

Kansas State University Herbarium
Division of Biology
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506-4901
herbarium@ksu.edu

Dr. Jonathan Frye
Professor of Natural Science
McPherson College
McPherson, KS 67460
fryej@mcpherson.edu

2 January 2024


Dear Dr. Frye,

This letter gratefully acknowledges the donation of botanical and mycological specimens of McPherson College to the Kansas State University Herbarium (KSC). The transfer of these materials was facilitated by KSC Herbarium Postdoctoral Research Associate Dr. Sarah De Groot, and included materials outlined in your letter of 18 December 2023 (including the private herbarium of S.J. Neher; the MC Biology/Natural Science Department's teaching collection; the Gilford Ikenberry Sr. Bryophyte Collection; and the Gilford Ikenberry Jr. Mycological Collection).

KSC is an active research herbarium of nearly 200,000 specimens, with particular strengths in the flora of the Great Plains and historical material from Kansas. It is utilized by researchers at Kansas State, by visiting scientists, and by a broad community of researchers who access information via our specimen databases. McPherson College specimens will be curated, and much of the material will be accessioned into the KSC collection (with the specimens retaining all information, including their origin at McPherson College). In cases where we judge that materials will be better utilized in other collections (e.g., where specimens are duplicate collections of material already in KSC holdings; where material would be of particular research interest to taxonomists at other herbaria; etc.), we will distribute material where it can best be used by researchers. Without question, the specimens will be useful in studies of plant diversity.

We commend McPherson College and your efforts in working to ensure that the McPherson College herbarium specimens continue to be preserved and utilized in scientific research. We appreciate you thinking of KSC as a home for these materials, and look forward to curating and studying them. And, I'll reiterate that we would welcome you for a visit when you are in Manhattan!

Best wishes,



Carolyn J. Ferguson
Professor and Curator of the Herbarium (KSC)