



Icelandic Museum  
of Natural History

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## „Framtíð náttúrufræðisafna: mikilvægi, jafnvægi og nýsköpun“

*„The Future of Natural History Museums:  
Relevance, Balance and Innovation“*

Stutt frásögn af fundi Alþjóðanefndar náttúrufræðisafna  
(ICOM NATHIST) í Króatíu 11.-16. október 2014

The Croatian Museums of Zagorje

Dr. Hilmar J. Malmquist forstöðumaður

Aðalfundur Íslandsdeildar ICOM - Reykjavík 19. mars 2015

# ICOM NATHIST er...



International Committee for Museums and Collections of Natural History of the International Council of Museums.

Ein 30 alþjóðanefnda innan vébanda Alþjóðaráðs safna (ICOM).

Hlutverk ICOM NATHIST:

„NATHIST is concerned with the conservation of biological diversity in museums collections as well as in the natural environment, the scientific study of the world's natural heritage and the education of the wider public through museum displays, conferences, field trips, etc. A newsletter ensures contacts between members of the committee which should be increasingly called upon considering the ever-increasing interest in nature and its protection. “

# Um ICOM NATHIST...



## Stjórn NATHIST ICOM – 8 manns



Dr. Eric Dorfmann formaður,  
forstjóri Whanganui Regional Museum, Nýja Sjálandi



Dr Isabel Landim varaformaður,  
prófessor við Museum of Zoology of the University of São Paulo, Brasilíu



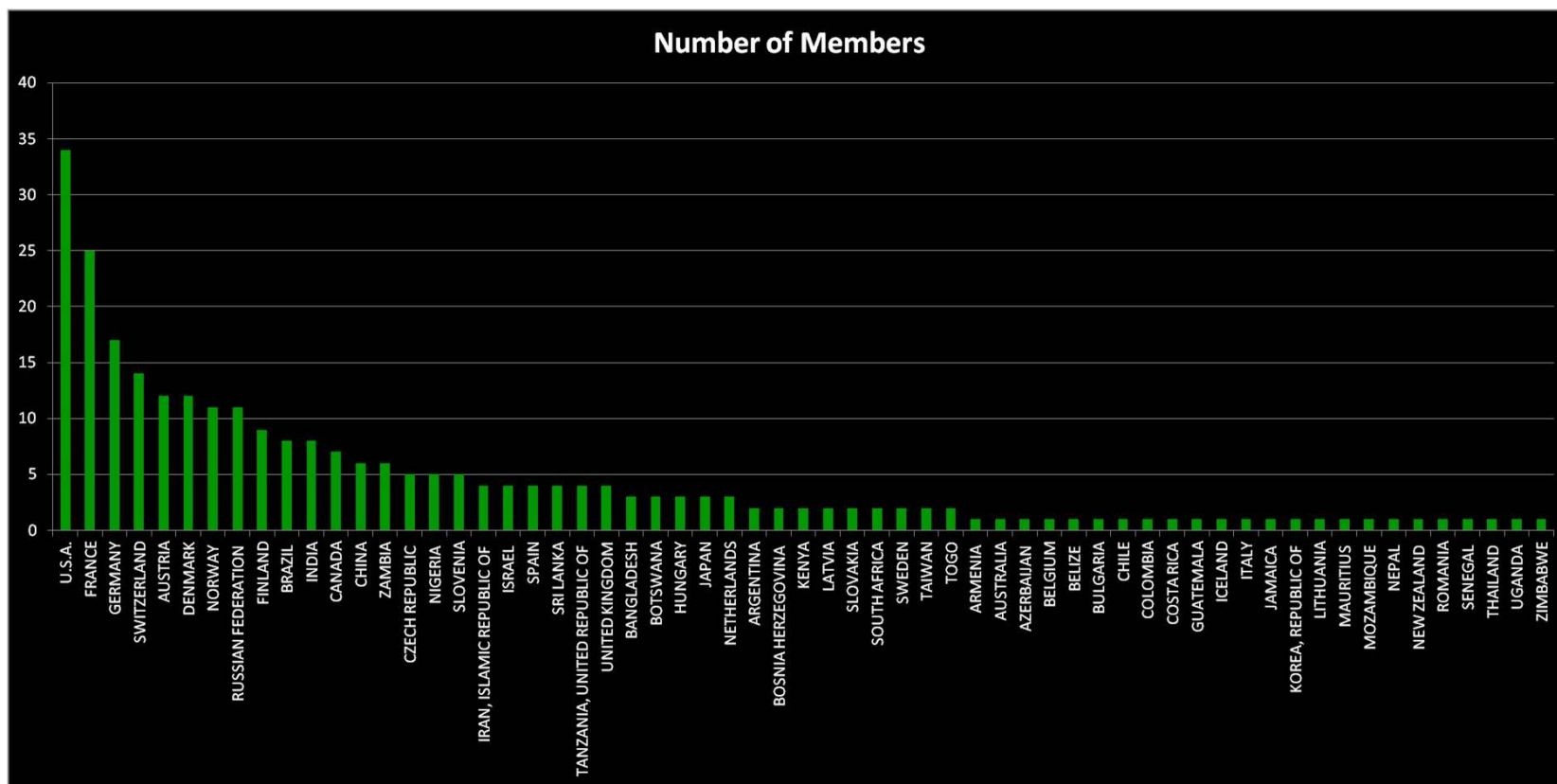
Dr. Lynda Knowles ritari,  
lögfræðingur við Denver Museum of Nature & Science, Denver, USA

Marcia Lourenço gjaldkeri, forstöðum. Museum of Zoology, University of São Paulo  
Chen Chi-Ming meðstjórnandi, forstjóri National Taiwan Museum  
Clare Mateke meðstjórnandi, forstöðum. Mammalogy, Livingstone Museum, Zambia  
Dr. Anna Omedes meðstjórnandi, forstjóri Natural History Museum of Barcelona  
Dr. Osamu Kamei meðstjórnandi, forstöðum. Center of the History of Japanese Industrial Technology


# Um ICOM NATHIST...



Um 300 meðlimir (söfn/einstaklingar) frá 61 þjóðríki.  
Náttúruminjasafn Íslands gerðist aðili að ICOM/ICOM NATHIST í janúar 2014.



https://icomnathist.wordpress.com/



# ICOM NATHIST

International Council of Museums Committee for Museums and Collections of Natural History


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## Funding opportunity to support female museum researchers

Posted on February 27, 2015

A new source of research funding is available to female researchers in the natural sciences.



Introducing [Instrumentl](#). It combines crowdfunding with a comprehensive (and growing!) [grant board](#) to fund projects led by female researchers.

The mission of the Instrumentl community is to **“invest in female researchers solving the world’s greatest challenges”**. Much similar to Kickstarter, our crowdfunding platform allows female researchers to harness the power of their community to raise funds for their projects. For instance, see how we’ve connected wildlife biologist, [Courtney Marneweck](#), with the funding she needed to move forward in her PhD research.

RECENT POSTS

- [Funding opportunity to support female museum researchers](#)
- [ICOM NATHIST signs MOU with WAZA](#)
- [ICOM NATHIST says goodbye to Luisa Rocha and welcomes Lynda Knowles](#)
- [“Biodiversity is Us” – ICOM NATHIST collaborates with WAZA](#)
- [New website ICOM NATHIST Wildlife Trafficking Working Group](#)

RECENT COMMENTS

# Framtíð náttúrufræðisafna...



Helstu áskoranir sem náttúrufræðisöfn þurfa að taka á:

- ✓ Skóinn kreppir að náttúrufræðisöfnum í kjölfar HRUNSINS 2008, fjármögnun er erfiðari en samtímis er vaxandi þrýstingur á þjónustuhlutverk safna gagnvart almenningi, stuðningsaðilum og vísindasamfélaginu.
- ✓ Gæta þarf að jafnvægi milli miðlunar á sérfræðipekkingu og almennrar þekkingar.
- ✓ Aukin krafa um þátttöku almennings og hagsmunaaðila í efnistöfum og upplýsingamiðlun safna.
- ✓ Vaxandi þáttur í efnistöfum náttúrufræðisafna á sviði **frumbyggja** (First Peoples) og **siðfræði** hins vegar.

„Natural history museums face more challenges, and are finding new ways to meet them, than ever before. In the wake of the Global Financial Crisis, funds are tighter, alongside increasing pressure to remain relevant to visitors, funders and science practitioners. Arcane knowledge must be balanced with popularization, and there are increasing calls for enabling the public and other stakeholders in co-curating the messages brought forward in the museum context. Topics such as First Peoples and Ethics are intersecting with natural history museums in a way never imagined even ten years ago.

This conference is devoted to these considerations. Through engaging with our peers we aim plot the course of natural history museums, to ensure their place as effective contributors to natural ecosystems and human societies for this generation, the next, and the many to follow.“

# Framtíð náttúrufræðisafna...



Aðalræðumaður nr. 1: Dr. Frank Howarth, forstjóri Museums Australia

## „The Natural Futures Museum“

Náttúrufræðisöfn áfram mikilvægur hlekkur milli vísinda og almennings  
Safnkosturinn áfram grunnurinn

Flokkunarfræðin áfram grundvöllur/standa vörð um flokkunarfræðina

Beina sjónum að heildum/tengslum: **vistfræði, landslag, ferlar**

Virkti á www - huga að gögnum og safngestum á netinu:

gera gagnagrunna og upplýsingar aðgengileg/beinlínu samband (3D scans)

opna fyrir gagnaaðgang, gagnagáttir og veitur (**GBIF** o.fl.)

virka gestinn (bæði á safninu og netinu) til að rannsaka og ...

...taka þátt í NÚINU/SAMTÍMANUM (fremur en festast í fortíð eða framtíð)

Aðalræðumaður nr. 2: Dr. Carlos Roberto F. Brandão, Museum of Zoology, Univ. of São Paulo

Líffræðileg fjölbreytni undirstöðuatriði í efnistöfum náttúrufræðisafna

líffræðileg fjölbreytni er annað og miklu meira en upptalning tegunda –

hugtakið nær jafnt til smærri, stakra eininga (t.d. erfðavísa) til stærri heilda (t.d. vist- og lífkerfa), sem og til **sveigjanleika í lífsöguþáttum og þroskun** og, ekki síst, nær hugtakið til **FERLA** (processes).

**Fyrir frumbyggja Brasilíu skiptir ferill hlutar ekki minna máli en hluturinn sjálfur**

*„Describe BD without only description“*

# Framtíð náttúrufræðisafna...



GBIF – ATLAS OF LIVING AUSTRALIA – <http://www.ala.org.au/>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Atlas of Living Australia. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the site name, contact information, and a search bar. A dropdown menu is open under 'ALA Apps', listing various tools like 'Spatial portal', 'Occurrence search', and 'Record a sighting'. Below the navigation, there are several content blocks: 'Australia's species' with a search box and a 'Browse species' button; 'Locations by location' with a search box and a 'Browse locations' button; 'Collections' with a search box and a 'Browse collections' button; 'Mapping & analysis'; 'Data sets'; and 'Partner Profiles'. On the right side, there is a sidebar with a 'Get involved' button and a 'Blog & News Updates' section.



# Framtíð náttúrufræðisafna...



Nokkur áhersluatriði fyrirlesara og ráðstefnugesta...

- ✓ Almennigur/gestir túlka og álykta sjálfir út frá safnkosti/gripum í ríkari mæli en áður  
...þátttaka gesta virkari nú.
- ✓ Hlutir/gripir/munir verða áfram undirstaða náttúrufræðisafna, EN...  
...**FRÁSÖGN** kennara/leiðbeinanda lykilatriði...  
... **AÐ SEGJA SÖGU** (storytelling) gæðir gripina lífi og fangar athygli gesta  
... miðla meira **MEÐ** munum fremur en **UM** muni
- ✓ Vekja fremur FORVITNI með sýningahaldi en að sinna stífri kennslu
- ✓ Meira SJÓNÆNT – minna ritað mál í sýningahaldi

# Framtíð náttúrufræðisafna...

Museum für Naturkunde – Berlín  
Votsýnasafnið, opið að hluta til fyrir almenningi.



## The Wet Collections

The museum's wet collections are of immense scientific and cultural value. In September 2010 they found a new home in the newly restored East Wing, where they are stored under optimised conditions. Why not come and take a look!

# Framtíð náttúrufræðisafna...



Mitt erindi:

The Icelandic Museum of Natural History: strong roots, uncertain future



Benedikt Gröndal  
naturhistorian (1826-1907)



Björn Bjarnason  
advocate (1853-1918)



Stefán Stefánsson  
botanist (1863-1921)

The *Icelandic Natural History Society* founded **1887–1889** in Copenhagen/Reykjavík. An NGO for the general public. ....precursor to *The Icelandic Museum of Natural History*, established in **2007**, and its sister-institution, *The Icelandic Institute of Natural History*, established in **1951**.

The main objective of the NGO was, and still is, to:

...„maintain a permanent exhibition on Icelandic nature for the nation..“

Most founders studied at The University of Copenhagen with access to *University Zoological Museum*, *The Royal Natural History Museum* and, from 1862, *The Zoological Museum*.

# ...strong roots, but nowhere to go!

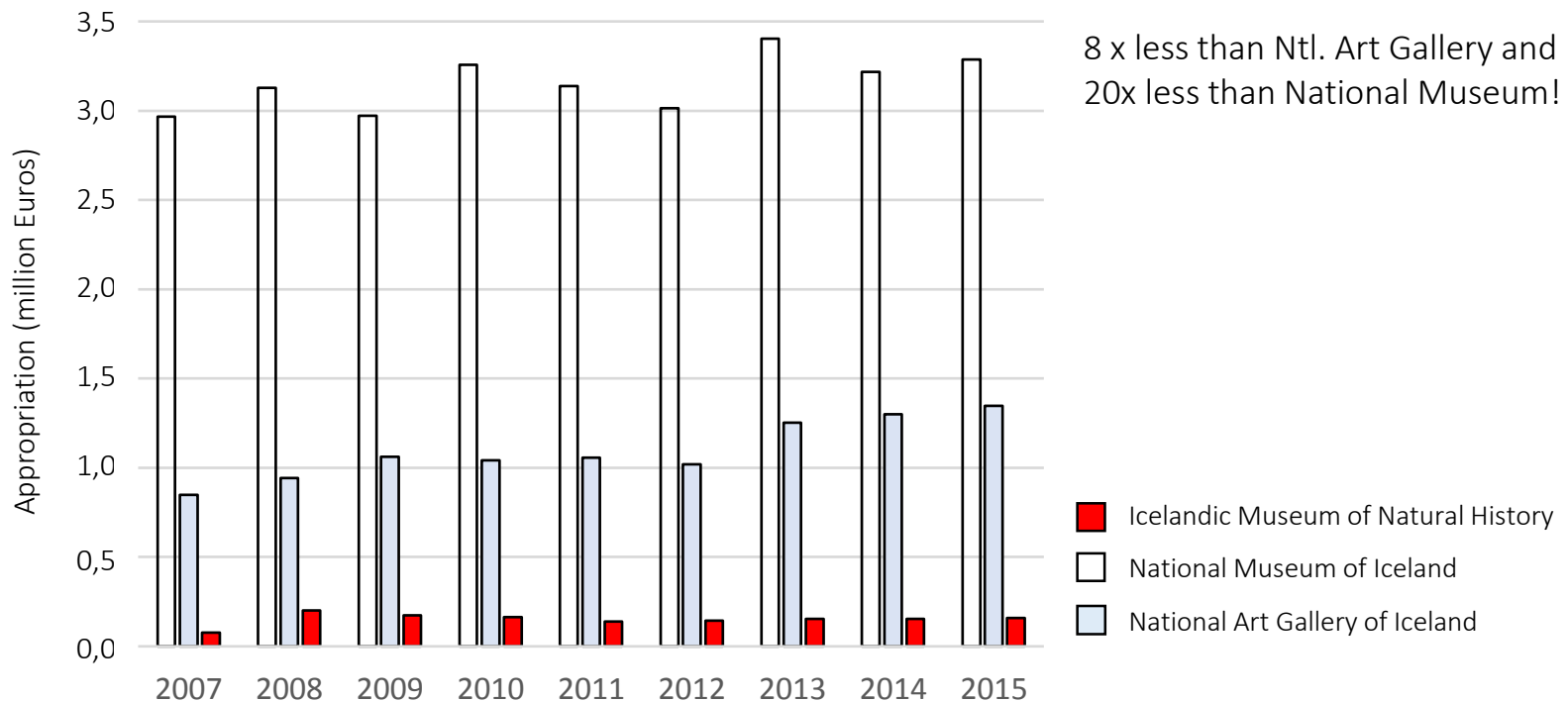


During 1889–2008 the precursor to The Icelandic Museum of Natural History was relocated **EIGHT** times – all the time more or less in **unsufficient facilities**.

In spring 2008, the exhibition facilities at Hlemmur, then under The Icelandic Institute of Natural History, were closed. **No exhibition running since then.**

# ...meager funds – unequal status...

Yearly spendings by the Icelandic Museum of Natural History in 2008–2015, only 0,14–0,20 million Euros!



# The PEARL/new business model!



## PRIVATE INVESTOR

Landsbréf Icelandic Tourism Fund 1 SCA/CVA.  
Shareholders include Icelandair Group,  
Landsbankinn bank, and Pension Funds.  
*Out:* Start-up capital (~2 m Euro) + maintenance.  
*In:* Income (admission fee).

## REYKJAVÍK CITY

Owner of the building Pearl.  
*Out:* New 2nd floor + renovation.  
*In:* Rental income.

## ICELANDIC MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

*Out:* concept, ideaology, objects, design.  
*In:* Income for service, renewal, maintenance.

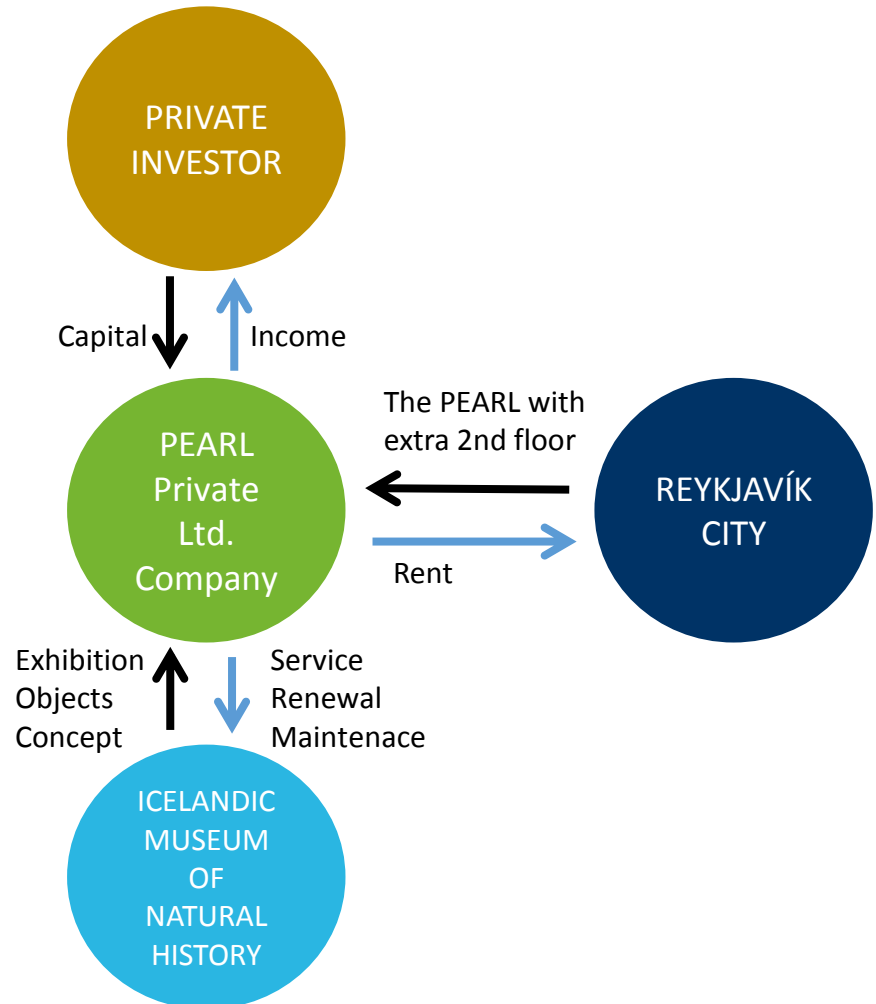
## PEARL - Private Limited Company

*Out:* Paying for design and putting up the show and IMNH for concept and service. Paying Reykjavík City rent for the building and revenue to the Private Investor.

### Liklely scenarios:

150.000 visitors \* 7 EUR = 1 m. EUR

300.000 visitors \* 7 EUR = 2 m. EUR



# exhibition – education – Icelandic nature



GEOLOGY: young island – plate boundaries – volcanic activity – lava fields...



Eruption at Holuhraun lava field, NE Iceland, starting August 29th 2014. Still active.

© Einar Guðmann

# exhibition – education – Icelandic nature



FRESHWATER: geysers – glaciers – lakes – waterfalls – wetlands...



Hraunfossar waterfall and River Hvítá, W-Iceland.  
Water of spring-fed and glacial origin.

© Kristján Jónasson



# exhibition – education – Icelandic nature



MAN & NATURE: agriculture – fisheries – raw energy ...



Cod-fisheries in Iceland

# Framtíð náttúrufræðisafna...

## GEIRFUGLAFGAGNAGRUNNUR?

Alþjóðlegur, opin, uppfærður gagnabanki um geirfugla. Drög að útfærslu liggja fyrir.

Hugsanlegt samstarfsverkefni Náttúruminjasafns Íslands, Háskóla Íslands og erlendra aðila. Kann að vera meistaraverkefni í safnafræðum.

Að frumkvæði formanns ICOM NATHIST, dr. Eric Dorfmann.

Afrakstur þátttöku á ráðstefnu ICOM NATHIST 2014.

Er í skoðun.



# Framtíð náttúrufræðisafna...



Næsta ICOM NATHIST ráðstefna í Taipei, Tævan 20.-23. október 2015.  
Þema: **Natural History Museums: Building Our Future**

