



SSS-News #35

July 2018

1) Natural History Collections Day: 17 November 2018

The national day on collections begins to take shape with already 20 participating institutions.

Check the [map](#) of the participants on our website!

The open-door day will propose mostly visits of the scientific collections, but one can also plan conferences on the role of collections, or presentations of the latest new species, for instance. The main idea is to increase the awareness on the hidden side of collections and on their associated research.

A logo in three languages is available for all communications on this event. The booklet explaining the importance of collections will be ready this summer and a stack will be sent to all participants.

It is still possible to participate by proposing an activity related to collections on that day. You can contact the SSS board at swissystematics@yahoo.com for more information.



2) ScNat and collections

A year ago, the Swiss Academy of Science (ScNat) launched a review on Swiss scientific collections. The goal of the ScNat is to develop a national strategy to preserve, revise and enhance natural history collections in Switzerland. A symposium was organized in December 2017, followed by a workshop in March 2018. The coordinating group (that includes the SSS) has had several meetings during which we discussed the strategy for securing funds at a national scale, but also for including this project within the pan-European Research Infrastructure [DISSCo](#) that has just been accepted on the ESFRI roadmap. Further information regarding this project will be posted on the ScNat's [Biology Platform](#) page.

3) SSS-Day in Bern: 8-9 November 2018

This year's annual meeting of the Society will be organized during two days with the Natural History Museum of Bern. The first day will include a workshop on fungi instructed by [Beatrice Senn-Irlet](#), with fieldwork in the morning and hands-on on fungi systematics and identification in the afternoon. The use of barcoding in the study of Fungi will also be discussed, and the day will end with the SwissBOL annual meeting.



Our invited speakers for the second day will be [Peter Linder](#) (Uni Zurich) and [Loïc Costeur](#) (Naturhistorisches Museum Basel). As usual, we'll also have regular talks and the SSS general assembly. Registration will start in late September.

4) Student awards

This year's Student Travel Grant was awarded to Luiz Jardim de Queiroz (UniGe) - congratulations! Luiz will present his work at the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (JMIH), which will take place in Rochester NY, USA, in July.

Master thesis Prize: Deadline to submit the thesis is **July 31st**. Instructions can be found on the [SSS website](#).



5) Evolution meeting

The second joint congress on evolutionary biology, called simply „Evolution 2018“, will take place in Montpellier on August 19 – 22. Among the four inviting societies is the Society of Systematic Biologists (SSB). Some of the 78 symposia are focused exclusively on topics from the field of systematics, such as phylogenomics, phylogenetic comparative methods, and the integration of fossils in phylogenetic studies. One symposium reports on systematics research and its impact in Africa, and the SSB organizes the Ernst Mayr Award Symposium, where the SSB's premier student award is given to the most outstanding student presentation. Several members of the SSS will attend Evolution 2018, and we look forward to hearing their impressions from the conference.



Foreya maxkuhni, the SSS species of the year, is on display at the Natural History Museum of the Grisons at Chur.

[New Species Swiss Made](#): 20 species so far (8 at the same time in 2017)

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