

NatSCA Conference & AGM 2024

**SAVE THE DATE** & **CALLFOR PAPERS**

The Annual Conference & AGM of the Natural Sciences Collections Association will be held on **Thursday 18th and Friday 19th April 2024** in the Oxford University Museum of Natural History. The first day will include the AGM, presentations, and lightning talks. The second day will include presentations in the morning, followed by gallery and collection tours in the afternoon.

**Trials and Triumphs: sharing practice across the museum sector**

**The #NatSCA2024 conference invites proposals** for presentations on a broad range of themes. We seek ideas from the natural history collections community, educators, collaborators, and beyond. We are interested in practical lessons, unique solutions, new collaborations, and to show what has and hasn’t worked with projects. We are looking for presentations that touch on every aspect of museum operations, including audience engagement, collections management practices, changing laws, social justice, restitution and decolonisation, environmental issues, global challenges, research and academic engagement.

This practical conference aims to celebrate triumphs and amplify successes in museums, but also highlight the pitfalls and lessons learned from situations that didn’t go as planned. We will prioritise papers that focus on sharing ideas, tools, and guidance rather than simply reporting results. We want to make this conference practical and useful, so please try to reflect this in your abstract.

While we have a focus on natural science collections, we recognise that we can learn from others in the wider museum sector, and we welcome submissions from anyone who wishes to share techniques and ideas with broader relevance and application.

Papers can be presented in any of several formats: A 20-minute presentation (consisting of a 15-minute talk followed by 5 minutes of Q&A) or a 5-minute lightning talk. Talks (both lightning and longer) can be presented in person or by submission of a pre-recorded presentation, with the option of an in-person or live stream Q&A (via Zoom).

**Deadline for submission: 5pm GMT Friday 19th January**

Please send the attached form to: conference@natsca.org

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**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**Name:**

**Organisation:**

**Contact details:**

**Social media** (only add if you are willing for these details to be shared):

**Presentation Format (select as appropriate):**20 MinutePresentation (In-Person / Pre-Recorded)
5 Minute Lighting Talk (In-Person / Pre-Recorded)

**Title:**

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| --- |
| **Abstract (200 - 300 words):** |

For in-person presentations, the conference fee for the day of your talk will be waived. You may claim travel and accommodation expenses of up to £150 following submission of a write-up of your paper to either the NatSCA Blog, the *Journal of Natural Science Collections* or *NatSCA Notes & Comments*, as appropriate. You must also present receipts to the Treasurer. Both the paper and the receipts must be submitted by 31st July 2024.

For co–delivered talks only one speaker is eligible for the free place at the conference and expenses reimbursement.

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