

Talk: Digitisation of Natural History Collections in Denmark - State of affairs and plans for the future

Speaker: Professor Kim Steenstrup Pedersen

Head and Curator of Digital Collections, NHMD & GBIF Head of delegation for Denmark

Abstract:

In this talk, I will present how we structure and coordinate our efforts to digitise the estimated 19 mio. specimens in all natural history collections in Denmark. These efforts consists mainly of DaSSCo - Danish System of Scientific Collections, the DanSpecify consortium (<https://www.specifysoftware.org/members/>), and DanBIF - the Danish node of GBIF (<https://danbif.dk/>). DaSSCo is a newly established national research infrastructure which will be the Danish contribution to the European DiSSCo research infrastructure (<https://www.dissco.eu/>). DaSSCo builds on top of the shared Specify collections management system that DanSpecify provides. DaSSCo will build lab facilities for mass digitisation of the collections and the necessary IT infrastructure for collecting, storing, and sharing digital specimen data. I will provide some insight into what our current plans are for this and also give some examples of the kind of AI research that can be carried out on the data DaSSCo will produce.