

UMAC FUTURES Work Report

By Zhao Ke

Period: September 2022 to August 2023

I am Zhao Ke, from Electronic Science and Technology Museum, from China. And I work as the chair of UMAC Futures as well. I am writing to report to the UMAC President and colleagues about my work during my tenure at UMAC.

Many of my initiatives have received support from colleagues around the world, and I am very grateful to everyone.

IMAGINATIONS

UMAC FUTURE is the group of immerging scholars in UMAC from university museums around the world. We proposed a project, named Imaginations from FUTURES. To do online talk with young scholars from different university museums. To share their exploration and imagination of their work, research at the present and in the future. Up to now, we have interviewed 19 immerging scholars from 15 university museums.

2021

1. Eva Gartnerová, Tomas Bata University in Zlin, Czech Republic
2. Mariana Santamaria, National University of La Plata, Argentina
3. Federica Gigante, University of Oxford, UK
4. Sladjana Savic University of Belgrade, Serbia
5. Ayumi Terada University of Tokyo, Japan
6. Holly Millward, Macquarie University History Museum, Macquarie University, Australia
7. Mohamadou Moustapha Dieye, The Théodore Monod Museum of African Art Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal

2022

8. Rebeca Bombonato, The Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, University of São Paulo, Brazil
9. Manuela García Lirio, Department of History of Art University of Granada, Spain
10. Michelle de la Harpe, The University of Pretoria Museums, University of Pretoria, South Africa
11. Kelsey McMorro, The Chau Chak Wing Museum University of Sydney, Australia
12. Alex Gushurst-Moore, Cambridge Visual Culture Fitzwilliam Museum, University of Cambridge, UK

2023 (NEW!)

13. **Helena Cox, University of York, UK**

Online Talk with Helena Cox
Art Collection, University of York, UK



Fig.1 Online interview with Helena Cox

14. 2023 UMAC Student Committee: Amy Mogensen, Scott Liu, Ruby Grant, John Fisher, and
Louisa Polson, **University of Sydney, Australia**

Online Talk with
2023 UMAC Student Committee
Australia

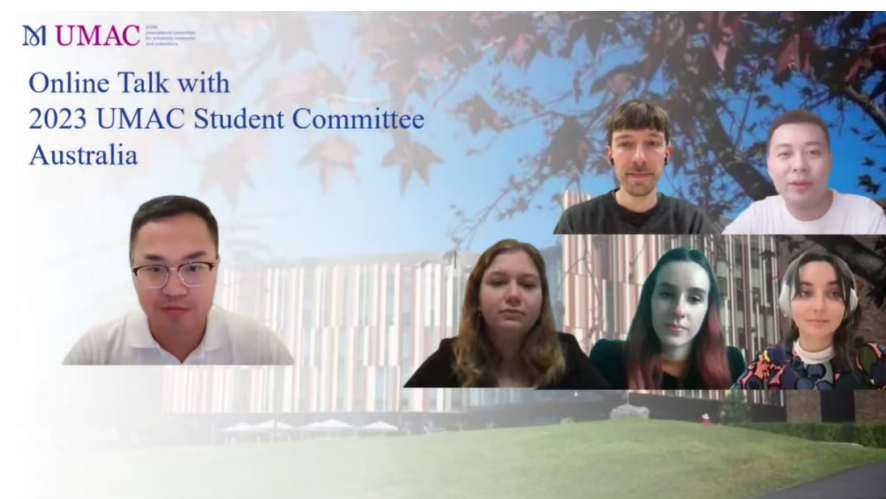


Fig.2 Online interview with the 2023 UMAC Student Committee

15. Amohelang Martha Mohajane, North-West University, South Africa

Online Talk with Amohelang Martha Mohajane
NWU Gallery Curator
North-West University, South Africa



Fig.3 Online interview with Amohelang Martha Mohajane

UMuseum App

The UMuseum app is the mobile terminal of university museum database, based on the Worldwide Database of University Museums and Collections. It helps to check information of university museums with smart phone or tablet. We developed it in 2019, the version 2.0 was iterated and launched in February 2021.

We raised the fund (about 4000 euros annually) to maintain the UMuseum app. We maintain the data and server in the app, and the installations in IOS app store and Android google play for access and installation every year from all over the world.

A new version 3.0 will launch in IOS and Android this month (internal testing version 2.9 beta for now).

New figures include:

1. **Optimization the user interface** based on in-depth research to boost the appeal, see Fig. 3.
2. **Addition of interactive content and community function** to improve the accessibility.
3. **Construction of the app background** to make the app a dynamic platform.

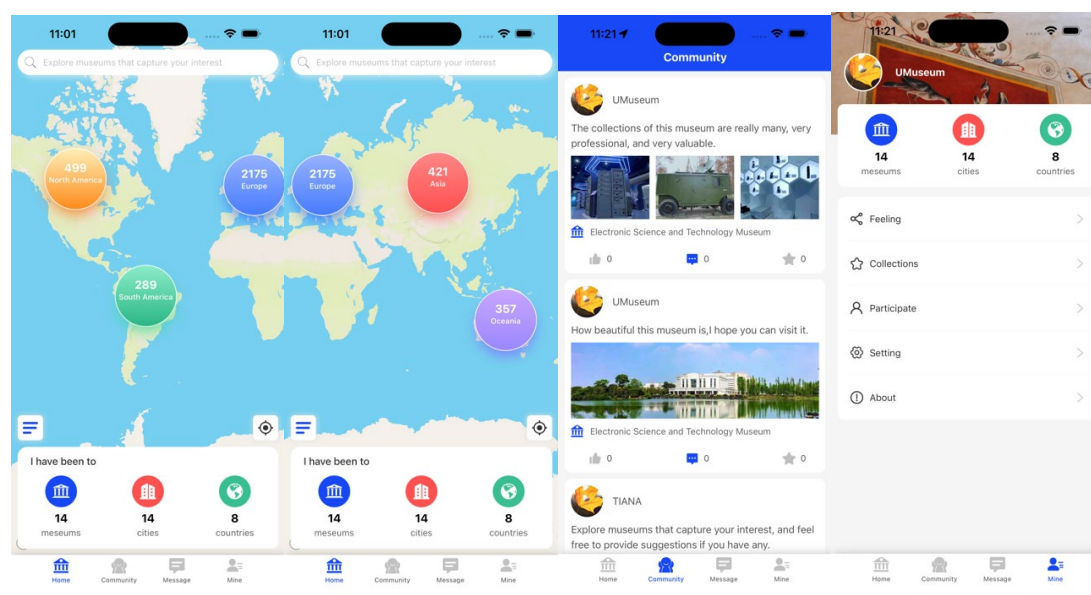


Fig.4 The new UI of UMuseum

Supplementary Content

1. Participated in the 2022 UMAC Annual Conference in Prague, tried to recruit more colleagues to UMAC and UMAC FUTURES, established contact with 150 more members, and collaborated together to promote cooperation among museums.
2. Invited to give a presentation on UMuseum app in Thailand National Science Festival by Thailand National Science Museum, contributing to promote UMAC and build our membership base in Southeastern Asia.
3. Collaborated with the Adler Planetarium in the United States on an online exhibition to expand the dimensions of the exhibition, and promote collections in university museums, to some extent.
4. As the Chair of UMAC Futures, I organized and hosted multiple lectures and conferences in China.

Plan in the next year

1. To rebuild the network of the UMAC FUTURES and recruit new members.
2. To maintain the IMAGINATIONS project. To make it more diverse and post the videos onto multiple official social media.
3. To coordinate an object-based project to regularly show the collections in university museum community.
4. To iterate the UMuseum app to a new version, and do more promotion and publicity work.
5. To support and prepare the next Youth Forum/Seminar in Dresden if possible.