Larry Witmer
Professor of anatomy

When looking at a dinosaur fossil, College of Osteopathic Medicine Professor Lawrence Witmer sees more than just bones: He sees a living, breathing creature whose inner workings remain a mystery. Take a tour of "WitmerLab" — a place where prehistoric forms meet pioneering technologies.

1. **Tyrannosaurus rex** is a common research subject in WitmerLab and a favorite with visitors, who range from kids to documentary crews from the BBC, Discovery Channel and National Geographic, which visited four times just last year alone.

2. The lab has emerged as a well-integrated machine of undergraduate and graduate students, technicians and postdoctoral fellows, all churning out **new scientific findings** and making their mark as the next generation of scholars.

3. Medical imaging techniques, including CT scanning, are combined with **innovative 3-D computer modeling** to visualize dinosaurs in new ways.

4. **Dinosaur and animal skulls** are shipped to WitmerLab from all corners of the globe — every continent except Antarctica — for scanning and analysis.

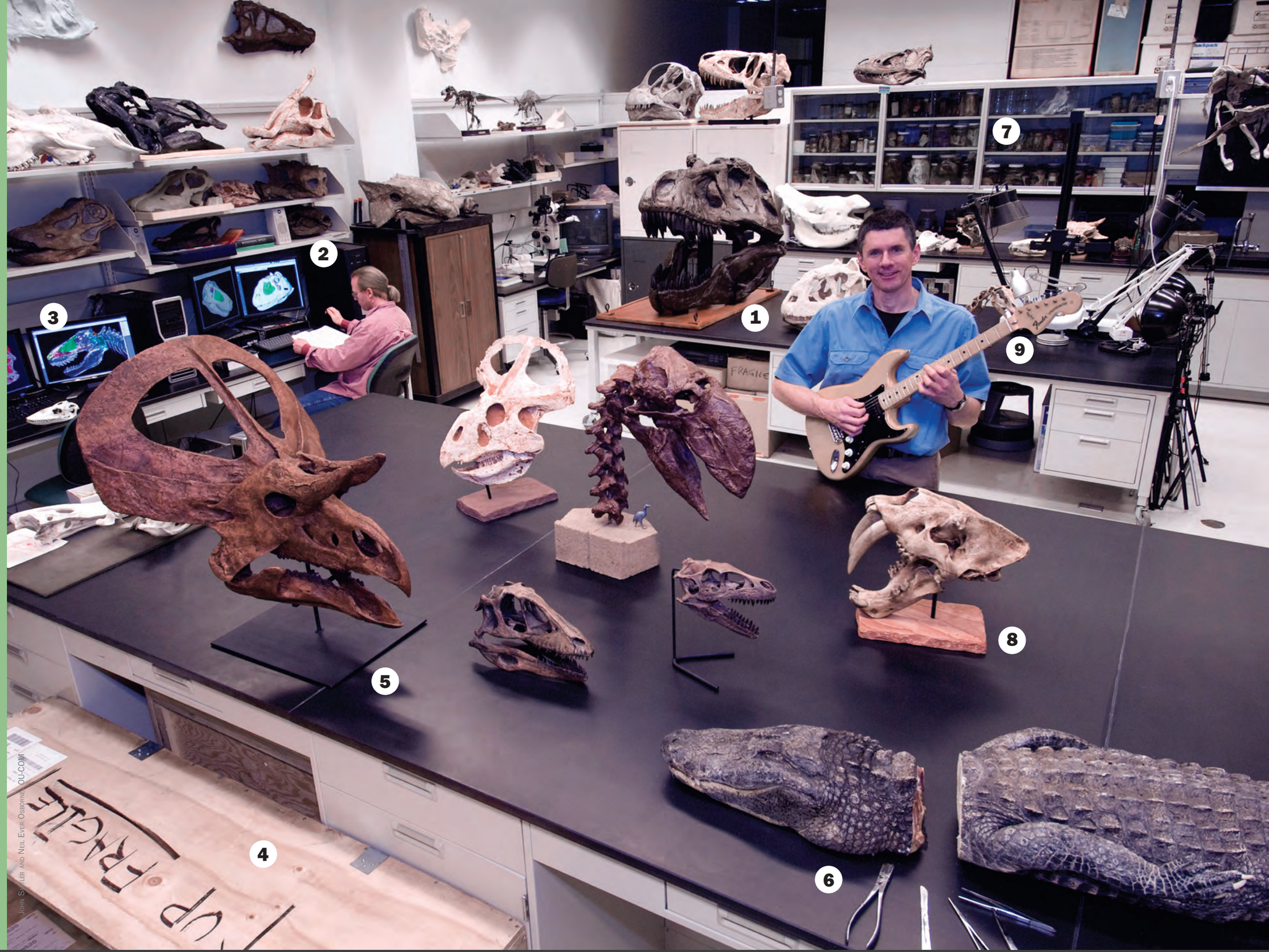
5. **Exact replicas of fossil skulls**, scattered around the lab, provide important reference for rare fossils that have been studied in the lab and returned to their museums.

6. Modern-day dinosaur relatives, such as birds and this large alligator (a road-kill victim), are **dissected to better understand the soft tissues** that clothed and animated dinosaur skeletons.

7. Modern-day animals preserved in jars of alcohol (or stored in the walk-in freezer) provide a **dissection "library"** for research on muscles, brains and blood vessels.

8. Dinosaurs aren't the only stars here. **Saber-tooth cats**, "terror pigs" and other predatory mammals are also studied.

9. When scientific inspiration needs to be supplemented with **musical inspiration**, Witmer and his guitars are never far away.



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