



## **Michael Novacek**

### **Paleontologist**

Born in Evanston Illinois. Dr. Novacek is a well known paleontologist that now works for the American Museum of Natural History. Dr. Novacek's studies concern patterns of evolution and relationships among organisms, particularly mammals. His interests have ranged from paleontological evidence to new data on DNA sequences. He has led paleontological expeditions to Baja California, Mexico; the Andes Mountains of Chile; and the Yemen Arab Republic in search of fossil mammals and dinosaurs. He also is one of the team leaders of the joint American Museum of Natural History/Mongolian Academy of Sciences ongoing expeditions to the Gobi Desert, begun in 1990. The Mongolian expeditions marked the first return of a Western scientific team to the country in over 60 years and have received worldwide scientific and public attention for their spectacular findings. In 1993, Dr. Novacek was one of the discoverers of the Gobi's Ukhaa Tolgod, the richest Cretaceous fossil vertebrate site in the world. In 1999, he started a series of expeditions to Patagonia, Argentina, to research dinosaurs, mammals, and other fossils. Dr. Novacek was instrumental in establishing the Museum's Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics, and research program in astrophysics.

To learn more about Dr. Novacek <http://www.amnh.org/our-research/staff-directory/michael-j.-novacek/>

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