



Minutes of the 24th UMAC AGM 2024
Meeting Held on Thursday 26 September 2024
Technical University, Dresden
15:00 – 17:00 CEST

1. Welcome and Adoption of the Agenda

The meeting commenced (around 15:30) after the announcement of the 2024 UMAC Award. The meeting was in person only; there were 43 people present in total. An attendance list was circulated. The agenda had been made available on the website previously. No apologies were given.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 23rd AGM

The minutes from the 23rd AGM held at the Chau Chak Wing Museum and online were not made available on the website prior to the meeting. They have not been approved.

3. President's Report

The Annual Report for the 2023 to 2024 period was made available on the website prior to the meeting. The Chair gave a summary covering conferences, publications and collaborative activities over the past year. A summary of social media activity with particular reference to the new UMAC LinkedIn Group was also given.

There was a report on the SAREC funded Two Horizons project covering a number of presentations to ICOM committees and non-ICOM meetings (such as the recent Inclusive Museums conference in Vienna). It was reported that progress with the project was slow and a number of post UMAC 2023 conference events had to be cancelled because of illness.

Two new partnerships for the project, namely, a University of Canberra conference on working with Indigenous university collections, and a partnership with the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences based on object pedagogies and the development of a teaching museum were noted.

The Chair noted commencement of the Building Bridges project intended to develop awareness of Hispanic university museums and collections and associated rich traditions of museology and heritage,

The Chair reported a meeting with a delegation from the Shanghai Jiao Tong University and the signing of a new agreement intended to reinstate international collaboration with China that had been suspended during COVID.

The Chair moved the report be accepted, there were no objections from the floor, a vote was unnecessary.

4. Treasurer's Note

The Treasurer briefly noted the current balance in the UMAC Account as 55263.93. It was noted that this figure was high because of two large annual subventions from ICOM because of our growing membership and slow expenditure of the large SAREC grant for Two Horizons project.

5. UMAC Futures

Zhao Ke took the floor and gave a brief report on activities of the UMAC Futures, This included a number of new Imaginations interviews on the UMAC YouTube channel and a report back on a Working Group meeting earlier at the conference involving both Universeum and UMAC colleagues.

6. Upcoming conferences

The next UMAC conference will take place in Dubai as part of the 27th General Conference of ICOM. The Chair noted that the Board would seek partnerships with other International Committees in developing sessions and welcomed ideas from the floor or in correspondence after the meeting.

Annual conferences after the triennial meeting in Dubai would depend on support from the network. It was noted that verbal offers to host a UMAC conference have been discussed (including India and Hong Kong) but no written proposals have been received to date.

7. Any Other Business

In the short time remaining, there was a discussion about the UMAC Award and the possibility of expanding the prize pool.

It was agreed to defer discussions on this to the next Board meeting.

8. Close

The meeting closed at 16:55

These minutes were compiled from notes of the Chair (Andrew Simpson)