

NEWS RELEASE

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NC State Paleontologist Receives Packard Foundation Fellowship

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Mary Schweitzer, assistant professor of paleontology at North Carolina State University with a joint appointment at the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences, has been awarded a five-year, \$625,000 fellowship from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

Schweitzer was one of 20 researchers nationwide to receive Packard Foundation fellowships this year. The Packard Foundation administers one of the nation's largest nongovernmental programs of unrestricted grants to faculty members in science and engineering.

Schweitzer, whose discovery of soft tissue in fossilized dinosaur bone was cited by *Discover* magazine as the 6th most important science story of 2005, will use the grant to further her research into the biogeochemical interactions that lead to fossil preservation.

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