

# President's Report

Period: UMAC USA 2018 to UMAC Japan 2019

To be presented at the 19<sup>th</sup> UMAC Annual General Assembly, 3 September 2019, Kyoto



Perm University Museum, winner of the UMAC Award 2018, courtesy Perm University, Russia.

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I am delighted and honoured to present this Report, detailing UMAC's activities between July 2018 and July 2019. The report is guided by the goals established in UMAC's 2016-2019 [Strategic Plan](#):

Goal 1 – Improve UMAC's governance and efficiency;

Goal 2 – Consolidate UMAC's role as a reference for university museums and collections worldwide

Goal 3 – Expand UMAC and improve its inclusiveness

All numbers provided refer to 1 August 2019.

## Goal 1 – Improve UMAC's governance and efficiency

### Board Meetings

The UMAC Board held three meetings (21 June 2018, 7 September 2018 and 2 November 2018). Minutes are available to members upon request.

### Finances

The Financial Report July 2018-July 2019 will be submitted for approval during the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting in Kyoto, together with the Audits' Committee Report.

### Internal documents

In preparation for the 2019 UMAC Board elections, the following documents were developed and approved:

- Responsibilities and Tasks of Board Members
- Election Procedures (English, French, Spanish)
- Election Form (English, French, Spanish)
- Proxy Vote (English, French, Spanish).

### Responsibilities with ICOM

UMAC is actively engaged with the implementation of ICOM's new membership database, Iris. Marcus Granato has been regularly giving feedback about problems resulting from data transfer and access.

UMAC is also involved in the International Committees meetings (chaired by Kristiane Straetkvern, Denmark), participating in the discussions and sharing documents.

This year, UMAC has also participated in the ICOM Survey on the 'Decolonisation of Museums' (April 2019) and subscribed the ICOM-CC 'Resolution on Museum Storages', to be submitted in Kyoto.

The UMAC Chair has also [contributed](#) to the 'museum definition' discussion, during a meeting organised by ICOM Italy and the University of Milan (8 May 2019).

### Board Elections 2019

The UMAC Elections Committee was activated in preparation of the new Board 2019-2022, to be elected in Kyoto. Its members are Karin Weil, Chair (Chile) and David Ellis (Australia).

According to the UMAC Bylaws, the Committee established the procedure, calendar and supporting documents, which were approved by the UMAC Board and disseminated to members. A [page](#) dedicated to the elections was created, as well as a [brochure](#).

The candidates to the UMAC Board 2019-2022 were:

- For the position of Chair (1 position): Marta C. Lourenço (Portugal)
- For the positions of Vice-Chair (2 positions): Andrew Simpson (Australia), Steph Scholten (UK)
- For the position of Secretary (1 position): Wenjia Qiu (China)
- For the position of Treasurer (1 position): Nathalie Nyst (Belgium)
- For the position of Ordinary Member (3 positions): Dominick Verschelde (Belgium), Fatemeh Ahmadi (Iran), Margarita Guzmán (Colombia), Martin Stricker (Germany), Nicole M. Crawford (USA).

The elections will take place during the Annual General Meeting, 3 September 2019.

## Goal 2 – Consolidate UMAC’s role as a reference for university museums and collections worldwide

### Annual Conferences

#### *UMAC 2018*

Last year’s UMAC Annual Conference was a joint conference with the AAMG (Association of Academic Museums and Galleries, USA), hosted by the Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami. The theme was ‘Audacious Ideas: University Museums and Collections as Change-Agents for a Better World’.

This was the third time UMAC met in the USA, but the first time in co-organization with the AAMG, the largest national association of university museums in the world. For UMAC, it was an opportunity to consolidate its membership in the USA and offer its members interesting exchanges with some of the most interesting university museums in the world. The conference was supported by ICOM-USA. It was one of the largest UMAC Annual conferences to date, with a total of 370 registrations, from 22 countries (USA, Australia, Portugal, Spain, France, Belgium, Scotland, Germany, Chile, Brazil, Japan, Taiwan, Mexico, China, Puerto Rico, Czech Republic, Poland, Estonia, Denmark, Sri Lanka, Canada, Philippines). A total of 80 oral papers and 20 posters were presented.

The Chairs of UMAC-AAMG 2018 were Jill Hartz (AAMG) and Barbara Rothermel (UMAC).

The two keynote speakers were: Franklin Kelly, Deputy Director and Chief Curator, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. and Paula Gangopadhyay, Deputy Director, Office of Museum Services, at the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

More information can be found [here](#).

UMAC supported the award of one ICOM YOUNG MEMBER travel grant to attend UMAC 2018 in Miami: Zhao Ke (China). From its own travel grant programme, specifically aimed at strategic geopolitical regions where UMAC is under-represented, UMAC offered three 400 EUR grants for UMAC 2018: Lucineia Bicalho (Brazil), Renata Motta (Brazil) and Mariann Raisma (Estonia).

#### *UMAC 2019*

UMAC 2019 will be integrated in the ICOM 25<sup>th</sup> Triennial General Conference in Kyoto, Japan.

Date: 1-7 September 2019

The UMAC 2019 Chairs are Akiko Fukuno and Hiroshi Minami. The preliminary programme includes an off-site day at the University Museum of Cultures (Kyoto University of Foreign Studies), an Open Session about the ‘Future of University Museums in Japan’, a joint session with ICOM’s international committee for the training of personnel (ICTOP), 3 [pre-conference workshops](#), and visits to university museums in Kyoto. The Keio University Art Center offered a post-UMAC conference [Seminar](#) on the theme ‘University Museums as Cultural Commons: Interdisciplinary Research and Education in Museums’ (9-10 September).

A total of 125 museum professionals have so far registered for UMAC 2019, and this number is expected to grow. At this point, according to ICOM 2019 official data, UMAC ranks second (after CECA) in the number of participants. 101 papers will be presented (56 oral and 45 posters) in a total of 15 sessions. See the full programme [here](#).

UMAC 2019 is being organized with UMAK, the University Museums Association of Kyoto, and counts with the support of the Kyoto National Museum, the Kyoto University of Foreign Languages, the Kyoto Museum of Cultures, the Museum and Archives of the Kyoto Institute of Technology, Kyoto University, Kyoto University Museum and the Keio University Art Center in Tokyo.

More info about UMAC 2019 in Kyoto can be found [here](#).

#### *UMAC 2020*

UMAC 2020 will take place at the Chau Chak Wing Museum, University of Sydney.

Dates: 15-17 September 2020.

### *UMAC 2021*

During the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly in Miami, Kirsten Vincenz formally proposed the Technische Universität Dresden, in Germany, as the host institution for a joint UMAC-UNIVERSEUM conference in 2021. This proposal was unanimously approved.

Dates: 31 August to 5 September 2021.

A preparatory meeting of UMAC-Universeum 2021 took place at the University of Lisbon between 31 January and 2 February 2019. The two UMAC 2021 LOC Chairs – Kirsten Vincenz and Jörg Zaun – met with the Presidents of UMAC and Universeum, respectively Marta Lourenço and Sébastien Soubiran.

### *UMAC 2022*

UMAC 2022 will be integrated in the 26<sup>th</sup> ICOM Triennial General Conference, Prague.

## **Support and Advocacy**

### *Museu Nacional, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

As so many museum professionals across the world, UMAC was profoundly shocked by the fire on 2 September 2018 at the Museu Nacional, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. Below are some of the initiatives taken in support of our Brazilian colleagues:

- Message of full solidarity and support to the Director Alexandre Kellner, in the hours after the fire.
- Message of full solidarity and support to the President of ICOM-Brazil, Renata Motta.
- Compilation of solidarity messages from colleagues from all over the world (UMAC-ML)
- Promotion through website and UMAC-ML of the Open Letter to the Ministers of Education and Culture of Brazil.
- Promotion of help channel through UMAC-ML
- Joining ICOM Task Force
- UMAC Statement on the Protection of Museum Infrastructure, calling for museums and governments to assume full responsibilities for the preservation of museum infrastructure. The full text can be read [here](#).

### *Bishop Otter Gallery*

Letter to Prof. Jane Longmore, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Chichester, concerning the closure of Bishop Otter Gallery, 12 November 2018.

### *Other Letters of Support*

Apart from multiple letters of support to UMAC members, the following deserve highlight:

Letter supporting the restoration of Casa Andresen and Greenhouses at the Botanical Garden of the University of Porto to the European Heritage Awards/ Europa Nostra Awards 2019 (14 November 2018).

Letter supporting the candidature of *Coloquio-Talleres de Documentación "Patrimonio, colecciones, exhibiciones y museos universitarios"*, organised by Luisa Fernanda Rico Mansard (Grupo UMAC en Mexico, UMAC Board, ICOM Mexico) and Pedro Ángeles Jiménez (CIDOC, Mexico) to ICOM Special Projects 2019 (18 December 2018).

Letter supporting the creation of the Observatory of University Museums, Universidad Nacional de La Plata (UNLP), Argentina (28 October 2018).

## **UMACJ – University Museums and Collections Journal**

ISSN: 2071-7229

### *UMACJ 10*

Edition 10 of UMACJ10 was published during 2018, edited by Andrew Simpson, Barbara Rothermel and Panu Nykänen. It consisted of 13 contributions with authors representing nine nationalities. The majority of the contributions consisted of papers from the UMAC 2017 conference in Finland at two primary locations, the University of Helsinki and the University of Jyväskylä. The papers represent about one quarter of the content presented in Finland. The geographic spread represented in this volume is appropriately reflective of a global community.

Topics explored covered research into engagement with objects and digital surrogates, experiments in the ethical exhibition of human remains, programming at individual university museum level and the level of a geographical association of university museums. There are also theoretical offerings such as one that borrows from actor network theory to provide new insights into categorising the work of university museums, plus the application of significance assessment at a university collection level. Also explored are the use of an art collection in cross disciplinary programs and an analysis of engagement by a university museum focused on education.

Accessible [here](#).

### **UMACJ 11 AND BEYOND**

As has been mentioned previously, UMAC's aim is to transition UMACJ to an open source academic journal that is the main literature source for research on all aspects of academic museums and collections. Our goal is to be the leading journal of museums and collection research and scholarship in a higher education setting and provide global, inclusive access to analysis and research on the museums, galleries and collections within universities worldwide and stimulate discussion and debate on relevant issues and concerns.

A number of processes are already underway to facilitate this transition. We have established a new and greatly expanded, Editorial Board. This gives the journal an increased range and diversity of specialised expertise. We are reviewing our journal's editorial policies so that we can expand beyond the scope of publishing conference proceedings. We are also investigating various journal indexing schemes that will give the journal a higher profile in the academic and other research communities.

In 2019, the Editorial Board of UMACJ decided to establish a new model of publication as part of this transition. Two issues of UMACJ will be published in 2019, the first – UMACJ11(1) – will be an abstracts volume for the Kyoto meeting. The Editorial Board recognises that a number of professional organisations prefer this publication model as it effectively means a much higher percentage of content from the annual conference is captured and recorded, and that programming committees effectively peer review conference submissions in the form of abstracts as part of conference programming.

The second – UMACJ11(2) – will be the selected articles from the AAMG-UMAC joint meeting in Miami during 2018. This will consist of two sections, the first covering the plenary panel presentations on the importance of university museums consisting of four individual contributions with an introduction. The second section will consist of invited papers based on conference contributions. Eight authors were invited to submit full papers based on their conference contributions, five have responded, these are currently under review. This issue of the journal will be published in the second half of 2019. It will be the last issue tied to a specific annual conference (apart from abstract volumes) and future issues will be through open call. The Editorial Board are also working with university library staff to develop a strategy of submitting the journal to indexing services as a way of raising the journal profile.

### **UMACJ IN CHINESE**

See Expansion and Inclusiveness, p. 9.

## **UMAC Projects**

### **P-MUS**

The project P-MUS (*Professionalising museum work in higher education: A global approach*) is being developed in partnership with ICOM's International Committee for the Training of Personnel (ICTOP), the Association of Academic Museums and Galleries (AAMG, USA) and Universeum, the European Academic Heritage Network and it has four goals:

- i) to promote museological training among university museums and collections professionals worldwide;
- ii) to increase the use of university museums and collections as museum training resources;
- iii) to compile and analyse literature and information about professional profiles, positions and standards in university museums and collections;
- iv) to identify and discuss museum training content and issues specific to university museums and collections.

In 2018, P-MUS has promoted a research workshop in Belo Horizonte (see below) and outlined the publication to come out next year. A reprogramming of the circulation of a survey was considered important and an extension was asked from SAREC (granted). This project will be concluded in 2019. See more info, photos and preliminary results [here](#).

#### P-MUS Research Project Workshop

Theme: Professionalising Museum Work in Higher Education

Date: 8 October 2018

Location: Federal University of Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, Brazil

Contributors (keynotes): Marta Lourenço (University of Lisbon, UMAC), Jill Hartz (University of Oregon, AAMG), Sébastien Soubiran (University of Strasbourg, Universeum), Marcus Granato (MAST Rio de Janeiro, UMAC), Tereza Scheiner (Unirio Rio de Janeiro, ICOFOM/ICOM). Darko Babic (ICTOP) participated via skype. Although the workshop was closed to the public, it included a public session at the Federal University of Minas Gerais with Tereza Scheiner, who presented the keynote talk 'The Training of Museum Professionals in South America: Overview and Perspectives'. This talk was simultaneously the opening talk of the 5<sup>th</sup> Forum of Brazilian University Museums (the dates were chosen to coincide).

#### *UMAC HISTORY AND MEMORY*

Launched in 2017, the long-term project [UMAC History and Memory](#) continued in 2018 and 2019. It is aimed at collecting documents, iconography, ephemera and memories since its creation in 2001, in Barcelona.

The scope of the project is the whole UMAC community (members and friends), past and present and one of its aims is to re-engage with past active members.

Materials collected have already been used in the development of the new UMAC website (see, for example, [here](#) and [here](#)). Gradually, they will be contributing to the organization of UMAC archives.

## Working Groups

#### *SPECIAL GROUP: UMAC FUTURES (created in 2018)*

The group of emerging professionals is being increasingly recognized by multiple economic and cultural sectors. UMAC acknowledges its importance and the UMAC Board approved a proposal by member Hakim Abdul Rahim (Australia) to create a committee totally managed by, and directed to, the specific issues of emerging university museums and collections professionals. The committee is called UMAC FUTURES and its initial tasks comprise: i) establishing the criteria for participation; ii) invite members; iii) create a digital network; and iv) organize the inaugural meeting/event (Kyoto). It has 14 members from 11 countries and its rationale can be read [here](#). UMAC Futures will meet for the first time in Kyoto.

#### *STANDARDS & BEST PRACTICES*

This Working Group has 13 members and is Chaired by Vice-President Barbara Rothermel.

The second issue of topic-oriented bulletins – *Communiqué #2* – was published in 2018. The topic was "A primer on institutional planning or what we do, why we do it, and how we know we're doing it well," by Jill Hartz, University of Oregon (USA). It was disseminated to UMAC members via email and posted to the UMAC [website](#). Moreover, a preliminary list of reference documents was made available [online](#) and will continue to grow during 2018. The Working Group will meet during the Annual Conference in Kyoto.

#### *TEACHING TOOLS*

This Working Group has 16 members and is Chaired by Dominick Verschelde, Gent University, Belgium. The Chair will propose its discontinuity in 2019.

## UMAC Award

Every year since 2016, UMAC recognises outstanding projects in terms of excellence, impact and transferability in university museums and collections around the world through the UMAC Award.

Typically, nominations occurred between September and December every year.

The winner of the UMAC AWARD 2018 was announced at the 18th Annual General Meeting in Miami: the project CAMPUS MARTIUS, or how to become a citizen of Perm University, from the Perm University History

Museum (Russia). The second place belonged to the Botanic Garden of the University of Coimbra (Portugal) and the Jardin Botanique Jean Massart of the Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium) (ex aequo). Read more [here](#).

In 2019, nine nominations were made for the UMAC Award, from the following countries: Canada, China (two, one in coordination with Japan), Czech Republic, Denmark, Italy, Russia, UK, USA. Three were shortlisted by the UMAC Award Evaluation Committee (in alphabetical order):

- University of Toronto, Art Museum: *Figures of Sleep and the Night of Ideas* (2018);
- University of Copenhagen, Medical Museion: *Mind the Gut* (2017-18);
- Shanghai University (SHU)-Nagasaki International University (NIU): *SHU-NIU Short-term Museology Internship Program* (2018, ongoing)

The winner will be announced at the 19<sup>th</sup> AGM in Miami, 3 September 2019. Read more [here](#).

The UMAC AWARD Evaluation Committee includes: Barbara Rothermel, Vice-Chair UMAC, USA; Graciela Weisinger Cordero, Vice-Chair UMAC, Argentina; Laishun An, Vice-President of ICOM, China; Mariel Guedj, University of Montpellier, France; Terry Simioti Nyambe, ICOM Executive Council Member, Zambia and Ing-Marie Munktell, Sweden (Chair, in a non-voting capacity).

## Professional Development Programme

Training of university museum professionals continued a priority for UMAC in 2018 and 2019. Developments in recent months have included the UMTWS 2019 and the intensification of local workshops.

### *University Museum Training Week Shanghai 2019*

Resulting from a partnership between UMAC and the Qian Xuesen Library and Museum, Shanghai Jiao Tong University (QLM-SJTU), the 2019 edition of the *University Museum Training Week Shanghai* occurred between 23 and 27 April 2019. The theme was 'Inside and Outside the University: A Roadmap for Understanding University Museums Today' and 33 participants attended from China and Japan.

In 2019, the course counted with the following foreign speakers: Marta Lourenço (UMAC Chair), Jill Hartz (President Emeritus of the Association of Academic Museums and Galleries USA), Sébastien Soubiran (President of Universeum, the European Academic Heritage Network) and Andrew Simpson (UMAC Board). Moreover, from China, and apart from Laishun AN (Vice-President of ICOM), high officials from the cultural sector attended, namely Qiang GUAN and Xiaobo CHU, respectively responsible for the cultural heritage of China and Shanghai.

Kai Zhang and Hu Hao were our hosts at Shanghai Jiao Tong University. See more info [here](#).

UMTWS 2019 was supported by the National Educational Alliance of University & College Museums (NEAUCM), and the Educational Alliance of University & College Museums (SEAUCM).

This year, UMAC and QLM-SJTU signed a new agreement to introduce innovative changes to the UMTWS programmes in the future (see Consolidating Partnerships, p. 8).

### *Workshops*

The professional development workshop, 'Boot Camp for Academic Museums: Surviving and Thriving within a Parent Institution', was held during the UMAC 2018 Conference in Miami (21 June 2018). It was promoted by Jill Hartz (UMAC/AAMG, University of Oregon/USA), Barbara Rothermel (UMAC, Lynchburg University/USA) and covered key concepts and practices in academic museum management. Whether seasoned professionals or new to the field, the workshop offered opportunities to learn about innovative and best practices and share challenges and achievements. Topics covered included mission and governance, advisory boards, strategic planning, our teaching role, working with faculty and students, community relations, and collections management and planning. A total of 25 participants attended.

Three workshops will be developed just before UMAC 2019 in Kyoto: i) a third edition of the Boot Camp, by Jill Hartz and Barbara Rothermel, and the new workshops ii) Making University Museums Matter, by Jill Deupi, Sharon L. Corwin, William Eiland, John Wettenhall and Christina Olsen, and iii) Stealing Culture: Repatriation

of Human Remains in University Collections, by Nicole M. Crawford and Darrell D. Jackson. These workshops will happen at the Kyoto National Museum, 1 September 2019. Read more [here](#).

### *Travel Grants*

UMAC has increased the number of grants supporting the participation of members in its 2019 Annual Conference in Kyoto (in line with ICOM). Apart from a subsidy to the Chair, a total of five grants were given:

- Hakim Abdul Rahim, Australia
- Azam Safipoor, Iran (UMAC Grant)
- Nicole Crawford, USA (UMAC Grant)
- Svetlana Frolova, Russia (UMAC Grant)
- Silvana Arago, Mexico (ICOM Grant for Young Members)

UMAC has also subsidized the registration fee of Karin Weil, Chair of the UMAC Elections Committee.

### **National Networks**

UMAC gives paramount importance to local, national and regional networks. It is formally supporting university museums, collections and heritage networks in Australia, Mexico, Chile, Brazil and Greece, among other countries. This support varies (e.g. permission to use UMAC's logo, participation in conferences, dissemination through UMAC communication channels). Networks supported by UMAC can be seen [here](#).



UMAC Board member Luisa Fernanda Rico Mansard during the Coloquio-Talleres de Documentación Museística organised by the Grupo UMAC in Mexico, UNAM, April 2019.

During the past year, UMAC was directly involved in the revival of the Brazilian Network of University Museums through the 5th Forum of Brazilian University Museums, which took place at the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, 8-11 October 2018. A total of 150 university museum professionals from Brazil participated. President of ICOM Suay Aksoy sent a message and so did Darko Babic (Chair of ICTOP). UMAC was represented by its Chair Marta Lourenço, Vice-Chair Barbara Rothermel and Secretary Marcus Granato. The Chair of ICOM Brasil, Renata Motta, also attended, and so did Carlos Brandão (ICOM Executive Council).

Another important network whose creation was stimulated by UMAC during the past year was the University Museums Network of Western China. A first meeting happened in 19 July 2019, at the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, in Chengdu, promoted by UMAC member Zhao Ke. Nine university museum directors from the region participated.

### **Consolidating Partnerships**

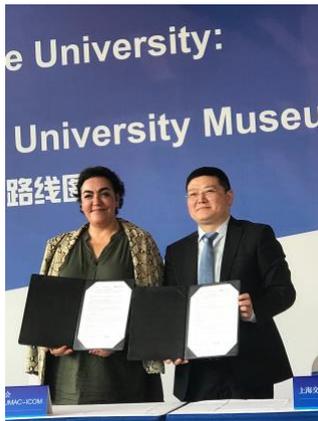
In 2018 and 2019, UMAC signed four significant agreements consolidating previously formal and informal partnerships in China.

### *UMAC-ESTM (ESTC)*

The partnership between UMAC and the Electronic Science and Technology Museum (ESTM) of the University Electronic Science and Technology (UESTC) in Chengdu aims at developing a university museum app for iOS and Android (pilot version) using data from UMAC's World Database of University Museums and Collections. Signed: 25 September 2018 in Shanghai with Zhao Ke, ESTM Director, and validated 16 July 2019 in Chengdu with Xiaorong Shen, Vice-President of UESTC

**UMAC-Shanghai University Museum**

This partnership aims at translating UMACJ into Chinese, making it available to a new and large sector of museum practitioners and university administrators. Signed: 25 September 2018 in Shanghai with Shaoxue Liu, Director of the Shanghai University Museum.



**UMAC-QLM (SJTU)**

UMAC's oldest partnership in China is with the Qian Xuesen Library and Museum, of Shanghai Jiao Tong University (QLM-SJTU). In 2019, the partnership was reiterated and renovated, expanding its aims to the organisation of a University Museums Directors' Forum, internship programmes, promoting research, and the continuation of UMTWS. Signed: 23 April 2019 in Shanghai, with Kai Zhang, Executive Director of QLM-SJTU.

Photo courtesy QLM (SJTU).

**Goal 3 – EXPANSION AND INCLUSIVENESS**

**UMAC Members**

For three years, UMAC has been mostly concerned with inequality of access to ICOM. ICOM is a western-oriented organization, with the majority of members in Europe and North America. In 2016, UMAC has approved an expansion plan, targeting priority geopolitical regions where members were scarce considering the number of universities – some regions coincided with ICOM relatively low representation (e.g. Asia, the Middle East and Africa) while others were UMAC specific (e.g. the Americas). The plan involved multiple dimensions, from increasing travel grants to intense social media presence, support to meetings and networks, training opportunities, and visits to university museums and collections around the globe. Apart from Africa, where it continues to be very difficult to penetrate, this plan is now beginning to bear fruits. In 2018, UMAC was the second ICOM international committee with the largest growth in membership.

On July 15, 2019, UMAC had 638 members in 67 countries and territories, which is more than double the number of members in 2016:

Category	Active
Institutional Members	95
Individual Members	543

These numbers can still vary during 2019. The December 2019 UMAC Annual Report to ICOM will include the definite 2019 membership numbers. The geographical distribution of members can be accessed [here](#).

## Social Media Presence

Facebook (created 2012)	Twitter (created 2016)	Instagram (created 2016)	WeChat (created 2017)
Total 122 posts Likes: 1,651 Post reach: 85,550 Editor: Andrew Simpson	Total 233 tweets Followers: 1,051 (new followers 362) Twitter impressions: 160,422 Editor: Andrew Simpson	Total 90 posts Followers: 1207 Likes: 5,235 Editor: Marta C. Lourenço	Total: 31 posts Followers: 214 Editors: Wenjia Qiu and Wenjun Zhang

Data from July 2018 to July 2019.

## Website

The new UMAC [website](#) is fully operational since September 2017. It is being used by the UMAC community to circulate information about university museums and collections, store documents and as a platform for sharing and consulting.

Updates, including news posts and events, are presently being done by Lyndel King and Marta C. Lourenço. A total of 120 news posts were published since July 2018.

## UMAC World Database of University Museums and Collections

There are presently 3,717 entries in the [UMAC World Database of University Museums and Collections](#) (100 more than last year): 2,125 from Europe, 445 from Asia, 334 from Australia/Oceania, 19 from Africa and 792 from the Americas (almost 300 more entries than last year).

## UMAC-ML Mailing-list

The mailing list UMAC-ML includes all institutional and individual members, both active and inactive. It also includes non-members interested in university museums, collections and heritage. Subscription is free and messages are moderated. The total of subscribers is presently 2,874 (500 more subscribers than last year). UMAC-ML is regularly used to circulate news, communicate with members and consulting.

In 2019, UMAC created the [UMAC-ML Privacy Policy](#) in accordance with the new GDPR (Europe) and guidelines from ICOM.

## Translation of *UMACJ* to Chinese

The primary language of UMACJ will always remain the global academic language, English. The Board have recently undertaken a partnership with Shanghai University Museum to allow translation of whole editions of the journal into Chinese. Previously, only selected articles have been translated. We anticipate that this will engage a large number of university museum staff from China, one of the Board's identified regions for growth. Complete editions of UMACJ8 and UMACJ9 in Chinese are now available on the UMAC website, with the release of the Chinese version of UMACJ10 scheduled for later this year.

## UMAC Leaflet

In the past year, UMAC updated its [main leaflet](#), in three languages (English, French and Spanish). Later, three more languages were made available: Chinese, Farsi and Japanese. The work has been coordinated by Vice-President Graciela Weisinger.

## Promoting UMAC

Among the many conferences, symposia and seminars attended by UMAC Board members or representatives during the past year (including some already mentioned in this report), we highlight the following.

### *International Symposium 'Activities of University Museums and their Significance'*

This international symposium took place in Kyoto immediately before the ICOM 2019 Maizuru meeting. The aim was to assemble a group of international speakers and Asian university museum professionals and discuss mutual concerns, especially in the light of the ICOM 2019 General Conference and UMAC 2019 Annual Conference in Kyoto next year.

Date: 29-30 September 2018

Organisers: University Museums Association of Kyoto (UMAK), with the support of UMAC.

Participants: c. 40 (half ICOM members).

Host: University of Kyoto

Keynote speakers: Suay Aksoy (ICOM), Marta Lourenço (UMAK), Seishi Namiki (UMAK), Hiroshi Minami (UMAK, UMAC 2019 LOC), Akiko Fukuno (UMAC 2019 LOC), Yuji Kurihara (ICOM KYOTO 2019), among others.

*University Museums and Collections in Asia – Pre-presentation of UMAC 2019, Kyoto, Japan*

In September, the Chair of UMAC (Marta Lourenço) and the two co-Chairs of UMAC 2019 in Kyoto (Akiko Fukuno and Hiroshi Minami) travelled to Shanghai to promote UMAC and the upcoming Annual Conference in Kyoto to Chinese university museum professionals.

Date: 25 September 2018

Organisers: Qian Xuesen Library and Museum, Shanghai Jiao Tong University (QLM-SJTU) (host) & UMAC.

Participants: c. 80 (10 ICOM members).

Keynote speakers: Kai Zhang (QLM-SJTU), Marta Lourenço (UMAC), Hiroshi Minami (UMAK, UMAC 2019 LOC), Akiko Fukuno (UMAC 2019 LOC).

*Meeting Grupo UMAC en Chile*

Organisation: ICOM Chile, during the XIV Jornadas Museológicas Chilenas

Host: Casa Central de la Universidad de Chile

Date: 10 October 2018

Participants: 20

Role of UMAC: support

*I Meeting of Scientific and Teaching Collections of UFOPA (Universidade Federal do Oeste do Pará), Brazil*

Date: 1 November 2018

Host: ICTA, UFOPA

Role of UMAC: support, dissemination and video message from UMAC Chair

*Encuentro Internacional "Organismos museológicos hiperconectados"*

Date: 8-11 November 2018

Host: Museo de Itaipu Tierra Guaraní, Paraguay

Participants: 120

Role of UMAC: support, abstract selection, dissemination, participation of Board member Luisa Fernanda Rico Mansard and message from UMAC Chair.

*Third International Conference 'University Museums and Collections: The Universal Heritage' (within the framework of the "Education" section of the VII St. Petersburg International Cultural Forum)*

Date: 15-17 November 2018

St. Petersburg, Russia

Language: English and Russian

Participants: 80 (15 countries)

Role of UMAC: participation of Member Hugues Dreyssée (representing the Chair).

*Joint Seminar UMAC-ICOM Croatia -- Gates to Knowledge: The role of university museums, collections and heritage in the 21<sup>st</sup> century*

Keynote speaker: Marta C. Lourenço, UMAC Chair

Organisation: ICOM Croatia

Date: 4 December 2018

Participants: 15

Role of UMAC: support and keynote of UMAC Chair

*Coloquio-Talleres de Documentación Museística, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México*

Organisation: ICOM Mexico, Grupo UMAC em Mexico, CIDOC em Mexico

Date: 8-10 April 2019

Participants: 80

Role of UMAC: support and participation of UMAC Chair

*I National Colloquium of University Museums in Indonesia*

Organisation: Atma Jaya Catholic University of Indonesia, Jakarta

Participants: 20

Date: 10 April 2019

Role of UMAC: support, dissemination and video message from UMAC Chair



I National Colloquium of University Museums in Indonesia (photo: Musiana Yudhawasthi)

*Heritage on Fire: Who's Next?*

Organisation: ICOM Brazil, ICCROM, IBRAM-Brazil

Date: 26-28 June 2019

Role of UMAC: support and participation of UMAC Secretary Marcus Granato

*AAMG Annual Conference*

Organisation: Association of Academic Museums and Galleries, USA

Date: 27-30 June 2019

Role of UMAC: participation of UMAC Board member Lyndel King (also as host)

*11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the German University Collections Association*

University of Münster, Germany

Date: 11-13 July 2019

Role of UMAC: support, dissemination and video message from UMAC Chair

*Three Meetings in Australia*

In anticipation of the Annual Conference 2020 in Sydney, UMAC has been intensifying the promotion of its activities in Australia. Two meetings were held in Australia focused on university museums and collections during 2018 that promoted the work of UMAC, in particular the UMAC database, and the promotion of the UMAC 2020 conference at the University of Sydney featuring the new Chau Chak Wing Museum, currently under construction.

The Australian National University held a one day symposium in collaboration with the Council of Australian University Museums and Collections (CAUMAC). The symposium entitled "Reframing research collections: research infrastructure" examined the potential of and university responses to the management of legacy collections. Published abstracts are available [here](#).

The other was the Knowledgeable Object workshop and symposium held at Macquarie University in November. The program was the result of a year curriculum mapping project funded by a Learning and Teaching Priority Grant at Macquarie University. The aim was to unlock the resources buried in the university's museums and maximise their value to our teaching staff and curriculum developers. It was all about removing barriers

between the learning and teaching community and the university's collections. Published abstracts are available [here](#).

One national meeting has been held to date in 2019. On 21 February 2019, CAUMAC and the University of Melbourne hosted a one-day symposium "University Collections – Object-based learning and teaching, research and engagement" was held at the University of Melbourne.

The Symposium explored the themes of university collections and their roles in teaching and learning, research and engagement, and focused on innovative developments in object-based initiatives. Presentations and Posters explored topics such as: Cross-disciplinary application of university collections in curriculum; Case studies demonstrating the research potential of collections; Collections' value in building alumni and community relationships. Published abstracts are available [here](#).

Participation: Andrew Simpson

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- the Shanghai University Museum
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- the Kyoto University Museum
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This report was made with the contributions of Board Members: Akiko Fukuno, Andrew Simpson, Barbara Rothermel, Luisa Fernanda Rico Mansard, Lyndel King, Nathalie Nyst and Marcus Granato.

Marta C. Lourenço  
Lisboa, 2 August 2019

## ABOUT UMAC

UMAC is the international committee for university museums and collections of the **International Council of Museums**. Created in 2001, it is the largest international forum of higher education museums and collections, stimulating exchanges among professionals and supporting the development of university museums and collections as essential resources for research, education and culture.

Website: <http://umac.icom.museum/>