INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

FOR UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS (UMAC)

REPORT 2006 – 07

A. COMPOSITION OF THE 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, Australian Association of Anaesthetists, Australia (pstanbury@gmail.com)

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

Secretary
Peny Theologi-Gouti, University of Patras, Greece (secretary@umac.icom.museum)

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

Ordinary members
Dominique Ferriot, Conservatoire Nationale des Arts et Métiers, France (ferriot@cnam.fr)
Kati Heinämies, University of Helsinki, Finland (kati.heinamies@helsinki.fi)
Ing-Marie Munktell, University of Uppsala, Sweden (ing-marie.munktell@ gustavianum.uu.se)

Chairs of Working Groups
Aldona Jonaitis, University of Alaska Fairbanks, USA (ffaj@uaf.edu) (former Chair WG "Ethics", since October 2005 co-opted to the Board)
Marta Lourenço, University of Lisbon, Portugal (mclourenco@fc.ul.pt)
Peter Tirrell, University of Oklahoma, USA (pbtirrell@ou.edu)

Aims 2004- 07
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 2006-07 by the Chair
1. **Mailinglist**
   Extension of the mailinglist "umac.newsletter" for newsletters and other information of general interest
   As at 25.07.07: 656 subscribers

2. **Website**
   Number of hits: 57.580 over 12 months (page impressions, cleaned of search engine & spam robots)

3. **Newsletter**
   Publication of a newsletter in April 2007, edited by Lyndel King
   see: http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/umac/newsletters.html

4. **Conferences**

   - 2007 Conference
   Museums and Universal Heritage
   19 - 24 August 2007, Vienna, Austria, within the ICOM General Conference
   http://www.icom-oesterreich.at/2007/index.html
   Sub theme of UMAC: *Universities in Transition – Responsibilities for Heritage*
   http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/umac/2007/
   81 attendees from 29 countries
   Conference Board: Steven de Clercq (Netherlands), Monika Knofler (Austria), Nicholas Merriman (United Kingdom), Andrew Simpson (Australia), Peter Stanbury (Australia), Graciela de la Torre (Mexico), Cornelia Weber (Germany)
   Local Organizing Committee: Monika Knofler, Chair (Austria), Claudia Feigl, Patrick Werkner
   Academic Committee: Nick Merriman, Chair (United Kingdom), Aldona Jonaitis (USA), Ing-Marie Munktell (Sweden), Marta Lourenço (Portugal), Cornelia Weber (Germany)

   - Later Conferences
   2008 Conference: Manchester, United Kingdom, 16th-19th September 2008
   University Museums and the Community
   http://www.meeting.co.uk/confercare/umac2008
   2009: Berkeley, USA (changed to avoid having three European venues in a row)
   2010: Shanghai, China, within the ICOM General Conference 7th-13th November 20010
   2011: Lisbon, Portugal (changed: 2011 instead of 2009)
   2012: Singapore

5. **ICOM Advisory Committee**
   Participation by the Chair in the 69th & 70th Session of the ICOM Advisory Committee in Vienna, August 2007

6. **Publicity**
   - Presentations by the Chair (including UMAC's activities, among other topics):
   Technical University Freiberg, Lecture Series, Germany, November 2006
   University of Tartu, Estonia, Conference *Research Travels and Museums*, December 2006
   Berlin, Germany, Lecture, Association for the History of Museum, February 2007
   University of Leiden, Netherlands, Workshop *Universities and the Material Basis of Disciplinarity*, May 2007
   University of Vienna, Austria, First meeting of researchers and curators responsible for the collections, June 2007

   - Other:
   Organization of an interdisciplinary symposium in co-operation with Anita Hermannstädter: *Wissenschaftskommunikation im öffentlichen Raum. Welche Rolle spielen die Universitäten?* [*Science Communication in the Public Sector. Defining the Role of Universities*] including a section about the role of university collections, Berlin, Germany, April 2007
   University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany, Opening of the exhibition *Ausgepackt. Die Sammlungen der Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg* (Address), May 2007
   University of Marburg, Germany, Meeting with the Committee *Museums and Collections of the University of Marburg*, July 2007

7. **Links with other networks and museums associations**
   UNIVERSEUM Network Meeting, Lisbon, 6 – 8 July 2007
   University Heritage – Universal Heritage?
   UMAC participants: Steven de Clercq (Vice-Chair), Marta Lourenço (Co-Chair WG Publications) and nine other UMAC members

Report 2006-07 by the Treasurer Andrew Simpson

Balance of account on August 10, 2007: 9927,10 Australian Dollar (6.187,33 EUR).

Membership

167 voting members from 38 countries

Argentina (1), Australia (13), Austria (3), Belarus (1), Belgium (4), Brazil (2), Bulgaria (1) Canada (5), Colombia (2), Croatia (1), Denmark (1), Estonia (2), Finland (6), France (21), Germany (8), Greece (2), India (1), Iran (1), Ireland (1), Israel (2), Italy (8), Korea (1), Latvia (1), Madagascar (2), Mexico (4), Netherlands (5), Norway (4), Peru (1), Philippines (4), Poland (3), Portugal (3), Russia (2), Singapore (1), Spain (5), Sweden (2), Switzerland (1), United Kingdom (14), United States of America (28)

Working Groups

UMAC has five working groups (Directories, Staffing, Recognition, Publications, Strategic Planning) and a Research Development Group.

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.

Aims 2006-07

To:

- collect further information about university museums and collections worldwide and expand the database in the number of records it contains

- develop a model to collect data (what do we want to know about university museums and collections?)

- find funds to start systematic registrations

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; Kate Arnold-Forster, Great Britain; Bertha T. Abraham Jalil; Mexico; Francoise Le Guet Tully, France

Report 2006-07 by Cornelia Weber

1. Database

The database presently has 2,245 (04/05: 2,197) records encompassing museums and collections from 56 (04/05: 50) countries or territories: Africa 11, America 382, Asia 265, Australasia 326, Europe 1298 (please see: http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/collections/)

2. Research project

Since 2004, Cornelia Weber has been 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). Until 13.07.07 759 existing museums and collections have been registered.

This project can be seen as a first model version to collect information about university collections and museums for an online database.

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.

Aims 2006-07

To support and facilitate all kinds of exchange between colleagues.

Chair

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

Members

Isidro Abaño, Philippines; Linda Bahm, USA; Hugues Dreysse, France; Kati Heinamies, Finland; Panu Nykänen, Finland; Mauricio Silva, Brazil

Report 2006-07 by Ing-Marie Munktell

At the last meeting in Mexico the chair made a short summary on the history and aims of the group: The WG Staffing was formed in Barcelona in 2001. The aims were to identify the special occupational group "university and collection staff" and to list their needs (or minimum needs for professionalisation) and finally to raise their profile. The background was our experience that universities often neglect the existence of collections and the need for special staffing. We saw the need for standards of professionalism among museum and collection staff. Inspiration came from the two Australian publications "Cinderella Collections" and "Transforming Cinderella Collections".

The group also made a minor investigation of UMAC members using a questionnaire concerning staffing. The result showed the wide gap between small "one man" collections and huge professional museums. After that we discussed using the ICTOP (International Committee for Training of Personnel) as a recommendation to our colleagues for development plans in our museums.

In Mexico city there was an interesting discussion on salaries and lack of job descriptions. Linda W Bahm promised to send an overview of salaries and job descriptions.

Panu Nykänen asked why we are not in better contact with our Baltic and Russian colleagues.

It was decided to work on the latter proposal.

The discussions in Mexico City then focused on establishing a space on the web site for the exchange of information concerning exchange programs, best practice and financing possibilities. The platform is now linked to our UMAC page (see: http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/umac/staffing.html)

Uppsala University Museum/Museum Gustavianum and Helsinki University Museum/ Arppeanum have already started a pilot exchange. Staff from Uppsala went to Helsinki and now also staff from Helsinki has been to Uppsala. The experiences are very positive from both sides and we are now planning for a project together connecting also our colleagues in Tartu (Estonia) and St Petersburg (Russia).

Recognition Working Group

Function/Aim

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

Aims 2006-07

To revive the activities of the Working Group.

Chair

Dominique Ferriot, France (ferriot@cnam.fr)

Report 2006-07

At the last conference in 2006 in Mexico it was realised that the factors that UMAC needs to address for greater recognition are organised on a regional, rather then global scale. It was therefore decided encourage members to set up regional groups with the aim of achieving regional recognition, or to stimulate existing regional groups to collaborate with UMAC in achieving our goals.

Luisa Fernanda Rico Mansard, Dirección General de Divulgación de la Ciencia, Autonomous University of Mexico, started a regional initiative ("working table") in Mexico, in cooperation with Bertha Teresa Abraham Jalil, Autonomous University of the State of Mexico, and Lourdes Monges Santo, Historical Collections of the Popular Art Museum.

At the first meeting on 22 November 2006 the group laid down the following main working lines:
1. Create a working group entirely dedicated to museums in universities.
2. Integrate a complete database of the university collections and museums.
3. Form a complete web list with people who works in university museums.
4. Detect the main interest of university museums to improve their services.
5. Provide members with specialized information about university museums.
6. Create spaces in which these topics can be expressed.
7. Connect the national museum group with the International Committee.

Since the first meeting in November 2006 the regional group has met three times.

Publications Working Group

Function/Aim
This group was established in 2003. It co-ordinates the publication 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 oversight of the selection, editing and printing the double blind refereed Conference Proceedings.

Co-Chairs
Peter Stanbury (pstanbury@gmail.com) and Marta Lourenço (MCLourenco@fc.ul.pt)

Members
Steven de Clercq, Netherlands; Joshua Gorman, USA; Lyndel King, USA; Greg Liggett, USA; Carol Mayer, Canada; Ing-Marie Munktell, Sweden; Andrew Simpson, Australia; Peter Tirrell, USA; Cornelia Weber, Germany

Report 2006-07 by Peter Stanbury & Marta Lourenço

1. Mexico Conference Proceedings
Immediately following the 2006 conference in Mexico City, discussions were held between Stephen de Clercq and Peter Stanbury (representing the UMAC Publication Group) and Rafael Sámano, Gabriela Fong, Graciela de la Torre, Lourdes Monges, Ma. Josefina Garduño Colin, Silvia Singer representing the UMAC's Mexican hosts. The latter generously suggested publishing a selection of the UMAC conference papers as a museological reference book sponsored by Anuies and UNAM under the working title of *New Roads for University Museums.* The UMAC working group accepted the proposal in principle and suggested a comprehensive working list of authors.

The project was developed in Mexico and by May 2007 the Publications working group were invited to agree to the proposed table of contents and to co-ordinate the gathering of the papers in English, with final copy subject to a very short deadline. The gathering of the Spanish contributions, the final editing and the publication would be undertaken in Mexico under the oversight of Ana Cue. After further negotiations the deadline was extended to August: still short in the view of the Working Group, but necessary for funding reasons within Mexico. The arrangements have been confirmed in a letter to all contributors from Graciela de la Torre.

2. Conference guidelines

During the year discussions were held about the guidelines for UMAC conferences. A shortened and simplified version was drafted to assist the 2008 hosts, but requires final ratification by the UMAC Board.

3. Future Aims

Past experience has shown that the development of guidelines for the publication of the proceedings are complicated by the local conditions and circumstances at the place at which the conference takes place, the availability of a suitable publication, funding and editors. Up to the present time UMAC has managed to publish a selection of its annual conference presentations, but this has been a matter of luck, the occasional grant, generosity of hosts and journals and the dedication of volunteers. UMAC may not be so fortunate in the future unless it requires those hosting conferences to negotiate the publication of selected conference presentations in a manner appropriate to the Board.

4. Thank you

The two retiring Co-Chairs thank the Working Group members, referees, Journal Editors and Conference Hosts for their assistance in the work of the Group and their interest in promoting the cause of university museums throughout the world.

Strategic Planning Working Group

Function/Aim

To develop a strategic plan for UMAC is the most important and urgent task.

Chair

Peter Tirrell, USA (pbtirrell@ou.edu)

Members

Linda Bahm, USA; Cynthia Bettison, USA; Christine Khor, Singapore; Alan Knox, UK; Ramon Lerma, Philippines; Marta Lourenço, Portugal; Nathalie Nyst, Belgium; Peter Stanbury, Australia; Peny Theologi-Gouti, Greece; Dominick Verschelde, Belgium; Cornelia Weber, Germany.

Task Force Members

Dominique Ferriot, Board Member & Chair WD Recognition; Lyndel King, Board Member & Editor, Newsletter; Zenobia Kozak, Coordinator, Research Development; Nicholas Merriman, Member, Chair 2008 UMAC Conference; Ing-Marie Munktell, Board Member & Chair, WG Staffing; Peter Stanbury, Board Member, Co-Vice-Chair UMAC & Co-Chair, WG Publications; Peter Tirrell, Board Member & Chair WG Strategic Planning; Cornelia Weber, Chair, UMAC & Chair, WG Directories

Report 2006-07 by Peter Tirrell

1. Discussion of 2006 Survey Analysis at 2006 Conference, Mexico City

Peter Stanbury, in place of Peter Tirrell, Chair (who was unable to participate), held a general discussion with Members at the 2006 Conference in Mexico City. There were many important goals and objectives that were indicated by the survey and analysis performed in 2006. These goals and objectives were discussed and prioritized. The priorities serve as a guide for our planning and strategies for several years. The three most important goals and the three most important objectives by highest rank were (available on UMAC website):

Goals:
    1. Promote the value of university museums and collections
    2. Provide services.
    3. Share best practices.

Objectives:
    1. Promote research and partnerships.
    2. Seek (increase) members, especially students.
    3a. Solicit information (ranked equal with 3b)

3b. Advocacy (ranked equal with 3a)

2. Preparation of the Strategic Plan

2a Resources

The following resources were reviewed: notes from the Conferences at Uppsala, Seoul, and Mexico City, the UMAC website, the ICOM website, and correspondence by the Board and the Members over the past three years (approximately 100 emails and documents) and notes taken in conversations with Board Members and Conference participants. New information was gained from the Task Force regarding the priority goals and objectives. Information also was received from several Members who responded to a request for input (6/20/2007) regarding the following questions: What new services should UMAC provide? How can UMAC seek new members and retain previous members? How can UMAC promote partnerships with other groups and organizations? The Chair also used information found in strategic plans created by other museums, museum organizations, and published information.

2b. Communications

Eight (8) videoconferences were held between the Chair and UMAC Chair to discuss the strategic planning process. The discussion focused on needs and concerns of UMAC including financial stability, succession planning, WGs, advocacy, and progress of the planning process. The Chair also communicated by email with the Task Force, Board Members, and Members.

2c. Revision of UMAC's Mission, Vision, and Priority Goals

The mission, vision and priority goals were revised with the assistance of input from the Task Force, Board Members, Members and the Chair of UMAC. A new goal was added regarding leadership, management, and strategic planning. Goals are:

- Identify and Promote the Values of University Museums and Collections
- Provide Services That Inform, Communicate, Encourage Participation, and Share Resources
- Share Best Practices
- Seek New Members and Retain Previous Members
- Promote and Develop Strategic Partnerships, International Cooperation and Exchanges
- Promote Research and Generate New Ideas
- Solicit Information
- Create a Sound and Sustainable Leadership and Financial Management to ensure that a Strategic Plan is in Place and Resources are Available to Implement It.

2d. Creating the Strategic Plan

Strategies and Action steps were created for each goal. The outline has the following categories:

- Goals, Strategies, and Action Steps
- Responsibilities and Time Commitments
- Start Dates and End Dates for each activity
- Financial Commitment
- Status and Remarks

2e. Webpage for Strategic Planning

The Chair worked with the UMAC Chair to create a web page devoted to Strategic Planning (http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/umac/strategicplan/). The contents of the webpage are:

- Introduction from the Chair
- The Function/Aim, History, & Future of the WG for Strategic Planning
- Outline of the Planning Process
- Graphic Representation of the Strategic Planning Process
- Mission, Vision, and Priority Goals and Objectives from 2006 Conference in Mexico
- The Strategic Plan, 2007 – 2010

- Members of the Task Force
- Additional Website Information re: Strategic Planning
- 2005 – 07 AGM Reports re: WG Strategic Planning
- Analysis of 2006 Survey of WG Members and Board
- Areas of Overlap between UMAC and ICOM Strategic Plans
- Environmental Scan for Strategic Planning

2d. Distribution of the Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan was made available to the Task Force, the Chair of UMAC, and the Chair of ICOM's Strategic Planning Working Group via the UMAC webpage on 7/4/07. They also received several intermediate stages. The Plan was made available to Board Members, Members, and visitors to the website on 7/12/07. Input has been requested. A limited number of copies and supporting documents will be available at the 2007 Conference in Vienna. A presentation and discussion of the Plan will take place at the 2007 Conference.

3. Comments from the Chair

We have made great progress in our planning since forming a Working Group at our 2005 Conference in Uppsala, Sweden. This includes a survey of our members, analysis of the survey, prioritization of our goals, and a draft of a Strategic Plan. The Plan is a "working document", not a finished product, but an exercise to guide us. It is an intermediate stage.

- I think our mission and vision are farsighted and clear. We have several strong programs such as the Conference, Website, and database. We have great potential with our strengths and resources. Nevertheless, there are questions regarding the future of other programs such as the WGs and the Proceedings.
- The goals, strategies, and action steps of the Plan strongly support the mission and vision of UMAC based on the 2006 survey, input from the Task Force, Board Members, Members, and reviews of correspondence and conversations.
- Many Members have expressed the need for advocacy. As a result, I have suggested that we form a new Working Group for Advocacy. We also must question the need for our other working groups – will they contribute to our future?
- The next stage will be to revise the document by determining costs, prioritizing the goals and strategies, creating a schedule, and assigning responsibilities. We have yet to refine our content and to ask very tough questions about cost of in terms of time and funds. We have limited resources: how much we can afford to do and who will do it? I hope that in the next year that we will answer these questions. We also will review ICOM's strategic plan and revise our Plan so that we are in support of and in concert with ICOM's "Our Global Vision".
- I want to take this opportunity to give a profound thanks to the Members of the Task Force who took the time and had the interest to communicate their thoughts to me. I also want to thank my Board Members, previous Members of the WG, and other Members who responded to my requests for input. Thank You!

4. The Next Steps

The following steps are suggested:

- That all Board Members and Members review the Strategic Plan and be prepared to discuss it at our Conference in Vienna or by sending comments to me or the Chair of UMAC.
- That the Board Members begin the process prioritizing the goals, strategies, and action steps with input from the Conference participants.
- That the Board Members approve/disapprove the Mission and Vision and recommend them to the Members for final approval/disapproval.
- That the Board Members make recommendations regarding the planning process.
- That if the Board and Members desire, PT will stay on as Chair of the WG.

Research Development Group

Function/Aim

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

Co-ordinator:

Zenobia R. Kozak, PhD candidate, UK (zk2@st-andrews.ac.uk)

Members

Samual Alberti, UK; Ian Carradice, UK; Steven de Clercq, Netherlands; Hugues Dreyssé, France; Mario Daniel Garcia, Colombia; Pierre-Antoine Gérard, France; Kirsten Hardie, UK; Aldona Jonaitis, USA; Patricia Vásquez Langle, Mexico; Marta C. Lourenço, Portugal; Luisa Fernanda Rico, Mexico; Natalie Nyst, Belgium; Lucia Quijano, Colombia; Andrew Simpson, Australia Claudia de Roos, Netherlands

Report 2006-07

Creation of online discussion group: http://groups.google.com/group/umac-research-development

Aims 2007-08

To contact museum studies programmes and seek out current students and researchers focusing on university museums and collections.

B. PUBLICATIONS

All available presentations of the seventh Conference of UMAC are published on UMAC's Website: http://publicus.culture.hu-berlin.de/umac/2006/

A selection of papers will be published in English and Spanish by the Autonomous University of Mexico (see WG Publications, Mexico Conference Proceedings).

C. DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR FURTHER UMAC/ICOM ACTIVITIES

- Strategic Planning

Mission

UMAC is the international forum for university museums and collections. UMAC supports and promotes their use, development, stewardship, and appreciation. It advocates that museums and collections are globally important resources for inspiration, research, teaching, outreach, and enjoyment. UMAC provides opportunities for sharing knowledge and best practices, initiating partnerships and networking worldwide through a variety of services.

Vision

UMAC is the recognized advocate and information center for the global community of university museums and collections.

Aims 2007-2010
- Finalizing the Strategic Plan
- Prioritize the Goals
- Start the Implementation of the Highest Priorities

- Membership

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

- Publications

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