

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

FOR UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS (UMAC)

REPORT 2004 - 05

Composition of the Committee

Board

Chair

Cornelia Weber, Humboldt University, Germany (chair@umac.icom.museum)

Vice-Chairs

Steven de Clercq, University of Utrecht, Netherlands (s.w.g.declercq@museum.uu.nl)

Peter Stanbury, Macquarie University, Australia (peter.stanbury@vc.mq.edu.au)

Treasurer

Sue-Anne Wallace, Australia (sawallace@hotmail.net.au)

New Treasurer from October 2005 on: Andrew Simpson, Australia (asimpson@els.mq.edu.au)

Secretary

Peny Theologi-Gouti, Greece (secretary@umac.icom.museum)

Newsletter Editor

Lyndel King, USA (kingx001@umn.edu)

Web Editor

Peter Tirrell, USA (pbtirrell@ou.edu)

Ordinary members

Dominique Ferriot, France (ferriot@cnam.fr)

Kati Heinämies, Finland (kati.heinamies@helsinki.fi)

Ing-Marie Munktel, Sweden (ing-marie.munktel@gustavianum.uu.se)

Chairs of Working Groups

Aldona Jonaitis, USA (ffaj@uaf.edu) (since October co-opted to the Board – former Chair WG “Ethics”)

Marta Lourenço, Portugal (mclourenco@fc.ul.pt)

Rafaella Simili, Italy (simili@philo.unibo.it)

Aims 2004-2007

To:

- consolidate UMAC’s constitutional objectives both internally and externally
- consolidate UMAC’s recognition as the global organisation for university collections
- engage members to consolidate UMAC’s internal strength
- stress the distinct nature of university heritage and increase their recognition

Report 2004-05 by the Chair

1. Mailinglists

Development and implementation of two mailinglists:

- Mailinglist “umac.member” for internal information (maintenance through the chair)
- Mailinglist “umac.newsletter” for newsletters and other information of general interest with almost 500 users (subscription through UMAC’s Web site)

2. Website

Redesign and redevelopment of the UMAC Web site as a dynamic Web application: <http://umac.icom.museum>
Development of a new online accessible membership database, searchable by country in the public domain (<http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/umac/represented.php>) or by members in a password-protected area ("Internal").

3. Newsletter

Publication of two Newsletters in January and July 2005, edited by Lyndel King

4. Leaflet

Design of a brochure about UMAC in cooperation with the Working Group "Publications" (please see: <http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/umac/pdf/UMACFlyer.pdf>).
Successful application for a ICOM Special Grant 2005 to print UMAC's leaflet in English, French, Spanish and other languages (€ 2.500). The production of the leaflet in English is already finished; other languages will follow soon.

5. Conferences

- 2005 Conference

Communicating University Museums. Awareness and Action - University Museums Today. 25 September – 1 October 2005, Uppsala, Sweden, and Helsinki, Finland.
The 2005 conference has been hosted by the Museum Gustavianum, University of Uppsala, Sweden, organised by Ing-Marie Munktell, the Director of the Museum Gustavianum.

Conference Board: Ing-Marie Munktell, Sweden; Cornelia Weber, Germany; Peter Stanbury, Australia, Steven de Clerq, Netherlands; Kati Heinämies, Finland; Axel Christophersen, Norway; Graciela de la Torre, Mexico

Summary: The conference was a great success with 43 participants from 19 countries, 20 papers, four short reports and one poster presentation, including a special Scandinavian session.

- 2006 Conference

New Roads for University Museums

26 – 29 September 2006, Mexico City

The conference will be hosted by the ICOM National Committee of Mexico.

Conference Board: Ing-Marie Munktell, Sweden; Cornelia Weber, Germany; Peter Stanbury, Australia, Steven de Clerq, Netherlands; Gabriela Fong, Mexico; Silvia Singer, Mexico; Graciela de la Torre, Mexico

- Later Conferences

2007: Vienna within the ICOM General Conference

Museums foundation of understanding

Further information: <http://www.icom-oesterreich.at/2007/index.html>

2008: Fairbanks, Alaska

2009: Lisbon, Portugal

2010: Moscow or Beijing within the ICOM General Conference

2011: Applications from Singapore and Oslo, Norway

6. ICOM Advisory Committee

Participation by the Chair in the 67th Session of the ICOM Advisory Committee in Paris, June 2005

7. Publicity

Presentations and talks by the Chair (including UMAC's activities, among other topics):

- Berlin, Germany, Conference November 2005

- Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium, Colloquium 2005

- Dijon, France, Conference April 2005
- University of Greifswald, Germany, Lecture April 2005
- University of Porto, Portugal, Lecture May 2005
- University of Halle-Wittenberg, Germany, Symposium May 2005

Publication

Cornelia Weber, *Vers des réseaux d'échange de savoirs et d'expériences*. In: Louvain. Revue mensuelle de l'Université Catholique de Louvain [Focus *University Collections*], 156, 2005, S. 24-27.

8. Links with other museums associations

ECSITE (European Collaborative for Science, Industry and Technology Exhibitions) - the European Network of Museums and Science Centres

In November 4, 2004, university museums had a special session for the first time in ECSITE's history. The session took place in ECSITE Annual Meeting (Museu CosmoCaixa, Barcelona) and it was entitled "University Museums as vehicles for the communication of contemporary research and the development of innovative science exhibitions". It was organised and chaired by UMAC's Board member Dominique Ferriot.

The session reflected an increasing interest from ECSITE, and the community of museums of science and technology in general, on museums and collections held by universities. Participants in the session included Steven de Clercq, Marta C. Lourenço, Hannu Salmi, Tiiu Sild, Jorge Wagensberg, Tristram Bestermam and Dominique Ferriot. The debate was vivid and engaging and covered a wide range of issues, such as the distinct role and vast potential of university collections, relations with the museum sector, challenges regarding staff and training, public exhibitions and funding, among others.

The Barcelona session was followed by another session at the 4th Science Centre World Congress in Rio de Janeiro (April 2005), also organised by UMAC Board member Dominique Ferriot and including university museum colleagues from Europe and the Americas.

Report 2004-05 by the Vice-Chair Steven de Clercq

Letter of support because of plans to close the Geological Museum of the University of Lisbon.

Report 2004-05 by the Treasurer Sue-Anne Wallace

Balance of account on September 15, 2005: 6.463,42 Australian Dollar (EUR 4.308,95), including 3.750 Australian Dollar (EUR 2.500) special project grant.

Membership

131 voting members from 36 countries and territories

Argentina (1), Australia (17), Austria (1), Belarus (1), Belgium (5), Brazil(2), Canada (5), Denmark (1), Estonia (1), Finland (5), France (11), German (3), Greece (2), India (1), Iran (1), Ireland (3), Israel (2), Italy (5), Jamaica (1), Korea (3), Latvia (1), Madagascar (2), Mexico (2), Netherlands (7), Norway (3), Philippines (3), Poland (3), Portugal (1), Russia (1), South Africa (1), Spain (3), Sweden (2), Switzerland (1), United Kingdom (13), United States of America (16), Zimbabwe (1)

Working Groups

UMAC has five working groups: Directories, Staffing, Recognition, Publications, Strategic Plan

Directories Working Group

Function/Aim

To collect information about other existing directories, catalogues and inventories, to accumulate basic information about university museums in many countries and present the results on the UMAC website.

The aim for 2004-05 was to collect further information about university museums worldwide (please see: <http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/collections/>)

Chair

Cornelia Weber (weber@mathematik.hu-berlin.de), in collaboration with Marta Lourenço (mclourenco@fc.ul.pt)

Members

Mauricio da Silva, Brazil; Joshua M. Gorman, USA; Christina Haywood, Ireland; Bonnie G. Kelm, USA; Françoise Le Guet Tully, France; Pasquale Tucci, Italy

Report 2004-05 by Cornelia Weber

1. Database

The first revision of the database resulted in two indices of different types:

- Museum of Collection Type (according to the UNESCO classification ES)
Cultural History & Art; Ethnology & Anthropology; History & Archaeology; Medicine;
Natural History & Natural Science; Science & Technology; General; Other
- Institutional Type
Museum, Collection (Research, Research & Teaching; Teaching), House
Museum/Memorial; Science Centre; Special Type (Archive, Biological Station, Botanic
Garden/Arboretum, Detention Room, Herbarium, Observatory, Planetarium, Sculpture
Park, Sound Archive, Zoo/Aquarium), Virtual Museum

The database presently has 2,001 records encompassing museums and collections from 50 countries or territories: Africa 11, America 373, Asia 209, Australasia 325, Europe 1083.

Number of hits per month:

- October 2004: 5022
- November 2004: 5134
- December 2004: 3730
- January 2005: 4750
- February 2005: 5622
- March 2005: 7136
- April 2005: 6084
- May 2005: 5624
- June 2005: 4906
- July 2005: 5300
- August 2005: 7025
- September 2005: 6932

2. Research project

Currently, the Chair is working on a project to catalogue all German universities' collections and to compile extensive data on the holdings and the history of these collections (<http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/sammlungen/index.php>), funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

Aims 2005-07

The aim is to collect further information about university museums and collections worldwide and expand the database in the number of records it contains.

Ethics Working Group

The group was disbanded in 2005. Its former function and aim were:

To have input into the ongoing revision of Statutes and Code of Ethics being conducted by ICOM, particularly (but not only) in those areas identified as being especially prevalent in, and relevant to, university museums and collections; and to produce guidelines on matters concerning university museums and collections after reviewing the relevant policies of different institutions.

The Committee was established in large part to contribute the revised ICOM Code of Ethics. That immediate mission has been accomplished. Should an ethical issue arise, the Board could assemble an ethics task force to address it. Such a task force would include members from the Ethics Committee, specifically Marta Lourenço, Steven de Clercq, and Aldona Jonaitis.

Staffing Working Group

Function/Aim

This group has in the past compiled data from Australia and Europe, but the immediate utility of such data was overshadowed by the labour for further compilation.

Chair

Ing-Marie Munktell (ing-marie.munktell@ gustavianum.uu.se)

Members

Isidro Abaño, Philippines; Hugues Drysse, France; Kati Heinamies, Finland; Ofra Keinan, Israel; Susan Moldenhauer, US; Mauricio Silva, Brazil; Peter Tirrell, USA; Bernard Van den Driessche, Belgium; Karl Van Dyke, Australia

Report 2004-05

The members of the Working Group collected some information from their countries and about the ICOM Australian National Committee Exchange Program. The Australians are planning to establish an international museum exchange program with Europe and near neighbours in the Pacific region. In Europe museums can use the "Erasmus program" for some exchange and the Council of Europe is planning a major survey covering all European universities concerning training programs and cooperation between university museums and heritage management staff.

Aims 2005-07

To:

- "open up" a space on the web for information concerning exchange programs and possibilities for economic support to "study visits" in university museums around the world
- make a pilot in exchange of staff between Uppsala and Helsinki, starting spring 2006.

Recognition Working Group

Function/Aim

This group works towards increasing the profile of university museums and collections in academic and political spheres

Chair

New Chair since October 2005: Dominique Ferriot, France (ferriot@cnam.fr)
2004/05: Rafaella Simili (simili@philo.unibo.it)

Members

Janine Andrews, USA; Axel Chrisophersen, Steven de Clercq, Netherlands; Hugues Dreyse, France; Norway; Karin Hagen, Norway; Kati Heinamies, Finland; Ofra Keinan, Israel; Michelle Loneux, Belgium; Marta Lourenco, Portugal; Judith Schiebout, USA; Geir Soli, Felix Sperling, USA; Peter Tirrell, USA; Norway; Bernard Van den Driessche, Belgium; Dominick Verschelde, Belgium

Report 2004-05

The Working Group did not report any activities.

Aims 2005-07

To revive the activities of the Working Group.

Publications Working Group

Function/Aim

This group was established in 2003 to work in close cooperation with the Directories group to improve the structure and to further develop UMAC's website, which will be given an entirely new structure. The Publications group undertakes the task of selecting, editing and printing the double blind refereed Conference Proceedings, and other publications deemed to be in the interest of UMAC and the university museums' community. Since its inception UMAC has published the unedited conference papers on its website within two months.

Co-Chairs

Peter Stanbury (peter.stanbury@mq.edu.au) and Marta Lourenço (MCLourenco@fc.ul.pt)

Conference Proceedings Chair

Peter Stanbury (peter.stanbury@mq.edu.au)

Members

Steven de Clercq, Netherlands; Joshua Gorman, USA; Lyndel King, USA; Greg Liggett, USA; Carol Mayer, Canada; Ing-Marie Munktel, Sweden; Andrew Simpson, Australia; Ted Snell, Australia; Peter Tirrell, USA; Sue-Anne Wallace, Australia; Robin Walsh, Australia; Cornelia Weber, Germany

Report 2004-05 by Peter Stanbury & Marta Lourenço

1. Publication of the Oklahoma Proceedings

The third conference proceedings of UMAC were published during the year through the host institution (Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at the University of Oklahoma) with the assistance of an ICOM publications grant and funding from the Sam Noble Museum. The Committee is most grateful to Peter Tirrell for seeing this publication through the press to its final distribution.

2. Publication of the Seoul Proceedings

Difficulties in communication with our Korean hosts delayed the publication of the proceedings of this most generously hosted conference. In due course it became apparent that the conference papers would not be published from Korea. Cornelia Weber then approached Professor Stanislaw Waltos from the University of Krakow who generously agreed to consider selected papers for the journal *Opuscula Musealia*. Four papers are now under consideration.

There was apparent reluctance in 2004 on the part of authors to provide the Publications Committee with an electronic copy of their presentation for immediate publication on the web. Only about half of the authors did so in 2004 in spite of several reminders. As a consequence this year fewer papers than normal could be published on the web for members and others, who were unable to attend the Conference, to acquire a feeling for UMAC's input to ICOM's triennial conference.

Consideration should be given to instituting a firm rule that an electronic copy of the paper must be supplied to the Publication Committee before any presentation is made at an annual conference.

3. Website

The publication Committee assisted with advice in the development of UMAC's new website, although the main work was carried out through Cornelia Weber at her own institution with the help of her assistant, Martin Stricker. Members will be grateful to both

for the improvement to UMAC's public image and for easier access to information about UMAC.

4. Proposed publication: Adapting to Change

The publications Committee has been working on a new document that is designed to assist those collections or universities that wish to better integrate into their institution and their communities. A draft of the document will be presented at the Uppsala conference for consideration.

5. Acknowledgement

The Co-Chairs thank all members of the Committee who have assisted with its work during the year by suggesting improvements, refereeing papers, and discussing ways in which UMAC can assist university museums throughout the world.

Aims 2005-07

To develop guidelines for the proceedings and – if possible - a corporate design for UMAC.

New Working Groups

In Uppsala UMAC decided to establish a new Working Group "Strategic Plan" with Peter Tirrell as Chair and accepted a proposal to establish a Working Group "Research".

Strategic Plan Working Group

Chair

Peter Tirrell, USA (pbtirrell@ou.edu)

Members

Linda Bahm, USA; Cynthia Bettison, USA; Christine Khor, Singapore; Alan Knox, UK; Ramon Lerma, Philippines; Nathalie Nyst, Belgium; Peny Theologi-Gouti, Greece; Dominick Vershelde, Belgium; Cornelia Weber, Germany.

2. Publication

Proceedings of the Third Conference of the International Committee of University Museums and Collections. Ed. by Peter B. Tirrell. Oklahoma, 21 - 26 September 2003. Norman, OK, 2005. ISSN 0874 8055

3. Draft proposal for further UMAC/ICOM activities

- Strategic Plan

To develop a strategic plan for UMAC is now a matter of urgency.

- Membership

Increasing membership will be one of the core duties of the new Board.

- Publications

UMAC will continue publishing the proceedings of its Conferences, and from time to time, guidelines for its members and the museum community.