INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS-
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF MUSEUMS
COMITE INTERNATIONAL POUR LES MUSEES ET COLLECTIONS UNIVERSITAIRES-
CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MUSEES

A.   Report on UMAC's activities from September 2002 to September 2003.

Membership and contacts
UMAC has 157 voting and non-voting members from 38 countries, as at the 1st of August 2003. In 2002 UMAC had 145 voting and non-voting members from 36 countries. Those members come from different types of university museums, ranging from the traditional "scientific or research-collections" to "contemporary art galleries".
UMAC has regular contact by electronic 'newsletters' with the Board as well as with members and a numbers of professionals interested in its activities.

Publications
UMAC was chosen by ICOM as the Committee to produce the 2003 Study Series (number 11) - University Museums. The President of ICOM, Jacques Perot, contributed a Forward and 13 other contributions were written by UMAC members and people working in university museums.   The scientific editing team was led by Peter Tirrell and the publication was brought to fruition by the Communications and Publication Unit in Paris.

The proceedings of the Sydney-Canberra Conference were placed on UMAC's web site (www.icom.org/umac) soon after the conference ended. A selection of the papers was published in the journal **"***Museologia***"** (2003) by the University of Lisbon in Portugal thanks to Marta Lourenco and her editorial team. Copies are available through UMAC's web page. UMAC will publish the proceedings of the 2003 conference**.**

Conferences
UMAC organized a very successful Conference in September 2002 in Sydney and Canberra, Australia. The theme was: "*Exposing and Exploiting the Distinct Character of University Museums and Collections***",** with 25 contributions, 8 posters and two round table discussions.

The 2003 Conference will be hosted by the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History with 25 papers, 4 round tables-plenary sessions, working Group meetings and the AGM.

 The 2004 and the 2007 Conferences, will take place at the time of the ICOM Triennal Assembly in Seoul, Korea (October 2004) and in Vienna, Austria (2007). The 2005 UMAC conference will be in Uppsala, Sweden, hosted by the University of Uppsala Museum Gustavianum. Other proposed venues for the UMAC Conferences are Singapore, Alaska, and Portugal.

Working Groups

UMAC has five working groups.

Group A – Directories

The aim of this WG is to collect information about the existing directories/catalogues/inventories; collecting basic information, contacting colleagues and analysing the results. The thrust is to identify what has been done and add to it.

A "*University Museums & Collections Unimac Database Project*" has been drafted and developed in 2002-2003 with specific *Guidelines for Data Entry*. This Database aims at providing a global Directory of University Museums and Collections to be used by UMAC, researchers, students, and the general public worldwide. **Unimac** is based on two major pre-existing databases of university museums and collections:

    a) the Database of German university museums and collections (*Universitätsmuseen und sammlungen in Deutschland[1]*) developed by Cornelia Weber (Humboldt University at Berlin & Chair of UMAC's Working Group for Directories); and

    b) UMAC/Macquarie Database[2], developed by Peter Stanbury (Macquarie University, Australia).

Chair: Cornelia Weber (weber@mathematik.hu-berlin.de), in collaboration with Marta Lourenco (martal@fc.ul.pt)

Group B - Ethics and Disposal

The aim of this group is to have input into the ongoing ethics revision process being conducted by ICOM; to formulate practical guidelines by collecting the policies of different institutions and selecting the most useful for university purposes. During 2002-2003 the group has drafted and developed the following documents :

1. "*The Summary of policy documents*" provided by Lyndel King which contains a List of policies, a General overview of the policies, Definitions, Decisions regarding de-accessioning, Criteria for de-accessioning, Procedures and Disposal methods.

2. **"*Museum Definitions*"** Sources: Websites (many supplied by Patrick Boylanand the members of ICOM-L mail list.

3. **"*Working Document #1 – Deaccessioning*"** with the aim to formulate a statement on deaccessioning, and if deemed necessary, to suggest change(s) in the ICOM Code of Ethics (currently under revision).

4. **"*Working Document #2 – The Public of University Museums*"** with the aim to formulate a statement on the public service of university museums and collections, and, if deemed necessary, to suggest change(s) in the ICOM Definition of Museums (currently under revision).

5. **"*Working Document #3 – The Status of a University Collection*"** with the aim to formulate a statement distinguishing between between 'university museum' and 'university collection'. It is aimed at raising ICOM's awareness to this issue and, if deemed necessary, to suggest change(s) in the ICOM Definition of Museums (currently under revision).

Chair: Aldona Jonaitis in collaboration with Marta Lourenco (ffaj@uaf.edu; martal@fc.ul.pt).

Group C – Staffing

This group aims to identify the special occupational group, 'university museum and collection staff', to list their needs (or the minimum needs for professionalisation), and to raise their profile. The two Australian publications Cinderella Collections and Transforming Cinderella Collections contain useful starting points for this agenda. The aim is to encourage universities to:

• assist their museum staff to upgrade their museological qualifications

• initiate staff development plans in cooperation with museums in the public sector

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[1] See http://www2.hu-berlin.de/kulturtechnik/sammlungsdatenbank.php.

[2] See http://icom.museum/umac.

- support exchange of staff within and between university museums and other museums
- raise standards of professionalism among university museums and collections staff

Chair: Ing-Marie Munktell (Ing-marie.Munktell@Gustavianum.uu.se)

Group D - UMAC Conferences 2003/2004

Forthcoming UMAC Conferences are discussed by this group. It is important that conferences are held across the globe in areas where there is a concentration of members. As the ICOM General Assemblies are being or will be held in Korea (in 2004) and in Vienna in 2007 it has been decided to hold the UMAC 2005 conference in Uppsala Sweden.

"UMAC Conference Guidelines" has been drafted and developed in 2002-2003". These guidelines apply to all UMAC conferences but are particularly relevant for those conferences between the ICOM triennial assembly.

Chair: Di Yerbury vc@vc.mq.edu.au

Local Chair for Oklahoma: Peter Tirrell (pbtirrell@ou.edu)

Group E - Recognition for University Collections within Tertiary Institutions and Governments

After obtaining a foot within the professional museum world (UMAC/ICOM), the work of this group is aimed at achieving the same kind of recognition within the academic and political worlds (including the EC). The group also liaises with colleagues on Academic Heritage (including movable, immovable and intangible heritage).

Chair: Rafaella Simili simili@philo.unibo.it

Draft proposal for UMAC/ICOM activities (2003-2004)

Membership and contacts

- The regular contact with members and people wishing to be informed about UMAC's activities will continue by electronic means.
- Increasing membership will be one of the core duties of the new Board, hoping that the membership will reach over 200 in 2004

Publications

- UMAC intends to publish the proceedings of the 2003 Conference. As other publications are being actively considered, the formation of a new working group for publications will be considered.

Core Activities

The core activities of UMAC will be
- Communication with members
- Raising the profile of university museums
- The actions of its Working Groups
- Responses to urgent matters, which are referred to UMAC by ICOM or other significant organisations concerned with museums.