

NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTION: HARVESTING AND BARCODING

COURSE DETAILS

DATE: 29 & 30 January 2020

COURSE ORGANIZERS: Jeremy DeWaard (UoG) & Michelle van der Bank (UJ)

COURSE PRESENTERS: Jeremy DeWaard (UoG), Pete Hollingsworth (RBGE), Ronny Kabongo (UJ), Stephanie DeWaard (UoG) & Michelle van der Bank (UJ)

COURSE SPONSORS: The Workshop is funded by a grant awarded through the Foundational Biodiversity Information Programme (FBIP), a joint initiative of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), the National Research Foundation (NRF) and the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)

Maximum participants: 30

Natural history collections represent an incredibly rich resource of samples for DNA barcode library building, yet many challenges preclude efficient sampling of these collections including permit requirements, sample selection and DNA quality. The workshop will focus on the factors influencing the organisation, sampling, and sequence recovery of DNA barcodes from preserved specimens, and how new laboratory protocols can increase recovery rates (including the use of new sequencing platforms).

The first day will provide an overview of current workflows for planning museum sampling trips, sample selection, digitisation, data management, and pre-processing of samples for DNA barcode analysis. The second day will focus on molecular protocols adopted specifically for museum specimen DNA barcoding, novel solutions for analysing specimens with degraded DNA, as well as sequence data validation and publication.

Registration for the workshop is free. Local flight and accommodation costs will be covered for 30 participants. However due to space limitations, prospective participants are kindly asked to send a PDF document of one page maximum including any information indicating their current involvement in museum/herbarium collections (i.e. curation, digitising) and DNA barcoding. This document will assist the organisers to select the 30 participants.

Apply at: <https://tinyurl.com/ACDBLab>

Queries: johandrevr@uj.ac.za

Deadline: **15 November 2019**

