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eBEAC — electronic Bulletin board for European Avian Curators

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The electronic Bulletin board for European Avian Curators (eBEAC) emerged from discussions during the 1999 British Ornithologists' Union/The Natural History Museum/British Ornithologists' Club/BirdLife International conference and workshop (BROOKE 2000, COOPER 2000). Considering that email is now widely available, workshop participants decided that an email list to discuss matters relevant to avian curators, curation and collections would be useful. Further, participants felt that a list with a European focus would be preferable to joining AVECOL, the electronic bulletin board for bird collections and curators based in the United States (REMSEN 2001).

eBEAC is intended for curators and collection managers of European museums, but anyone working in curation, management or archiving of bird collections elsewhere is not excluded. It provides an informal forum for European bird curators and collection managers. Discussions on specimen exchange, curation techniques, whereabouts of specimens, types and parts of collections, conference announcements, jobs, current debates (e.g. active collecting), changes in legislation, database projects, or anything else related to avian collections and curation are encouraged. Currently, with a single email one can reach 66 curators from 51 museums or organisations in 23 countries that are subscribed to eBEAC.

The computer running eBEAC is based at The Natural History Museum, London, U.K., using the major-

domo software. eBEAC is a closed list, i.e. only subscribers can read and post messages to the list. Messages are not moderated. Presently, messages posted on eBEAC are neither archived nor is a digest version available. To subscribe to eBEAC send an email to majordomo@nhm.ac.uk containing the following two lines:

subscribe eBEAC

end

Questions relating to eBEAC or technical problems should be emailed to owner-eBEAC@nhm.ac.uk.

Literature

- Brooke, M. de L. (2000): Why museums matter. *TREE* 15: 136-137
- Cooper, J. (2000): Report on Why museums matter: Avian archives in an age of extinction. A conference hosted jointly by the BOU, The Natural History Museum, British Ornithologists' Club and BirdLife International at Green Park, Buckinghamshire, 12-14 November 1999. *Ibis* 142: 347-348.
- Remsen, J.V. (2001): AVECOL – <http://www.museum.lsu.edu/~Remsen/AVECOLintro.html> (accessed 10.12.2001).

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