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Alex Wall, Assistant to the Associate Director for Outreach
Ingrid Zabel, Ph.D., Development Associate

And thank you to our colleagues who moved on during this year:
Cathy Blackburn, Jaime Hazard, Jennifer Thompson and Maya Weltman-Fahs

Cover Photo: Visitors enjoying PRI’s state-of-the-art Prep Lab in the Museum of the Earth — both a research space and a public exhibition
In FY2012, we celebrated Dr. Warren Allmon’s 20th Anniversary as PRI Director along with many other significant accomplishments. This year we:

- Enjoyed an increase in the numbers of visitors, sales and revenue over last year
- Completed renovations of four new research laboratories
- Made significant progress on curation and computerization in Collections
- Gained significant media exposure with little marketing resources
- Renewed our affiliation with Cornell University
- Completed two more Teacher-Friendly Guides™
- Published our first series of papers on the Marcellus Shale and
- Made substantial progress towards a complete merger with the Cayuga Nature Center

ONLINE AND SOCIAL MEDIA DASHBOARD

Pageviews: 40,387
Unique visitors: 9,743
Facebook: 1,082 Likes
Followers on Twitter: 129
Tweets: 978
TWENTY YEARS AND COUNTING…
ONWARD AND UPWARD!

What a difference a few years can make. I visited PRI back in the 1990s, not long after Warren had taken over as Director. I saw the stacks of dusty, crumbling cardboard boxes piled high in the halls, the peeling paint, and the odd assortment of mismatched broken-down office furniture that served its (very) few employees. One could have easily become overwhelmed at the scale of the project and given up, but not Warren. He knew that each of those boxes contained the elements of one of the finest fossil collections in the country, and he was inspired by the deep and rich history of the institution and the extraordinary people who established it. He dove into his work with a passion and energy that made most of his colleagues tired just watching him, and with a powerful vision for what the place could become that guided his every decision. With a lot of hard work, strong support from his board, and some uncannily good fortune (“Hello, PRI? I think we have mastodon bones weathering out in our backyard…”), Warren and his team managed to transform PRI into a center for research and education that rivals the best of its kind in the nation.

Today, PRI has never been better. Collections grants have built new state-of-the-art facilities and enabled curation and digitization of a significant and growing part of the collection. Publication of both technical and educational materials is strong. Research by staff is at an all-time high. Outreach extends across the country with publication of the phenomenally successful Teacher-Friendly Guides and associated activities. A major new exhibit on glaciers and climate change is in the offing for the coming year. Merger with the Cayuga Nature Center has broadened our scope and added a dynamic new component to environmental education. And next year, we’ll celebrate another milestone with the 10-year anniversary of the opening of the Museum of the Earth. This is an exciting time to be part of the PRI family.

I step into this role as President of the Board with a good deal of humility, as I follow in the footsteps of some exceptional individuals. Most recently, Rob Mackenzie has guided the Board with quiet strength, clear vision, and infectious enthusiasm. His tenure has seen major steps toward financial security for the institution and an expansion of its influence in the community and beyond. I hope to be able to continue these trends, and see the reach of PRI expand further in the coming years. In my eye, the strength of PRI ultimately draws from its collections and the research being done with them, both in-house and beyond. It’s that foundation that makes us far more than ‘just’ a center for earth and environmental education. It gives us clout. The weightiness of the history and legacy of this place and the scientists who work here make everything we do from an outreach perspective more important, more influential. We need to nurture that special confluence of research and education that Warren saw right from the beginning, 20 years ago. The remarkable progress over recent years has put us very much on course to do this, and I am excited by what the future holds in store. Onward and upward!

Linda C. Ivany, Ph.D.
President, PRI Board of Trustees
Looking back over the past 20 years, I am amazed...

PRI was founded in 1932 with aims both ambitious and narrow. Founder Gilbert Harris, Cornell geology professor, wanted to build an organization that would serve professional and serious amateur paleontologists, and not too many others. PRI did this with distinction for 60 years. But by 1992, despite its international reputation for collections, publications, and research, the world had largely passed PRI by.

Today, this is definitely no longer the case. In its eighty-first year, PRI is a modern natural history museum, doing all the things that that description implies. Our specimen collection – always well-known to a small community of scientists -- has more than doubled in size since 1992, and with more than $1 million in grants from the National Science Foundation has truly become what we always said it could be: a world-class resource for research and teaching. Staff has grown from three to over 25, including nine Ph.D.s, and our operating budget from less than $200,000 to more than $2 million. In 1992, PRI had essentially no public educational programs. Today, our nationally recognized programs in Earth science education reach tens of thousands of people across the country. Here in Ithaca, we opened the Museum of the Earth in 2003, an $11 million exhibit and education facility that has also become nationally recognized for excellence and innovation. In 2004, seven decades of formal estrangement ended when PRI and Cornell University signed an affiliation agreement. PRI now serves Cornell in a variety of ways, from teaching to research to public outreach, and there is great potential to do more. PRI is also now in the last stages of completing the merger with Cayuga Nature Center, which is already allowing us to fulfill many of our long-term institutional aspirations to make paleontology relevant to concerns of the modern world.

Looking back on the past 20 years, I am amazed. At the extraordinary generosity and hard work on the part of so many people. At the power of some simple ideas to motivate. At the ability of people and institutions to do what at first — and repeatedly — seemed impossible. Although PRI has gone far beyond what Gilbert Harris intended, I continue to believe that we continue his legacy in the most important respect: if you believe something deeply enough, and pursue it relentlessly regardless of what critics say — and, oh yes, if it’s a really good idea — you will succeed.

Warren D. Allmon, Ph.D.
Director
RESEARCH

Original scientific research has always been at the core of what PRI is as an organization. Like Publications and Collections, Research is a fundamental part of our history. It adds credibility to our public programs and exhibitions and distinguishes us from other Central New York science museums. Our Research program enhances our value both as a community resource and as we seek enhanced collaboration with Cornell University.

Although PRI does not support any permanent staff position devoted solely or mainly to research, we have acquired an extraordinarily talented and active group of individuals (this year numbering 10) with Ph.D. degrees. Most of these are pursuing original research in addition to the jobs for which they were hired.

**Warren Allmon, Ph.D.** – Cenozoic mollusks, macroevolution  
**Carlynn Buckler, Ph.D.** – Earth science education, genetics  
**David Campbell, Ph.D.** – Cenozoic mollusks, bivalve evolution  
**Gregory Dietl, Ph.D.** – Cenozoic mollusks, evolutionary paleoecology  
**Don Duggan-Haas, Ph.D.** – Science education  
**Richard Kissel, Ph.D.** – Paleozoic reptiles and synapsids, science education  
**Paula Mikkelsen, Ph.D.** – Recent mollusks, bivalve morphology  
**Judith Nagel-Myers, Ph.D.** – Paleozoic mollusks, paleoecology  
**Robert Ross, Ph.D.** – Earth science education, microfossils  
**Richard Waite, Ph.D.** – Mesozoic gastropods, stratigraphy

You can learn more about these talented individuals throughout this report. PRI also publishes an annual Research at PRI report that covers their research in more depth. Go to MuseumoftheEarth.org/Research for more information.

**RICHARD WAITE, Ph.D.**

Dr. Waite arrived in 2011 as a post-doctoral researcher working with Dr. Allmon. He received his Ph.D. in 2010 from the University of Fribourg in Switzerland, with Dr. Allmon on his committee. During his time in Ithaca he is continuing his thesis work on an important but under-studied group of Mesozoic fossil snails (the nerineoids) that closely resemble Dr. Allmon’s favorite turritellid snails, as well as several other related projects.
Micromollusks coated with gold-palladium, await scanning in PRI’s scanning electron microscope.


Dr. Thomas Waller published a monograph in *Bulletins of American Paleontology* on the fossil scallops (Pectinidae and Propeamussiidae) of the Dominican Republic, which included 18 stunning plates of these exquisite mollusks.

Dr. Mikkelsen is a malacologist, conducting research on the systematics and diversity of living and fossil marine mollusks. Her research program covers a broad approach to systematics, phylogeny, and the evolution of diversity in marine mollusks, especially those from the southeastern U.S. and the Caribbean.

She currently is a principle investigator on two NSF grants to study the evolution of bivalve mollusks in collaboration with colleagues: “BivAToL” (Assembling the Bivalve Tree of Life), which produced the traveling exhibition, “Science on the Half Shell: How and Why We Study Evolution,” and “BiTS” (Bivalves in Time and Space), which explores the evolution of two large clades of bivalves, from molecular, morphological, and paleontological viewpoints.

Also near the top of her research agenda is production of a new book on the marine snails of the Florida Keys, which will follow the format of her 2007 book “Seashells of Southern Florida - Living Marine Mollusks of the Florida Keys and Adjacent Regions: Bivalves.”

She holds an Visiting Fellow position at Cornell University in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

Over the past 20 years, Dr. Allmon continued PRI’s historical focus on publishing original and peer-reviewed publications. He created a member newsletter, which morphed into the popular magazine *American Paleontologist*, and as an editor or author, added 34 new *Bulletins*, 4 new issues of *Palaeontographica Americana*, and 16 stand-alone volumes to our booklist. Under the steady leadership of Dr. Mikkelsen since 2006, our publications remain popular, relevant, and scientifically important.

**HIGHLIGHTS THIS YEAR INCLUDE:**

- After 19 years, we retired our quarterly magazine *American Paleontologist* in February 2012. Rather than devoting resources to an online publication of the same format, we decided to move toward alternative means of providing this content. Paleonews and a limited amount of other content (such as book reviews and essays from student award winners) are now being posted in the Paleontology Section of the online magazine “This View of Life” in cooperation with the Evolution Institute at Binghamton University. www.thisviewoflife.com and click on Paleontology

- *Bulletins of American Paleontology* was three years behind schedule when Dr. Mikkelsen took over, which has affected our ability to acquire new subscribers. We made significant progress toward catching up by completing 2009 and beginning 2010. We expect to be on schedule in 2013.
In her role as Collections Manager, Dr. Nagel-Myers has focused on the NSF grant-funded curation of the Zinsmeister Collection, which comprises Cretaceous to Eocene fossil faunas of Antarctica. As part of this project, she has created an online exhibit housed on the PRI website.

Her research focuses on fossil marine mollusks. She is especially interested in their form and function and the circumstances of the evolution of their traits, incorporating the relationships of species with habitat and climate as well as species with each other.

One major project that she has been working on with Carl Brett (University of Cincinnati), Gregory Dietl (PRI), and John Handley (PRI Trustee and Research Associate) is the trace fossil record of durophagous predation in the Middle Devonian Hamilton Fauna of New York State.

She recently started a collaborative project with Richard Aronson (Florida Institute of Technology) and Gregory Dietl (PRI) on predation in Eocene mollusk faunas from Antarctica.

**HIGHLIGHTS THIS YEAR INCLUDE:**

- completion of the reorganization of the non-type systematic collection of fossil and modern mollusks;
- completion of the digitization of the Harris-Palmer collection of Paleogene mollusks from the southeastern US;
- initiation of curation and digitization of the Zinsmeister Collection of fossil mollusks from Antarctica; and
- the number of scientific loans (36) in 2011 was the 4th highest level of usage in PRI’s history.

**FY2012 Donations to Collections**

The following individuals donated specimens:

- Warren Allmon
- Rosemarie Badmann
- Gordon Baird
- Art Bloom
- Gregory Dietl
- Rod Feldmann
- Gerald Gunderson
- Linda Ivany
- Bill Klose
- Paula Mikkelsen
- Michael J. Moore
- Drew Muscente
- Judith Nagel-Myers
- George and Janet Stone
- Scott Tuttle
- Karl A. Wilson

Since PRI’s founding in 1932, a core activity has been the stewardship of collections entrusted to the institution’s care. Our Collections Department enjoyed significant progress in specimen curation this year, thus making PRI’s collection—among the largest invertebrate paleontology collections in the United States—more accessible to researchers, students, and educators.
PRI’S NSF COLLECTION SUPPORT
Efforts in Collections focused primarily on two ongoing NSF-funded projects:

- 2-year, $497,100 project to reorganize and digitize PRI’s non-type systematic mollusk collection. This project resulted in installation of nearly 4,000 new compactorized drawers in the Collections Wing, physical curation and digitization of the Harris-Palmer Paleogene Coastal Plain collection, reorganization and basic curation of the non-type systematic Recent (modern) and fossil mollusk collection (the historic backbone of PRI’s collection) and 4) basic curation of the Hodson Venezuelan collection of mainly Cenozoic mollusks.

- 2-year, $246,504 project to database and curate the Zinsmeister Antarctica collection. This collection was transferred to PRI in spring of 2009 from Purdue University. The Zinsmeister Collection is arguably the world’s largest and most comprehensive collection of Cretaceous-Eocene fossil mollusks from Seymour Island, Antarctica. This project will upgrade the more than 5,300 specimen lots in the collection to the highest curatorial standards.

DAVID CAMPBELL, PH.D.

Collections Assistant Dr. Campbell’s main area of study is in molluscan systematics, with a specific focus on freshwater mollusks, Paleogene mollusks, and the classification of bivalves. In 2011, he worked on both the Systematic Collection Grant and the Zinsmeister Grant. He also wrote numerous publications (see Peer-Reviewed Papers for a full list) and presented his research at various meetings and symposia.
A father and son enjoy exploring the ancient seas of Central New York on a PRI fossil collecting field trip.
For the past 20 years, PRI’s Education Department has strategically and steadily focused on building nationally recognized programs. We served more than 36,000 people this year through a variety of programs and exhibits.

**HIGHLIGHTS THIS YEAR INCLUDE:**

- We published the “Marcellus Papers,” a series of ten pamphlets on the science behind natural gas in the Marcellus Shale.
- Our Mastodon Matrix Project™ reached its 13,500 participant and was named the #1 Citizen Science project of by scistarter.com.

**STEM EDUCATION**

Shortly after Dr. Allmon arrived in 1992, PRI started offering K-12 STEM [Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math] education programming. Within these four areas, we have become a national leader in Earth systems science education – the wide range of topics covering oceans and atmospheres, rocks and glaciers, and life itself. Topics of special focus include evolution, ecology and the environment, climate and energy, and the public understanding of science. We provide professional development for teachers as well as resources for classrooms. We also participate in local and national initiatives to improve education practices and increase scientific literacy, such as the development of the National Resource Council’s *A Framework for K-12 Science Education* and the NSF’s *Earth Science Literacy Principles*.

**CITIZEN SCIENCE EDUCATION - MASTODON MATRIX PROJECT™**

Our Mastodon Matrix Project™ continues to be a success with over 3,700 participants this year. The program engages participants in “reconstructing” the late Pleistocene in central New York by investigating 13,000-year-old sediment from a mastodon excavation. In doing so, participants better understand the process of science, and how we know what we know about past environments. The program was started in 2000 by Dr. John Chiment from Cornell University and brought to PRI in 2001 by Dr. Allmon. Participants have found shells, beaver-chewed sticks, rocks, twigs, leaves, mammalian hair and assorted “unknown” items in the chunks of matrix, all suggesting remnants of past life. Since 2008, more than 13,500 people worldwide have participated and matrix has been sent to every continent - except Antarctica!

**TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Working closely with educators is one of the most effective strategies for reaching students in classrooms across the nation. PRI began this approach under Dr. Allmon’s leadership in the 1990s, considering how best to make an impact in K-12 STEM education with a small staff, but one considerable expertise and resources.
We now implement a wide range of innovative programs to develop new approaches and materials for teacher professional development. These programs focus especially on Earth system science, biological evolution, and climate and energy. PRI also collaborates with other organizations. Specifically, we offer workshops with the Cornell Institute for Biology Teachers, and with the New York Academy of Sciences, which provides support for graduate student mentors doing afterschool programs in New York City schools. We also offer workshops and resources at national conferences, such as the annual meetings for the Geological Society of America, National Science Teachers Association, Science Teachers Association of New York State, and North American Association for Environmental Education.

Teacher Resource Day
As PRI’s collections began to grow with new accessions, Dr. Allmon created Teacher Giveaway—a program to provide specimens not suitable for PRI’s research collections, but potentially excellent for teaching, to teachers. Today, “Teacher Resource Day” is an annual event for local and regional educators to collect educational specimens and publications for their classroom, tour the collections and the Museum, and attend presentations by PRI staff on how to use their newly acquired specimens. Fifty-four educators participated in 2011. The event continues to be generously sponsored by Chemung Canal Trust Company.

Teacher-Friendly Guides™
The $1.8 M, NSF-funded Regional and Local (ReaL) Earth Inquiry Project helps educators teach about local and regional Earth system science in an inquiry-based way. The project divides the country into seven regions, providing both resources and programming for each. This includes completing a national series of Teacher-Friendly Guides™ to Earth Science, as well as region-specific, professional development workshops, where teachers work with project staff to create Virtual Fieldwork Experiences (VFEs). In the process of creating VFEs, the educators also learn more deeply about the Earth system science of their region, about engaging learners in field study, and about how to use technology in new and productive ways in the classroom. All of the work is driven by the question, “Why does this place look the way it does?” and supported by the content found within the Teacher-Friendly Guides™. The Northeast and Southeast guides complete, and drafts of the remaining five guides are well underway, with completion of the guides in 2013.

This year, locations for the professional development have included: Devil’s Lake, Wisconsin; Mesa, Arizona; Albuquerque, New Mexico; and Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve in Idaho. In 2011 at the Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America, Drs. Kissel and Duggan-Haas, along with Portland Community College’s Dr. Frank Granshaw, led a short course on “Virtual Field Experiences in Geoscience Education,” which included staff from the Geo Education Team at Google. For the 2012 Annual Meeting of the National Science Teachers Association, Drs. Kissel and Duggan-Haas and three ReaL Earth Inquiry teacher-participants collaborated with staff from the Peabody Museum of Yale University to deliver a session on VFEs.

EVOLUTION
Fossil Finders
PRI began to gain prominence in science education in the 1990s because of Dr. Allmon’s skills and passion for building public understanding of evolution, a topic he and PRI continue to focus on today. Fossil Finders helps 5th to 9th grade teachers teach the nature of science through engagement in authentic paleontological research focusing on core concepts of evolution and geologic history. Teachers come to New York to help collect and analyze samples from our fossil-rich strata, and use these samples with their students to explore concepts such as environmental change, biological variation, adaptation, and sedimentation. The project was originally a collaboration between Cornell Department of Education, Dr. Barbara Crawford (University of Georgia)
and Dr. Dan Capps (University of Maine). By the end of this year, about 12,500 fossil specimens had been identified, measured, and submitted to the online Fossil Finders database.

**Teacher Friendly Guides™ for exhibitions**

We also completed two new resources to help educators teach evolution. The *Teacher-Friendly Guide to Evolution Using Bivalves* was produced in association with our traveling exhibition, “Science on the Half Shell: How and Why we Study Evolution”, and the *Teacher-Friendly Guide to the Evolution of Maize* was produced in collaboration with the Maize Diversity Group at Cornell University and is based on our traveling exhibition, “Maize: Mysteries of an Ancient Grain.”

**CLIMATE AND ENERGY**

**Marcellus Shale**

The current heightened public interest in the Marcellus provides a teachable moment; for many individuals, this is the first time they have been interested in where their energy comes from. Our work is funded by several grants, including a two-year, $149,000 grant from NSF that focuses on educator professional development using the Marcellus Shale as a case study for developing approaches to emergent energy issues. We are working with cohorts of educators in two communities, Elmira and Binghamton, which are already affected by Marcellus Shale development across the state border in Pennsylvania and will be affected even more if the current New York State moratorium on drilling is lifted.

The project not only develops resources and strategies for teaching about the Marcellus Shale, but also develops strategies for any community that faces emergent energy issues. How can educators be better prepared for working with the public when new energy infrastructure is proposed? A fundamental goal is to provide evidence-based information and to build understanding of the science related to the Shale, the extraction techniques employed in gas recovery from the Shale, and associated environmental impacts. We strive to do this with as much impartiality as possible. Participants include teachers from kindergarten through universities. Drs. Duggan-Haas and Ross, along with PRI staff member Kelly Cronin have led face-to-face workshops and webinars with the two cohorts.

Ms. Cronin and Dr. Duggan-Haas also extended PRI's set of "Marcellus Papers," a series of papers providing detailed reviews of key topics regarding Marcellus geology, drilling, and environmental impacts. We hosted a Press Day to 12 members of the press from around the region in January 2012 to formally launch the Papers. Numerous presentations have been given by staff in a range of venues, including the national and state conferences of the National Science Teachers' Association, The National Association for Environmental Education, Engineers for a Sustainable World, and the Science Teachers' Association of New York State.
My Climate, My Community
The traveling kiosk components of the My Climate, My Community project came together this fiscal year. *Weird Weather* consists of a pair of standalone kiosks that personalize the growing effects of climate change in New York State. A touch-screen interactive visitor survey provides a space for our audience to let us know their views on climate change in their communities. The project was informed by a survey of perceptions of climate change by residents of rural communities in Upstate New York in collaboration with Cornell University sociologist Dr. Richard Stedman. The two kiosks will be traveling in Tompkins County and nearby counties in Central New York, with a focus on rural libraries and town halls. The project was funded by NSF and the Park Foundation.

PUBLIC OUTREACH
PRI began providing public outreach under Dr. Allmon’s direction through attendance at local fairs and festivals and has grown to include the amateur fossil collector community. These programs often reach families with children, either local or visiting the Finger Lakes region on vacation, and ideally our K-12 STEM programs reach some of the same children, complementing and reinforcing learning experiences. These programs are vital to maintaining public visibility and solidify the perception of PRI as a scientific authority and an educational resource.

Summer Programs
We visit a fossil collecting site one Saturday each month from June to September and offer the James Potorti gorge walks, a suite of interpretive walks to Taughannock, Treman, Buttermilk, and Watkins Glen State Parks, every August. We had a booth at the Great New York State Fair in September 2011 where nearly 4,000 people visited our booth – many were families searching for fossils in our giant shale pile.

Traveling Exhibitions
Maize: Mysteries of an Ancient Grain
This exhibit opened August 26, 2011 at the Old Capitol Museum at the University of Iowa and was so popular that the stay was extended for an extra 6 weeks. Maize was at the Corn Palace, a popular tourist destination in Mitchell, South Dakota and then traveled to the George W. Bush Presidential Library in TX. At the end of the year, it was at the Susquehanna River Archaeological Center in Waverly, NY.

Science on the Half Shell - How and Why We Study Evolution
The first venue to host the exhibit was the Field Museum in Chicago where it opened March 9 and stayed for the remainder of FY2012.

In May 2012, Exhibitions Manager Beth Stricker attended the American Alliance of Museums annual conference. There she presented *Maize and Science on the Half Shell* at the Traveling Exhibitions Forum, and as a result, Maize is now booked through August 2014.

Our facilities at the Museum of the Earth and the Cayuga Nature Center provide venues for hands-on education that emphasizes science as an inquiry-driven process of exploration and discovery. More information can be found on pages 18-21.
Devonian Dreams: The Imagery of Art Murphy, a temporary exhibition at the Museum of the Earth, showcased early marine invertebrate fossils. Rather than taking a scientific approach, Art’s images infused these small creatures with a richness and a monumentality more likely found in studio portraiture.
Don Duggan-Haas, Ph.D.
Senior Education Research Associate

Dr. Duggan-Haas’s STEM education research is currently focused upon determining the fundamental ideas that are most important for everyone to understand about the Earth system and how to help educators nurture understandings of those ideas.

The Marcellus Shale provides a teachable moment for engaging the public in understandings of energy, climate and the broader Earth system. He’s grown especially interested in technology rich place-based education – an approach that engages learners in the close study of their local environment and using these locally grounded understandings to better understand the global Earth system.

Dr. Duggan-Haas currently serves as Chair of the Geological Society of America’s Geoscience Education Division. He has also played an active role in the development of the Next Generation Science Standards, which are intended to replace the 1996 National Science Education Standards.

Funding for education and exhibits allowed us to reach audiences in Tompkins County and across the country. Funding was received from both local and federal sources. The following grants were active during FY2012:


**National Science Foundation (FY2008)**: Phylogeny on the Half-shell – Assembling the Bivalve Tree of Life, NSF DEB 732860, Sep 15, 2007 – Aug 31, 2013, $499,990 (PI: Paula Mikkelsen; co-PIs R. Ross, S.J. Chicone)


**National Science Foundation (FY2009)**: Traveling exhibit and teacher professional development on evolution of maize, associated with maize genetics research. (DBI 0820619, March 1, 2009 – February 28, 2013, $110,000 (PI: Ed Buckler of Cornell University)


**National Science Foundation Informal Science Education (FY2010)**: My Climate, My Community: Sustainable Climate Change Exhibits for Rural Audiences: NSF ISE 0917581, September 1, 2009 – August 31, 2012, $74,346 (PI: S. Chicone; co-PIs: R. Ross, T. Smrecak, S. Sands)


National Science Foundation Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences Division (FY2011): Improved Regional and Decadal Predictions of the Carbon Cycle. NSF GEO 1049033, April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2015, $1,064,067; $60,736 to PRI (PI: N. Mahowald; co-PIs: P. Hess, R. Ross, C. Shoemaker)

PRI staff Warren Allmon, Kelly Cronin, Don Duggan-Hass and Robert Ross talk with journalists about natural gas and the Marcellus Shale during a January 2012 media event in the Museum of the Earth.
RICHARD A. KISSEL, Ph.D.
Director of Teacher Programs

Dr. Kissel is a vertebrate paleontologist and educator. From Texas to Germany, Dr. Kissel has traveled the world to excavate and study the fossil remains of ancient amphibians, dinosaurs and other reptiles, the ancient relatives of mammals, and ice age mammals. He has authored popular articles and children’s books on paleontology and the nature of science, and he is a featured scientist online at NOVA scienceNOW. Dr. Kissel is also the Vice Chair and Informal Education Representative of the Geological Society of America’s Committee on Education.

Dr. Kissel’s current scientific research focuses on the enigmatic group of Paleozoic tetrapods known as diadectids—the first tetrapods capable of processing a diet of high-fiber terrestrial plants. He is also interested in inquiry-based approaches to science education, exhibition development and design, and the history and nature of science.

Dr. Kissel holds faculty positions at Johns Hopkins University in the Museum Studies graduate program and at Ithaca College in the Department of Biology.

MUSEUM OF THE EARTH

Through hands-on, visual exhibitions and outreach, the Museum encourages critical thinking about life on Earth in the past and today, and how our species is affecting the natural world.

SCHOOL GROUPS

- Served 3,700 schoolchildren
- Ancient Seas Over New York, Dinosaur Science and New York State Geology remain our most popular programs
- Through the Kids Discover the Trail program, the Museum continues to provide every 1st grade class in Trumansburg and ICSD with a look into the history of life on Earth. This year 460 students and 133 chaperones attended.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

- Fossil ID Day – held the second Saturday of each month
- History of Life Course – hosted each fall and spring semester
- Museum in the Dark – October 27
- Cecil’s Dinosaur Holiday Party – December 3
- Holiday Break Programs – December 26-31
- Darwin Days Family Day – February 18
- Winter Recess/Ithaca Loves Teachers – February 19 -26
- Dino Eggstravaganza—April 7
- Spring Break Programs – April 9-13
- Family Friendly Exhibition Openings – held for each new temporary exhibit in the Museum

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

- Randy Olsen – filmmaker and author of Don’t Be Such a Scientist
- Greenfire – documentary film tracing the legacy of environmentalist Aldo Leopold which attracted an audience of over 150 people.
- Dinosaur Train – the popular PBS children’s show was featured at two events that drew over 500 visitors
- Girl Scout Overnight – this new program brought in 80 scouts and their families
COMMUNITY ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAM
This program was developed, and continues to grow, based on our community’s needs and our capacity to fill them, to ensure that earth science and environmental education are available to everyone, regardless of resources or special needs. Components include:

- Record-breaking attendance at our three “Winter Free Days” and “Community Free Day”
- More than 300 visitors from our Agency Membership Program that provides nonprofit agencies offering human services free admission to their constituents
- 14 full and 5 partial scholarships awarded to community children through the Summer Camp Scholarship Program at the Cayuga Nature Center
- Through a partnership with the FoodBank of the Southern Tier, over 800 families were offered the opportunity to create their own Free Day

EXHIBITIONS
Public exhibits have been a part of PRI’s history for decades, but with the opening of the Museum in 2003, we offered visitors a permanent, dynamic way to learn about the history of life on Earth. Within the Museum, we invite our audience to travel in time, experiencing past worlds through authentic specimens, hands-on interactives, engaging information, recreated environments and more. Exhibits work hand-in-hand with educational programs to reach visitors in complementary ways.

ON PERMANENT VIEW
In August, we installed a composite trilobite slab from Morocco in our second AV theater. Obtained by long-time PRI volunteer Bill Klose, the impressive Ordovician specimen is a huge attention-grabber. In November, a large slab with a Cambrian jellyfish specimen was mounted in the same theater. ”

New signage was installed across from Dino Lab, next to the three Coelophysis models, which presents the latest findings in the study of the color of dinosaurs. This is an important component of the Museum’s mission to communicate that paleontology is a changing science, where new discoveries and interpretations are made daily.

PRI opened its newly renovated Preparation Laboratory with new signage that provides an overview of what happens to a fossil after it leaves the field and is prepped, and identifiers for tools and equipment.

TEMPORARY
Cruisin’ the Fossil Freeway (June 4-September 5, 2011)
A delightful blend of art and science based upon 4000 miles of road trips made by Ray Troll and Kirk Johnson. 
Funded in part by the Tompkins County Tourism Fund.

Treasures of the Collection
(September 23, 2011-January 8, 2012)
The history and people behind PRI collections. 
Funded in part by M & T Bank.

Whales: From the Depths of the National Geographic Archives (January 23-June 4, 2012)
32 striking photographs that brought to light the dangers of underwater noise pollution. We collaborated with Cornell’s Bioacoustics Research Program at the Lab of Ornithology, who shared content, artifacts, and a sea mammal sound interactive. 
Funded in part by BorgWarner Morse TEC.

Sanctuary Reef & Sea Monsters
(June 22-September 3, 2012)
Two traveling exhibits from the Mote Marine Laboratory in Florida that featured hands-on activities and live interactive videoconferences with Mote scientists. 
Funded by the Triad Foundation.

Primordial Imprints, Glasswork by Jon Paul Bennett
(July 15, 2011-January 4, 2012)
Bennett’s current body of work reflects his knowledge and fascination with paleontology and the evolution of primordial life.

Devonian Dreams: The Imagery of Art Murphy
(September 23, 2011-January 8, 2012)
An intersection of science featuring captivating photos taken of 380 million year old fossils.
ROBERT M. ROSS, Ph.D.
Associate Director for Outreach

Dr. Ross is responsible for PRI’s education and exhibits programs and oversees a wide variety of grant-funded projects. His primary scientific research interests include paleontology, sedimentology, and paleoceanography. He focuses on the diversification and distribution of life in the context of interactions of climate, ocean, and tectonic dynamics.

As an educator, Dr. Ross’s STEM education research includes Earth system education, particularly in informal science education and educator professional development. He studies the integration of authentic research into education contexts and the use of place-based real-world examples to improve interest in and understanding of scientific inquiry and science.

Some of his current projects include working with PRI and Cornell colleagues on the use of paleontological research in teaching the nature of science to teachers and their students; reaching rural audiences on climate change; public understanding of energy issues, especially shale gas; and cultural inertia in science concepts such as perceptions of dinosaurs.

He holds an adjunct faculty position at Cornell University in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. He also teaches at Ithaca College.

The long-term objective of our pending merger with the Nature Center is to transform it into a premier educational center for teaching and learning about the impact of climate change on the fauna and flora of Tompkins County. This year, we established much of the important intellectual and physical infrastructure needed to fulfill this goal.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS YEAR INCLUDE:

- We sold the farm property ensuring the integrity of the property will be honored while allowing us to allocate some of the proceeds to address some long deferred maintenance items, and most importantly, to retire all outstanding debt.
- Thanks to the efforts of PRI Trustee Emeritus Phil Bartels, the process of getting final New York State approval for the merger made significant progress.
- Progress was made on planning and fundraising for new programs.
- Significant repairs were made to the main Lodge building and progress was made on plans for the first phase of capital improvements.
- We repaired and installed drainage around the perimeter of the building to help divert water runoff from the back hill. The project was very successful and the building remained dry through spring.

OUTDOOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Post-merger, the goals are to:

- engage school and community groups in collecting data toward ongoing citizen science projects that encompass subjects such as forest ecology, conservation and climate change impacts in Tompkins County;
- create teacher-professional development programs focusing on placed based programs that teach the concepts of forest ecology, climate change and evolution; and
- develop an advisory panel comprised of local experts within the fields of forestry and conservation.
TEAM CHALLENGE

Each year TEAM Challenge helps hundreds of participants develop cooperative problem-solving skills and accelerate communication skills. We provide group initiatives and challenges on our low and high element ropes course that encourage participants to work together. This year we had 1,586 participants. The KDT (Kids Discover the Trail) and TKED (Trumansburg Kids Explore and Discover) programs continue to be a key component. The upcoming KDT Expansion will double the number of student that the Nature Center serves through our Team Challenge program. Feedback from KDT Evaluations has included the following quotes from local teachers.

“The activities give the trip a real purpose and allow the students to interact in a meaningful way.”

“The trip was super. There was team building, trust for others, and personal challenges cheered on by classmates.”

LIVE ANIMAL COLLECTION

The collection currently includes over 30 live animals. Although we lost a few animals due to old age, we were excited to add some amazing new ones including our Southern Flying Squirrels, a baby Snapping Turtle, a Map Turtle, Eastern Box Turtle, Spotted Salamander, and rats. All of these animals help us to diversify our collection and continue to educate the public about animals and their habitats, resource allocation, our native wildlife and habitat conservation.

This year, staff delivered 52 education programs for school and community groups, 33 animal birthday parties, 52 animal feeding programs, and 32 night hikes.

CAMPS

Our popular summer camp provides more than 600 campers with a wide variety of themed programs. A successful camp for preschoolers was added this summer. In addition, dozens of participants enjoyed “School’s Out” camps on vacation days during the school year.

EXHIBITS

In FY2012, we designed and installed two new exhibits - Busy Bee on the nature of bees and Facts of Life that incorporated the taxidermy collection. We re-installed the seasonal exhibit On the Wing.

NATURE CENTER ON-SITE STAFF

Ellen Cadigan Office Manager
Russ Friedell Camp Director
Kevin Lanigan Maintenance

Emily McKittrick Manager of Animal Collections
Matt Sacco Manager of TEAM Challenge
Christine Whitaker Director of Nature Center Programs
PRI continues to interact with Cornell University in numerous and varied ways, from individual staff teaching at undergrad and graduate levels at Cornell, to the Museum serving as a resource for Cornell classes, to collaborations on NSF-funded outreach projects.

**FORMAL AFFILIATION**
In November 2004, PRI and Cornell signed an agreement of affiliation, formalizing their relationship. The agreement had the full approval and endorsement of the Cornell President and senior administration. The affiliation was renewed for a second five years in 2010.

**TEACHING**
PRI staff and facilities constitute the great majority of the non-botanical paleontology program for Cornell.

**Dr. Allmon** teaches the equivalent of approx. 1.5 undergraduate courses per year as well as advises graduate students. His student Mary Kosloski graduated in 2012 (his seventh Cornell Ph.D.) and Dana Friend has started her second year. Dr. Allmon has also been supervising three Cornell senior theses, two in Biology (Drew Muscente and Serina Brady) and one in Earth & Atmospheric Sciences (Nadia Pierrehumbert).

**Dr. Dietl** teaches a graduate seminar on Topics in Paleoecology for EAS and supervises one Ph.D. student, Steve Durham, also at the end of his first year. One new Ph.D. student, Jansen Smith, will be starting work under Greg’s supervision in fall 2012.

**Dr. Ross** teaches a summer course for EAS called “Earth in the News.”

**Dr. Kissel** teaches a one-credit course in EAS on Fossil Preparation.

**Dr. Mikkelsen** gives guest lectures in Cornell classes, most notably Invertebrate Zoology taught every other summer at Cornell’s Shoals Marine Lab off the coast of Maine. She is a Visiting Fellow in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. During Summer 2012, she spent a week at Shoals co-mentoring a student research project that was initiated during last summer’s Invertebrate course.
OUTREACH

PRI serves as a provider of STEM outreach and we currently collaborate with Cornell Cooperative Extension on two NSF-funded public outreach projects, one focused on climate change education with the other focused on educational programming centered around natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale. We also currently are collaborating with EAS Professor Natalie Mahawold on outreach connected to her NSF-funded research on the atmospheric carbon cycle. Dr. Ross is frequently asked to collaborate on other NSF proposals by Cornell faculty.

Research by Cornell faculty and students continues to be highlighted in both temporary and permanent exhibits in the Museum of the Earth, and PRI maintains significant fossil exhibits in EAS’s campus home, Snee Hall.

PRI serves as the informal “outreach arm” of Cornell’s EAS department. In this role we develop temporary exhibits on research by EAS faculty, staff, and students for display in the Museum, manage fossil exhibits in Snee Hall on campus, design and staff the department’s tables at annual campus events for alumni and incoming freshmen, and serve as “Cornell experts” to the media on relevant topics, from the Gulf oil spill and Marcellus Shale to dinosaurs and evolution.

Each year since 2006, PRI has taken the lead in organizing Ithaca’s annual Darwin Days celebration, most of which happens on the Cornell campus with Cornell faculty and students. In February 2012 the theme was “Evolution and Climate Change,” and more than 700 people – mostly from the Cornell community – participated.

Stephen Durham is a Ph.D. student at Cornell University’s School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. Steve’s research focus is the application of geohistorical data to current problems facing biodiversity conservation, a new field known as conservation paleobiology.
DONOR SUPPORT

PRI is a national leader in Earth science research and education largely because of a community that generously supports our mission. We deeply appreciate the generosity of all our donors. Gifts and grants contributed to the Annual Fund fueled and funded vitally-important operations and restricted contributions enable specific projects to begin or continue. The following list is for donations made in FY2012 (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012).

Darwin Society ($10,000+)
John and Elaine Alexander
Anonymous
Philip and Susan Bartels
James Morin and
Myra Shulman
Don and Dolly Wilson

Devonian Society ($5,000-$9,999)
Warren Allmon and
Jennifer Tegan
Vauda Allmon
H. Allen and Jane Curran
Linda Ivany and
Bruce Wilkinson
Derek and Leora Kaufman
Rob and Maggie Mackenzie
Mack and Carol Travis
Armour Winslow

Cayuga Society ($2,500-$4,999)
Merle Adelman and
Ron Menner
Larry and Trudy Baum
Percy Browning
Shirley K. Egan
Harry and Sarah Lee
Jean F. and
Elizabeth Rowley
David and Marisue Taube

Gorges Society ($1,000-$2,499)
John Allen and
Ann Callaghan
Peter and Ursula Browning
Bruce Cochrane and
Alice Kahn
James and Lisker Cordes
Dale and Nellie Corson
Harold Craft
Verne and Lenore Durkee
Nancy P. Dutro
William R. Engles, Jr. and
Emmeline Chang
Howard and Erica Evans
Rodney M. Feldmann and
Carrie E. Schweitzer
Joanne V. Florino
Stuart Grossman
John Handley and
Kym Pecius
David Jones
Teresa E. Jordan and
Richard W. Allmendinger

Mary Kane
Erle and Claudia Kauffman
Amy McCune and
David Winkler
Jean and Daniel McPheeters
Oros Family
Edward B. Picou Jr.
John and Mary Lou Pojeta
Mel and Jane Richards
Julian C. Smith
Margaret Van Houtte
Michael and
Catherine Whalen
Eugene and Jeanne Yarusi
William Young and
Wende Logan-Young

$500-$999
Richard Allen
David and
Mary Lee Banfield
Michael and
Elizabeth Brando
Kenneth Ciriacks
Timothy Colbert and
Mary Ann Knight Colbert
Bill and Audrey Edelman
Karl Flessa
Jim and Judy Fogel
Russell Fuller
John W. Hermanson and
Lynn Swisher
Roald and Eva Hoffmann
Bryan L. Isaacks and
Marjorie Olens
Patricia H. and
Jonathan Kelley
Steven Raines and
Jennifer Liber Raines
Virginia U. Lovelace
Michael and Michele Lucas
Christopher Maples and
Sara Marcus
Paula M. Mikkelsen
Hunter and
Elizabeth Rawlings
Frank and Rosa Rhodes
Philip A. Sandberg and
Susan Brown-Sandberg
Mary Shuford
Fred C. Sibley
Dale Springer
Peter Thomas
James A. Turnbull
Geoff Wright

$250-$499
Robert Abrams
Robin Andersen and
Guy Robinson
Keith Baier and
Leslie D. Appel
Peter and Wrenzie Bardaglio
Keith Bateman and
Barbara Post
Janice Brown
Jill Burlington
Lucia Cowles
Clover Drinkwater
Robert Elias
Stephen and Natalia Emlen
J. Mark Erickson
Barbara Foote
Howard Hartnett
Bob and Joan Horn
David Kendrick and
Nan Arens
Lillian Lee
Howard and
Harriet London
Rhoda and Michael Meador
David and Kari Meyer
William and
Mary Sue Morrill
John and Carolyn Neuman
Jennifer O’Hara and
Joseph Homa
Ed and
Roberta Przybylowicz
Susanne Abrams Rebilbard
Joseph and Molly Reynolds
Dorothy Rinaldo
Amy Rocklin and
Franklin Lomax
Carolyn Sampson
David J. Schuller
David and Rebecca Schwed
Judith Smith
Constance Soja
Susanne Solomon and
Jack Thompson
Paul Steiger
George and Janet Stone
Roger D. K. Thomas
Shawn and Nancy Toffolo
Charles and
Nancy Trautmann
Charles and Jane Walcott
Karl A. Wilson
Billy Kepner and
Joseph Zappala

$100-$249
John Abel
Molly and Barry Adams
Michele and Mark Aldrich
Richard and Susan Alvord
Carolyn Anderson
Loren E. Babcock
Robert Barlow
Merry Jo Bauer
Richard Bauer
William and Nancy Bellamy
Rose Beth
Elizabeth and
Malcolm Bilson
Gary Bingham
Susan Blumenthal and
David Kreinick
Esther S. Bondareff
Arthur Boucot
Karen Bazzell
Peter Breloches
Lori and Dave Brewer
Linda Brison
Thomas and
Constance Bruce
Kenneth and Jan Bruning
Carlyn and Ed Buckler
David and Susan Campbell
Christopher and Jane Clark
Randall and Valerie Cole
Ian Connerty
Caren B. Cooper and
Gregory Sloan
David and Carolyn Conson
G. Walton and Jean Cottrell
Robert and Vanne Cowie
Kelley Cronin
Jonathan and Marnie Cryer
Mary Ellen Cummings
Ted Daeschler
Jeffrey Dean
Harry deLahunta
Louis A. Derry and
Alex Moore
Charles Dimmock
Tom and Barbara Dimmock
Frank and Barbbara DiSalvo
David and Peggy Dunlop
Richard Durst and
Antje Baemmer
Charles and
Cheryl and Daniel Engst
David Evelyn and
Jennifer Weinraub
Ralph Feldhake and
Faith Miyagi
John and Molly Fitzpatrick
David and Mary Flynn

Tim Gallagher and
Rachel Dickinson
Dana Geary
Albert George
Cole Gilbert and
Linda S. Raynor
Karen Goodman
Dan and Karen Governatti
Edward J. Grandt
Nelson and Whit Hairston
Christian and Helen Haller
William Hamlin
John Harper
Peter Harriet
Richard and Ellen Harrison
Patricia Hausgen
Robert Hert
Carmen and Sandra Hill
Diane Hillmann
John Hoffman
Elino Hoffman and Julian
Sosner
Michael and Ruth Hoosey
Donald Hoskins
Ronald Hoy and
Margaret C. Nelson
Frederick Immermann
Paula Ivany
Andre and Jean Jagendorf
Peter and Mary Katzenstein
Gilbert Klapper
Donald Kress
John and Barbara Krout
Elizabeth and Joe Lambro
Daniel and
Aubree Lancaster
Lawrence LeClair
Harry A. Leffingwell
Jason and Cynthia Leifer
Alan E. Levinson
Bruce Lieberman
Laurie Linn
Stephen Lucente
Timothy Martinson and
Joanna Lynch
William and
Shirley McIntyre
Liese Meier Swain
James Moore
Carol and John Morris
Vincent Mulcahy and
Cynthia Livermore
Teresa M. O’Neill
Mary and
William Opperman
D. Jeffrey Ove and
Jenny Leong
A generous donation from Julian Smith, Professor Emeritus in Chemical Engineering at Cornell, enabled us to curate and database his earlier-donated collection of Recent terrestrial and freshwater gastropods. The collection, which is part of the Cornell Malacology Collection (now part of PRI’s collection), contains over 200 species from over 100 localities around the world, with particular emphasis on Tompkins County including many locally rare or extinct species.
DONOR SUPPORT

J. THOMAS DUTRO JR. STUDENT AWARD IN SYSTEMATIC PALEONTOLOGY

J. Thomas “Tom” Dutro, Jr., was a paleontologist in the U.S. Geological Survey at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC and a long-time trustee of PRI who lobbied tirelessly in support of its research programs. Tom passed away in 2010 and generous donations by family, friends and colleagues in his memory allowed us to establish a scholarship fund and name our annual Student Award in Systematic Paleontology in his honor. The award supports a deserving graduate student’s expenses for thesis research.

The first named Dutro Award was presented this year to Edwin Cadena of North Carolina State University for his work on the evolution of sea turtles.
Robert Slocum
Richard Smth
Alexander and Aurora Solla
Ronald Somogyi
Linda and Norman Spear
Sam Spicer
Terry J. Starr
Scott Starratt
George Stephens
Anne Stork
Gary Stringer
Jack and
Margaret Sulanowski
Joseph Sullivan
Suzanne Summerville
Harriet Southerland
June and William Szabo
Carole Terrizzi
June and William Szabo
Carol Terrizzi
Margaret Thompson
Jenn Thompson
David Thompson
Amy Tinker
Ann Tobe
Paul Torro
Carol and Richard Toth
Lee Tutt
Kenneth and
Mary Lou Upham
Judith Van Allen
Gordon Van Hamlin
Raymond Van Houte
Chuck and
Lynelle Vandenburg
John and Susan Vander Veer
Janet Vanetten
David Varricchio
Anthony Verdi
Mark Wade
Donald Wagman
Alexander F. Wahlinc
David and Kathleen Walsh
Norma J. Walsky
John Waters
Wallace Watson
Christopher and
Beverly Way
Sam Weeks
Maya Weltman-Fahs
Ronald West
Andrea and
Winthrop Wetherbee
Chris Whitaker
Charles and Doris White
Russell and Elizabeth White
William White
Megan Whitman
Mark Whitmore
Dennis Whitney
Bruce Wiley
Vanessa Willard
Claudia and
Richard Wodzinski
Thomas and Elise Wood
Abby Yocelson
Christopher Young
Kary L. Young
Paul Zell
Francis and
Melanie Zimmer
Adopt-a-Bone
Dominican University of California Visual Art through the Lens of Big History classes, Spring 2012
Adopt-a-Tile
Bruce Cochrane and
Alice Kahn
James Turnbull
The Dutro Fund
Michele and Mark Aldrich
Arthur Boucot
Nancy P. Dutro
John and Mary Lou Pojeta
Judith Smith
Constance Soja
John Waters
Abby Yochelson
Foundations
Community Foundation of Tompkins County
The Kiplinger Foundation
Legacy Foundation of Tompkins County
Norarthco Foundation
Triad Foundation
United Way of Tompkins County
Government
Institute of Museum and Library Services
National Science Foundation
Tompkins County Tourism Program
Matching Gift Companies
Chevron Humankind
ExxonMobil
GE Foundation
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
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Adven Biosystems, Inc
Alternatives Federal Credit Union
BorgWarner Morse Tech
Cayuga Medical Center
CFCU Community Credit Union
Chemung Canal Trust Company
Corning Rotary Club
Dede Hatch Photography
Future PRLLLC
Griswold, Honey & Homes
IBM International Foundation
Kionix, Inc.
M &T Bank
Mid America Paleontology Society (MAPS)
Straight Line Performance Solutions
TCAT
Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.
In-Kind Donors
Maureen Bickley
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Jim and Judy Fogel
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Lynn Swisher
Bob and Joan Horn
Richard Kissel
Arthur Kuckes and
Martha Wright
LeChase Construction Services
Art Murphy
Rachel Phillipson
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Tops Friendly Market
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W.W. Norton & Company
The Dutro Fund
The Dutro Fund
Matching Gift Companies
Abstruse Costuming and Black Sheep Bridal
Agway
Aladdin’s Natural Eatery
Arnold Printing Corporation
Larry Baum
Mattie Baxendell
Carlyn Buckler
Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology
Cornell University
The Frame Shop
Glimmerglass Festival
John Gurche
Hangar Theatre
Hillendale Golf Course
Holiday Inn
Richard Ivany
Kitchen Theatre Company
La Tourelle Resort & Spa
Susanne Lipari
This year’s gala, An Evening of Feathered Finery, celebrated the connection between dinosaurs and feathers. We raised $21,894 which included $1,250 for camp scholarships and $1,850 for Dino Lab renovations. Guests had a fabulous feathered time!

Thank you to Elmira Savings Bank, our lead sponsor for three years, and to our other sponsors: Kionix, Inc., Ithaca Cardiology Associates, Sciarabba Walker & Co., Audrey Edelman Realty USA, GreenScene Lawn & Garden, Triphammer Wines & Spirits and Arnold Printing Corporation. Special recognition to Cornell’s Lab of Ornithology and Serendipity Catering.
## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants, contributions, and gifts</td>
<td>708,093</td>
<td>657,245</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programs</td>
<td>27,299</td>
<td>23,003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td>39,241</td>
<td>51,750</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dues and memberships</td>
<td>29,137</td>
<td>31,189</td>
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<tr>
<td>Museum admissions</td>
<td>92,187</td>
<td>90,507</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merchandise sales, net cost of goods sold on $30,394 and $28,736 respectively</td>
<td>39,780</td>
<td>36,238</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>1,149</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gain on investments</td>
<td>(593)</td>
<td>19,644</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gifts in kind</td>
<td>57,942</td>
<td>103,716</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>54,341</td>
<td>55,562</td>
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1,047,738 1,070,003

### NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS

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<td>Grants</td>
<td>744,365</td>
<td>1,320,834</td>
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<td>Specific uses</td>
<td>256,426</td>
<td>70,493</td>
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1,000,791 1,391,327

### TOTAL REVENUE, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT

2,048,529 2,461,330

### EXPENSES AND LOSSES

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<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payroll and related benefits</td>
<td>1,247,765</td>
<td>1,244,066</td>
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<td>Depreciation and amortization</td>
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<td>419,302</td>
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<td>Interest expense</td>
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<td>Professional fees</td>
<td>76,656</td>
<td>70,422</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>75,316</td>
<td>105,701</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building and maintenance</td>
<td>123,727</td>
<td>146,205</td>
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<td>Grant subcontracts</td>
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<td>394,811</td>
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<td>Publications and Printing</td>
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<td>43,106</td>
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<td>Exhibit expense</td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
<td>16,547</td>
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<td>Travel and workshops</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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2,426,139 2,650,167

### CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

(377,610) (188,837)

### TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

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<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<tr>
<td>Grants, contributions and gifts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets Released from Restrictions</td>
<td>(1,000,791)</td>
<td>(1,391,327)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets</td>
<td>(396,557)</td>
<td>(608,411)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
<td>(774,167)</td>
<td>(797,248)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets, beginning of year</td>
<td>5,268,780</td>
<td>6,066,028</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net Assets, end of year 4,494,613 5,268,780
VOLUNTEER, INTERNS, AND VOLUNTEER GROUPS

In FY2012, we had 101 volunteers, 21 interns, and varied volunteer groups give 8,814 volunteer hours and shared their knowledge, time, and spirit.

INTERNS
Kathy Bruce
Laura D’Amico
Janessa Douchette
Nick Hogancamp
Travis Johnson
Laura Komor
Margot Kopache
Rebecca Mendenz
Emily Newton
Sheila Niedziela
Sarah Oros
Lauren O’Rourke
Rebecca Payne
Sarah Rosemarino
Vanessa Smalletz
Sarah Stapperfenne
Sally Vann
Erica Weissend
Jackie Wild
Nick Wilken
Xiaohua Yang

VOlUNTEERS
Alex Aguilar
Elizabeth Altier
Maria Altier
Jacob Baker
Augusta Bargeron
Jerry Benjamin
Maureen Bickley
Steve Blackburn
Robert Bourdeau
Janice Brown
Al Burhardt
Peg Burlew
Dick Burlew
Nicholas Cancalos-Dean
Maija Cantori
Abigail Cassel
Pat Charwat
Charly Culberson
Amy Cusano
John Cusano
Paula Cusano
Laetitia De Freslon
Sheila Dean
Barbara Dimock
Lenore Durkee
Kayla Erickson
Eniko Farkas
Faheem Fazili
Mark Finnigan
Dean Gamache
Philip Garrett
Walter Gates
Ron George
Melissa Harbert
Elisabeth Harrod
Will Harrod
Kelly Hendrickson
Viola Jones
Sara Jones
Colleen Keifer
Kelly Kennard
Natalie Kirkwynland
Mandy Klaben
Bill Klose
Frank Kozlowski
David Krzesni
William LaPerch
James Leet
Curt Lindy
Zachery Long
Justine Lynge
Mike Marano
Daniel Marden
Kelly Martin
Russell Martin
Jean Matthiessen
Phyllis McNeill
Christopher Miles
Jon Miller
Frank Moore
Elizabeth Napper
Natasha Niro
Sarah Nixon
Kate O’Neal
Sasha Paris
Tessa Parrish
Angela Patterson
Eric Poysa
Rachel Protter
Jessica Rivait
Cecilia Roche
Kelly Rowland
Sophie Ruff
Nevin Sabet
Sarah Schneider
Shanna Shaked
Phoebe Shalloway
Kevin Shao
Toko Shimizu
Steven Sholes
Jamila Simon
Aurora Solia
Julie Stallone
Jason Stanley
Terry Starr
Sam Weeks
Anita Welych
Martin Welych-Flanagan
Molly Westbrook
Cathy Whalen
Don Wilson
Matt Wysocki
Hilary Yu
Rose Zabel

VOlUNTEER GROUPS
Broome Developmental Disabilities Service Volunteers
Cornell University Alpha Phi Omega
Ithaca College MLK Day of Service
Ithaca College Service Saturday
POST Volunteers

Edited by
Elizabeth Brando and Stefanie Altman Mercado
Design by
Katz Graphics
Photos by
Sarah Oros, Brett Pikarsky, Simon Wheeler and staff
Paleontological Research Institution is affiliated with Cornell University

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MuseumoftheEarth.org

PRI volunteer Mike Marano delicately prepares 150-million-year-old vertebrae of Apatosaurus in the Museum’s Prep Lab.