Over the last two years, the Zoology Department has experienced some changes, particularly in staffing. Yan, Chong-wei, will retire from as Birds and Mammals Division researcher. Dr. Shih, Si-de of the Invertebrate Division will transfer to the National Chung Hsing University. In the future, we expect to recruit a researcher specializing in avian biology or mammals and another one specializing in land invertebrate to join the animal research team.

The Museum has collected 410,000 animal specimens, but there is still room for substantial expansion. We will still focus on the collection of specimens in Taiwan in the future. When we have a complete range of animal specimens in Taiwan, we will turn to East Asia to extend our collection.

The animal specimens account for more than two thirds of the total specimens in the Museum. The quality and quantity of the Museum's animal specimens are one of the best in Taiwan and cover a wide range of different species. We will use a subsidy from the National Science Council to invite domestic and foreign experts from various related fields to conduct short-term research projects in the Museum in order to make good use of and preserve these specimens. We will also welcome zoology experts from domestic and foreign research institutes to work with or exchange specimens with the Museum.

The Zoology Department is currently responsible for managing the Mini Zoo as well as the Giant Crab Aquarium and Coral Reef Aquarium of the Exhibit Hall. The Department members are highly appreciated for their hard work in long-term breeding, exhibit, and caring for alive animals. Apart from collecting and researching, the staff has to provide long-term support to other divisions, bred more animals for exhibitions, and assisted in special exhibitions at irregular intervals. The joint effort of all staff members in the Department resulted in the best performance among all departments in the Museum in 2004. All the staff members in the Department are encouraged to keep up their good work in order to be a well-rounded museum worker.