UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA MUSEUMS: 2014/15 ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015

FAST FACTS
Over 270,000 views occurred on the U of A Museums website from 50,000 users — 35.2 per cent were returning and 64.8 per cent were new.

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We are committed to initiating and leading innovative museum strategies and solutions that ensure the University of Alberta Museums are relevant to the University of Alberta academic, research, and community engagement missions and to make the U of A Museum collections accessible to students and researchers and our diverse local and international communities.

FAST FACTS

The U of A Museums has its content displayed approximately 157,300 times on social media (impressions) over the last year which lead to a 0.7 per cent engagement rate (industry average is 0.9 per cent).

MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS SERVICES

Museums and Collections Services provide museum leadership in strategies and services to assist the 29 University of Alberta Museums in fulfilling their academic mission at the University of Alberta by:

- Providing a framework for our distributed academic museum model and committee structures;
- Ensuring physical and intellectual access to museum collections and associated knowledge through diverse programs that engage our communities;
- Developing digital/multimedia collections-based initiatives that support research, teaching and fiduciary requirements;
- Developing standards and programs that affect collections care for access, storage, risk management, and emergency preparedness;
- Maintaining a policy and procedure framework within UAPPOL that facilitates compliance with museums standards;
- Ensuring curatorial and stewardship initiatives for the University of Alberta Art Collection, including the Mactaggart Art Collection;
- Advancing a Public Art Program for all U of A Campuses.
1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the activities of the University of Alberta Museums Policy and Planning Committee, with selected highlights from U of A Museums/Museums and Collections Services activities and achievements from July 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015. We have extended the reporting period to ensure the information is brought up-to-date.

FAST FACTS

The Mactaggart Art Collection Lecture Series launched the first of four sessions in October 2015. The lecture series sessions each contain 3-4 lectures plus a panel discussion. Fourteen leading scholars of late imperial Chinese history from around the world will share with the public their historical knowledge of individual items in the Mactaggart Art Collection.
The U of A Museums Policy and Planning Committee met formally on October 15, 2014, December 5, 2014, and March 11, 2015 and had an electronic vote in April, 2015. Several topics identified in the last report are ongoing in this reporting year.

2.1 Activity One

University of Alberta Museums and Collections Policy

The following key policy compliance tasks and activities occurred:

- Staff from Museums and Collections Services and the Department of Anthropology, in conjunction with the Office of the Provost, oversaw the successful reburial of remains of 26 individuals from the former Sharphead Band, resolving a nearly 50-year-old ongoing claim.

- The U of A Museums and the Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology/Department of Biological Sciences are negotiating a loan/relationship with the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum in Grande Prairie to be associated with the U of A Museums under U of A Museums Policy, as the University of Alberta is the repository for most of the fossil material collected under permit in the bone beds adjacent to the museum in Wembley, Alberta in addition to the specimens stored and displayed at the museum.

- The Committee voted to deaccession a final group of objects from the Department of Dentistry’s collection as per their approved Acquisitions Strategy, allowing the Dentistry Museum to move forward under the direction of Museums and Collections Services, with the move of the collection to a new dedicated collections space with an up-to-date database of records, and access and collections management procedures.

- At the request of the Vice-Provost (Learning Services) the Terms of Reference for the Policy and Planning Committee were updated to include the Vice-Provost (Learning Services) as an Ex-Officio non-voting member of the Committee.
2.2

ACTIVITY TWO

Sustainable Facilities

The U of A Museums has worked with Facilities and Operations and various Departments and Faculties to ensure that adequate storage facilities exist for the U of A Museums collections in the short term and to address incidents as they occur. For long-term care and sustainability of these collections, purpose-built facilities are still required and the Committee continues to discuss this need.

The following facility updates for the U of A Museums collections occurred during the reporting period:

- There are currently plans in place to move the Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology collection to the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science (CCIS) to improve storage conditions.

- Facilities and Operations, EcoPest and other contractors have been brought on site to address an issue with insect infestation of the Ornithology Collection in the Zoology Museum. Though no damage has resulted from the current issue, various infestations over the years have done some damage to specimens. Monitoring is ongoing.

- The E.H. Strickland Entomological Museum and the Freshwater Invertebrate Collection were moved to a new facility in the Biological Sciences building during the summer of 2015.

- Cabinets were protected and an ongoing inspection of them is required to address the possible consequences of a pipe leak detected in the ceiling of the Vascular Plant Herbarium in early November 2015.

- Following a period of deaccessioning, the Dentistry Museum moved to a new dedicated collections space in the summer of 2015 with an up-to-date database of records, and access and collections management procedures.

FAST FACTS

The Pathology Collection was databased by staff and a conservation assessment was performed on the collection of nearly 200 wet specimens. Forty-two specimens were restored with new preservative fluid.
2.3
ACTIVITY THREE

Reaccreditation of Recognized Museum Status

Museums and Collections Services / U of A Museums have been undergoing reaccreditation with the Alberta Museums Association, a process that occurs every five years. UofA Museums are currently a “Candidate in the Recognized Museum Program” and are upgrading evidence to ensure accreditation is achieved in February 2016. This accreditation is essential to the U of A Museums for several reasons.

• To ensure eligibility for certain grants which are distributed by the Alberta Museums Association on behalf of the Government of Alberta

• To demonstrate that the U of A Museums is committed to maintaining standards of professional museum practice

• To ensure that the U of A Museums plays a strong role within the museum community and continue to be a leading museum model.

FAST FACTS

Fifty tours in the Mactaggart Art Collection brought in 412 researchers, students and visitors to see some of the 1,000 impressive works of art and artifacts in the collection.
2.4
ACTIVITY FOUR
Community Engagement

U of A Museums Galleries at Enterprise Square

In 2013, the University of Alberta entered into a three-year agreement with the City of Edmonton regarding a collaborative programming initiative at Enterprise Square in downtown Edmonton that will conclude in March 2016.

A new funding and management proposal was submitted to City of Edmonton Officials and presented to City Councillors in November, 2015. However, the motion requesting new funds of $350,000 per year was withdrawn by City Councillors and therefore not deliberated by City Council duration budget meetings, thus ending the collaboration effective March 31, 2016.

The Policy and Planning Committee discussed this initiative on several occasions, and along with the U of A Museums remains committed to this space for these reasons:

- The U of A Museums require space to present the diverse and extensive museum collections and the associated knowledge to a broad public audience
- With the University of Alberta focus on community engagement, this venue provides a location through which the U of A Museums can involve communities in the work of not only the museums, but the university as a whole
- To remain accredited and be eligible for museum grants, the U of A Museums and the associated collections, require space to provide access to the Alberta public and beyond
- The gallery space at Enterprise Square meets environmental requirements such as temperature, humidity, and security for exhibiting collections that are certified as cultural property (art, Mactaggart Collection, meteorites, textiles) and that cannot be exhibited anywhere else on campus

A funding request is being considered by the University of Alberta Senior Administration for the 2016/17 year to continue operations and programming for the U of A Museums at Enterprise Square.

**FAST FACTS**

There have been approximately 12,100 visitors to the University of Alberta Museums Galleries at Enterprise Square this reporting period.
Community Engagement

The U of A Museums produced a total of 19 exhibitions in the University of Alberta Museums Galleries at Enterprise Square—seven featured museum collections from the University of Alberta and 12 were community exhibitions as part of the City of Edmonton funded partnership. In addition, there were a total of 18 public programs that supported the exhibition content, which ranged from lectures and panel discussions to receptions and film screenings. Total attendance for this reporting period was approximately 12,100 visitors.

Internship Programs

The Committee adjudicated applications to the Friends of the U of A Museums Internship in Museum Innovation again in both 2014 and 2015. Museums and Collections Services / U of A Museums hired two student interns in summer 2014 (Karen Fraser, Human Ecology, and Alice Lam, Anthropology) as well as in the summer of 2015 (Alexandra Rocca, Paleontology, and Brittany Wingert, Entomology) funded by Museums and Collections Services and an annual donation by the Friends of the University of Alberta Museums. The interns undertook various projects in all areas of museum practice including georeferencing, exhibition preparation, conservation, data collection, collections management, public programs, education and marketing.

The Friends Internship continues to be a sought after opportunity for undergraduate students to get much needed diverse experience in museum practice to assist them in their future career paths.

FAST FACTS

Approximately 6,600 specimens were photographed and the image record was added to the database for both the Entomology (part of a crowdsourcing project) and Paleobotany collections.
Recognition
Two curators, two collections staff and one volunteer were honoured at the annual U of A Museums Celebration in March, 2015.

Curators
- Pamela Mayne Correia
  Curator of Fossil Hominid Cast Collection,
  Osteology Collection, Non-Human
  Primate Skeletal Collection, Bryan/Gruhn
  Ethnographic Collection

- Dr. Andriy Nahachewsky
  Curator of Bohdan Medwidsky
  Ukrainian Folklore Collection

Collection Staff
- Clive Coy,
  Chief Technician,
  Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology

- Vlada Blinova
  Collections Manager,
  Clothing and Textiles Collection

Volunteer
- Barbara Szafron
  Volunteer,
  Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology

FAST FACTS
Michael Caldwell, U of A Museum’s Curator of Higher Vertebrates in the Lab for Vertebrate Paleontology helped to set the record straight when it came to identifying the origin of snakes, being able to date them back 70 million years.

FAST FACTS
Qijianglong (pronounced “CHI-jyang-lon”) is a dinosaur, about 15 metres long that lived about 160 million years ago in the Late Jurassic. This fossil was discovered by U of A Museum’s Dinosaur Curator Phillip Currie, a U of A PhD student and a former masters’ student in January 2015.
COMMUNITY EXHIBITIONS
(COORDINATED BY U OF A MUSEUMS)

Regions of Distinction: Edmonton Members of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts
April 24 – October 25, 2014
(Curated by the Art Gallery of Alberta)

Frosh 1965: Photographs by Norman Kreye
July 17 – August 30, 2014

Def Perspectives: Paintings and Drawings by Jesse Thomas
September 11 – October 25, 2014

SONAR
November 6 – December 20, 2014
(Curated by the Art Gallery of Alberta)

Future Station: Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Artists
January 24 – May 3, 2015
(Curated by the Art Gallery of Alberta)

Do It Yourself: Collectivity and Collaboration in Edmonton
November 27, 2015 – Ongoing
(March 5, 2016)
(Curated by the Art Gallery of Alberta)

Found Flock
June 11 – August 1, 2015

Celebrating Connections: Multicultural Weddings in Alberta
May 28 – August 1, 2015

Monarch
May 28 – August 1, 2015

Recollections: An Imperfect Schematic
August 20 – October 10, 2015

Arche-Textures
August 20 – October 10, 2015

Mind Games
August 20 – October 10, 2015

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA MUSEUMS EXHIBITIONS

Forging a Nation
June 5 – August 16, 2014

Allen Ball — That Shepherd’s: Righteousness
July 17 – September 27, 2014

Discovering Dinosaurs
September 18, 2014 – January 31, 2015

Charles Stankievich: The Soniferious Aether of The Land Beyond
The Land Beyond
January 22 – March 21, 2015

What’s New? At the University of Alberta Museums
April 23 – May 23, 2015

Le Corps en Question(s)²/The Body in Question(s)²
June 18 – August 22, 2015

Brain Storms: UAlberta Creates
September 25 – Ongoing
(January 23, 2016)
The Visionaries
Barbara Paterson
Cast Bronze, 2015
University of Alberta Art Collection
University of Alberta Museums

The Visionaries sculpture, created by Barbara Paterson, depicts Alberta’s first premier, Alexander Rutherford, and the U of A’s first president, Henry Marshall Tory—both of whom were instrumental in the founding of the university. Unveiling on campus in September 2015 as part of the centenary of the University of Alberta Alumni Association, The Visionaries has been a meaningful addition to the University of Alberta Museums Art Collection.

Public art from the University of Alberta Art Collection inspires the future and preserves the past. Located throughout campus, public art creates a sense of place, documents the University of Alberta’s distinguished history, is a creative source of pride for all of our communities, and reflects the importance of art in our daily lives.
Health research, imagination and human wonder all inspired *InScope*, a sculpture created by Dam de Nogales, situated outside the Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation. *InScope* was unveiled in October 2015 and was commissioned after a generous $28 million donation to the University of Alberta by the Li Ka Shing (Canada) Foundation in 2005 to establish the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology and the Li Ka Shing Sino-Canadian Exchange Program. It was requested that 1 percent of the donation go towards the acquisition of a work of art.

*Public art from the University of Alberta Art Collection inspires the future and preserves the past. Located throughout campus, public art creates a sense of place, documents the University of Alberta’s distinguished history, is a creative source of pride for all of our communities, and reflects the importance of art in our daily lives.*
## Policy and Planning Committee Membership 2014/15 & 2015/16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Jocelyn Hall</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Curator, Vascular Plant Herbarium and Chair, Curators Committee Department of Biological Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ex Officio (voting)</td>
<td>Janine Andrews Executive Director, University of Alberta Museums</td>
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<td>Rosalind Sydie President, Friends of the University of Alberta Museums</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ex Officio (non-voting)2015/2016</td>
<td>Gerald Beasley Vice-Provost, Learning Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Faculties Council (elected)</td>
<td>Andrew Greenshaw Department of Psychiatry</td>
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<td>Joseph Patrouch Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies &amp; Department of History and Classics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curators Committee (elected)</td>
<td>Heather Proctor Curator, Freshwater Invertebrate Collection Department of Biological Sciences</td>
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<td>Pamela Mayne Correia Curator, Bryan/Gruhn Ethnographic Collection, Fossil Hominid Cast Collection, Osteology Collection Department of Anthropology</td>
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<td>Andriy Nahachewsky (2014/15) Curator, Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies</td>
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<td>Michael Caldwell (2015/16) Curator, Higher Vertebrates Department of Biological Sciences</td>
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<td>Allen Shostak Curator, Parasitology Department of Biological Sciences</td>
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<td>Undergraduate Student Representative (voting)</td>
<td>K. Orydzuk (2014/15) VP Academic (Students Union)</td>
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<td>Z. (Lily) Zhang (2015/16)</td>
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<td>Graduate Students’ Association Representative (elected)</td>
<td>Maryna Chernyavska (2014/15) School of Library and Information Studies</td>
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<td>S. Wilson (2015/16) Department of Biological Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee Secretariat (non-voting)</td>
<td>Frannie Blondheim Associate Director, University of Alberta Museums (Issues Management)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Faculty of Arts
Department of Anthropology
Bryan/Gruhn Archaeology Collection
Curator: Pamela Willoughby
Bryan/Gruhn Ethnographic Collection
Curator: Pamela Mayne Correia
Fossil Hominid Cast Collection
Curator: Pamela Mayne Correia
Osteology Collection
Curator: Pamela Mayne Correia
Zooarchaeology Reference Collection
Curator: Robert Losey

Department of History and Classics
W.G. Hardy Collection of Ancient Near Eastern and Classical Antiquities
Curator: Jeremy Rossiter

Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies
Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives
Curator: Andriy Nahachewsky

Department of Music
Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology
Curator: Michael Frishkof

Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences
Devonian Botanic Garden
Devonian Botanic Garden Herbarium
Curator: René Belland

Department of Human Ecology
Clothing and Textiles Collection
Curator: Anne Bissonnette

Department of Renewable Resources
Renewable Resources
Natural History Collection
Curator: John Acorn
Soil Science Collection
Curator: Scott Chang

Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry
Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology
Pathology Gross Teaching Collection
Curator: David Rayner

School of Dentistry
Dentistry Museum Collection
Curator: Loren Kline
Faculty of Science

Department of Biological Sciences

Cryptogamic Herbarium
Curator: Catherine La Farge-England

Vascular Plant Herbarium
Curator: Jocelyn Hall

Paleobotanical Collection
Curator: Eva Koppelhus

E.H. Strickland Entomological Museum
Curator: Felix Sperling

Freshwater Invertebrate Collection
Curator: Heather Proctor

Jim van Es Marine Invertebrate and Malacology Collection
Curator: Richard Palmer

Museum of Zoology
Curator: Cindy Paszkowski (Amphibian and Reptile Collection / Ornithology Collection)
Curator: Alison Murray (Ichthyology Collection)
Curator: Andrew Derocher (Mammalogy Collection)

Parasite Collection
Curator: Allen Shostak

Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology
Curator: Michael Caldwell (Higher Vertebrates)
Curator: Philip Currie (Dinosaur Collection)
Curator: Alison Murray (Fossil Fishes Collection)

Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences

Drill Core Collection
Curator: John-Paul Zonneveld

Invertebrate Paleontology Collection
Curator: Lindsey Leighton

Meteorsite Collection
Curator: Christopher Herd

Mineralogy and Petrology Collection
Curator: Tom Choacko

Trace Fossil Collection
Curator: Murray Gingras

Museums and Collection Services

University of Alberta Art Collection
Curator: Jim Corrigan

Mactaggart Art Collection
Curator: Vacant
MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS SERVICES STAFF

Janine Andrews
Executive Director

Emily Beliveau
Collections Management Advisor (Humanities)
(starting February 2015)

Frannie Blondheim
Associate Director

Jennifer Bowser
Collections Management Advisor (Registration / Preventive Conservation)

Bryan Brunet
Collections Management Advisor (Natural Sciences)
(starting November 2014)

Jim Corrigan
Curator, University of Alberta Art Collection

Matthew Hills
Assistant Curator, University of Alberta Art Collection

Jill Horbay
Communications and Marketing Coordinator
(starting June 2015)

Tom Hunter
Collections Assistant, University of Alberta Art Collection

Denis La France
Senior Systems Administrator

Christina Marocco
Administrative Team Lead

Jennifer Pascoe
Communications and Marketing Coordinator
(unti January 2015)

Riva Symko
Gallery Lead, University of Alberta Museums Galleries at Enterprise Galleries

Jim Whittome
Museums Collections Management

Friends of the University of Alberta Museums Board of Directors 2014/15 & 2015/16:

Rosalind Sydie
President

Tom Kieren
Past President (2014/15)

Stephanie Huolt
Treasurer

Holly Sykora
Casino/Secretary (2014/15)

Dennis Brooks
Director-at-Large (2014/15)

Eleanor McAllister
Director-at-Large (2014/15)
Secretary (2015/16)

Jackie Flaata
Director-at-Large (2015/16)

Harvey Krahn
Director-at-Large (2015/16)

Museums and Collections Services Temporary Staff

Karen Fraser
Intern (Summer 2014)

Alice Lam
Intern (Summer 2014)

Alexandra Rocca
Intern (Summer 2015)

Brittany Wingert
Intern (Summer 2015)

Jessica Tofflemire
Collections Assistant

Julia Rudko
Collections Assistant

Seamus McDougall
Collections Assistant

Erin Weevers
Curatorial Assistant, U of A Art Collection

Joseph Doherty
Curatorial Assistant, U of A Art Collection
Entomology, Vascular Plant, Herpetology, Ichthyology, Mammalogy, and Ornithology data were all published to the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) as well as iDigBio online collections website. This increases the accessibility to the U of A Museums collection databases as well as showing that the U of A Museums adheres to global standards of presenting and accessing data.

This year, 2,448 ecoregion records and 1,186 watershed records were created in the U of A Museums database. These were created as an additional way for people to search collection data.

Fawzy and Cornelia Morcos donated Kosso Eloul’s sculpture *Signalos III* to the University of Alberta Art Collection. An internationally renowned sculptor, Kosso Eloul was a key figure in 20th century sculpture in Canada.

A total of 30,242 specimens were catalogued into U of A Museums collection database from ten different collections including: Entomology, Herpetology, Ichthyology, Ornithology, Vascular Plant, Mammalogy, Paleontology, Meteorites, Mineralogy, Invertebrate Paleontology and Paleobotany.

A total of 16,785 site records were georeferenced in the Vascular Plant, Entomology and Ichthyology collections. The site records in the Vascular Plant collection account for 16,683 of those georeferenced. Georeferencing is the process of taking a textual description of a collection location and converting it into an actual physical coordinate (latitude/longitude). This benefits the standardization of location information in U of A Museum database, and minimizes ambiguity in the collection location of a specimen.

140 Mactaggart Art Collection textiles were re-rolled and rehoused. This is necessary for long-term preservation as textiles will sag and crease overtime and through use. This project also focused on creating digital photographs, reducing the need to unroll textiles as often.

Larry Weaver, faculty member at the University of Lethbridge, donated a significant collection of approximately 70 early to mid-20th century objects of adornment, hunting and household materials, musical instruments and musical recordings from the Adamawa province of Nigeria to the University of Alberta. The established provenance and unquestioned authenticity of this collection makes it highly useful for research and public programming. The University of Alberta Art Collection contains other noteworthy collections of cultural objects of similar vintage from east and central Africa.

In 2014 Ryoji Ikeda donated a large collection of prints to University of Alberta Art Collection spanning his career production. Ryoji Ikeda is recognized globally as a master print artist and is revered in his native Japan as a national treasure.

Charles and Lorette Moore made a donation of 101 Inuit sculptures to the University of Alberta Art Collection. It provides a 40 year window on to the development of Inuit carving across the Canadian Arctic from a fledgling tourist craft to an internationally renowned art form. a master print artist and is revered in his native Japan as a national treasure.