

CONCLUSIONS

More than 70 university museum directors of all five continents and almost one hundred Mexican specialists participated in the Sixth International Congress for University Museums.

The Key Note speakers were Helen Escobedo (former museum and gallery director for UNAM); Aldona Jonaitis (Director of the University of Alaska Museum of the North) and Thomas Lentz (Art Museums of Harvard University). Besides these, other 44 presentations were given.

The academic results from this meeting will be published in collaboration with ANUIES, material which will be of important relevance in the museum field of influence.

The mission of the university museum was redefined, and experimentation was added to its traditional purposes (research, education and service). The purpose of this redefinition is to highlight the innovative nature of the university museum, its programs, the contemporary use of its collections and the interdisciplinary work.

During the conclusions some **challenges to find the New Roads for University Museums** were defined.

- Overcome exclusive dialogue to be included in the global context without losing the specific identity of a university museum.
- Promote cooperation with academics, museum professionals and the exchange of collections, in and out of the university community.
- Become part of the long term and short term strategic plan of the university
- Be a visionary and juxtaposition space
- Transform itself to become a space where audiences and collections can dialogue and interact
- Endeavor for the contemporary use of university collections to be added to the traditional function of research and teaching
- Design a new marketing plan that includes alternate fundraising and a partnership with different actors in and out of the university.

It was also concluded that **modern times require:**

- A broad perspective derived from the multidisciplinary nature of the university
- The use of university museums and collections as public laboratories, creating debate, critique, conversation and promotion within the space.

PRODUCTS

1. A census and data base of Mexican university museums and collections
2. All the papers presented on the Congress to be uploaded on the web page (www.cimu.unam.mx)
3. The publication of the book “New Roads for University Museums” with a section for the papers presented in the 6th UMAC Congress, 2006 and other outstanding ones from past UMAC congresses
4. The creation of the UMAC-Mexico Board
5. Redefinition of the university museum mission that “researches, educates, experiments, serves the university community and creates external academic museum bonds”.