2016 Consolidated EAB Recommendations

This document represents a consolidation of the recommendations to iDigBio from the External Advisory Board based on the following documents:

- 2016 Report of the iDigBio External Advisory Board (11/28/2016)
- Response to the 2016 Report of the iDigBio External Advisory Board (3/10/2017)
- The iDigBio External Advisory Board Recommendations for 2017 (8/11/2017)

DATA USE

1. Accurately quantify data use
   - Targeted suite of metrics that are comparable with GBIF
       i. Monthly data to show trends in data use
       ii. Incremental tends are more useful than cumulative trends
       iii. Ratio of records in search results to records in downloads (or records viewed)
       iv. Events vs. records in searched and downloads
       v. Mobilization of data over time
       vi. Number of species represented in the mobilized data over time
       vii. Temporal distribution of records
   - Distinguish between dataset-specific metrics and portal-wide metrics
   - Quantify the impact of events on data trends (e.g., WeDigBio)
   - List of peer-reviewed articles that utilize the data
   - Quantify usage in other portals of data that originated in iDigBio
   - Display publication metrics
2. Expand data use by nontraditional users
   - Prioritize use of data generated by TCNs
   - Produce commentary or review publications
   - Give seminars at universities with programs in disciplines needing engagement
   - Expanded reach of newsletter and social media
   - Explore ways to stimulate/fund the creation of a suite of tools that facilitate research and/or make data/research more publicly known

SUSTAINABILITY

1. Promote broad use of data across variety of disciplines
   - Diversify the user community
   - Google Analytics (excluding iDigBio and bots)
       i. Unique visitors, sessions, and page views per month (size of user community)
       ii. Geographical location of users

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA   FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY 1851   FLORIDA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY   NSF

        iii. Institutional affiliation of users

        iv. New vs. repeat users (usefulness to user community)

- Identify user communities that most value iDigBio's data, tools, and expertise
  - i. Quantify data use in different scientific fields
  - ii. Survey on portal page

2. Define iDigBio's distinct, future role within the global biodiversity ecosystem
   - Unique elements of iDigBio cyberinfrastructure that should be preserved

3. Consider all four core areas in sustainability planning: engaging the collections community, digitization, database/informatics, and research/education
   - Identify quantifiable/measureable metrics to assess progress in each area
   - Current/future needs assessment in each area
   - Develop better metrics to assess digitization progress
     - i. Number of specimens vs. quantity digitized
     - ii. Number of data providers vs. quantity digitized
     - iii. Number of institutions vs. quantity digitized
     - iv. Number of collections vs. quantity digitized
     - v. Digitization progress across taxonomic groups
   - Targets for data mobilization in each remaining funding year
   - Translate the existing sustainability plan into a robust plan of action
     - i. Rough conceptual budget for years 2021-2026
       1. Costs and revenue broken out by each major activity
       2. Timeline of tasks