Invertebrate Zoology and the Sackler Institute of Comparative Genomics, the Spitzer Hall of Human Origins is the first major exhibition of its kind to combine a wealth of mutually reinforcing evidence from two seemingly disparate scientific sources—the fossil record and genomic data—to present a comprehensive story of humanity's origins and progress. Due to the advent of genomics

over the past decade and recent advances in paleontology, such a full examination of the nature of humanity has become possible for the first time in history.

Entering the Hall, visitors are greeted by an entry icon that earned a 2007 CINE Golden Eagle Award for Arts and Exhibit Programs: models of a chimpanzee skeleton, a reconstructed Neanderthal skeleton, and a modern human skeleton, all posed against an eye-catching animated backdrop of cells, chromosomes, and three-dimensional bone scans from humans and our closest relatives. From here, the fossil and genomic evidence diverge into two parallel tracks that mirror and reinforce each other as the visitor walks through the Hall.

The 9,000+ square-foot exhibition space includes more than 200 casts of the most remarkable hominid fossils and artifacts ever displayed; partial- and full-body reconstructions of early and modern humans, created using forensic science and artistry; four life-size habitat tableaux, drawing on the Museum's long-standing tradition of creating spectacular dioramas; an Ice Age art gallery showcasing the extraordinary burst of human artistic creativity; multimedia illustrations of *Homo sapiens*' emergence and spread across the globe; new DNA evidence that reveals how closely humans are related to one another and to the modern-day descendants of our primate ancestors; and speculation on the future of our species. Discoveries in pale-ontology and genomics will continue to be updated in the Hall's Science Bulletin, a multimedia presentation that showcases breaking news and discoveries.

The new Spitzer Hall also features the Sackler Educational Laboratory for Comparative Genomics and Human Origins, the first hands-on teaching facility ever embedded in a permanent exhibition hall at the Museum. This highly innovative educational facility gives students, teachers, families, and Museum visitors the

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"The [Spitzer Hall of Human Origins] was full of information about human evolution. I really got a better understanding of the material we learned in class through the exhibitions."

From left to right: The Anne and Bernard Spitzer Hall of Human Origins; The famous Haida Great Canoe is installed in the 77th Street Grand Gallery.

opportunity to explore some of the Hall's most important concepts in the company of Museum scientists.

The Hall's engaging interactive displays, video projections, and realistic hominid recreations meld the Museum's historical expertise with modern-day technological advances, making the Spitzer Hall of Human Origins a relevant, cutting-edge successor to the former Hall of Human Biology and Evolution. The exhibition paves new roads for public understanding of the science of human evolution and opens new doors for future exhibitions.

The creation of the new Spitzer Hall of Human Origins was organized by the American Museum of Natural History and was designed, developed, and produced by the Museum's Department of Exhibition under the direction of David Harvey, Senior Vice-President for Exhibitions. The project architect was Perkins Eastman; the construction

manager was Bovis Lend Lease; the project construction executive was Zubatkin Owners Representation. The Museum is deeply grateful to lead benefactors Anne and Bernard Spitzer, whose marvelous generosity inspired and made possible the new Spitzer Hall of Human Origins. The Museum also extends its gratitude to the Arnold and Arlene Goldstein Family Foundation for their generous support.

77TH STREET GRAND GALLERY UPDATES

In preparation for the opening of the Spitzer Hall of Human Origins and the renovation of the 77th Street facade, the Exhibitions Department oversaw numerous updates to the Grand Gallery entrance at 77th Street. These updates included the restoration and re-installation of the Haida Great Canoe; the opening of a new restaurant space for visitors, Café on 1; and the installation of a monumental stibnite specimen and a spectacular ammonite specimen in the 77th Street Grand Gallery to showcase the Museum's recent acquisitions to the public.

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square feet of gold were used to cover an entire room in the major temporary exhibition *Gold*.

Visitors at Gold

MAJOR TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

GOLD

Gold, a comprehensive exhibition on one of the rarest and most highly prized minerals in the world, opened in Gallery 3 on November 18, 2006. Through August 19, 2007, the exhibition explored the historical fascination with this enduring symbol of wealth, beauty, and power, and continued an exhibition series on precious and semiprecious materials, developed by the Museum to explore a particular nexus of science and culture (previous exhibitions were Amber: Window to the Past; Nature of Diamonds; and Pearls.) The exhibition was curated by James D. Webster, Chair and Curator of Earth and Planetary Sciences in the Division of Physical Sciences, with Charles Spencer, Curator in the Division of Anthropology, acting as advisor.

Featuring a dramatic array of 700 extraordinary geological specimens and cultural objects from around the world–100 natural specimens, 150 cultural objects, and 450 coins and gold bars–*Gold* presented the intriguing story behind this cherished metal. The exhibition followed the path of gold from the molten depths of Earth to the creation of glittering jewelry and artifacts that captivated ancient civilizations, from gold rushes that shaped the world to the modern pop-culture baubles that continue to mesmerize us today.

Visitors experienced firsthand the attraction and splendor of the finest gold specimens on Earth and learned how gold has been located, mined, processed, and turned into objects both beautiful and useful. Exhibition highlights included enormous nuggets of gold such as the "Boot of Cortez," the largest nugget ever found in the Western hemisphere; the 108-pound Summitville Boulder, composed of volcanic rock flecked and veined with over 22 pounds of crystalline gold; the first gold coins minted in ancient Lydia and Ionia (now Turkey); rare doubloons retrieved from sunken Spanish galleons; an Academy Award Oscar®, two Emmy® awards, and a Grammy® award; and a 300-square-foot room completely covered in three ounces of gold, flattened to exquisite thinness.

After closing at the American Museum of Natural History, *Gold* traveled to the Louisiana State Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana, from October 20, 2007, to January 2, 2008, followed by the Denver Museum of Nature and Science in Denver, Colorado, from February 15, 2008, to June 8, 2008.

Gold was organized by the American Museum of Natural History, designed and produced by the Department of Exhibition, in cooperation with The Houston Museum of Natural Science. This exhibition was proudly supported by The Tiffany & Co. Foundation, with additional support from American Express® Gold Card.

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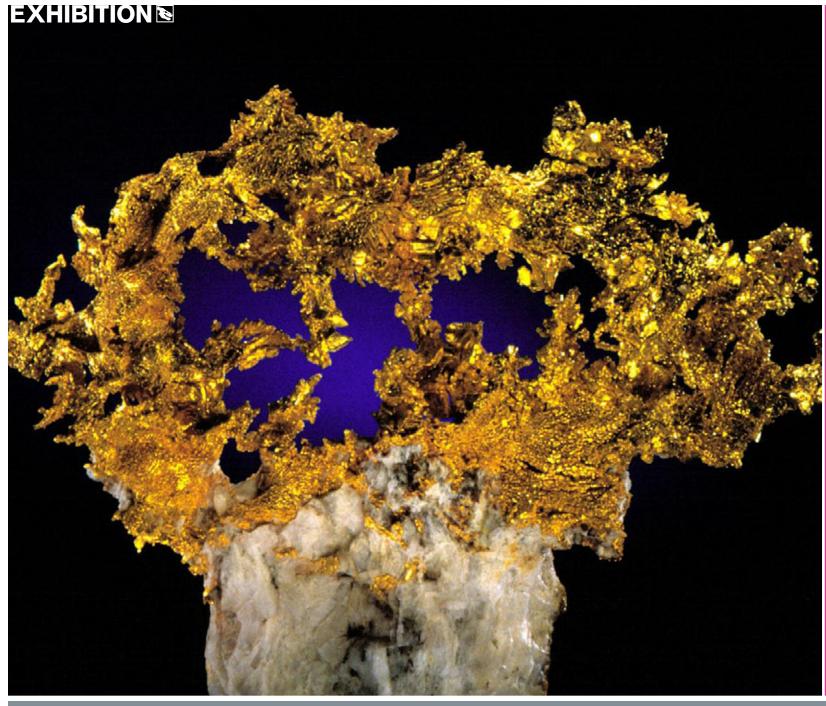
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geological specimens and cultural objects were displayed in the major temporary exhibition *Gold*.

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visitors experienced the popular exhibition Mythic Creatures: Dragons, Unicorns & Mermaids.

MYTHIC CREATURES: DRAGONS, UNICORNS & MERMAIDS

Mythic Creatures: Dragons, Unicorns & Mermaids proved to be one of the most popular exhibitions in the Museum's history, attended by nearly half a million AMNH visitors. From May 26, 2007, to January 6, 2008, this imaginative exhibition, co-curated by Mark A. Norell, Curator in the Division of Paleontology; Laurel Kendall, Curator in the Division of Anthropology; and Richard Ellis, Research Associate in the Division of Paleontology, traced the cultural and natural roots of some of the world's most enduring mythological creatures from Asia, Europe, the Americas, and beyond. For centuries, mythic creatures inspired by fossils or living animals have been brought to life in stories, music, and works of art. The exhibition included large models, paintings, textiles, and other cultural objects, from shadow puppets to ceremonial masks and helmets, to bring to light the surprising similarities and differences in the ways different cultures have envisioned and depicted these strange and wonderful creatures. As the exhibition showed, stories of mythical creatures often reveal as much about their creators than they do about the natural world.

Mythic Creatures featured preserved specimens from the American Museum of Natural History's and other museums' collections, as well as fossils of prehistoric animals, all illustrating how human misidentification, fear, or imagination could have transformed actual flora and fauna into some of these legendary creatures. For example, visitors discovered how narwhal tusks from the North Sea, introduced to continental Europe by Scandinavian traders, lent credence to the centuries-old belief in the unicorn, and how dinosaur fossils uncovered by Scythian nomads may have been mistaken for the remains of living, breathing griffins.

Interactive stations invited visitors to touch casts of a narwhal tusk, the lower jaw of Gigantopithecus, and a life-size reproduction of the talon of a Haast's eagle (Harpagornis moorei). Activities included rearranging scale models of mammoth bones to look like a giant human skeleton and Protoceratops bones to look like a griffin skeleton. Visitors built their own dragons in an engaging touch-screen project and watched it come alive before their eyes in a virtual environment. Videos spotlighted interviews with experts in various fields, discussing the significance of mythical creatures and their possible reallife counterparts, and other interviewees included Christopher Paolini, the young author of the best-selling books Eragon and Eldest; award-winning artist Takeshi Yamada, who creates "mythic creatures" today; and artists from motion-picture visual effects company Industrial Light and Magic (founded by George Lucas), demonstrating the process of creating dragons for popular movies such as Eragon. These "Creatures of the Water, Land & Air" videos earned a 2007 CINE Golden Eagle Award for Arts and Exhibit Programs.

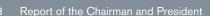
After breaking attendance records at AMNH, Mythic Creatures traveled to The Field Museum in Chicago, Illinois, from March 19, 2008, to September 1, 2008.

Mythic Creatures: Dragons, Unicorns & Mermaids was organized by the American Museum of Natural History, designed and produced by the Department of Exhibition, in collaboration with The Field Museum, Chicago; Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau-Ottawa; Australian National Maritime

Museum, Sydney; and Fernbank Museum of Natural History, Atlanta. Mythic Creatures was proudly

supported by MetLife Foundation.





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"If a good museum exhibit...can be judged in part by its ability to take something familiar and show it to you fresh, 'H₂0=Life' is a success. It manages to take what may be the most familiar substance in our daily lives and remind us of both water's immense power and its mystery."

A model of Mono Lake in California, featured in Water

WATER: H₂O=LIFE

Following the success of *Mythic Creatures*, the Museum debuted an in-depth exhibition on one of the most important life-sustaining substances on Earth: *Water:* $H_0O=Life$, curated by Eleanor Sterling, Director of the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation. Opening in Gallery 3 on November 3, 2007, the exhibition illuminated the pressing 21st-century challenge of managing and using water—a precious, finite resource—in a sustainable way. The exhibition content was shaped by a 2006 Museum survey sponsored by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), held to determine what Americans do and do not know about water. The survey revealed a strong public concern about water, as well as a surprising lack of knowledge, with only 4% of respondents knowing that less than 1% of Earth's water is readily available for human use.

To make such a complex issue accessible to all Museum visitors, *Water* was divided into ten sections, each addressing a different, fundamental water-related concept. Life in Water explored the relationship between water and the plants and animals who rely on it; Blue Planet revealed water's physical and chemical properties, as well as its role in climate and natural architecture from canyons to meteorites; Water Works elaborated on how water has driven the growth of civilizations, using such timely examples as the Three Gorges Dam in China; Water Everywhere explored the wettest and iciest places in the world and investigated how species (including humans) survive in these unique ecosystems; Not a Drop delved into stories of the most water-poor places on Earth; Healthy Water took a closer look at where drinking water comes from and what goes into making it potable; Restoring Ecosystems highlighted the ways in which aquatic ecosystems are affected by human activity; and the final section, What Can I Do?, which was built to be customizable to each

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exhibition location, outlined individual actions to protect and conserve water resources.

This compelling look at our planet's "lifeblood" also utilized an innovative combination of features, including live fish and frogs; a curtain of fog with projected images; a six-foot globe displaying satellite photos of Earth; immersive dioramas; artifacts from the Museum's and other institutions' collections; and interactive exhibits for visitors of all ages.

Water closed at AMNH on May 26, 2008, and a duplicate exhibition traveled to the Singapore Science Center in Singapore to be displayed from May 15, 2008, to October 15, 2008.

From September 15, 2007, to December 2, 2007, a special exhibition developed by the American Museum of Natural History and based on highlights from $Water: H_2O=Life$ was installed at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. The exhibition featured more than 50 large, colorful images and graphics revealing the central importance of water to all life, and the opening reception at the United Nations was hosted by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, who called for greater efforts to ensure safe water

worldwide. A similar special exhibition was on display at the United States Botanical Garden in Washington, D.C., from May 24, 2007 to October 13, 2007.

Water: H₂O=Life was organized by the American Museum of Natural History and the Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Paul, designed and produced by the AMNH Department of Exhibition, in collaboration with Great Lakes Science Center, Cleveland; The Field Museum, Chicago; Instituto Sangari, São Paulo, Brazil;

National Museum of Australia, Canberra; Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada; San Diego Natural History Museum; and Singapore Science Centre with PUB Singapore. The American Museum of Natural History gratefully acknowledged the Tamarind Foundation for its leadership support of Water: $H_2O=Life$, and the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future for its assistance. Exclusive corporate sponsor for Water: $H_2O=Life$ was JPMorgan. Water: $H_2O=Life$ was also supported by a generous grant from the National Science Foundation. The support of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration was also appreciated. The Museum extended its gratitude to the Panta Rhea Foundation, Park Foundation, and Wege Foundation for their support of the exhibition's educational programming and materials. The exhibition was curated by Eleanor Sterling, Director of the American Museum of Natural History's Center for Biodiversity and Conservation.

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of the world's water is available for human use, a fact highlighted in *Water:* $H_2O=Life$.

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"Without horses, where would we be?...[The] American Museum of Natural History would have had to find another subject for its sprawling, charming and illuminating exhibition, *The Horse*."

A camp group visits The Horse.

THE HORSE

On May 17, 2008, Gallery 4 opened to reveal *The Horse*, a new exhibition curated by Ross MacPhee, Curator of Mammalogy in the Division of Vertebrate Zoology, and Sandra Olsen, Curator of Anthropology at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh. This detailed exhibition analyzed the powerful and continuing relationship between the horse and humanity, exploring the origins of the horse family more than 50 million years ago; examining early interactions between horses and humans that led to horse domestication; and illustrating how horses have, over time, changed warfare, trade, transportation, agriculture, sports, and many other facets of human life.

The exhibition showcased spectacular fossils, models, dioramas, and cultural objects from around the world, many from the Museum's extraordinary collections, including a 220-square-foot diorama depicting some of the horse species that existed ten million years ago in what is now Nebraska; representations of the horse in art from the Paleolithic to the present; equipment such as a full suit of armor from 15th-

century Germany and a horse-drawn fire engine from the 19th century; and exciting new archaeological discoveries. Another highlight was a spectacular life-size modern horse sculpture created by artist Deborah Butterfield, an arresting display that concluded the exhibition.

The Horse also featured numerous interactive stations that invited visitors to take a closer look at the characteristics of different horse breeds, the internal biological systems of these magnificent animals, and the different gaits of a horse, based on the revolutionary series of photographs taken by Eadweard Muybridge. Visitors measured their strength in horsepower, identified horse-related "mystery objects," and watched videos of scientist commentary and notable horse-related events captured on film throughout history. The Horse was organized by the American Museum of Natural History, in collaboration with the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage, United Arab Emirates; the Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau-Ottawa; The Field Museum, Chicago; and the San Diego Natural History Museum.

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lisitors young and old explore Lizards and Snakes: Alive!

SEASONAL TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

LIZARDS AND SNAKES: ALIVE!

On July 1, 2006, the popular exhibit <u>Lizards and Snakes: Alive!</u> debuted in Gallery 4, featuring more than 60 live lizards and snakes from five continents. The exhibition, which ran through January 7, 2007, introduced visitors to the diversity of squamates, the group that includes legged and legless lizards, including snakes. Live animals revealed their remarkable adaptations, including projectile tongues, deadly venom, amazing camouflage, and sometimes surprising modes of locomotion. Representing 26 species occurring in countries such as Australia, Cuba, Egypt, Guatemala, Kenya, Madagascar, Mexico, Sudan, and the United States, the specimens ranged from a four-inch Tropical Girdled Lizard to a fourteen-foot Burmese Python and were housed in recreated habitats complete with ponds, tree limbs, rock ledges, and live plants.

In addition to the exhibition's unique space and variety of live specimens, highlights included a variety of fossil specimens and casts, including a fossil cast of *Megalania*, the largest-known terrestrial squamate; an exploration of the differences between "sight hounds" (those squamate species that rely on vision and use their tongues to catch food) and "nose hounds" (those species that rely on a highly evolved chemoreceptive system and use their tongues to smell and sense their environments); a

cladogram, a dynamic diagram that groups animals by common ancestry; and numerous interactive stations that offered a closer look at exhibit topics, including camera-equipped cases that enabled visitors to zoom in on specimens and allowed people around the globe to tune in virtually. One exhibition video, "Squamates on the Move: Lizard and Snake Locomotion," was awarded a 2007 CINE Golden Eagle Award for Arts and Exhibit Programs.

After its successful run at AMNH, *Lizards and Snakes: Alive!* traveled to the Fernbank Museum of Natural History in Atlanta, Georgia, from February 10, 2007, to August 12, 2007, followed by the Houston Museum of Nature and Science in Houston, Texas, from September 22, 2007, to January 2, 2008, and the Museum of Science in Boston, Massachusetts, from February 17, 2008, to April 27, 2008.

Lizards and Snakes: Alive! then returned to the American Museum of Natural History on May 24, 2008, to Gallery 77.

The exhibition was organized by the American Museum of Natural History and produced and designed by the Department of Exhibition, in collaboration with the Fernbank Museum of Natural History, Atlanta, and the San Diego Natural History Museum, with appreciation to Clyde Peeling's Reptiland.

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squamate specimens, representing more than 26 species, appear in the

recurring temporary exhibition *Lizards and*

Snakes: Alive!







The Butterfly Conservatory: Tropical Butterflies Alive in Winter

THE BUTTERFLY CONSERVATORY: TROPICAL BUTTERFLIES ALIVE IN WINTER

The *Butterfly Conservatory: Tropical Butterflies Alive in Winter* celebrated its 9th and 10th years in operation at the Museum in Gallery 77 from October 9, 2006, to May 28, 2007, and October 6, 2007, to May 26, 2008. Numerous new species of butterflies were added.

FROGS: A CHORUS OF COLORS

The popular exhibition *Frogs: A Chorus of Colors* returned to the Museum from May 26, 2007, to September 9, 2007, in Gallery 77. Visitors could explore the rich and colorful diversity of frogs and learn about their evolution and biology, as well as the threats they face in the world's changing environments.

Before returning to AMNH, *Frogs: A Chorus of Colors* traveled to the Museum of Science and Industry (MSI) in Chicago, Illinois, from May 28, 2006 to January 7, 2007. After its run at AMNH, the exhibition traveled to Explorer's Hall at the National Geographic Society in Washington, D.C., from January 25, 2008, to May 11, 2008.

OTHER TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

THE UNKNOWN AUDUBONS: MAMMALS OF NORTH AMERICA

In the newly renovated Audubon Gallery, *The Unknown Audubons: Mammals of North America* highlighted the Museum's rarely displayed collection of original paintings, drawings, and prints by one of America's most famous families of naturalists and wildlife artists: the Audubons, John James Audubon and his sons John Woodhouse Audubon and Victor Gifford Audubon. From March 31, 2007, to January 15, 2009, the exhibition succeeded in placing Audubon's life and art in the context of a dramatic environmental story about protecting endangered ecosystems, echoing the messages of other Museum halls, particularly the Hall of Biodiversity.

EXOPLANETS IN THE CULLMAN HALL OF THE UNIVERSE

Exoplanets, a short-term exhibition, was installed in the Cullman Hall of the Universe from March 2007 to March 2008 to present the science and techniques behind the study of planets orbiting nearby stars. Two historically important astronomical instruments were presented to illustrate the technical difficulties of modern astronomical investigations: the Michelson Interferometer, on loan from the Mt. Wilson Institute and the Observatories of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, and the Johns Hopkins Adaptive Optics Coronagraph, which is now part of the Museum's permanent collection.

The Bumblebee Poison Frog

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On Feathered Wings

TEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITIONS

IN THE IMAX GALLERY

Yellowstone to Yukon (July 15, 2006–January 15, 2007) showcased photographs depicting the need for wildlife corridors. Beyond (April 14, 2007–April 6, 2008) spotlighted 30 spectacular images from space, captured by unmanned interplanetary probes and digitally remastered by artist Michael Benson. Saturn: Images from the Cassini-Huygens Mission (April 26, 2008–March 29, 2009) revealed details of Saturn's rings, moons, and atmosphere with images sent over half a billion miles by the Cassini spacecraft, including the first pictures ever taken on the surface of an alien moon, Titan.

IN THE AKELEY GALLERY

Voices from South of the Clouds (September 17, 2005–January 2, 2006) displayed photographs taken by people in the Hunan State of China documenting their everyday lives. Undersea Oasis: Coral Reef Communities (January 27, 2007–June 9, 2008) included 30 full-color photographs by underwater photographer Idell Conaway, capturing the dazzling invertebrate life that flourishes in the unique ecology of coral reefs. On Feathered Wings (June 15, 2008–May 25, 2009) closed fiscal year 2008 and led off 2009 with spectacular photographs of birds in flight.

These IMAX Gallery and Akeley Gallery exhibitions were produced with support from the Arthur Ross Foundation.

OTHER PROJECTS

Gallery 3, a devoted temporary exhibition space, closed for the summer of 2008 while lighting tracks and fixtures were replaced with modern, energy-efficient equipment.

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AWARDS

DARWIN

365 Year in Design 27: American Institute of Graphic Arts, 2006 Award of Merit, Society for Environmental Graphic Design, 2006 Jury comment: "This exhibit stands out technically and esthetically, with an excellent balance between media. The interpretive graphics complement the exhibit wonderfully; they have a distinct visual hierarchy, are very legible, and communicate the information well. A strong Victorian influence doesn't come across as gimmicky but as a contemporary reinterpretation of the Victorian esthetic. Overall, a very intelligent design." Award of Merit for Innovative Use of Archives, Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, 2006

ANNE AND BERNARD SPITZER HALL OF HUMAN ORIGINS

2007 CINE Golden Eagle Award for Arts and Exhibit Programs: Multimedia "entry icon" installation, produced by the AMNH exhibition media team

LIZARDS AND SNAKES: ALIVE!

2007 CINE Golden Eagle Award for Arts and Exhibit Programs: "Squamates on the Move: Lizard and Snake Locomotion" video, produced by the AMNH exhibition media team

MYTHIC CREATURES: DRAGONS, UNICORNS & MERMAIDS

2007 CINE Golden Eagle Award for Arts and Exhibit Programs: "Creatures of the Water, Land & Air" videos, produced by the AMNH exhibition media team

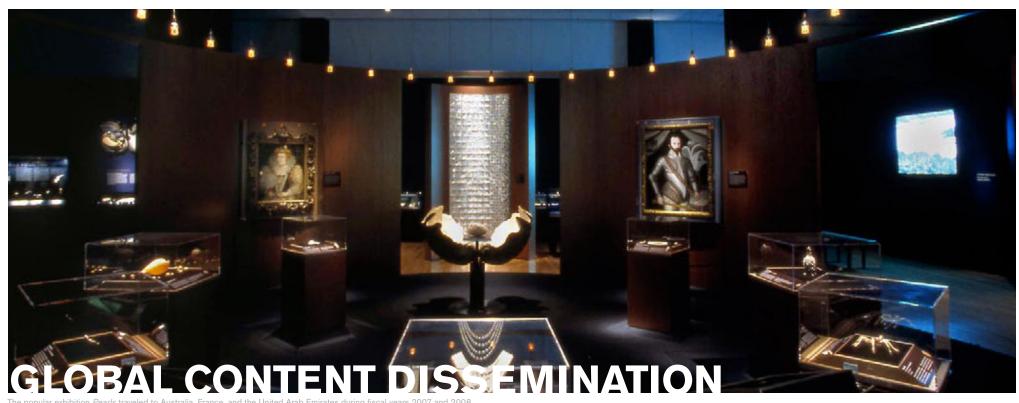








"This is not just the best museum in the city; it may be the best in the entire world. It is also a great world research institution, but few realize it. If you live in the city, the American Museum of Natural History could be the heart of your education."



Numerous exhibitions, space shows, and science bulletins traveled during fiscal years 2007 and 2008, broadening the reach of exhibitions and educational content to beyond the Museum's walls.

EXHIBITIONS

Darwin

The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA October 6, 2006-January 2, 2007 Museum of Science, Boston, MA February 18, 2007-April 22, 2007 The Field Museum, Chicago, IL June 15, 2007-January 1, 2008

Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada March 8, 2008-August 5, 2008

Darwin (duplicate exhibition)

Museo d'arte, São Paulo, Brazil May 5, 2007-July 15, 2007 Auckland Museum, Auckland, New Zealand September 29, 2007-January 13, 2008 National Science Museum, Tokyo, Japan March 17, 2008-June 1, 2008 Instituto Sangari, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil January 23, 2008-April 13, 2008 Instituto Sangari, Brasilia, Brazil June 4, 2008-July 20, 2008

Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New **Discoveries**

Houston Museum of Natural Science. Houston, TX March 10, 2006-July 30, 2006 California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA September 15, 2006-February 4, 2007 The Field Museum, Chicago, IL March 30, 2007-September 3, 2007 North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh, NC October 26, 2007-March 2, 2008 Discovery Place, Charlotte, NC April 18, 2008-August 10, 2008

Einstein

Bloomfield Science Museum, Jerusalem, Israel Opened September 30, 2005 (ongoing display) Dallas Museum of Nature and Science, Dallas, TX March 4, 2006-July 16, 2006 Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, Canada October 16, 2006-January 14, 2007 Center of Science and Industry (COSI), Columbus, OH February 17, 2007-May 20, 2007 Sigong Tech, Shenyang, China July 7, 2006-January 7, 2007

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GLOBAL CONTENT DISSEMINATION

December 18, 2006-March 1, 2007 Otomotion, Istanbul, Turkey November 9, 2007-March 2, 2008 Great Lakes Science Center, Cleveland, OH May 23, 2008-September 7, 2008

The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition

Museu de les Ciencias Principe Felipe, Valencia, Spain May 4, 2006-September 3, 2006 El Callejon de los Bolos, Jerez de la Frontera, Spain September 22, 2006-November 26, 2006 Sa Llonja, Palma de Mallorca, Spain

Museo de la Ciencia de Valladolid, Valladolid, Spain

June 8, 2007-August 19, 2007

March 21, 2007-April 29, 2007

Real Alcazar de Sevilla, Seville, Spain September 15, 2007-October 28, 2007),

Museu Maritim de Barcelona.

Barcelona, Spain

November 13, 2007-February 24, 2008

La Lonja, Zaragoza, Spain

March 13, 2008-May 4, 2008 Museu de Belles Artes, Castellon, Spain

May 29, 2008-July 6, 2008

Frogs: A Chorus of Colors

Museum of Science and Industry (MSI), Chicago, IL May 28, 2006-January 7, 2007 Explorer's Hall, National Geographic Society, Washington, D.C.

The Genomic Revolution

Singapore Science Center, Singapore Opened January 31, 2006 (ongoing display) Hong Kong Science Museum, Hong Kong June 22, 2006-October 22, 2006 Princess Congress, Bangkok, Thailand November 25, 2007-November 28, 2007 Instituto Sangari, São Paulo, Brazil Opened on February 28, 2008 (ongoing tour)

Gold

Louisiana State Museum, New Orleans, LA October 20, 2007-January 2, 2008 Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Denver, CO February 15, 2008-June 8, 2008

Lizards and Snakes: Alive!

Fernbank Museum of Natural History, Atlanta, GA February 10, 2007-August 12, 2007 Houston Museum of Nature and Science. Houston, TX September 22, 2007-January 2, 2008 Museum of Science, Boston, MA February 17, 2008-April 27, 2008

Mythic Creatures: Dragons, Unicorns, and

Mermaids

The Field Museum, Chicago, IL March 19, 2008-September 1, 2008

Pearls

Australian Museum, Sydney, Australia April 8, 2006-August 6, 2006 Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage,

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates December 2, 2006-January 27, 2007 Muséum national d'histoire naturelle, Paris. France October 24, 2007-March 10, 2008

Petra: Lost City of Stone

Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau, Quebec April 6, 2006-February 19, 2007

Museum of the American West.

Totems to Turquoise: Native North American Jewelry Arts of the Northwest and

Southwest

Los Angeles, CA April 2, 2006-September 4, 2006 Bill Reid Foundation, Vancouver, Canada November 1, 2006-March 30, 2007 Eiteljorg Museum, Indianapolis, IN May 12, 2007-August 12, 2007

Vietnam: Journeys of Body, Mind and Spirit

Vietnam Museum of Ethnology, Hanoi, Vietnam Opened December 7, 2005 (ongoing display)

Water: H2O=Life

Singapore Science Center, Singapore May 15, 2008-October 15, 2008

Water: Special Highlights Exhibition

United Nations, New York, NY September 15, 2007-December 2, 2007 United States Botanic Garden, Washington, D.C. May 24, 2007-October 13, 2007

SPACE SHOWS

Passport to the Universe Cunard, Queen Mary 2

Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Denver, CO Ecotarium, Worchester, MA Houston Museum of Natural Science, Houston, TX

Konica, Minolta Planetarium, Tokyo, Japan Nihonbashi HD DVD Planetarium, Tokyo,

Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, Portland, OR

Osaka Science Museum, Osaka, Japan Papalote Museo del Nino, Mexico City, Mexico

Parc du Futuroscope, Paris, France Pennington Planetarium, Louisiana Art and Science Museum, Baton Rouge, LA Planetarium Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany Sir Thomas Brisbane Planetarium, Brisbane, Australia

South Florida Museum, Bradenton, FL SPITZ (multiple locations)

The Search for Life: Are We Alone?

Asahikawa Planetarium, Asahikawa, Japan Chabot Space and Science Center, Oakland, CA

Cite de l'Espace, Toulouse, France Cite des Sciences et de l'industrie, Paris,

Ciudad de las Artes y las Ciences, S.A., Valencia, Spain

Clark Planetarium, Salt Lake City, UT Cunard, Queen Mary 2

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GLOBAL CONTENT DISSEMINATION

Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Denver, CO

Evans & Sutherland, Manila, Philippines Konica-Minolta Planetarium, Tokyo, Japan Melbourne Planetarium, Melbourne, Australia Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, Portland, OR

Papalote Museo del Nino, Mexico City, Mexico Pennington Planetarium, Louisiana Art and Science Museum, Baton Rouge, LA Planetarium Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany Scitech Discovery Center, Perth, Australia Sir Thomas Brisbane Planetarium, Brisbane. Australia

South Florida Museum, Bradenton, FL The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA

SonicVision

Chabot Space and Science Center, Oakland, CA

Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Denver, CO

Eugenides Planetarium, Athens, Greece Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, WI Papalote Museo del Nino, Mexico City, Mexico Pennington Planetarium, Louisiana Art and Science Museum, Baton Rouge, LA SPITZ, Penn National Racecourse, Grantville, PA

Cosmic Collisions

Adler Planetarium, Chicago, IL Cunard, Queen Mary 2 Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Denver, CO Ecotarium, Worchester, MA

Eugenides Planetarium, Athens, Greece Exploration Place, Wichita, KS

The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA

GOTO, Inc., Tokyo, Japan

Huereka, Finnish Science Center, Vantaa, Finland

Konica, Minolta Planetarium, Tokyo, Japan

Oregon Museum of Science and Industry,

Portland, OR

Papalote Museo del Nino, Mexico City, Mexico

Parc du Futuroscope, Paris, France

Shanghai Science and Technology Museum,

Shanghai, China

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, Washington, DC

SCIENCE BULLETINS

Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney, Australia

Cunard, Queen Mary II

Flandrau Science Center, Tucson, AZ

Frank H. McClung Museum, Knoxville, TN

Georgia Museum of Natural History,

Athens, GA

Great Lakes Science Center, Cleveland, OH Humboldt State University Natural History

Museum, Arcata, CA

Illinois State Museum, Springfield, IL

IP Stanback Museum, Orangeburg, SC

Johns Hopkins University, Dept. Earth and

Planetary Sciences, Baltimore, MD

Las Vegas Natural History Museum, Las

Vegas, NV

Louisiana Art and Science Museum, Baton

Rouge, LA

McWane Science Center, Birmingham, AL

Minnesota Planetarium, Minneapolis, MN

Mississippi Museum of Natural Sciences,

Jackson, MS

Museum of Science and Nature, Dallas, TX

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center,

Greenbelt, MD

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory,

Pasadena, CA

NASA John C. Stennis Space Center, Bay St.

Louis, MS

NASA MSFC, Huntsville, AL

NASA Wallops Flight Facility,

Wallops Island, VA

National Center for Atmospheric Research,

NCAR, Boulder, CO

National Center for Supercomputing

Applications (NCSA),

Urbana, IL

National Science Center's Fort Discovery,

Augusta, GA

North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences.

Raleigh, NC

Petrosains, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Riverside Municipal Museum, Riverside, CA

Rochester Museum & Science Center.

Rochester, NY

Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

Science Station, Cedar Rapids, IA

Science World, Vancouver, BC

Scitech Discovery Centre, Perth, Australia

South Florida Museum, Bradenton, FL

Space Center Houston, Houston, TX

St. Louis Science Center, St. Louis, MO

Tallahassee Museum of History and Natural

Science, Tallahassee, FL

The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA

The Wildlife Experience, Parker, CO US Space and Rocket Center, Huntsville, AL Virginia Air and Space Center, Hampton, VA Virginia Museum of Natural History,

Martinsville, VA

THE DIGITAL UNIVERSE

AMNH's The Digital Universe, a threedimensional interactive atlas containing data from our local solar neighborhood to the edge of the observable universe, was licensed for use in more than 60 planetariums in the following countries:

Argentina

Australia

Austria

England

Finland

France

Germany

Greece

Japan

Korea

Lichtenstein

The Netherlands

New Zealand

Spain

Sweden

Thailand

United States

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"AMNH is one of our favorite places. We always like to visit the *T. rex.*"



Among numerous groundbreaking achievements in fiscal years 2007 and 2008, one of the most important has been the Museum's growing leadership role in convening scientific, educational, and other professionals across disciplines to address the most relevant, vital issues of our time.

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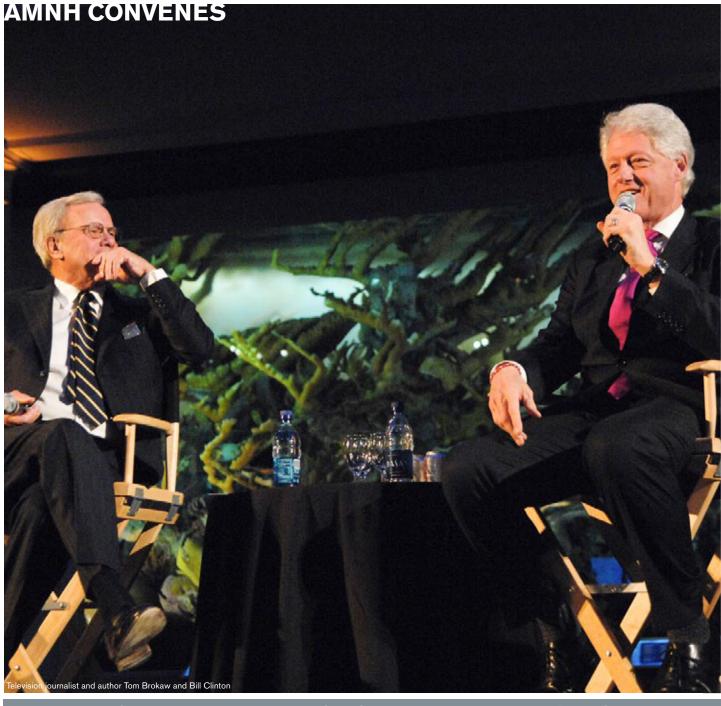
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DINNER WITH PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON

APRIL 19, 2007

The Museum welcomed former
President William Jefferson Clinton
for an intimate and thought-provoking
dinner and discussion about global
climate change, led by Museum
Trustee Tom Brokaw. The event
was the third in a series of evenings
hosted by the Museum in honor of
special guests, including members
of the Board of Trustees and friends
from New York's financial community,
to bring together thought leaders
in discussions of some of the most
compelling issues of our time.

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Laurie David, Michael Oppenheimer, and Lynn Sherr

ANNUAL SPRING ENVIRONMENTAL LECTURE AND LUNCHEON

APRIL 25, 2007

More than 800 guests attended this annual luncheon, which raised \$617,000. The Chairmen were Suzanne Cochran, Mary Solomon, and Connie Spahn. The panel discussion, "Living the Green Life in the Face of Global Climate Change," was moderated for the fourth year by Lynn Sherr of ABC News and featured Laurie David, Dr. Tom Lovejoy, and Dr. Michael Oppenheimer as speakers. Elements of green living were incorporated throughout the afternoon's event, including organic chicken on the menu and flowers grown by CaliforniaOrganicFlowers.com and arranged by db organic.

APRIL 24, 2008

More than 600 of New York's most prominent women from the social and business communities attended this luncheon, the most financially successful in its 18 years, raising over \$621,000. The event was chaired by Museum Trustees Mary Solomon and Connie Spahn, as well as Museum friends Suzanne Cochran and Veronique Pittman. The panel discussion, "Waves of Change: Protecting our Environment," was moderated by Lynn Sherr of ABC News and featured panelists Dr. Jeremy Jackson, Dr. Jane Lubchenco, and actor Sam Waterston.

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From left to right: 2008 panelist Eve Crowley of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations addresses symposium participants; Performers from La Troupe Makandal at the 2008 CBC Symposium

CENTER FOR BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION SYMPOSIA

APRIL 26-27, 2007

Titled "Small Matters: Microbes and Their Role in Conservation," the 2007 CBC Symposium explored microbial ecology and conservation by bringing together 35 presenters and authors representing 91 universities, institutes, museums, laboratories, and resource agencies in 25 US states and 10 countries: Australia, Austria, China, Finland, Germany, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Panama, and the United States.

APRIL 2-5, 2008

The links between biological and cultural diversity were the focus of the 2008 symposium, "Sustaining Cultural and Biological Diversity in a Rapidly Changing World: Lessons for Global Policy." Attendees included educators, students, conservation practitioners, policymakers, and the general public, and working groups were formed to prepare recommendations for the 2008 meetings of the World Conservation Congress, the United Nations' Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

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AMNH CONVENES mer CNN Chief Technology and Environment Correspondent Miles O'Brien moderates a panel discussion with Charles E. Phillips, Jr.; Dr. Gerald F. Wheeler; John Abele; Dr. Cora Marrett; Aneesh Chopra; and Neil deGrasse Tyson.

EDUCATION SUMMIT

APRIL 8-9, 2008

Science Generation: A National Imperative convened 38 speakersleaders in business, education, science, media, philanthropy, nonprofit and civic organizations, informal education and science institutions, and politics-as well as leadership from NSF, NOAA, and NASA; more than 230 individuals representing museums, businesses, philanthropy, education, and civic leadership in 28 states; and middle and high school students from New York City public schools, parents, and Museum scientists and educators, for the Museum's first-ever summit to address the scientific education crisis in the United States.

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The Museum's wide-ranging successes during these fiscal years were punctuated with events to honor, recognize, and celebrate new beginnings, landmark achievements, and the generosity of Trustee David H. Koch.

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From left to right: Allison and Roberto Mignone with their daughters at the Fourteenth Annual Family Party; Helaine Lerner and friends at the opening of Water: H₂O=Life; Museum President Ellen Futter and Tom Freston at the 2007 Museum Gala; Winter Dance Chairmer Tinsley Mortimer, Amanda Hearst, Fabiola Beracasa, Claire Bernard, and Arden Wohl with Roberto Cavalli

FISCAL YEAR 2008

Fourteenth Annual Family Party October 16, 2007

More than 2,000 children and parents explored the great treasures of the Museum at the 2007 Family Party. Families had the chance to interact with live animals, learn about living an eco-friendly lifestyle, and dance to the live music of Broadway Babies underneath the blue whale in the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life. The event, which raised over \$536,000, was chaired by Hilary Addington, Devon Briger, Lisamaria Falcone, Cozy Friedman, Liz Lange, Alexandra Lebenthal, Simone Mailman, Erika Matt, Catherine Sidamon-Eristoff, and Laura Whitman.

Water: H₂O=Life

October 30, 2007

More than 450 guests joined us in the Theodore Roosevelt Rotunda to celebrate the opening of the Museum's fall 2007 special temporary exhibition. Guests were entertained by Water Glass player Gloria Parker, admired the giant fish ice sculptures, and enjoyed the generous donations of Killakanoon Wines and Champagne, as well as Christiania Vodka.

Museum Gala

November 15, 2007

Always an attraction of the fall social calendar, the 2007 Gala was the most successful to date. Attended by more than 650 people, the event raised over \$3 million. Amy Poehler and Seth Meyers of Saturday Night Live kept the evening festive as masters of ceremonies, and the evening culminated in a very special performance by the legendary rock group Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers. Hugh Hildesley of Sotheby's was spectacular as the evening's auctioneer. The Gala was chaired by Museum Trustees Jurate Kazicaks and Roger Altman, Meredith and Tom Brokaw, Jodie and John Eastman, Kathy and Tom Freston, Julia and David Koch, Alice and Lorne Michaels, Allison and Roberto Mignone, and Museum friends Wendi and Rupert Murdoch.

The Winter Dance

March 11, 2008

The 2008 Winter Dance raised a record \$318,000. Roberto Cavalli was the fashion sponsor for the evening and designed the event space, which included dinner in the Hall of Biodiversity, followed by dessert, dancing, and a luxury silent auction in the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life. Chairing the event was the Museum Chairman's daughter, Claire Bernard, along with Fabiola Beracasa, Amanda Hearst, Tinsley Mortimer, Leelee Sobieski, and Arden Wohl.

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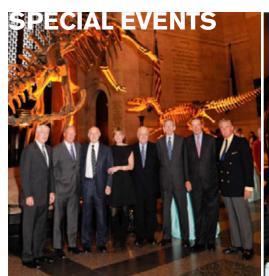
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⁷⁸ Campaign for AMNH

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From left to right: Robert McCormack, Anson Beard, Jr., Lewis Bernard, Jeanne Donovan Fisher, Fred Whittemore, John H.T. Wilson, J. Parker Gilbert, and Donald Brennan at the Barosaurus Dinner; Michael Novacek, David Koch, Ellen Futter, and Lewis Bernard at the 16th Annual Corporate Dinner; Julia and David Koch; Co-chairmen of the 13th Annual Family Party

Barosaurus Dinner

March 12, 2008

Contributors celebrated the establishment of the Barosaurus Fund in honor of Chairman Lewis Bernard. In recognition of their generosity, the Barosaurus display in the Rotunda was named after the group. After gathering in the Rotunda for cocktails, guests dined in the Astor Turret. Museum scientists Mike Novacek, Mark Norell, and Alan Turner made a presentation on their paleontology research.

Sixteenth Annual Corporate Dinner

June 10, 2008

Museum Trustee David H. Koch,
Executive Vice President of Koch
Industries, Inc., was the honoree of this
evening, which raised \$1.7 million to
support Museum programs. Chairmen
for the Dinner were fellow Trustees
Roger Altman, Chairman of Evercore
Partners; Steven Denning, Chairman
of General Atlantic, LLC; Victor
Ganzi, Former President and CEO of
the Hearst Corporation; and Walter
Shipley, Retired Chairman of the Board,
The Chase Manhattan Corporation.

FISCAL YEAR 2007

David Koch Dinner

September 12, 2006

Museum friends gathered at this special dinner to honor David Koch's wonderful gift to the Museum. The evening included a presentation by Mike Novacek and Mark Norell on dinosaur research, followed by cocktails in the new Koch Dinosaur Halls and dinner in the Orientation Center.

Thirteenth Annual Family Party

October 24, 2006

More than 1,200 parents and children came together for this spectacular event. Chairmen for the evening included Devon Briger, Meera Ghandi, Liz Lang, Alexandra Lebenthal, Simone Mailman, Catherine Sidamon-Eristoff, and Kelly Sugarman. Among the highlights was the Museum's collaboration with Scholastic; through a monetary donation, they provided a Bookfactory activity in which young guests created their own books to take home.

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From left to right: Tiffany models at the opening reception for *Gold*; Steve Martin, Ellen Futter, and Conan O'Brien at the 2006 Museum Gala; Bernard and Anne Spitzer; Winter Dance Chairmen Amanda Hearst, Tinsley Mortimer, Fabiola Beracasa, Claire Bernard, Jackie Sackler, and Ivanka Trump.

Gold

November 14, 2006
Nearly 400 guests joined us in the
Theodore Roosevelt Rotunda to celebrate the opening of the Museum's
newest fall exhibition with a fun "golden"
atmosphere. Guests shimmered in Stila
makeup applied by Stila artists and
were dazzled by Tiffany models wearing Paloma Picasso Jewelry, a mime
dressed in gold, and two live Oscar
statues from the Screaming Queens.

The Museum Gala

November 16, 2006

Nearly 500 guests were in attendance at this spectacular annual event, which raised over \$2.5 million. The Chairmen of the evening were Museum Trustees Roger Altman and Jurate Kazicaks, Tom and Meredith Brokaw, John and Jodie Eastman, Tom and Kathy Freston, David and Julia Koch, and Lorne and Alice Michaels. Conan O'Brien served as master of ceremonies, and guests were awed by the magical tunes of musical legend Paul Simon.

Hall of Human Origins

February 5, 2007

More than 220 Museum Trustees and friends of Bernard and Anne Spitzer joined this dinner to celebrate the opening of the Anne and Bernard Spitzer Hall of Human Origins. After guests viewed the Spitzer Hall for the first time, the Spitzer family, Lewis Bernard, Mike Novacek, Rob DeSalle, and Ian Tattersall enchanted guests with a discussion of the importance of the new hall, and the Spitzer family joined Ellen Futter in presenting Bernard and Anne Spitzer with an award.

Winter Dance

February 16, 2007
Nearly 750 guests attended this event, which raised over \$250,000. The exciting evening was chaired by Claire Bernard, Zani Gugelmann, Amanda Hearst, Tinsley Mortimer, Jacqueline Sackler, and Ivanka Trump. Two hundred guests enjoyed dinner in the newly renovated 77th Street Grand Gallery.

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From left to right: Richard Gilder with Ellen Futter; Ronald Lauder, Lewis Bernard, Richard Parsons, Victor Ganzi, Jerry Speyer at the 15th Annual Corporate Dinner; Lewis Bernard at the opening of Mythic Creatures

Richard Gilder Graduate School Celebration

March 22, 2007

Museum friends joined in a celebration of Richard Gilder's magnificent gift to establish the Richard Gilder Graduate School at AMNH. Guests enjoyed dinner in the Gottesman Hall of Planet Earth and toasted Richard's extraordinary commitment to AMNH.

15th Annual Corporate Dinner

May 9, 2007

For this exclusive dinner, 350 guests gathered to honor Museum Trustee Richard D. Parsons, Chairman and CEO of Time Warner. The Chairmen of the evening were Trustees Victor Ganzi of The Hearst Corporation; William M. Lewis, Jr., Co-Chairman, Investment Banking, Lazard Ltd.; and Museum friends Jeffrey L. Bewkes, President and Chief Operating Officer, Time Warner; Ronald Lauder, President, Neue Gallery; Charles Prince, Chairman and CEO, Citigroup, Inc.; and Jerry Speyer, President and CEO, Tishman Speyer. The evening raised over \$2.1 million.

Mythic Creatures: Dragons, Unicorns & Mermaids

May 22, 2007

Joining us for this cocktail reception to preview the special temporary exhibition *Mythic Creatures* were 300 Trustees and Donors. The magical reception included specialty martinis: the Mermaid Tail and the Dragon Tail. Chinese dragon dancers welcomed guests on the Museum's front steps and performed throughout the evening.

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Fiscal years 2007 and 2008 were excellent years for the Museum from a financial perspective. During this two-year period, the Museum's net assets increased by \$104.2mm, from \$706.1mm to \$810.3mm. A major factor was the growth of the Museum's endowment by \$118.5mm over this two-year period, from \$483.7mm to \$602.2mm, thanks to solid returns and cash gifts and pledge payments to the endowment totaling \$85.3mm.

Operationally, in both years the Museum was able to generate positive net unrestricted operating revenues (after transferring designated contributions and other revenues to plant, including transfers to fund payment of debt service, and to long-term investments) partly enabled by significant growth in revenues from paid admissions and auxiliary services. The Museum continued to make significant investments in its physical plant during this two-year period, as well, totaling \$66.8mm.

UNRESTRICTED OPERATING RESULTS

Over the past two fiscal years, the Museum's annual Unrestricted Operating Revenues grew by \$31.5mm, to \$173.7mm, as efforts continued to diversify the Museum's revenue base and paid attendance grew to 3,620,456, the highest level in the Museum's history. In addition to attendance-related revenues, other major boosts came from auxiliary revenues, which increased by \$11.4mm over the two-year period, contributions and grants, operating support from the City of New York, and support from the Museum's endowment.

The Museum continued to receive substantial operating and programmatic backing from Trustees, other individuals, foundations, and corporations, as well as the City of New York, New York State, and the Federal government. Contributions and grants used to fund Museum operations, including a portion of net assets released from restrictions, totaled \$85.3mm over the two-year period.

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REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Over the past two fiscal years, The City of New York's unrestricted operating support, including support for certain energy and pension expenses, totaled \$37.5mm. The City also provided substantial capital support to the Museum (see "Capital Expenditures" below). Aid for annual operations from the Museum's endowmentwhich is calculated by taking 5% of the average of the estimated fair value of the total Pooled Endowment for the 12 preceding quarters, calculated annually as of March 31-fluctuates according to market conditions. During the last two fiscal years, endowment support for Museum operations totaled \$45.0mm.

While annual Unrestricted Operating Revenues grew by \$31.5mm during the past two fiscal years, annual Unrestricted Operating Expenses grew by only \$12.5mm, with \$7.9mm of this increase related to the growth of auxiliary activities.

UNRESTRICTED OPERATING REVENUE AND EXPENSES FISCAL YEAR 2008

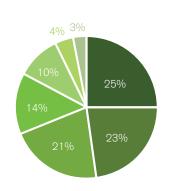
Revenues

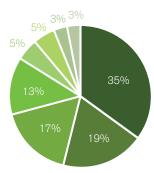
| 25% | Contributions and grants* |
|-----|--------------------------------------|
| 23% | Visitor contributions and admissions |
| 21% | Auxiliary activities |
| 14% | Endowment and related funds* |
| 10% | The City of New York |
| 4% | Membership |
| 3% | Miscellaneous revenue and other fees |

Expenses

| LAPCHISCS | |
|---------------|--|
| 35% | Scientific research, education, and exhibition |
| 19% | Guardianship, maintenance, and operating costs |
| 17% | Cost of goods sold and other Expenses of Auxiliary Activities |
| 13% | General and administrative |
| 5% | Fundraising and membership |
| 5% | Visitor services |
| 3% | Communications |
| 3% | Information technology |
| *Includes Net | Assets Released from Restrictions |

Includes Net Assets Released from Restrictions





CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

The Museum continued to fund priority capital improvement projects to meet infrastructure and security needs in fiscal years 2007 and 2008, as well as exhibition hall renovations and new scientific facilities. The \$66.8mm invested by the Museum in its physical plant concentrated on such major projects as the 77th Street facade restoration, the 77th Street entrance lobby, and the Graduate School Center renovation.

As in the past, the Museum funded most of its capital improvements with proceeds from private donations and capital support from the City of New York.

The Museum recognized a non-cash depreciation expense of \$45.5mm. Net of depreciation expense, the value of the Museum's physical plant grew by \$21.3mm, from \$432.7mm to \$454.0mm.

DEBT AND OTHER LIABILITIES

The Museum's liabilities increased by \$39.8mm during the past two fiscal years, from \$334.9mm to \$374.7mm. Major elements included an \$18.4mm increase in the Museum's accrued post-retirement and other benefits, reflecting the adoption of new accounting standards relating to the Museum's post-retirement health, dental and life insurance plans, and an \$8.3mm increase in the market value of the Museum's interest rate swap obligations (as a result of lower long-term interest rates). During this period, the amount of the Museum's long-term debt increased by \$0.9mm, from \$272.4mm to \$273.3mm, as a result of debt refinancing activities.

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

The market value of the endowment grew by \$118.5mm during the past two fiscal years, to \$602.2mm. This growth can be attributed to net investment returns of 20.3% in fiscal year 2007 and -1.9% in fiscal year 2008, in addition to cash gifts and pledge payments to the endowment totaling \$85.3mm. During this two-year period, planned withdrawals from the endowment for Museum operations, and capital investment totaled \$55.7mm.







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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 2008, with the increase in market volatility and continued problems in the credit markets, the Museum increased its allocation to cash to 7%, from 3% at the end of fiscal year 2007, and reduced its allocation to marketable equities from 46%, at the end of fiscal year 2007, to 42%. As of June 30, 2008, the Museum's endowment was invested as follows:

| Marketable Equities | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Domestic Equities | 23% |
| International Equities | 16% |
| Emerging Markets Equities | 2% |
| Global Equities | 1% |
| Total Marketable Equities | 42% |
| Absolute Return/Hedge Funds | 27% |
| Marketable Fixed Income | 8% |
| Marketable Real Assets | 4% |
| Private Investment Partnerships | 12% |
| Cash Equivalents | 7% |
| Total | 100% |

THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTS

Since embarking on its fundraising Campaign on July 1, 2000, the Museum has continued to benefit greatly from the generosity of its private and public supporters. During fiscal years 2007 and 2008, the Museum received a total of \$206.5 million in support of its operations, programs, capital improvements, and endowment-a major endorsement of the scientific importance and social impact of the Museum's work in science, education, and exhibition.

Clarles 4. Mott Charles H. Mott

Treasurer

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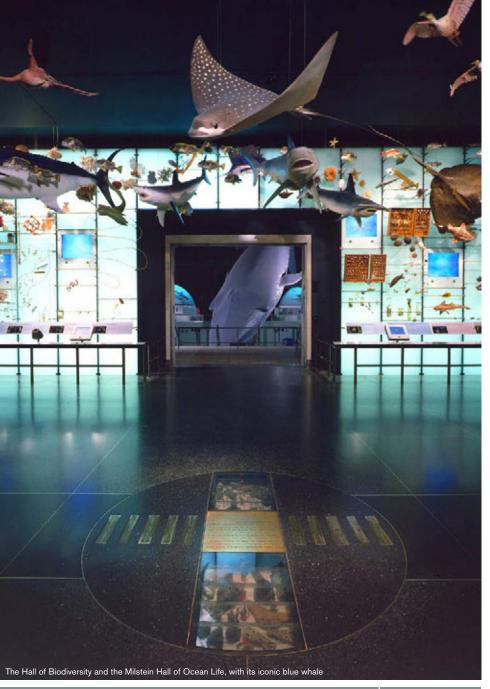
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The American Museum of Natural History against the New York skyline at sunset

CONDENSED SUMMARY OF CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

| Assets | 2008 | 2007 | Net Assets | 2008 | 2007 |
|--|------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Cash and other operating assets | \$ 56,787,784 | \$ 53,034,661 | Unrestricted | \$ 456,416,316 | \$ 418,736,149 |
| Contributions and grants receivable, net | 63,828,366 | 83,454,725 | Temporarily restricted | 198,124,420 | 247,584,393 |
| Long-term investment, at fair value | 610,306,126 | 582,721,425 | Permanently restricted | 155,705,392 | 139,829,307 |
| Plant and equipment, net | 454,040,007 | 444,274,966 | Total net assets | \$ 810,246,128 | \$ 806,149,849 |
| Total assets | \$ 1,184,962,283 | \$ 1,163,485,777 | | | |
| | | | Total liabilities and net assets | \$ 1,184,962,283 | \$1,163,485,777 |
| Liabilities | | | | | |
| Accounts payable and other liabilities | \$ 101,401,155 | \$ 85,550,928 | | | |
| Loan from the Trust for Cultural Resources | 273,315,000 | 271,785,000 | | | |
| Total liabilities | \$ 374,716,155 | \$ 357,335,928 | | | |

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|----|--------------------------------------|----|------------------------------|----|-------------------------|-----|----------------|
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UNRESTRICTED OPERATING ACTIVITY

| Revenue And Support | 2008 | 2007 | Revenue for plant 2008 | 2007 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|--|--------------|
| Investment return designated for current operations | \$ 16,711,257 | \$ 15,177,248 | Contributions and grants \$ 1,743,393 \$ | 4,276,323 |
| Contributions and grants | 26,664,760 | 27,885,544 | Capital support from The City of New York 29,412,870 | 11,195,065 |
| Operating support from The City of New York | 17,760,568 | 19,721,130 | Net assets released from restrictions 16,434,299 | 985,000 |
| Visitors contributions and admissions | 40,192,114 | 32,430,811 | Transfer from operations to plant 5,948,449 | 1,530,000 |
| Membership fees | 6,474,890 | 6,447,551 | Contributions designated for capital projects - | 2,000,000 |
| Auxiliary services | 37,427,448 | 29,371,861 | Net (loss) gain on bond refinancing and other activities (2,987,541) | 2,042,646 |
| Miscellaneous fees and other revenue | 4,295,930 | 3,380,340 | Total revenue and support for plant \$ 50,551,470 \$ | 22,029,034 |
| Net assets released from restrictions | 24,205,406 | 19,660,637 | | |
| Total unrestricted operating revenue and support | \$ 173,732,373 | \$ 154,075,122 | Plant expenses | |
| | | | Interest expense \$ 14,656,480 \$ | 12,898,716 |
| Expenses | | | Realized and unrealized (gain) loss on swaps 12,016,873 | 489,498 |
| Scientific research | \$ 32,633,850 | \$ 31,638,558 | Depreciation and amortization 22,948,585 | 22,508,243 |
| Education | 12,354,490 | 11,849,094 | Plant expenses not capitalized 307,303 | 627,073 |
| Exhibitions | 5,713,282 | 5,243,445 | Total plant expenses \$ 49,929,241 \$ | 36,523,530 |
| Membership | 1,975,776 | 2,049,158 | UNRESTRICTED LONG-TERM INVESTMENT ACTIVITY | |
| Visitor services | 7,099,788 | 6,694,807 | ONRESTRICTED LONG-TERM INVESTMENT ACTIVITY | |
| Cost of goods sold and other expenses of | | | Contributions and bequests \$ 6,388,991 \$ | 9,503,865 |
| auxiliary activities | 25,357,573 | 19,406,620 | Investment return in excess of spending plan (20,015,636) | 32,146,341 |
| General and administrative | 19,013,225 | 17,667,275 | Contributions re-designated by donor (339,638) | (22,354) |
| Fundraising | 5,344,263 | 4,823,289 | Net assets released from restrictions 28,738,649 | 16,874,687 |
| Communications | 4,609,555 | 4,976,374 | Transfer form operations to long-term investments 20,733,030 | 13,470,000 |
| Information technology | 5,005,549 | 4,801,701 | Total Unrestricted Long-Term Investment Activity \$ 35,505,396 \$ | 71,972,539 |
| Guardianship, maintenance, and operating costs | 27,916,128 | 27,883,854 | | |
| Total operating expenses | \$ 147,023,479 | \$ 137,034,175 | Other | (|
| Designated contributions and transfers to plant | | | | (14,460,963) |
| and long-term investment | 26,681,479 | 17,000,000 | Other pension-related charges 634,074 | - |
| Operating revenue and support in excess of | | | Total other \$ 1,525,127 \$ | (14,460,963) |
| (less than) operating expenses, designated | | 40.0:= | 7 | 40.050.00 |
| contributions and transfers | \$ 27,415 | \$ 40,947 | Total change in unrestricted net assets \$ 37,680,167 \$ | 43,058,027 |

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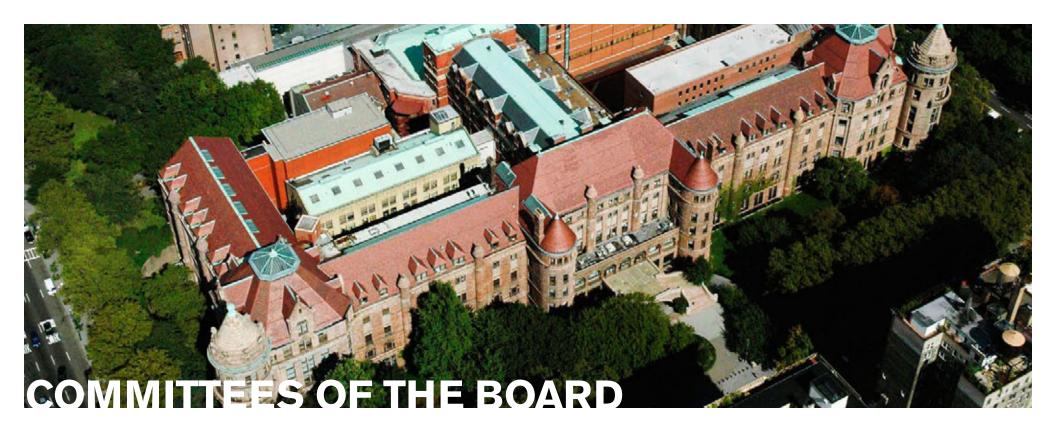






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THE NEW CHALLENGE: MEETING THE DEMANDS OF SCIENCE AND SOCIETY THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

The American Museum of Natural History's work lies at the heart of many of science's most promising directions and society's most pressing needs. Over the last decade, the Museum has strengthened its intellectual capacity, reached further beyond its own walls, expanded its audience, forged partnerships, and built a powerful technological platform. These changes have rendered a complex and growing institution of and for the 21st century—one focused on the major issues of our time, from protecting Earth's natural habitats to fostering cultural understanding to adequately educating our children.

In 2005, the Museum launched a major fundraising campaign, *The New Challenge: Meeting the Demands of Science and Society*, seeking to secure \$850 million for a range of significant initiatives. With *The New Challenge*, the Museum builds on a platform of excellence in science and its leadership role in interpreting science, culture, and nature for a broad public. The initiatives embraced by the campaign represent the Museum's best answers to the demands of a complex society in a range of fields in science and education. To implement these initiatives, today and in the years to come, the campaign will ensure the financial strength and stability of the Museum and fuel the Museum's ability to fulfill its larger goals in serving science and society.

As of June 30, 2008, the campaign raised over \$793 million for a number of educational, research, and capital initiatives, and the Museum is deeply grateful for the generous support from new and old Museum friends, members, corporations, foundations, and government agencies. Of this total, the Museum has secured over \$245 million to bolster its endowment, a critical component of the campaign and vital to maintaining the Museum's financial equilibrium and sustaining and enhancing its programs.

We are also proud to announce that during the 2008 fiscal year, the Museum experienced its most successful fundraising year to date, securing over \$98 million in gifts, pledge payments, and membership revenues.

The Museum's strength, significance, and prominence are a result of the partnership of visionary and generous donors who have provided critical support for the Museum's work over the years. We are grateful to the following donors and government agencies for their support and endorsement of the Museum's unique contributions in science and education during the period of this report, from July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2008.

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