

Pr Thierry Bourgoïn
Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle
Institut Systématique, Evolution, Biodiversité (ISYEB)
UMR 7205 MNHN-CNRS-Sorbonne Université-EPHE
Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle,
CP 50, 57 Rue Cuvier, F-75005, Paris, France

Personal Statement

I'm senior scientist, professor at the Muséum National d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France. My activities are organized around three main topics: the research through exploration and description of biodiversity (taxonomy, morphology and phylogeny on present and fossils Hemiptera insects and their interspecific relationships with other organisms, ...), defense and promotion of the taxonomy (involved in various national, international and global initiatives dealing the Biodiversity) and the reporting about biodiversity: specimens and collections (curator of the MNHN-Hemiptera collection, deputy director (2005-12) of MNHN collections, ...) and biodiversity data and taxonomic databases (database management, ...).

I'm involve in the governance of CETAF since 20 years, having always been a member of its executive committee (EC) or its equivalent previously. I have directly contributed in the elaboration and planning of all its main milestones (particularly the preparation of the EDIT projet, of the legal CETAF, the successive strategic plans and in the last period the 2015-25 CETAF strategic plan, the connection with DiSSCo and with the global initiatives such as GTI, Col+, GBIF, ...) ; I am extremely proud of the work and results I have achieved with the members of the successive ECs. For my own, I have always been particularly interested in the long-term vision for CETAF, suggesting the main goals to be achieved and elaborating the necessary steps to reach. I wish to continue in this task.

During this time, my motivations have always been underpinned by an ambitious vision for taxonomy in the richest sense, with a particular concern not to restrict the actions and vision of CETAF to the collections alone, but also to extend it to taxonomy seen as a science in their own right, of which they are the support and the main reason for our institutions.

In its next mandate, CETAF will face crucial challenges for its future: 1) its place alongside DiSSCo to shift taxonomy into the digital world, which is a compelling need to meet

the global changes challenges we face and to provide the reasoned responses they demand, 2) to take advantage of this momentum for CETAF and for taxonomy to penetrate new communities 3) the positioning and development of CETAF on the international scene going beyond the European sphere, and my favourite area of reflection that is 4) the research-collection link which must be the central axis around which a long-term vision must be organized for CETAF.

It is my ambition to continue serving CETAF as an EC ordinary member to meet all these challenges with the constant concern to respect the plurality of practices, usages, and cultures of our institutions. This diversity is our wealth ; it can not be ruled out in favour of an impoverishing unification or homogenization. On the contrary, the computer tool allows the interoperability of this diversity thanks to recognized and shared standards that CETAF has the full legitimacy to propose to our taxonomic community and to share them at a global level.

In the same way of these last 20 years, I will commit myself fully to serve at best the CETAF future and its institutions in its decisions voted in the Governing Board for the defense and the future of the Taxonomy, its collections, the researches that they support, and for the training in practicing taxonomy.

Paris, 15 mars 2019

Thierry Bourgoin

