

Dear NOW Community,
Hi All,

it was amazing to see so many of you in Sabadell, lots of enthusiasm, lots of ideas and such a wonderful community. Happy birthday NOW, almost 26 years old now. Onwards!

It's busy as usual on the NOW factory floor, lots of ongoing matters to complete and lots of new matters to attend. We will sort out the ideas received and will start planning what to implement and in what order. There will be a follow up online community meeting, as promised, perhaps around mid January, yet to be scheduled. Anyone is most welcome to attend.

In that meeting we'll continue discussing the matters raised in the last session at Sabadell and collect ideas, suggestions, and promises. Especially promises! We'll also discuss what's needed in terms of integrating various databases under NOW umbrella, which was one of the main long-run questions highlighted at Sabadell. More info about the meeting will come in a few weeks.

For now, we can compile a list of relevant associated databases: (1) associated databases to be displayed on NOW website, as discussed in Sabadell, and (2) associated databases that are intended to communicate with NOW directly for data exchange in the future, to be integrated with NOW or data is to be uploaded to NOW.

If you are involved or have a database that's intended to be associated in any way with NOW, please send to me and/or Kari the names and the scopes of those databases. We have a list of most of what has been discussed at Sabadell, but we may not have full titles or credentials of those, so please send info about them as well.

And, of course, do send any ideas, suggestions, complaints, or promises. Especially promises.

Some of NOW coordinators asked me what they can do for NOW or what more they can do for NOW. The first priority is always your responsibility as a coordinator in NOW, taxonomic, regional or otherwise. For example, if you are the coordinator of Marsupials, do check if the taxonomic treatment of marsupials in NOW is the way you'd like it to be. Any errors, inconsistencies, synonyms, anything to merge? Let me or Kari know, or edit the database directly. All coordinators can edit directly within the area of their responsibility in NOW. If that is not convenient, issues can be investigated by the curatorial team, the most important is to report. Do report any potential issues in data or otherwise, within or outside of your curatorial area. Also if you download data from NOW, update it for your article and publish, please get back to NOW such that data in NOW can also be updated.

NOW follows research of the community, in small steps sometimes with delays, sometimes in little jumps enthusiastically, occasionally in reverse after afflictions. But steadily forward.

All be well, stay healthy. And enjoy research!

Indrè
General Coordinator of NOW