COLLECTION NEWS

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NOTICE OF TRANSFER OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE, PALEONTOLOGY COLLECTION TO THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Invertebrate Paleontology (LACMIP), recently acquired the California State University at Northridge (CSUN) fossil collection. The CSUN collection, which was accessioned by LACMIP in July 2001, is mostly regional (southern California) in scope and predominantly comprised of invertebrates, although a few vertebrate and plant fossils are included. This acquisition will add 26 cabinets containing approximately 3,500 lots, or about 45,000–50,000 specimens. The CSUN collection acquisition also includes a three-volume set of locality number registers for the >1,600 localities fossil localities and an accompanying map collection; thus the specimens are well documented with precise locality and stratigraphic data.

The CSUN collection includes specimens that range from late Precambrian through Holocene in age, but the majority of the material is from Tertiary (especially Eocene and Miocene) formations of western North America. This collection was maintained for the past 25 years by CSUN geology professors R. L. Squires, who is also a Research Associate of the LACMIP, and by CSUN geology professor A. E. Fritsche, now retired. Paleontologic investigations by Squires, Fritsche, and their numerous graduate and undergraduate students contributed greatly to the

CSUN collection. In particular, Squires collected and acquired numerous specimens from formations that were poorly represented in the LACMIP collections. These formations include: the Eocene Crescent and Hoko River formations of Washington (primarily through the collecting of J. Goedert, Gig Harbor, Washington, a Research Associate of the LACM Vertebrate Paleontology section); the Eocene Goler and Wagon Wheel formations of Kern County, California; the Eocene Maniobra Formation of Riverside County, California; and the Eocene Matilija and Juncal formations of Los Angeles and Ventura counties, California.

Other universities' paleontology collections previously acquired by the LACMIP include those from: California Institute of Technology in 1984; University of Southern California in 1984; and University of California at Los Angeles in 1985 (Wilson and Saul, 1986). The LACMIP, which has the largest collection of invertebrate fossils in southern California, will be strengthened by the newly acquired CSUN collection. Inquiries about the LACMIP collections should be directed to H. F. Filkorn.

REFERENCES

WILSON, E. C., AND L. R. SAUL. 1986. Collection transfer. Journal of Paleontology, 60(6):1281.

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