

# Finding Funding for Specimen Digitization

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# CCBER Background

- CCBER is de facto natural history “museum” on campus
- Unit in the Office of Research
- 1 part time Vertebrate Collection Manager until 2010
- 2 semi-active faculty curators (algae, herpetology)
- Various grant-funded student assistants and interns
- ~200,000 specimens

# Pre-Grant Planning

- Created 5 year strategic plan in 2006
- Applied for Museum Assessment Program (MAP) grant first with Collections Stewardship emphasis
  - Collections staff completed a self-study
  - Received site visit and report from a peer reviewer
  - Utilized recommendations in report in subsequent grants

## *Vertebrate Collections Management Project*

- 2 year project (2011-2013)
- 31,000 herpetological, ornithological, and mammalian specimens
- Catalogued and databased
- Hired Curatorial Assistant
- Vertebrate Curatorial Internship
- Fluid replacement in jars
- Collections uploaded to VertNet and GBIF



## Digitization of the UCSB Vascular Plant Collection

- 1-year project (2013-2014)
- California specimens only
- 71,600 herbarium sheet images
- Data entry of 57,300 specimens
- Hired a project manager and imaging technician
- Herbarium Curatorial Internship
- Collections uploaded to Consortium of Calif. Herbaria



# Successful Strategies

- Projects closely aligned with strategic plan.
- Focused on one collection area at a time.
- Used best practices and successful workflows as models.
- Received increased institutional support over time.
- Collaborate with other depts./institutions on grant projects