

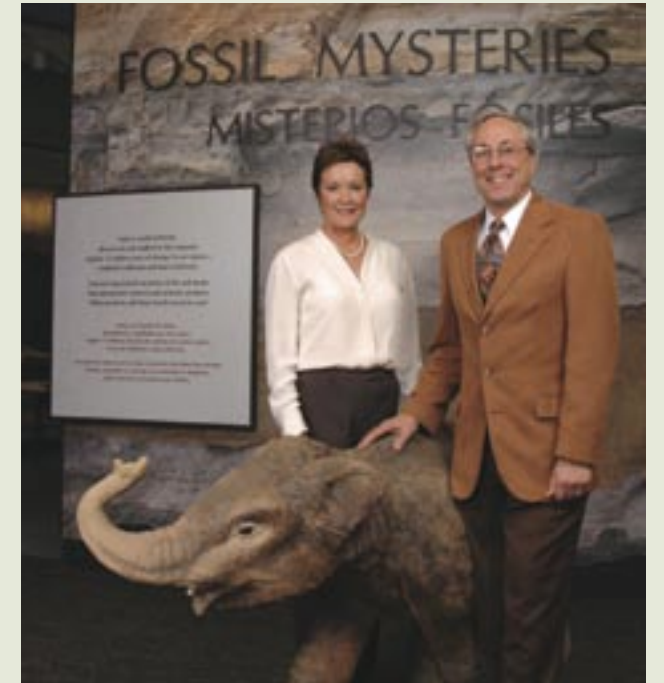


SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
Annual Report 2005–2006



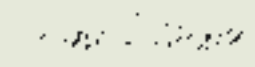
Welcome to the San Diego Natural History Museum 2005–2006 Annual Report. This year we take you through the exciting, exhausting year that culminated in the opening of *Fossil Mysteries*, the first permanent exhibition installed since the new building was completed in 2001. Every member of the Museum’s staff and hundreds of volunteers lived through the dust, noise and anxiety of construction. It was all worth it when *Fossil Mysteries* opened to rave reviews July 1, 2006. In the days leading up to the opening we celebrated with our own families, the artists, construction workers, donors, member families and civic leaders who teamed with us to create this extraordinary exhibition for San Diego.

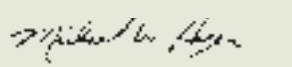
As all consuming as *Fossil Mysteries* seemed to be, it was not the only major project at the Museum during 2005–06. It also was a year of major planning and preparation. The *Dead Sea Scrolls* exhibition will not open until June 29, 2007, but the preparations were a major theme of the year just past. The physical plant is currently undergoing heating, air conditioning and security systems upgrades that were designed during 2005–06. The new timed-ticketing system, Patron’s Edge, has been in the works for a number of months under the watchful eye of a cross-divisional team from accounting, membership, education, visitor services, information systems and the web team. These significant upgrades position the Museum to welcome an unprecedented number of visitors in 2007 and to add an impressive list of future major exhibitions.



Please take the time to look over the section of updates on the Biodiversity Research Center of the Californias. The productivity of the Museum’s research scientists under the leadership of Dr. Exequiel Ezcurra will remind you that research continues to be one of the primary foci of the Museum’s mission. Similarly, in the midst of all this activity, the Public Programs Division offered a rich mix of lectures, classes, trips and camps, enticing people of all ages into rewarding science education activities. We also added a new volunteer group, the Whalers, who took their knowledge out onto the high seas.

And finally, we would be remiss if we did not point out the generosity of the Museum’s many friends and supporters. A significant portion of our development efforts were focused on matching the extraordinary California Cultural and Historic Endowment grant of \$2.88 million for *Fossil Mysteries*. We also saw a real increase in annual giving, new President’s Circle members and the addition of a new endowment in Botany. Many thanks.


Eleanor Navarra
President
SDNHM Board of Trustees


Michael W. Hager, Ph.D.
Executive Director

What do 25 years of specimen collection,
four years of research and development,
the input of 100 scientists and a dozen
focus groups, and thousands of hours
of labor look like in 10,000 square feet?



View of the Sefton Cretaceous Environment at the entrance of the Stephen and Mary Birch Hall of Paleontology.

At summer's close, over 80,000 people had discovered the answer in *Fossil Mysteries*.

Since the opening of *Fossil Mysteries*, the San Diego Natural History Museum has experienced record membership and attendance—and with good reason. Mitchell Johnson, a lead Visitor Services Associate, says, “Lately, it’s hard to close up the Museum! Kids cry on their way out of *Fossil Mysteries*; they just want to stay.”

“Hooking” a gigantic shark not seen for millions of years in San Diego, fixing broken fossils magically (almost) in two days, orchestrating a ballet (of sorts) around a whale skeleton, choreographing fundraising strategies, and balancing specimens and interpretation describe just some of the activity behind the scenes at the San Diego Natural History Museum as the new exhibition *Fossil Mysteries* took shape on the second floor.

In an unprecedented five-event opening week, the Museum kicked off this new chapter in the life of the 132-year-old San Diego Society of Natural History. *Fossil Mysteries* is truly a milestone for this flagship institution. It was a long time coming and now the story can be told.



The foundation of this exhibition lies in the regional expertise of the Museum research staff. Congruent with the Museum's regional mission, the Paleontology Department collects and researches specimens in southern and Baja California. *Fossil Mysteries* is the expression of the last 25 years of specimen collection, often from salvage work in construction zones. As San Diego went through a boom in growth, the knowledge of this region's prehistoric past also boomed.

As the only San Diego-based consulting group specializing in the collection, salvage, preparation, and curation of paleontological resources in San Diego, the Museum's PaleoServices Department has been on the forefront of discovery. Virtually every fossil specimen in *Fossil Mysteries*—plant and animal—was found in this bioregion.

The Museum's paleontological research dovetailed into permanent

exhibition discussions and focus groups. Nancy Owens Renner, exhibit developer, explained how the exhibition concept developed. "We've been testing ideas ever since we started talking about building a permanent exhibition for the new building in 2001.

"In fact, we first tested topic ideas with the public—we want our exhibitions to speak to the public's needs and be relevant. Answers like: 'this Museum is the only source for prehistoric information;' and 'knowledge of the area's deep history informs what we know about the region today,' kept cropping up. That's when we decided to go forward with *Fossil Mysteries* as the first phase of our permanent exhibitions plan."

Fossil Mysteries, a look back in time at our region's prehistoric era, is

asked about synthesizing the science and art of exhibitions, said, "It's been a struggle, actually, but maybe that's the way it should be—dynamic interaction is good."

In addition to internal collaboration, the Museum sought input from scientists all over the world. "Our fellow researchers were exceptionally generous with our Museum. Their support and interest in our project are a wonderful reminder that this institution participates in a global community committed to natural history research and education," commented Content Specialist Lynett Gillette.

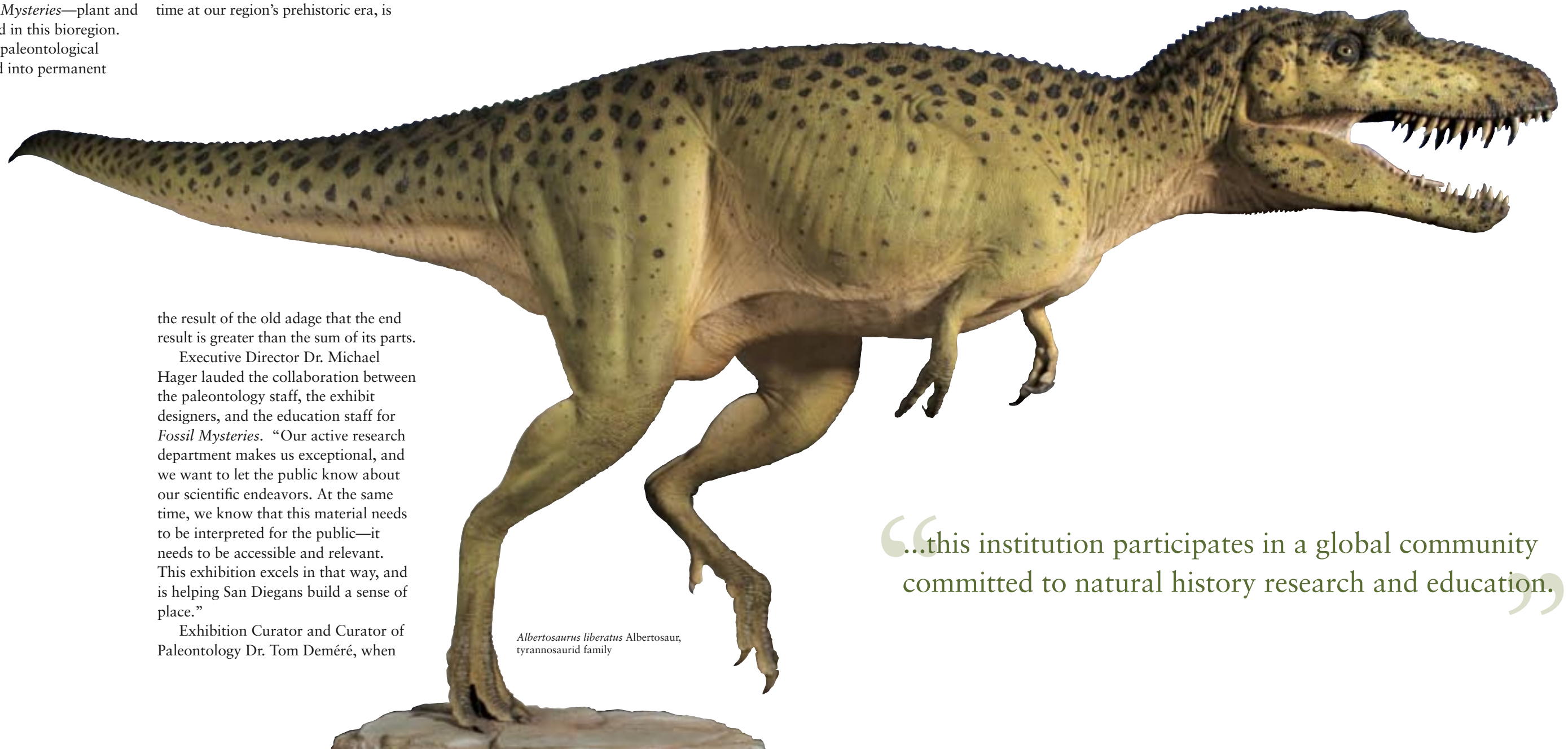
The team dove into the preparations, but the challenge of

creating an exhibition is vast. Deputy Director of Public Programs Jim Stone sums up the amount of work involved in terms of man hours. "An incredible number of staff hours went into the building of *Fossil Mysteries*—probably in excess of 40,000 hours. That doesn't include the work of outside artists and contractors."

Tim Murray, director of exhibits, remarked, "With over three dozen contractors, subcontractors and other 'hired guns' (specialists of some sort) all with various needs and requirements, the challenge was making sure that all the players had the latest, most accurate information so that they could do their jobs.



Exhibit crew moving whale skull into place.



the result of the old adage that the end result is greater than the sum of its parts.

Executive Director Dr. Michael Hager lauded the collaboration between the paleontology staff, the exhibit designers, and the education staff for *Fossil Mysteries*. "Our active research department makes us exceptional, and we want to let the public know about our scientific endeavors. At the same time, we know that this material needs to be interpreted for the public—it needs to be accessible and relevant. This exhibition excels in that way, and is helping San Diegans build a sense of place."

Exhibition Curator and Curator of Paleontology Dr. Tom Deméré, when

Albertosaurus liberatus Albertosaur,
tyrannosaurid family

“...this institution participates in a global community committed to natural history research and education.”



Allodesmus sp., extinct seal-like mammal

“Installing an exhibition involves many highly sequential tasks. As an example, in the Pliocene section, the whale skull had to be installed after the mural behind it was installed, but before the glass was installed. All of these sequential events involved different contractors, vendors, and staff that all needed to be coordinated and supplied with constantly changing information for a successful installation.”

Though the casual visitor may not realize it, each label, font, illustration and color has been carefully crafted. From the height of a text panel (accessible to children and people in wheelchairs, but not so low as to require stooping) to the layout of the walls (open yet directional), hours of research and thought have resulted in an exhibition that is experiential: the visitor’s senses are heightened the moment they cross the threshold.

If science formed the foundation, then art is the great communicator in *Fossil Mysteries*. From the giant murals, to the text panel illustrations,

to the dioramas, art acts as science’s interpreter. Jim Melli, Museum artist and exhibits preparator, digested scientific information and created all the models in the exhibition—from a pint-sized primate to *Albertosaurus*—and the Eocene diorama.

Muralist William Stout reflected on the nature of murals in exhibitions: “Murals are one of scientists’ conduits to the public. Artists can transform difficult scientific concepts into easy-to-grasp visuals for the public. This in turn creates public education, understanding and support for science.”

Much of the art is hands-on: “There are a lot of touchable objects in *Fossil Mysteries*,” said Michael Field, exhibit designer. “If a picture is worth a thousand words, a touchable object is worth 10,000.”

The last year of installation was not without drama: Jim Stone recalled that one of the most nerve-racking episodes involved fossils, including the horse and *Protoreodon*, that were badly damaged being shipped back to the Museum. “It was very disheartening. They just weren’t packed right. The armatures, which hold the fossils,

were okay, but the fossils were in what seemed like a million pieces in the bottom of the box. And we only had two days until the opening.

“So we called on Maggie Hart and Don Jeffrey, fossil preparators, to help. Two days later the fossils were on display as if nothing happened! It was almost miraculous.”

Nearby, *Carcharodon megalodon*—a gigantic extinct “megatooth” shark—swims through the air over the atrium. At 34’ long, it is the actual size of a subadult female—a third smaller than an adult male megalodon. Why did the Museum decide to exhibit a subadult, rather than a more impressive adult?

“We had a complete set of teeth for a subadult megalodon—this is extremely rare. Usually shark teeth are found scattered about because they shed so frequently. In addition, we knew that the shark could only be so wide—it had to fit through the Museum’s doors. We built a scale model to test our dimensions,” explained Michael Field, as he demonstrated this process with his hands.

“Originally the plan was to bring the entire body of the shark into the atrium to hang it. In the end we basically cut it into ‘steaks’ and brought it in on the freight elevator and reassembled it as it was hung.”

As the project accelerated, so did community support. This is

exceptionally evident in *Fossil Mysteries* dollars and column inches. The \$8 million exhibition was completely funded, and it has been the best publicized event in Museum history.

A team of a dozen staff from four departments created the Museum’s application for the California Cultural Heritage Endowment (CCHE)—funds for cultural institutions made available by Proposition 40. CCHE funded a significant portion of *Fossil Mysteries*. (For complete funding information, see pages 18–19).

Elizabeth Castillo, director of foundation relations, states, “Working on the CCHE grant application was a labor of love. Our team spent over 200 hours putting together the highest quality application possible. It was tremendously rewarding to learn that out of the 276 funding applications submitted to CCHE, *Fossil Mysteries* was selected as one of only 30 grant recipients in the first round, receiving one of the largest awards (\$2.88 million). It was also marvelous to see

the project get such excellent statewide visibility through this grant award.”

Deputy Director, Development, Elizabeth Schiff reported “donors were enthusiastic about the exhibition’s visual richness and eager to see their funding used to share the history of our region with Museum visitors now and for years to come.”

When asked about the publicity for the exhibition, Delle Willett, director of marketing and public relations, smiles and says, “We have had a phenomenal response from the media. For example, we hosted a behind-the-scenes tour

for science writers, and nearly every writer who came did a feature story on *Fossil Mysteries*. We garnered some national coverage as well, and the press clippings are still coming in!”

The exhibition’s concepts are explored in more depth on the Museum’s website, advancing science education both for the classroom (curriculum ties to California Content Standards) and the visitor who simply wants to learn more. Public programs—including lectures, field expeditions, teacher guides and workshops—are planned. (See more

Carcharodon megalodon, extinct “megatooth” shark





“This exhibition will change science education in San Diego forever.”

about education endeavors on page 12.) “This exhibition will change science education in San Diego forever,” states Jim Stone.

Also in line with the Museum’s binational mission and collections, *Fossil Mysteries* is completely bilingual.

This collaboration between artists, educators and scientists has yielded an extraordinary result.

Nancy Owens Renner, wearing her audience-research hat, described the public response to the exhibition so far. “There are all the signs of a well-used exhibition. The stay-time has increased dramatically; the quality of engagement

is high. The depth of physical and social interaction between family members is very good.

“The child and family elements are a big hit. We knew they would be because we tested prototypes of major components. We put one sample out on the floor where visitors could turn a crank to see how subduction of the seafloor happens. But it didn’t click; people didn’t get it. So we decided to use another method to demonstrate the phenomenon,” she continued.

Is the exhibition finished? Jim Stone answered, “Actually it’s not finished; it just entered another phase of its life.” The Museum will continue to monitor exhibition participation in order to update and improve the *Fossil Mysteries* experience.

Tim Murray added, “In fact, there are a couple of specimens we’re still waiting for. One fan following the development of the exhibition via our website sent us an e-mail saying they loved it, but where is the walrus?”

And Tom Deméré expects exciting new fossil finds to work their way into the exhibition as discoveries continue to be made.

Did the Museum take a break after *Fossil Mysteries* opened?

Actually, the Museum is already working on their next big project. In June 2007, *Dead Sea Scrolls* opens.

Habitat Journey (working title) will be the next major permanent exhibition the group works on. But before that, the same creative team that brought you *Fossil Mysteries* will most likely be completing exhibits on the third floor mezzanine that will highlight the research that is being done both in the field and in the third-floor science labs: a metaphorical “window” into the research carried out by the Museum’s Biodiversity Research Center of the Californias.



Education

As a resource for lifelong learning, the Museum’s Environmental Science Education Center continues to connect with audiences of all ages.

Some of our youngest nature lovers start out with *Nature, Mommy and Me*, a story time offered the second Thursday of every month in the exhibition galleries. This free program serves as a wonderful introduction to an average of 30 young children and parents each month. Teens have



found a new outlet to connect with the natural world through our *Beautified Nature Walks*, a program that utilizes the Museum’s Canyoneers to educate students while removing litter from nearby Florida Canyon.

On the other end of the spectrum, the Museum partnered with the University of California, San Diego, to offer *Grey Matters*, a lecture series that focused on San Diego’s leading neuroscientists and their research on the human brain. The five-part lecture series was a phenomenal success, attracting more than 2000 people. Expeditions, classes and workshops continue to serve myriad nature enthusiasts and underscore the biodiversity of our region. Students and teachers continue to

find the Museum to be an invaluable education resource. With the opening of *Fossil Mysteries*, we anticipate even more field trips so that schools can take advantage of the exhibition’s tie-in with California Content Standards. Our School in the Park program introduced more than 400 4th and 5th graders from Rosa Parks Elementary School to geology and climate during a total of 27 week-long sessions in the Smargon Learning Lab. Due to its great success, the program is slated to nearly double in size for the 2006–2007 school year.

Proyecto Bio-regional de Educación Ambiental (PROBEA), the Museum’s binational education program that builds capacity for environmental education south of the border, experienced yet another year of growth, progress and success. One highlight of the year was the development and implementation of a fully integrated Tijuana watershed education project that includes a video presentation, printed curriculum, an award-winning CD-ROM with a variety of resources and activities and teacher training workshops. Another major accomplishment was Ecoparque 3000, a project that brought 3500 students from Tijuana’s marginal communities to the water treatment facility that serves as a park to promote environmental stewardship.

The Museum also continues to play an important role in the community in the wake of the wildfires of 2003. A grant was made by the Joint Fire Science group to the Museum for the development of a program for business professionals that will help reduce losses in the urban-wildlands interface. A series of workshops is being planned for spring 2007 with fire officials, community planners, architects, landscapers, realtors and insurance companies to focus on this critical issue.



Volunteers

The San Diego Society of Natural History was established in 1874 by early San Diego nature enthusiasts—the Museum’s first volunteers. The association they formed was an expansion of their individual desires to study nature and share their knowledge with others. In the Society’s current efforts, dedicated volunteers, Museum staff, and research associates continue their work and support the goals of these founders whose vision 132 years before saw a bright future for San Diego.

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Adeline Black, (1925–2006), worked as a volunteer at the Museum since 1981, dedicating more than 11,000 hours of her time volunteering as a Canyoneer and an assistant in the Education Department.

Research

This year was one of continued international recognition for Dr. Exequiel Ezcurra, Provost and Director of the Biodiversity Research Center for the Californias. Dr. Ezcurra was awarded a Pew Fellowship, which provides \$150,000 for his continued work with conserving the Sea of Cortés. These funds will support research in the region over the next three years. In addition, he was chosen by the United Nations to be the editor for the publication, *Global Deserts Outlook*, published in June 2006. This book presents the latest data on the state of the world’s deserts and highlights the designation of 2006 as the “Year of the Desert.” Finally, through the Museum’s compelling giant-screen film Ocean Oasis, research conducted under the auspices of the San Diego Natural History Museum, and Dr. Ezcurra’s critical efforts over the past years, Mexico’s Gulf of California, including 244 islands and coastal areas, was designated by UNESCO as a World Heritage site.

The Department of Herpetology, under the direction of Dr. Brad Hollingsworth, is nearing the completion of two major collection-based projects. The first is to re-house the fluid-preserved collection, which contains the bulk of the 72,000 specimens in the department. This will ease accessibility to the collection and ensure its long-term preservation. The second project is HerpNet, a collaborative effort by natural history museums to establish a global network of mapped-species distribution data. Data is being converted from descriptive localities to geocoordinates and can be searched by selecting geographical places. The department also welcomed Angelo Soto-Centeno as Collections Manager. He oversees the use of the collection and manages volunteer projects.

The San Diego County Plant Atlas project, funded in part by the National Science Foundation, continues to add to our list of plants in the county, reaching a total of 22,000 specimens collected, including 160 new county records. Plant Atlas collections make up the vast majority of our 8000 specimens accessioned over the past year. Georeferencing under an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant has been completed for 32% of the historic collections from the county, and the databasing of the entire collection has reached a total of over 105,000 specimens. Under the direction of Dr. Jon Rebman, the Botany Department has also made our collections more available online by sharing our collection data with the California Consortium of Herbaria, improving the online searching and mapping of our county specimens through the Plant Atlas website (sdplantatlas.org), and displaying our large collection of archival photos of Baja California plants at our Bajaflora.org website.

Since the arrival of the new curator, Dr. Michael Wall, in January 2006, the Entomology Department has been blowing the dust off of one of the Museum’s largest collections. In addition to developing a lively intern and volunteer program, the Entomology Department, with binational partners at Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada, has set up educational displays at a number of regional festivals. The department is currently spear-heading an international effort to organize a terrestrial arthropod survey of Baja California.

The completion of the new permanent exhibition, *Fossil Mysteries*, is the single most significant event for the Department of Paleontology this past year. The exhibition features

fossils discovered and collected by the Museum’s paleontology staff over the past 25 years. The opportunity to publicly display these fossils and to interpret their significance for our visitors has been a long-term goal of the Department of Paleontology under Curator Dr. Tom Deméré.

The field paleontologists of the Department of PaleoServices monitored a variety of different construction projects. Numerous significant fossil discoveries were made including Pleistocene land mammals from the East Village, Eocene primates from Mission Valley, Eocene brontotheres from Interstate 15, and Cretaceous ammonites from Carlsbad. The curatorial staff prepared and catalogued 8500 species lots (118,000 specimens) from 213 localities. Revenue earned by these activities (\$1.5 million) set a new annual record. Department staff also contributed heavily to the new book, *Fossil Treasures of the Anza-Borrego Desert*. This richly illustrated volume of 394 pages provides, for the first time, a comprehensive summary of the geologic history and paleontological record of the Salton Trough region.

The Department of Birds and Mammals, under the direction of Phil Unitt, received over \$150,000 for new bird specimen cases through a grant from IMLS and donations from various individuals. This project has made the Museum’s collection storage the envy of most other museums in Balboa Park. The department also continued to raise funds through research grants and contracts. Projects such as the Mammal Atlas and monitoring the response of birds and mammals to the Pines, Cedar, and Otay fires helped raise over \$225,000 for the department.



Research

Acknowledgments

In appreciation for helping BRCC develop the Museum’s collections through specimen donations, exchanges, field work and salvage work:

Wayne Armstrong
Steve Boyd, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
Gale Bustillos, United States Forestry Service
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Dave Dyer
Meryl Faulkner, Project Wildlife
April Gorow, San Diego Zoo
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Jim Heffelfinger, Arizona Game & Fish Department
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Diana Herron
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Andrew Sanders, University of California, Riverside
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Professional support for BRCC given by individuals appointed to Emeritus positions or to two-year volunteer positions as Research Associates, Departmental Associates, or Field Associates:

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July 1, 2005–June 30, 2006

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NOTE: Names in boldface denote staff; underlined names denote research associates.

The San Diego Society of Natural History

Financial Results for the Years Ended June 30, 2006 and 2005

	2006				2005
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUE					
Contributions	\$ 673,237	\$ 3,958,262	\$ 1,000	\$ 4,632,499	\$ 3,164,217
Government appropriations	1,747,644	-	-	1,747,644	1,964,738
Grants and contracts	4,492,400	-	-	4,492,400	1,610,883
Store	566,089	-	-	566,089	856,769
Admissions	787,458	-	-	787,458	1,115,891
Investment income	865,439	(9,906)	-	855,533	561,685
Education	487,542	-	-	487,542	438,424
Memberships	205,183	-	-	205,183	330,398
Other	90,421	-	-	90,421	312,966
Net assets released from restrictions:					
Satisfaction of program restrictions	1,127,542	(1,127,542)	-	-	-
Total support and revenue	11,042,955	2,820,814	1,000	13,864,769	10,355,971
EXPENSES					
Program expenses					
Exhibitions	7,202,001	-	-	7,202,001	3,753,156
Science	3,198,502	-	-	3,198,502	2,598,740
Education/public programs	1,714,832	-	-	1,714,832	1,635,035
Store cost of sales	629,253	-	-	629,253	777,064
Membership	271,114	-	-	271,114	202,183
Total program expenses	13,015,702	-	-	13,015,702	8,966,178
Supporting services					
Management and general	961,290	-	-	961,290	1,106,091
Fundraising	1,061,811	-	-	1,061,811	1,076,377
Marketing	536,224	-	-	536,224	737,977
Total supporting services	2,559,325	-	-	2,559,325	2,920,445
Total expenses	15,575,027	-	-	15,575,027	11,886,623
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(4,532,072)	2,820,814	1,000	(1,710,258)	(1,530,652)
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING					
OF YEAR	22,321,615	1,522,943	6,504,154	30,348,712	31,879,364
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 17,789,543	\$ 4,343,757	\$ 6,505,154	\$28,638,454	\$30,348,712

Notes to Audited Financial Statements
Understanding Our GAAP Results

1. The above audited financial statements are prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principals (GAAP) for the year ended June 30, 2006. GAAP sets a standard of reporting which we must follow; however, GAAP reporting may not always be the best way to understand our results because it is detached from the multi-year nature of our significant projects.

2. Included in the resu the building addition. We do not write out a check for this amount, yet it is reflected as an annual expense in our audited results. The Museum als results is over \$1 million of net expenses associated with the construction of *Fossil Mysteries*, our new permanent exhibition. These expenditures were funded by a contribution we received in a prior year, so they were paid for, yet we must show our spending of it this year. Also, this great exhibition will continue to benefit the Museum many years into the future; we broke all-time monthly attendance records in July and August 2006, the first two months it was opened. The results in 2006 also include approximately \$0.5 million in expenses related to the *Dead Sea Scrolls* exhibition which opens in 2007. We expect this exhibition to be a great success, yet we have elected to expense these costs up front. We had planned to incur all of these expenses this year, even thought t million), our “Operating Results” show a healthy surplus.

3. Program Expenses. In 2006, our program expenditures constituted 83.6% of all our spending. Generally, any ratio 75% or above is considered to be excellent in judging the efficiency of delivery of our programs. Our ratio is truly outstanding.

Thus, based on all of the above, we are very pleased and proud of our results for the past year.

The motivations for support of *Fossil Mysteries* are as varied as the spectrum of its elements.

During the year just ended, the San Diego Natural History Museum saw donations increase from \$2,350,480 in 2004–05 to \$8,135,475 in 2005–06. Of that increase, \$2.88 million came through the California Cultural and Historic Endowment (CCHE), funds from Proposition 40 targeted to preserve California’s history for future generations.

The Museum was successful in the first round of the grant process requesting funds to create *Fossil Mysteries*, an exhibition designed to show visitors 75 million years of southern California’s history based on the fossil record. The CCHE required matching funds as a condition of receiving the grant and we are grateful to a group of generous donors who helped us meet the match.

Over a period of four years, as Museum exhibit developers and scientists brought content and form to the new exhibition, development staff and trustees took the message into the community to raise the necessary funds to bring to fruition the dream envisioned with the construction of the expanded facility.

The motivations for support of *Fossil Mysteries* are as varied as the spectrum of its elements. For Chris Patek and Henry Hunte it was the remembrances of the land they knew growing up in San Diego. For Carol Wilson, it was her involvement creating the volunteer training materials for the Eocene Forest. The Sefton family wanted to recognize the family’s multigenerational leadership at the Museum. Sony Vice President and

SDNHM trustee Ed Wallace was able to help through a donation of state-of-the-art electronic equipment.

Government at all levels supported a new cultural and educational resource for all— nationally through a National Science Foundation grant; statewide via the California Cultural and Historic Endowment; locally through the San Diego County’s Board of Supervisors and through the City of San Diego Arts and Culture Commission. Several prominent local foundations— Ackerman, Benbough, Parker, Scripps, Rice, and French—came on board and the Weingart-Price Fund of the San Diego Foundation made the final gift that completed the fund raising total for *Fossil Mysteries* to \$8 million.

Capital gifts totaling \$5,925,001 from 101 donors made up the largest segment of giving, but donations in support of annual operating needs accounted for \$2,204,074 from 737 donors. Those annual gifts, large and small, made it possible for the Museum to offer its public programs and memberships at affordable prices and underwrite visits to the Museum for thousands of students from Title 1 schools throughout San Diego County. Both the City of San Diego and San Diego County recognized the need to underwrite museum visitation and exhibitions with generous grants.

The Board of Directors and Museum staff join together in thanking all of the people who made 2005–06 an extraordinarily successful year.



Type of Gift
Annual Operating
\$2,204,074
Capital Projects
\$5,925,000
Endowment
\$6,400
Total Giving
\$8,135,475

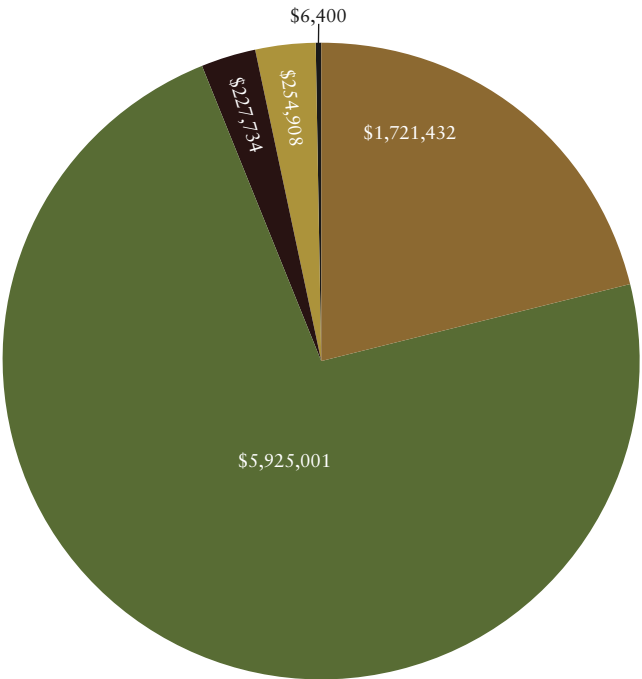
Programs Supported
In-kind gifts valued at \$120,047 were given for such purposes as collections, underwriting of events, donated professional services, and art. Generous donations from a variety of sources come to the Museum for myriad programs as shown below.

Nature to You Loan Library
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PROBEA
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Exhibition support
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Education programs
Dead Sea Scrolls
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Entomology

Development statistics capture gift, grant and government funding given or pledged to any department during the past fiscal year, therefore total support as shown here will not match the GAAP financial statements (footnotes on page 17).

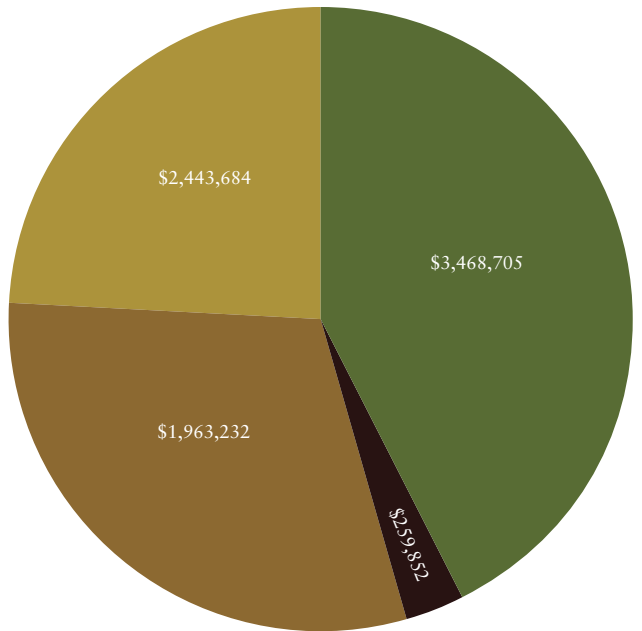
Designation of Funds

- Operating
\$1,721,432
- Exhibitions
\$5,925,001
- Research
\$227,734
- Education
\$254,908
- Endowment
\$6,400



Source of Funds

- Foundations
\$1,963,232
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\$2,443,684
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\$259,852
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\$3,468,705



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The San Diego Natural History Museum gratefully acknowledges the major donors whose generosity made the Fossil Mysteries exhibition possible.

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Detail, suture pattern of *Pachydiscus*, a late Cretaceous ammonite.





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