Program and Abstracts

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2011 SVP abstract, 71st Annual Meeting:
A TUTORIAL ON TIME-LAPSE PHOTOGRAPHY FOR ONLINE DISSEMINATION OF PALEONTOLOGICAL SCIENCE: FOSSIL PREPARATION, SKELETAL MOUNTING, AND FLESH MODEL RESTORATION AS EXAMPLES
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The use of photography to create time-lapse movies has the potential to vividly capture important sequential activities in paleontology, such as fossil preparation, skeletal mounting, and flesh model reconstruction. These common activities, which are often depicted much less effectively in still photos, can be brought to life in movie for lecture, exhibit, film, or online dissemination. The expenses involved are minimal and the benefits are long-term. We created a time-lapse tutorial which will be posted online to outline best practices in the creation of time-lapse movies. This tutorial covers image framing, stage and lighting, camera settings (shutter speed, aperture, etc.) and incorporation of static graphics, computed-tomo-graphic animation, and sound. We also discuss strategies during preparation, modeling and mounting that will result in the most effective time-lapse movies. The time has come to bring fellow scholars and the public common sequential activities in paleontological laboratory work via effective cost-efficient media productions.