

Dear UMAC member / potential member

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The 2002 Conference

The UMAC 2002 Conference will be held in Sydney and Canberra in Australia from Sunday 29 September - Thursday 3 October 2002. The **title and theme of the conference is:**
Exposing and Exploiting the Distinct Character of University Museums and Collections.

Please see the web site for details – www.icom.org/umac

Papers from the Barcelona Conference

As well as selected papers being available on our web site, a more comprehensive range of papers is available in hard copy in the journal *Museologia*, an international journal of museology published by the University of Lisbon. UMAC is very grateful to Marta Lourenco and Professor Fernando Gil for their generosity and hard work in preparing this publication. To obtain a copy of this special edition of *Museologia*, or to subscribe, please see the UMAC website (alternatively email Marta <martal@fc.ul.pt>).

Application for Study Series

Our application for a university museums issue is still being considered. The secretariat has promised a decision in March.

Working Group Staffing

Ing-Marie Munktel (Chair, UMAC Working Group on Staffing) would like all UMAC members to email her as soon as possible (ing-marie.munktel@gustavianum.uu.se) with the answers to the following questions:

Question 1: How many staff are presently employed in your museum (give their hours, status and museum qualifications)

Question 2: How many staff would you like to see employed in 5 years time?

Question 3: Do you employ exhibition consultants or mount your own exhibitions?

Question 4: Who does your marketing and/or publications and what are their qualifications for the job?

German University Museums and Collections

Cornelia Webber (Humboldt University) has made a database of the university museums and collections in Germany. You can access it by clicking on the map on the top of the UMAC web page, or directly at: <http://www2.hu-berlin.de/kulturtechnik/sammlungsdatenbank.php>
Cornelia would be glad to hear of any corrections or additions. (You will find her contact details on the web site.)

A nice little grant! (Congratulations!)

The University of British Columbia Museum of Anthropology has been awarded \$17.2 million. Entitled "A Partnership of Peoples: A New Infrastructure for Collaborative Research," the Museum's project is being developed in partnership with the UBC Laboratory of Archaeology, and three First Nations – Musqueam, Sto:lo, and U'mista Cultural Centre. It will provide UBC with the most advanced and comprehensive ethnological and archaeological research facility in Canada.

The infrastructure will be the first in the world to forge links between academic scholars, originating communities, and research museums through the creation of two innovative new facilities in real and virtual space. A renovated physical infrastructure, including work, laboratory and storage areas, will support interdisciplinary and collaborative research with originating communities in four interrelated areas: (1) material & visual culture, (2) language & oral history, (3) museology & repatriation, and (4) museums, new technology & intellectual property. MOA will work with local stakeholders to ensure that the integrity of its magnificent building and site are respected.

The virtual infrastructure will consist of a highly innovative *Reciprocal Research Network*. It will be accessible in First Nations communities and will support collaborative research over the web. The network will digitally link the collections and expertise in First Nations communities and major Canadian and international museums, including the Canadian Museum of Civilization, Royal Ontario Museum, Glenbow Museum, McCord Museum, Royal British Columbia Museum, BC Heritage Branch Archaeological Sites, the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian and National Museum of Natural History, American Museum of Natural History, University of Washington's Burke Museum, Oxford University's Pitt Rivers Museum, and the Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

Best wishes

Peter