

## UMAC AGM

Wednesday 17 September

Auditorium, Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester University

Meeting was called to order at 12:10. 25 people were present.

Cornelia Weber introduced the board, announced the following:

1. the website was to be upgraded
2. the next conference would be at Berkeley
3. the Vienna papers are on line, and a publication of some would be available by the end of the year
4. the Mexican conference publication is out
5. UMAC has 170 voting members from 38 countries, up almost 60 members from 2004

Panu Nykanen gave the financial report, and announced that there was a balance of 9029€ in UMAC's account. He announced also that the account had been transferred from Australia to Finland, and requested permission to spend 36€ a year for banking services. This was unanimously accepted by the members.

Working groups.

1. Staffing. Inge-Marie Munktell announced that the staffing group had decided to disband. The members voted to support this disbanding.
2. Working group directories. Cornelia Weber announced that the database is on the website.
3. Publications. Sally MacDonald and Nathalie Nyst announced that there was a contract with Humboldt University to publish this year's papers.
4. Strategic planning. Peter Tirrell requested more member involvement in the strategic planning process. After he went through the history of the strategic planning working group, he presented the 4 goals that have been agreed upon: a) promote values of university museums; b) promote services that inform, communicate and encourage participation; c) share best practices and resources;

- d) create a sound and sustainable organization. He also explained that UMAC needs to plan for budget expenditures.
5. Advocacy. Hugues Dreysse described efforts to promote the values of university museums in the light of some universities considering selling collections. Other proposals of the group were: a) encourage more people to join UMAC; b) encourage administrations to support museums; c) use website to provide important information; d) a draft document for advocacy will be prepared and distributed.
  6. Research. Zenobia Rae Kozak was not at the conference, but wanted to remain involved with this working group. A discussion ensued on the relative importance of having a working group.

The meeting opened up a general discussion, and it was pointed out that the website with its blog and wiki is an excellent location for information exchange. It was also discussed how important it was to publicize more thoroughly the activities of the working groups.

Mark Meadows from the University of California Santa Barbara then presented information on the 2009 conference in Berkeley. The dates are 10-13 September, and the conference will be organized by himself, Rosemary Joyce and Bruce Robertson, all members of the Microcosms Project that has been working on the UC collections for that past 8 years. The theme of the conference will be research in and on collections.

Andrew Simpson then announced there would be a museum conference in Thailand shortly after the Berkeley conference.

The meeting adjourned at 13:40.