



ICOM
international committee
for university museums
and collections

Minutes of the 17th Annual General Meeting 2017

Wednesday, September 6, 2017

University of Helsinki, 3.30-5.00 PM

Board members present: Marta Lourenço; Graciela Weisinger, vice-chair; Barbara Rothermel, vice-chair; Nathalie Nyst, treasurer; Akiko Fukuno; Lyndel King; Andrew Simpson.

Board members absent: Marcus Granato, secretary; Marine Mkrtchyan; Fatemeh Ahmadi; Elena Corradini; Maria Luisa Rico Mansard

Voting Members Present: 39

The meeting was called to order by President Marta Lourenço.

0. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion to approve by Marta Lourenço; second by Barbara Rothermel.

Adopted by unanimous vote.

1. Minutes AGM 2016, Milan

Motion by Marta Lourenço; second by Barbara Rothermel

No questions. Adopted by unanimous vote.

2. Marta Lourenço presented apologies for absence from members.

3. Presidents' Annual Report

Documents were sent on-line to all UMAC members prior to the AGM, and were summarized by Marta Lourenço.

Board members present were introduced. The Local Organizing Committee - Panu Nykänen, Sten Bjorkman, Ari Muhonen, Katariina Pehkonen – and the UMAC Award chair - Ing-Marie Munktell - were introduced and gifts presented.

Membership stands at 79 institutional members and 304 individual members (259 regular, 35 retired, 10 student). There are 132 inactive members. There are problems with the ICOM membership process, but UMAC is participating in an upgrade process that should make the membership more accurate. Discussion: membership needs to be expanded, especially in North and South America, Africa and Asia. UMAC needs to do more, as there are challenges to be addressed. It was suggested benefits of membership be considered.

Strategic Plan focuses on governance and efficiency, expansion and increase of inclusiveness, and consolidation of UMAC's role as a reference source.

Internal Committees created by the Board were presented: UMAC J (journal), chaired by Andrew Simpson; Website, chaired by Lyndel King.

Professional Development: “Bootcamp” in Helsinki. 25 people registered, but only 19 were able to attend. The response was positive, and the suggestion made for increased offerings and identified groups. UMAC Museum Training Week in Shanghai will be held in the spring of 2018. Workshop leaders are Marta Lourenço, Andrew Simpson, and Barbara Rothermel.

Communications Improvements: Data centralization, mailing list, database, social media, and website (moved to a commercial server with the help of ICOM). The new website will continue as a pilot until December 2017. UMAC J will remain on the Berlin website for 1 year until a determination of what to do is made. Discussion: inclusion of images, suggestions, and member database on the website.

Motion to approve the President’s Report by Marta Lourenço; second by Barbara Rothermel. Adopted by an approval vote of 38 members; 1 abstention.

4. External Committees 2016-2019

UMAC Award, chaired by Ing-Marie Munktell. Motion to approve by Marta Lourenço; second by Barbara Rothermel. Adopted by an approval vote of 38 members, 1 abstention.

Elections, consisting of Karin Weil and Steph Scholten. Motion to approve by Marta Lourenço; second by Barbara Rothermel. Adopted by unanimous vote.

Audit, consisting of Sébastien Soubiran and Kai Zhang. Adopted by an approval vote of 38 members; 1 abstention.

5. Treasurer’s Annual Report

Nathalie Nyst presented the annual report and auditor’s report. Motion to approve by Marta Lourenço; second by Barbara Rothermel. Adopted by unanimous vote.

Nathalie Nyst presented the working budget for 2018. Discussion: cost of bank transfers, suggestion to use Transfer-Wise. Review to be undertaken by the Board. Motion to approve by Marta Lourenço; second by Barbara Rothermel. Adopted by unanimous vote.

6. UMAC Bylaws

Amendment to Bylaws 7.2 was proposed by the Chair: “Each member is entitled to one (1) vote, including institutional members regardless of the number of representatives. An individual member who is simultaneously representative of an institutional member is entitled to two (2) votes.” Motion to approve by Marta Lourenço; second by Barbara Rothermel. Adopted by unanimous vote.

7. Working Groups

Two working groups were proposed by the Chair: Standards and Best Practices, chaired by Barbara Rothermel; Teaching Tools, chaired by Dominick Verschelde. A third proposed working group, Ethics, was withdrawn from lack of membership participation. The current members of the working groups were introduced. Discussion: the importance of the working groups in taking the mission of UMAC forward and anchoring the profession. Motion to

approve the two new Working Groups by Marta Lourenço; second by Barbara Rothermel. Adopted by unanimous vote.

8. New UMAC Website and new World Database

Launch of the new UMAC website. The President encouraged members to explore it. Spanish and French versions will be released soon.

The President also announced the new UMAC World Database and briefly explained its menus and functionalities.

9. UMAC advocacy tools

Reminder of UMAC's Advocacy Tools: UMAC's Guidelines on Importance, Responsibility, Maintenance, Disposal & Closure of University Museums and Collections (2007) and UMAC's Rio Resolution on the Protection of University Collections (2013).

10. UMAC Journal

Andrew Simpson reported on policies under development for UMACJ. In the past, UMACJ has been published as conference proceedings. Instead, UMACJ is proposed to be a recognized, indexed academic journal. Conference proceedings may not be published in the future.

11. Official Launch of P-MUS

Representatives of the ICOM Special Project partnership were introduced by the Chair, who is also a UMAC representative. Darko Babic (in absentia) and Leena Tokila, ICTOP; Jill Hartz, AAMG; Sébastien Soubiran, Universeum. The initial survey will be sent to members of all four partners in October 2017, and results tabulated by December.

12. Next Conferences

Discussion: it is important to support costs and keep registration fees low, and to communicate with colleagues who cannot attend a conference.

The President informed that a Memorandum of Understanding between UMAC and AAMG for the 2018 conference in Miami would be signed. An initial call for proposals will be sent in September 2017.

Akiko Fukuno submitted an on-line presentation and materials on Kyoto, the site of the 2019 ICOM Triennial conference.

A proposal was made by David Ellis, University of Sydney, to host the 2020 Conference in Australia. Motion to approve by Marta Lourenço; second by Barbara Rothermel. Adopted by unanimous vote.

Kirsten Vincenz proposed the Technische Universität Dresden as the host institution for a joint UMAC-Universeum conference in 2021.

Suratissa Dissanayake Mudiyansele mentioned that the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, would like to host a university museums meeting in 2019, indicating that he would give more details to the UMAC Board later.

13. UMAC Award 2017

Ing-Marie Munktell announced the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History at the University of Oklahoma as the recipient of the 2017 award, for the innovation, creativity, excellence, transferability, and significant impact on the university, the community and society at large of its Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair (ONAYLF). The Replication of the Curie Experiment on Radioactivity, University of Rennes, and the 'I C Taiwan' Exhibition by the National Cheng Kung University Museum both won second place. The Award Committee recognized the quality of the three nominations.

14. AOB

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Proceedings by Barbara Rothermel, with the support of Nathalie Nyst and Graciela Weisinger.