



May 14, 2019

**Biodiversity Collections Network**  
c/o American Institute of Biological Sciences  
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 420  
Washington, DC 20005

**Greetings,**

**We at the Biomimicry Institute have a vision of a world in which people view nature as a storehouse of knowledge and inspiration for sustainable solutions, and a mission to naturalize biomimicry in the culture by promoting the transfer of ideas, designs, and strategies from biology to sustainable human systems design. We believe that, after 3.8 billion years of research and development, many of the difficult problems humanity grapples with today have already been solved by nature.**

**To these ends, we strongly support the creation and implementation of the Biodiversity Collections Network. We agree that "if the totality of the collections' data could be accessed and mined online, the benefits to the environment, public health, food safety, commerce, and national security communities will be transformative." (<https://bcon.aibs.org/about/>). Transformative and valuable not just to the fields of biodiversity research, land management, conservation, agriculture, and public health. These data can also be used as inspiration for engineers, architects, industrial designers and more, as they seek natural strategies and functions to emulate for sustainable, regenerative human design.**

**Regards,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beth Rattner", written in a cursive style.

**Beth Rattner**  
**Executive Director**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michelle Graves", written in a cursive style.

**Michelle Graves**  
**Program Associate**