



# museums

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015



**UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA MUSEUMS ANNUAL REPORT**

*including the report of the University of Alberta Museums  
Policy and Planning Committee*

## 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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## MISSION

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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).

## MANDATE

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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

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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.

**EXHIBITIONS:  
ENGAGING THE  
COMMUNITY**



**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 Soniferous 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)<sup>2</sup>/The  
Body in Question(s)<sup>2</sup>**

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.*





## InScope

### Dam de Nogales

Bronze, Stainless Steel, 2015

University of Alberta Art Collection

University of Alberta Museums

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 per cent 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.*



## A

## POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2014/15 &amp; 2015/16

**Chair****Jocelyn Hall**

*Curator, Vascular Plant  
Herbarium and Chair,  
Curators Committee  
Department of Biological  
Sciences*

**Ex Officio (voting)****Janine Andrews**

*Executive Director, University  
of Alberta Museums*

**Rosalind Sydie**

*President, Friends of the  
University of Alberta Museums*

**Ex Officio (non-voting)  
2015/2016****Gerald Beasley**

*Vice-Provost, Learning Services*

**General Faculties Council  
(elected)****Andrew Greenshaw**

*Department of Psychiatry*

**Joseph Patrouch**

*Wirth Institute for Austrian  
and Central European Studies  
& Department of History and  
Classics*

**Curators Committee  
(elected)****Heather Proctor**

*Curator, Freshwater  
Invertebrate Collection  
Department of Biological  
Sciences*

**Pamela Mayne Correia**

*Curator, Bryan/Gruhn  
Ethnographic Collection, Fossil  
Hominid Cast Collection,  
Osteology Collection  
Department of Anthropology*

**Andriy Nahachewsky (2014/15)**

*Curator, Bohdan Medwidsky  
Ukrainian Folklore Archives  
Department of Modern  
Languages and Cultural  
Studies*

**Michael Caldwell (2015/16)**

*Curator, Higher Vertebrates  
Department of Biological  
Sciences*

**Allen Shostak**

*Curator, Parasitology  
Department of Biological  
Sciences*

**Undergraduate Student  
Representative (voting)****K. Orydzuk (2014/15)**

*VP Academic (Students Union)*

**Z. (Lily) Zhang (2015/16)****Graduate Students'  
Association  
Representative (elected)****Maryna Chernyavska (2014/15)**

*School of Library and  
Information Studies*

**S. Wilson (2015/16)**

*Department of Biological  
Sciences*

**Committee Secretariat  
(non-voting)****Frannie Blondheim**

*Associate Director, University  
of Alberta Museums (Issues  
Management)*

## B

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 DIRECTORY OF REGISTERED COLLECTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA MUSEUMS
 

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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*

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## 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*

Meteorite Collection

*Curator: Christopher Herd*

Mineralogy and Petrology Collection

*Curator: Tom Chacko*

Trace Fossil Collection

*Curator: Murray Gingras*

## Museums and Collection Services

University of Alberta Art Collection

*Curator: Jim Corrigan*

Mactaggart Art Collection

*Curator: Vacant*



## C

## 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  
(until January 2015)*

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

**Jim Whittome**  
*Museums Collections  
Management*

### 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*

## D

## FRIENDS

### 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)*

# FAST FACTS

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 reboxed. 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.



museums  
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