
2024 ANNUAL REPORT



ELEVATION
SCIENCE INSTITUTE

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PO Box 672 Red Lodge, MT 59068

FROM ~~THE DIRECTOR~~

a Champion for Science



Dear Friends,

I'm doing something a little different with this Annual Report. I'm handing the microphone to someone else, so to speak.

Chuck Fogg started his journey with Elevation Science a few years ago, and quickly became beloved by our staff and participants alike. If you have the luck to join a dig on the same week as Mr. Fogg, you'll find that he is incredibly hardworking, deeply caring, and so filled with joy.

When he told me about the gift he wanted to make and why, I asked him if he would write something that I could share with all of you.

Participants, outreach attendees, supporters, like you and Mr. Fogg, make it worth every second spent building our programs and striving to make them better each year. Thank you for making this adventure so exciting and fulfilling year after year.

Sincerely,

Jason P. Schein
Jason P. Schein



An Adventure to Change Lives

During my career I worked with many scientists. They opened my eyes to the wonder and excitement of scientific discovery. In my retirement I was drawn to the mission of Elevation Science, particularly how this organization makes scientific discovery accessible to people of all backgrounds and ages by providing many levels of entry—hands-on field expeditions, public outreach and education, and its support for students considering paleontology as a career path.

For several years now my choice of fun has been to join Elevation's Field Expedition in Montana. These expeditions have been a blast. I made so many new acquaintances who came from all over the country for the same adventure. Some have become friends. Others feel like family. All of us worked hard in the heat and the dust. We shared the excitement of discovery of a new fossil. We felt good that each of us was making a difference and advancing science.

My field hat bears souvenir contributions of plaster that are now memories of the scrambles we had completing the jacketing process before the plaster dried. Those plaster splatters mean as much to me as the pictures taken by others when I was not looking.



These experiences made me happy to support Elevation Science and the fossil discovery process as a participant and donor, but I wanted to do more. I wanted to help create an opportunity on someone else's journey.

In my time in the field, I have witnessed firsthand the impact of Elevation Science's Field Internship Program. This program supports the field expeditions and fossil recovery, while enabling young scientists to have unparalleled experiences as they consider their way forward on their career path. These interns have also created opportunities for participants like me to hear about their fascinating research and what inspires them to pursue this area of study. That's why I made a donation to support the Elevation Science Field Internship Program.

The Program provides opportunities to develop real world organizational and leadership skills. Interns learn from the best about how to effectively run a field program, including logistics, health and safety, participant engagement, etc. It introduces students to professionals already busy in the field of paleontology. Their network grows and valuable lifelong connections are established.

As a parent, and now a grandparent, I have had the joy of watching someone experience something new, and seeing their eyes widen with excitement and wonder. With due deference and apologies to Yoda, one cannot unlearn what one experiences. A mind expanded is a life forever changed.

By contributing to the Elevation Science Field Internship Program I can feel the same joy knowing someone else's world will be expanded through this experience. I have been there. I know the excitement of discovery. Now someone else will be able to do the same, and at an important inflection point where they are making important career choices.

With this contribution, my 2025 field season has already begun. I am so excited. I feel different. And this feeling will continue for the rest of the 2025 field season.

I encourage you to consider making a contribution to the Internship Program or whichever program you connect with most. It is not too late.

2025 is going to be a great field season. Don't miss out on a chance to make a difference.

Chuck Fogg
Chuck Fogg



OUR MISSION

Our mission is to inspire people of all ages and backgrounds to passionately explore and engage with our planet and its vast natural treasures by creating transformative educational experiences in paleontology, natural history, and scientific research.

OUR VISION

We seek to collaboratively study, preserve, and interpret the paleontological treasures of the American West and wherever the adventure leads, and to promote paleontology and the natural sciences to life-long learners around the world.

OUR PLAN OF ACTION

Our goal is to inspire life-long learners of all ages and backgrounds. Through exploration and discovery, our scientists, citizen scientists, and volunteers contribute to our understanding of the prehistoric worlds and the planet we inhabit. Our educators engage visitors and participants through interactive public outreach, immersive, hands-on experiences, and an invitation to contribute to academic and scientific research. Together, we will preserve and foster stewardship of these precious natural resources, while cultivating appreciation and love for the natural world, both past and present.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

In 2024, we reached more people than ever before through our education and outreach endeavors!

This continued upward momentum underscores the growing demand for engaging, hands-on science experiences and the effectiveness of our programs in meeting that need.

The Fossil Prep Lab continues to be a favorite place for educational programming and interactions which is why we were so excited to partner with the Montana Natural History Center to bring a public Fossil Prep Experience to Missoula!

2,942

PEOPLE ENGAGED

at 24 events across 6 different states.

229,634

VISITORS TO OUR FOSSIL PREP LAB

in Cincinnati, Ohio



JUST SOME OF OUR PARTNERS IN EDUCATION



Cincinnati
Museum
Center



FOSSIL PREP

Our partnership with the Cincinnati Museum Center has led to exceptional progress on our specimens and the opportunity for amazing volunteers to spend more time than ever supporting this work.



Cincinnati
Museum
Center

13 VOLUNTEERS
1100 VOLUNTEER HOURS
151 SPECIMENS COMPLETED
VISIT KATIE IN THE LAB TUES-SAT 10-5



DINOS AT MNHC: 150 MILLION YEARS IN THE MAKING

Thanks to a new partnership with the Montana Natural History Center in Missoula, MT and a grant from the Bureau of Land Management, **Dinos at MNHC** was launched in 2024 to bring live fossil prep to MNHC!

You can visit Jason Poole doing work on some of the field season's finds and chat about all things paleontology Tuesday-Friday 10a-3pm when he's not in the field.



Montana Natural
History Center

Connecting People with Nature



INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

We are cultivating the next generation of leaders in the field!

In just three years since launching our Summer Field Internship program, we couldn't be more thrilled with or proud of the amazing interns we have had and the journeys they are taking to build the future of paleontology and the geosciences.

2024
INTERNS



Shion Newsome

Shion graduated from U of Florida and will be an intern at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences this summer. She will be starting grad school at Vanderbilt in the Fall where she'll be working with Dr. Neil Kelley on a project about marine reptiles.

Peter Rhynard

Peter completed his honors thesis on Allosaurus and graduated from Ohio University. He will be starting a PhD program at Virginia Tech where he'll continue his work on Allosaurus with Dr. Michelle Stocker.



Antonio Armagno

*M.S. Student, Paleontology
DePaul University*

Meghan Forcellati

*Ph.D. Student, Evolutionary Biology,
American Museum of Natural History*



2023
INTERNS

2022
INTERNS



Jeb Bugos

*Collections Manager of Vertebrate Paleontology
Cleveland Museum of Natural History*

Daniel Dunfee

*M.S. Student, Paleontology
Ohio University*



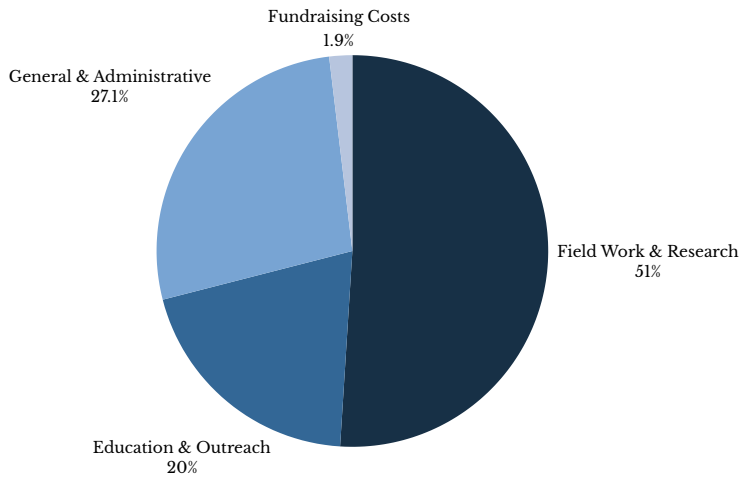
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The
David B. Jones
FOUNDATION

and donors like you!

2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

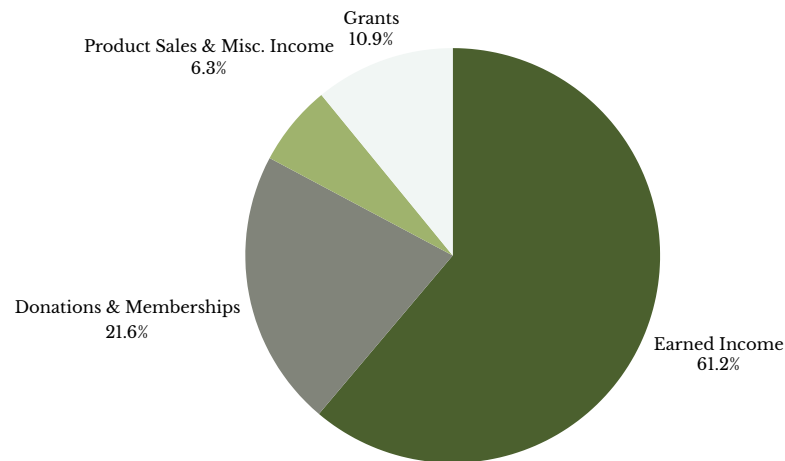


Expenses

Science: Field Work & Research	\$268,799.52
Education & Outreach	\$105,530.56
General and Administrative	\$142,827.75
Fundraising Costs	\$9,803.52
Total Expenses	\$481,388.52

Revenue

Earned Income	\$391,775.64
Donations & Membership	\$138,817.54
Product Sales & Misc. Income	\$40,907.77
Grants	\$70,188.81
Total Revenue	\$641,689.76



ENDOWMENT UPDATE

\$575,974.93

Endowment Ending Balance
December 31, 2024

2024 Income from Endowment

\$13,837.19

STAFF



Executive Director
Jason Schein



Director of Development
Devon Francis



Paleo Prep Lab Manager
Katie Hunt



SciComm Manager
Skye Walker



Director of Education
Dr. Richard Schmidt



**Crew Chief & Paleo
Anatomy Specialist**
Jason C. Poole



Field Technician
Daniel Dunfee

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