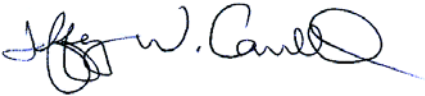
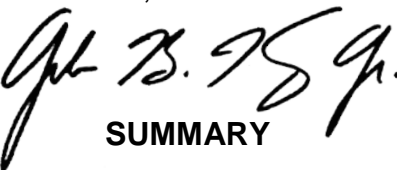




TO: Cultural Education Committee
FROM: Jeffrey Cannell 
SUBJECT: Museum Ichthyology Collection
DATE: October 11, 2013

AUTHORIZATION(S):


SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

Overview and background of the Museum's Ichthyology Collection.

Reason(s) for Consideration

For Information. Education Law section 235 establishes the State Science Service within the State Museum. Dr. Jeremy Wright will discuss ongoing and planned improvements to the collection as a scientific and educational resource, and the diversity of ongoing research that utilizes previous and new collections alike, including work on the systematics of the mimic shiner and several other species occurring in New York state, conservation of imperiled species, and the evolution of venomous catfishes.

Background Information

Jeremy Wright joined the Museum's staff January 10, 2013 as Curator of Ichthyology. As curator he is responsible for maintaining the intellectual and physical integrity of the Museum's fish collection. This includes carrying out a research program that increases the scientific and educational values of the collection. In this presentation, Dr. Wright will discuss his curatorial and research activities and how these activities benefit the Museum's scientific and educational programs and increase our knowledge about the State's fish populations.

The collection contains approximately 70,000 lots and over 1,000,000 specimens. The collection is currently being used to support two major areas of research focus: 1) Systematics of North American fishes, with a focus on species occurring in New York State, 2) Ecology and Evolution of venomous fishes.