

Natural Science Collections Facility

SOUTH AFRICA

Travel grants for natural science collections staff to attend an international conference

The Natural Science Collections Facility (NSCF) is funded by the Department of Science & Technology, and is a distributed facility involving museums, universities and science councils that hold, manage and make accessible natural science collection materials and data. The NSCF is co-ordinated by the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI). The NSCF recognises the value of staff attending international conferences related to natural science collections, specifically conferences dealing with collection and data management, in order to develop local capacity and to establish global networks. Examples of relevant conferences include the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC) and the Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG) conference (combined in 2018).

The NSCF is offering three travel grants for staff employed in natural science collection institutions to attend an international conference in 2018.

Criteria and eligibility:

- The grants are offered to staff employed on a full time basis, and permanently or on a long term contract (more than 2 years) at institutions that house openly accessible natural science collections in South Africa.
- Staff must be employed as curators, curation technicians, collection managers or data managers in collections, and have a real interest in a career in this field.
- Successful applicants are expected to report back on what they have learnt and what could be implemented in their own and other institutions nationally.
- Applications will be assessed on the basis of the relevance of the conference, the motivation and the anticipated contribution to the natural science collection environment of the conference attendance, and the track record of the applicant.

What the bursary covers:

- The grants will cover travel, accommodation and registration for the conference, and meals where these are not included in the conference package.
- Visa costs will be covered, however, successful applicants will be required to obtain their own visa/s.

Application process:

Applicants are required to submit the following documents:

- Full CV
- Letter of support from supervisor
- Letter of motivation
- Details of the conference that would be attended if the application is successful, together with a budget for attending the conference.

Please name each document clearly and send to M.Hamer@sanbi.org.za; Subject: "NSCF Travel Grant application". Emails must be <10MB.

Closing date: 17h00 15 April 2018

Enquiries:

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