



# Organizing, implementing and utilizing a digitized small herbarium: Plans for an iDigBio Visiting Scholar Fellowship.

Anna Monfils  
CMC Herbarium  
Central Michigan University



# Focused Efforts

- Advance digitization efforts at CMC
- Workshop to expand digitization efforts for small collections in MI
- Interactive web based educational module on specimen databases



# CMC Herbarium

<http://cmcherbarium.bio.cmich.edu/>



CMC HERBARIUM  
Central Michigan University

[General Information](#)

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[Herbarium Procedures](#)

[Research](#)

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Welcome to the Central Michigan University Herbarium Website!

The Central Michigan University Herbarium (CMC) strives to integrate research and education, providing centralized botanical resources, research facilities, and educational opportunities to the University and broader scientific community.



This web page is part of an ongoing collaboration between The CMC Herbarium Director and CMU Assistant Professor, Anna Monfils, and CMU Graphic Design Assistant Professor Larry Burditt. This webpage was designed by the students in the Fall 2007 ART 335 Design Bureau.

Herbarium | Biology Department | College of Science & Technology | Central Michigan University

# Digitization at CMC

- Significant Institutional Support
  - Administrative
  - Financial
  - Information technology
  - Electronic/Construction technician

*Silver*  
**BIOLOGY**

Biodiversity Informatics Consulting & Solutions

- *Michigan Flora and Voss database*



# Digitization Challenges

- Pre-digitization curation
  - Consolidating, evaluating and repairing
  - Organizing
  - Annotating
  - Folder labeling
- Optimizing workflow
- Space limitations

# “Organization never disappoints”

Kate Gosselin



# Digitization Progress

<http://cmc-herbarium.blogspot.com>

## CMC Herbarium - Central Michigan University

TUESDAY, JULY 3, 2012

### Week 1: Arrival and Exploration

Hey guys,

My name is Taylor. I am the newest graduate student to start in the Monfils Lab. I have been given the pleasure of helping Emilee and Dr. Monfils digitize and re-organize the Central Michigan Herbarium.

The first task I was given was to address workflow issues by re-organizing the herbarium for digitization. The following pictures will serve as our "before" shots.



### BLOG ARCHIVE

- ▼ 2012 (7)
- ▼ July (1)
- Week 1: Arrival and Exploration
- ▶ June (2)
- ▶ May (4)

### CONTRIBUTORS

-  CMC Herbarium Team
-  Taylor Lowrey

# Herbarium Digitization Workshop

<http://micob.org/>



The banner features a background of tall grasses. On the left, there are three small inset images: a bird in flight, a purple and white orchid, and a row of yellow flowers. The main text is in red and black. The title 'MICHIGAN CONSORTIUM of BOTANISTS' is in large red letters. Below it, 'About Us' is in black. A list of topics includes 'Rare Plant Research', 'Michigan Herbaria', 'Michigan Botanists', 'Discussion Groups', and 'Resources & Links'. A 'Welcome' section with a 'Mission Statement' is in a white box. At the bottom, contact information for Anna Merella is provided.

## MICHIGAN CONSORTIUM of BOTANISTS

About Us

- Rare Plant Research
- Michigan Herbaria
- Michigan Botanists
- Discussion Groups
- Resources & Links

**Welcome.**

**Mission Statement:**

The Michigan Consortium of Botanists is a state-wide community of botanical professionals dedicated to advancing the study of Michigan's flora by providing a centralized platform for facilitating communication, and sharing resources, research, and expertise in plant biology.

Contact person: Anna Merella, 181 Brooks Hall, Central Michigan University, Mt Pleasant, Michigan 48859 Phone: 989/774-3482 [merella@cmu.edu](mailto:merella@cmu.edu)



# Educational Module – Specimen Databases

Students will be able to...

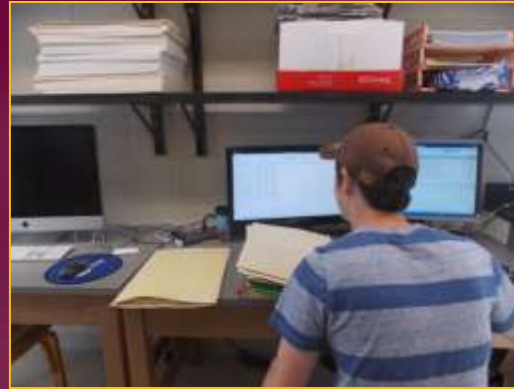
Goal I: Describe raw data available in physical natural history museums and on-line databases

Goal II: Compare and contrast types of information obtained from physical and online sources.

Goal III: Extract data from on-line databases and convert into meaningful information

Goal IV: Apply information to a key issue related to scientific discovery, biology and the living world

Goal V: Appreciate the value of natural history collections in creating useful understanding of the world around us.



“If you give people tools and they use their natural ability and their curiosity, they will develop things in ways that will surprise you very much beyond what you might have expected.”

Bill Gates