

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
FOR UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS (UMAC)
REPORT 2014-2015

Period: from the annual meeting in Alexandria (10/14) to the annual meeting in Manila (05/15)

After the elections in Rio the composition of the board is the following Chair

Hugues Dreyssé, University of Strasbourg, France (chair@umac.icom.museum)

Vice-Chairs

Panu Nykänen, Helsinki, Finland (Panu.Nykanen@technologyacademy.fi)

Elena Corradini, University of Modena, Italy (elena.corradini@unimore.it)

Treasurer

Catherine Giltrap, Dublin, Ireland (catherinegiltrap@gmail.com)

Secretary:

Graciela Weisinger, Buenos Aires, Argentina (gweisinger@gmail.com)

Newsletter Editor

Lyndel King, University of Minnesota, USA (kingx001@umn.edu)

Members

Christine Khor, National University of Singapore (ckhor@nus.edu.sg)

Luisa Fernanda Rico Mansard, UNAM, Mexico (lfrico@universum.unam.mx)

Barbara Rothermel, Lynchburg, USA (rothermel@lynchburg.edu)

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Chairs of Working Groups

Nathalie Nyst, Free University of Brussels, Belgium (nnyst@ulb.ac.be)

Andrew Simpson, Macquarie University, Australia (asimpson@els.mq.edu.au)

Cornelia Weber, Humboldt University, Germany (weber@mathematik.hu-berlin.de)

Ing-Marie Munktell, University of Uppsala, Sweden (ing-marie.munktell@uadm.uu.se)

Peter Stanbury, Australian Assoc. of Anaesthetists, Australia (pstanbury@gmail.com)

A. General report 2014-15 by the Chair with the help of the board

1. Mailing list

Extension of the "umac.newsletter" mailing list to **890** subscribers (26/04/14). An important work has been done to continue to "clean" our mailing list since many addresses were no more valid.

2. UMAC-ML

Started in 2009 the moderated list UMAC-ML (umac-ml@unistra.fr) is organized by Sébastien Soubiran. The mailing list, hosted and managed by the University of Strasbourg, enables the international community of university museums and collections to exchange information and to get in touch with colleagues worldwide. This mailing list has slightly increased this year to **308** subscribers (as 11/04/15 with 0% of error rate).

3. Website

Number of visits: 4900 over the last 12 months (26/04/15).

4. Newsletter

One newsletter is under preparation edited by Lyndel King.

See: <http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/umac/newsletters>

5. Proceedings

Publication of the proceedings of the 2013 Rio conference is under process, as the proceedings of the common UMAC-CECA conference in Alexandria in 2014. See <http://edoc.hu-berlin.de/umacj>

6. Conferences

6.1. General UMAC Conference

2014: Alexandria (Egypt) with the CECA-ICOM, 9-14/10/14

The conference was attended by about 140 delegates from 35 countries from the five continents. Selected papers will be published (2015).

A great support has been given by the CEAlex, the University of Alexandria (Faculty of Arts) and the Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

6.2. Future general UMAC Conferences

- 2015: Manila (Philippines), 11-15/05/2015 (<http://umac2015manila.ust.edu.ph>)
- 2016 in Milano during the triannual ICOM conference.

7. Publicity and Presentation by Board Members

- Hugues Dreyssé to the Workshop on Public Relations in University and Academy Museums, Erevan (Armenia), 28-31/10/2014, organized by ICOM - Armenia by giving lectures and practical exercise.

- Hugues Dreyssé and Nathalie Nyst in live and Lyndel King and Graciela Weisinger by skype to International seminar on Museums and Innovation in Modena (Italy) 28-29/10/2014.

- Elena Corradini, Nathalie Nyst and Hugues Dreyssé to the international congress on university museums "*Tradition and future*" in Madrid (Spain) 3-5/12/2014.

- Luis Fernanda Rico Mansard, Hugues Dreyssé and Nathalie Nyst to the First Seminar on University Cultural Heritage, 18-20/03/2015 in La Havana (Cuba).

8. Activities supported by UMAC

Outside the annual conference, UMAC has supported various initiatives:

- The 5th meeting on university museums of Mercosur in Santa Fe (Argentina), 23-24/10/2014, with the publication of a chart (<http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/umac/otherdocuments>).
- A workshop on Public relations in University and Academy Museums, Erevan (Armenia), 28-31/10/2014, organized by ICOM-Armenia with the support of ICOM, ICOM-MPR and ICOM-UMAC.
- An international seminar on Museums and Innovation « *The contribution of digital technologies to the development of the social and cultural rôle of the University Museums* », Modena (Italy), 28-29/10/2014.
- The 7th meeting of Mexican university museums in Xalapa, 16-17/04/2015 organized by UMAC-Mexico.

Another way to support events is to spread the information, for instance with our website (<http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/umac/calendar->).

9. Membership

263 voting members (individual and institutional) from 52 countries and territories on 01/01/2015 (2012/2013: 230/46, 2011/12: 210/46, 2010/11: 208/41, 2009/10: 195/40 - 2008/09: 186/42). The numbers for 2015 are not yet known.

Argentina (7), Armenia (1), Australia (9), Austria (6), Belarus (1), Belgium (6), Brazil (11), Bulgaria (0), Canada (2), Chile (2), China (1), Colombia (4), Congo (0), Costa Rica (1), Czech Republic (1), Denmark (5), El Salvador (1), Estonia (4), Finland (12), France (25), Germany (12), Greece (0), Guatemala (1), Iran (1), India (0), Ireland (2), Israel (3), Italy (6), Jamaica (1), Japan (5), Korea (2), Latvia (1), Lithuania (0), Madagascar (2), Mexico (9), Netherlands (9), New Zealand (1), Norway (6), Pakistan (1), Peru (1), Philippines (7), Poland (4), Portugal (5), Russia (7), Serbia (1), Singapore (1), South Africa (2), Spain (7), Sweden (3), Switzerland (1), Taiwan (3), Thailand (1), Turkey (0), Ukraine (3), United Kingdom (12), United States of America (42), Venezuela (1), Zimbabwe (1)

B. Report 2011-2012 by the Treasurer Catherine Giltrap

A large part of the fees for the annual conference have transited in the UMAC bank account. There is still remaining 2860 Euros which will be used for the proceedings of the 2014 conference. Moreover expenses from 2014 of 1800 Euros have not been paid.

For 2015 UMAC got from ICOM 4770 Euros.

Balance of account on 01/04/2014 is: 25.668,48 Euros.

C. Report of the Working Groups activities by their chair/man-woman

UMAC has four working groups (Directories, Advocacy, Publications, Strategic Planning) and a Research Development Group.

1. Directories Working Group by C. Weber

Function/Aim

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

Chair

Cornelia Weber (weber@mathematik.hu-berlin.de)

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A systematic effort has been done for Italy leading to 170 entries.

The UMAC database presently has 3212 (3,056 in 2014, 3134 in 2013, 3,069 in 2012, 2,584 in 2011) records encompassing museums and collections from 67 countries or territories: Africa 12, America 650, Asia 319, Australasia 331, Europe 1900 (see: <http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/collections/>).

2. Advocacy Working Group by H. Dreyssé

Function/Aim

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

Aims 2015-16

Continue to increase the number of active UMAC members and participate or initiate networking activities to promote university collections and museums. Further, initiatives should be undertaken aimed at establishing national or international networks of universities with a special attention to Asia.

Chair

Hugues Dreyssé, France (hugues.dreyse@unistra.fr)

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- The main activities have been to continue to ensure a large diffusion of the various conferences or workshops on university museums. For instance our website is reporting an increasing number of activities as conferences or workshops around the university museums all over the world. Also we are more and more directly contacted to post these announcements.

- An effort has been done to spread the Rio's resolution on the university museums: <http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/umac/pdf/UMAC%20Resolution%20on%20protection%20of%20University%20collections%20final%20version.pdf>

- We are pleased to see that networks at a national or regional level are developing.

- Flavio Häner, from Basel, has initiated a university museums informal network in Switzerland and two general meetings have been held.

- Under the direction of Elena Corradini, and the formal support of UMAC, the initial group of 12 Italian university museums has been extended to 15.

- UMAC has supported the 5th meeting of the university museums of the Mercosur in Santa Fe (Argentina), 23-24/10/2014.

- New relations are developing between UMAC and various networks: UMIS (Scotland), AAMG (in USA), UNIVERSEUM (Europe)

3. Publications Working Group by N. Nyst

Function/Aim

This group was established in 2003. It co-ordinates the edition of publications in electronic and print form deemed to be in the interest of UMAC and the university museum's community. It is responsible for supervising the selection, editing and printing of the double blind refereed Conference Proceedings.

Chair

Nathalie Nyst, Belgium (nnyst@ulb.ac.be)

Members

Catherine Giltrap (Ireland), Regina Hammond (Australia), Lyndel King (USA), Ing-Marie Munktell (Sweden), Andrew Simpson (Australia), Peter Stanbury (Australia), Cornelia Weber (Germany)

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- Publication of *University Museums and Collections Journal* 7, 2014-2015 [in process].

Aims 2015-16

In Alexandria has been decided that UMACJ will be hosted in Strasbourg and that a new layout would be.

To produce:

- (Rio's Proceedings), including main papers from the International Colloquium *Positioning Academic Heritage. Challenges for Universities, museums and society in the 21st century* held in Ghent (Belgium) from 18th to 20th of November.
- (Alexandria's Proceedings), in collaboration with ICOM-CECA.

To prepare:

- the 1st issue of a new thematic collection decided in Lisbon.

The Work of the Committee

The Publications Committee has a heavy responsibility but much interesting work. It communicates with the Host Committee to review abstracts of proposed papers; assists the UMAC Board and the host Committee to decide upon the topic of the annual conference and edits those papers that are considered suitable for publication. It also assists in decisions about whether a paper is suitable for publication and is on hand for assistance if required for the final stage of preparing the on-line publication.

With strict time lines in place there is sometimes much work to undertake in a short time; at other periods the Committee is less busy. The Committee would like to invite UMAC members to join the publications work force - it is important, fascinating work and looks good on a *curriculum vitae*. Please contact Nathalie Nyst at the conference in Manila or by e-mail.

4. Strategic Planning Working

Function/Aim

To develop a strategic plan for UMAC

Ing-Marie Munktell has presented in Alexandria a first draft of the strategic plan which has been discussed inside the board and will proposed to UMAC AGM.

Aims 2014-2015

During the Manila meeting the board will work on this strategic plan.

5. Research Development Group by A. Simpson

Function/Aims

To maintain a network of information exchange for researchers/students concentrating on issues related to university museums and collections. The network will promote an active, two-way exchange between university museum and collections research community and UMAC members, offering reciprocal advice and insight.

Chair

Andrew Simpson (andrew.simpson@mq.edu.au)

Report on Activities

This working group is in stand-by presently.