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1.0 Executive Summary

This report summarizes the activities of the Policy and Planning Committee, with selected collections-based highlights and achievements from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

• Collections are now completing Acquisition Strategies to address the next steps of compliance with the University of Alberta Museums and Collections Policy (approved by the Board of Governors on March 28, 2008);

• The Policy and Planning Committee approved the deaccession of three specimens from the Meteorite Collection;

• The committee adjudicated student applications for the summer Internship in Museum Innovation which were up 25% over the previous year. The committee recommended that in future years, applications be restricted to undergraduate students only;

• A new campus-wide Art Acquisition and Commissioning Procedure was approved through all levels of governance with final approval from the Board of Governors on May 13, 2011;

• The Policy and Planning Committee provided input to the staff of Museums and Collections Services on the development of a business case for exhibition space in Enterprise Square (in the space formerly occupied by the Art Gallery of Alberta);

• Through the committee’s annual review of funding needs requests, it is apparent that collections still struggle to obtain funding for basic collections-related maintenance, including collections management, staffing, storage cabinets, and capital renovations; and

• The Policy and Planning Committee continues to advocate for critical collections-related facility issues on campus.
2.0 Report of the University of Alberta Museums Policy and Planning Committee

The University of Alberta Museums Policy and Planning Committee met formally on October 26, 2010, December 7, 2010, March 4, 2011, and June 7, 2011. Several issues identified in the last report are ongoing to this academic year.

2.1 Activity One
University of Alberta Museums and Collections Policy (ongoing activity)

In order for a collection to be registered under the University of Alberta Museums and Collections Policy, it must comply with basic museum standards of practice. Below is a summary of the steps taken in this regard in the 2010-2011 academic year:

- The Policy and Planning committee approved a template and pilot process for the development of Acquisitions Strategies by all collections. These strategies outline the purpose of the collection and why it collects and maintains particular objects;
• Staff of Museums and Collections Services are now working with curators to develop Acquisition Strategies. It is anticipated that this process will be complete for all collections by the end of the 2011 calendar year;

• The Policy and Planning Committee approved in principle “Guidelines for Undocumented Museum Objects”; the committee also recommended that the guidelines be piloted with the review of the Dentistry Museum Collection. This document addresses unaccessioned objects located in a collection for which there is no way to establish a legal title;

• The campus-wide “Art Acquisition and Commissioning Procedure” was approved by the Board of Governors on May 13, 2011 and is now available online at UAPPOL; and

• A training program to address key issues/processes related to policy implementation is being developed with the first two workshops to be delivered in late fall 2011 and early spring 2012.

2.2 Activity Two
Curatorial Research Facility (Ongoing activity)

The University of Alberta Museums’ Policy and Planning Committee continues to advocate for a Curatorial Research Facility (CRF) as the need for improved museum facilities on campus grows. The committee, encouraged that the CRF is included in the Comprehensive Institutional Plan, awaits further direction from university administration.

2.3 Activity Three
Review of Category A Designation (ongoing activity)

The University of Alberta Museums’ Category A Designation conferred by the Department of Canadian Heritage has been under review since 2004/05; the designation will remain conditional until the University of Alberta Museums meet all facility requirements.

Part A: Facilities

Quarterly meetings with the Office of the University Architect have been reinstated to ensure that timely discussions and decisions can take place related to collections spaces and facilities.
Part B: Emergency Preparedness Planning

- Representatives of the University of Alberta Museums are a part of campus tabletop discussions related to Emergency Preparedness Planning, led by the Emergency Management Office. Also in attendance are Facilities and Operations, Risk Management, Environmental Health and Safety Office, and Campus Protective Services.

- The University of Alberta Museums hired a full-time Preventive Conservation Manager in March 2011. One of the first priorities for this position is addressing the emergency management needs of museum collections on campus.

Commemorating Curators’ Contributions to Collections

Long-serving curators who have made exceptional contributions to the University of Alberta Museums now have an appropriate way to be memorialized. This new “hall of fame” is an addition to the annual University of Alberta Museums Celebration where outstanding volunteers are routinely recognized. Four deserving recipients were chosen in March, 2011 for induction in this inaugural year:

- Husband-and-wife research team Professors Emeriti Ruth Gruhn and the late Alan Bryan, for their work in the Department of Anthropology with the Bryan/Gruhn Archaeology and Bryan/Gruhn Ethnographic Collections (recently renamed after their founders);

- Professor Emeritus Ronald Burwash, for his work with the Petrology Collection in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences;

- Professor Anne Lambert, founder of the Clothing and Textiles Collection, in the Department of Human Ecology; and

- Professor Emeritus Mark Wilson, from the Department of Biological Sciences, for his work with the Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology, as well as his ongoing advocacy for the University of Alberta Museums.

PHOTOS

1: Professor Emerita Ruth Gruhn with (L-R), Heather Proctor, Chair of the Policy and Planning Committee, Janine Andrews, Executive Director, University of Alberta Museums, and Chancellor Linda Hughes | 2: Professor Emeritus Ronald Burwash | 3: Professor Anne Lambert | 4: Professor Emeritus Mark Wilson
• **Packing Dolls**, an exhibition by the Clothing and Textiles Collection co-curated by student intern in Museum Innovation Christina Williamson and Curator Anne Bissonnette, received a commendation of excellence in June 2011 from the Costume Society of America.

• The University of Alberta Art Collection collaborated with the Prince Takamado Japan Foundation to present *Transcendence: Four Artists, Four Cultures* in early 2011. This exhibition featured the work of four internationally renowned print artists. Noted by Curator Jim Carrigan, these printmakers (from Belgium, Canada, Japan, and Poland), all whom have a history with the University of Alberta, are some of the top print artists in the world today.

• It was announced in the spring of 2011 that a new $26.4 million museum facility near Grande Prairie will be called the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum, named after the University of Alberta’s renowned Curator of Dinosaurs. The museum is slated to open in 2013. Currie also received the Alberta Order of Excellence in the fall of 2010 and was in the news often in spring 2011 for his discovery that Tyrannosaurus Rex, a species normally thought of as a loner, actually hunted in “gangs.” This discovery will be the subject of the forthcoming documentary *Dino Gangs* set for release in 2011.

• Dorothy Fabijan, Assistant Curator of the Vascular Plant Herbarium, was the recipient of the 2011 Nat Rutter Outstanding Technician Award from the U of A chapter of Sigma Xi, the scientific research society.

• Murray Gingras, Curator of the Trace Fossil Collection, led a University of Alberta research team that discovered that billions of years before life evolved in the oceans, thin layers of microbial matter in shallow water produced enough oxygen to support tiny, mobile life forms.

• Chris Herd, Curator of the Meteorite Collection, completed a one-year sabbatical at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., where he worked on Martian meteorites in the U.S. National Meteorite Collection.

• Robert Losey, Curator of the Zooarchaeology Reference Collection, was the lead author of a study which examined the burial remains of a dog that lived more than 7000 years ago in Siberia, suggesting that the animal likely lived and died in a parallel fashion to its human contemporaries, eating the same food, sustaining work injuries, and receiving similar mortuary rites.

• Stephanie Nemcsok, Museum Education Coordinator, and Frannie Blondheim, Associate Director, both from Museums and Collections Services, presented The Muse Project as part of a panel discussion on school programs in museums at the Canadian Museums Association Annual Conference in London, Ontario in the spring of 2011. The Muse Project is a curriculum-linked, educational outreach program for grades 4-9 that engages students in object-based research with University of Alberta Museums collections. Attendance in 2010-2011 more than doubled over 2009-2010, and it is anticipated to grow substantially once again in 2011-2012 within the limits of having only one museum education coordinator.

• Heather Proctor, Curator of the Freshwater Invertebrate Collection, was reinstated for another five years as the North American Benthological Society’s expert in mites for their Taxonomic Certification Program.

• Richard Palmer, Curator of the Jim van Es Collection for Marine Invertebrates and Malacology, won the 2010 J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research for his work as an internationally-acclaimed evolutionary biologist.
• A risk survey was distributed in June to all collections in order to collect information on high impact, low-incidence risks (emergencies) as well as low-impact, high incidence risks (to be mitigated through preventive conservation practices). The result is a cross-collections snapshot look at comparative risks – a useful tool to determine where planning priorities should lie. This information will also assist with the preparation of a campus-wide museum emergency plan as well as a preventive conservation framework.

2.4 Activity Four
NextGen: Canada (continued activity)

The University of Alberta Museums collaborated with the Alberta Museums Association and the Getty Leadership Institute at the Claremont Graduate University in California (GLI@CGU) to present NextGen: Canada, based on the GLI@CGU’s internationally respected Museum Leaders: The Next Generation program. The inaugural Canadian program, with participants from across the country, was held on the University of Alberta Campus from May 9-13, 2011.

A full program evaluation is scheduled for completion July 31, 2011 to determine future involvement by the U of A Museums.

2.5 Activity Five
Funding Needs Adjudication (annual activity)

Adjudication of 2010-2011 Requests:

One of the annual activities of the Policy and Planning Committee is the adjudication of funding requests solicited from the various University of Alberta museum collections.

Several major issues continue to arise out of this annual activity:

• Funding requests continue to be related to basic collections care, however, this is not the intended purpose for the funds administered by Museums and Collections Services; and

• Needs always exceed available funding sources both on and off campus.
Although $88,082 was requested in 2010-2011, only $44,679* was distributed based on available monies. Requests were assessed according to approved adjudication guidelines and recommended for funding through the following limited and/or competitive sources:

1. Community Outreach Endowment Fund: a U of A Museums fund which generated approximately $9000 in 2010-2011;

2. The Friends of the University of Alberta Museums who raise and donate funds for projects, totaling $23,308 in 2010-2011; and

3. Museum and heritage grant and temporary employment programs including Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations, the Alberta Museums Association, and the Alberta Foundation for the Arts totaling approximately $63,000 in 2010-2011.

In addition to funding coordinated via Museums and Collections Services, designated academic curators and collections staff are actively involved in research**, much of which relates to museum collections.

* See Appendix E, Section Two for detailed funding information. This chart is generated by the Research Services Office. More than $890,000 in grants was awarded to these researchers between April 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011.

** See Appendix E, Section One for detailed funding information.
Appendix A

Policy and Planning Committee Membership

Chair

Heather Proctor
Curator, Freshwater Invertebrates Collection
Department of Biological Sciences
and Chair, Curators Committee

Ex Officio (voting)

Janine Andrews
Executive Director, Museums and Collections Services

Tom Kieren
President, Friends of the University of Alberta Museums

General Faculties Council (elected)

William Anselmi
Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies

Anne Malena
Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies

Curators’ Committee (elected)

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

Jocelyn Hall
Curator, Vascular Plant Herbarium
Department of Biological Sciences

Pamela Mayne Correia
Curator, Bryan/Gruhn Ethnographic Collection, Fossil Hominid Cast Collection, Osteology Collection
Department of Anthropology

Alison Murray
Curator, Museum of Zoology (Ichthyology Collection) and Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology (Fossil Fishes)
Department of Biological Sciences

Undergraduate Student Representative

Julia Grochowksi
Department of Biological Sciences

Graduate Students’ Association Representative (elected)

Sarah Shewchuk
Department of Comparative Literature

Recording Secretary (non-voting)

Frannie Blondheim
Associate Director, Museums and Collections Services

Committee Support (non-voting)

Helen Chimirri-Russell
Museums Policy Advisor, Museums and Collections Services
Appendix B

Directory of Registered Collections of the University of Alberta Museums

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

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

Soil Science Monolith Collection
Curator: Scott Chang

Renewable Resources Natural History Collection
Curator: John Acorn

Faculty of Medicine

Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology

Pathology Gross Teaching Collection
Curator: David Rayner

Department of Music

Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology
Curator: Regula Qureshi
Faculty of Science

Department of Biological Sciences

Cryptogamic Herbarium
Curator: Catherine La Farge-England

Vascular Plant Herbarium
Curator: Jocelyn Hall

Paleobotanical Collection
Curator (Acting): Michael Caldwell

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 Deracher (Mammalogy Collection)
Curator: Allen Shostak (Parasite Collection)

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

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: Lisa Claypool
Appendix C

Museums and Collections Services Staff

Janine Andrews  
*Executive Director*

Frannie Blondheim  
*Associate Director*

Helen Chimirri-Russell  
*Museums Policy Advisor*

Lisa Claypool  
*Curator, Mactaggart Art Collection*

Jim Corrigan  
*Curator, University of Alberta Art Collection*

Ellen Cunningham  
*Exhibition and Outreach Manager*

Chantelle De Martin  
*Administrative Coordinator***

Danielle Gajewski  
*Collections Assistant*

Tom Hunter  
*Collections Assistant*

Jennifer Kuchta  
*Communications and Marketing Coordinator*

Denis La France  
*Senior Systems Administrator***

Carmen Li  
*Preventive Conservation Manager*

Christina Marocco  
*Administrative Assistant***

Erin McDonald  
*Collections Management Advisor*

Stephanie Nemcsok  
*Museum Education Coordinator*

Kyle Schmidt  
*Web Applications Developer*

Holly Sykora  
*Special Projects Assistant*

Jim Whittome  
*Information Management Advisor*

* Responsible for Museums and Collections Services and the University of Alberta Archives

** Administrative team shared with Museums and Collections Services and the University of Alberta Archives
Appendix D

Friends of the University of Alberta Museums
Board of Directors: 2010-2011

Tom Kieren
President

Dennis Brooks
Vice-President

Julia Boberg
Past-President

Halfdan [Bud] Baadsgaard
Secretary

Diana Bacon
Treasurer

Muriel Nelson
Newsletter Committee Chair

Monica Barclay
Director-at-large

Caitlin Wells
Director-at-large

Tovah Yedlin
Director-at-large

Tai Ziola
Director-at-large
Appendix E

Detailed Funding Report

Section One

Museums and Collections Services coordinates applications for external funding to museum and heritage organizations and agencies on behalf of the University of Alberta Museums. The following funding was acquired for museum and collection projects between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011:

The Friends of the University of Alberta Museums ($23,308)

Anthropology – Archaeology Collection ($540)
Purchase of Katanda Bone Point Casts

Anthropology – Fossil Hominid Cast Collection ($1,300)
Purchase of endocasts

Biological Sciences – Vascular Plant Herbarium ($3,000)
Hire student to establish standards for text and formatting and to edit and create species pages and database associated specimens (funds to match Young Canada Works grant).

Biological Sciences – Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology ($6,500)
Acquisition of casts for teaching collection and comparative research. Also to hire student to organize specimens, identify uncatalogued objects, and update location records.

Devonian Botanic Garden – Herbarium ($3,000)
Hire student to assist in curation and databasing of Rocky Mountain materials (funds to match Young Canada Works grant).

Earth and Atmospheric Sciences – Meteorite Collection ($6,300)
Acquisition of Springwater pallasite meteorites (funds intended to match Movable Cultural Property grant).

Human Ecology – Clothing and Textiles Collection ($2,668)
Purchase of mannequins for historical costumes.

Community Outreach Endowment Fund ($9,371)

Anthropology – Archaeology Collection ($2,923)
Digitization project related to Ami sub-collection of European stone and bone artifacts.

Anthropology – Osteology Collection ($3,751)
Analysis of bacterial and fungal damage to skeleton collections.

Biological Sciences – Museum of Zoology ($3,000)
Hire student to maintain and upgrade the fish, amphibian, and reptile collections and continue inventory.

Biological Sciences – E.H. Strickland Entomological Museum ($3,073)
Hire student to prepare data for digitization.

Young Canada Works ($28,289)

Government of Canada

Biological Sciences – Museum of Zoology ($5,061)
Hire student to maintain and upgrade the fish, amphibian, and reptile collections and continue inventory.
Biological Sciences – Vascular Plant Herbarium ($4627)
Hire student to enhance web presence with species information relevant to larger user group by targeting beyond the scientific community to the general public.

Devonian Botanic Garden – Herbarium ($4795)
Hire student to assist in curation (databasing, labelling, accessioning, packaging, and mounting) of herbarium materials.

Museums and Collections Services – Dentistry Museum Collection ($6903)
Hire student to assist with assessment, inventory, and transfer of Dentistry Museum Collection.

Museums and Collections Services – Museum Education Assistant ($6903)
Hire student to assist with research and development of museum educational materials.

Alberta Museums Association ($25,000)

Museums and Collections Services – Museum Education Coordinator ($25,000)
Matching funds to continue employment of program lead for museum educational programs. (Non-base-funded program.)

Alberta Foundation for the Arts ($10,000)

Government of Alberta

Museums and Collections Services – University of Alberta Art Collection ($10,000)
To support an oral history/exhibition project – Stories to Tell: Capturing the Collector’s Legacy – from which to develop a standard practice and methodology for documenting collections.

Section Two

The following information provides details of research grants received by curators and staff responsible for individual museums and collections. This chart is generated centrally by the Research Services Office, and reflects grants with funds awarded during April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011.
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<th>ID</th>
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<th>Long Description</th>
<th>Begin Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
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<td>Caldwell, Michael</td>
<td>NSERC, Earth &amp; Atmospheric Sciences</td>
<td>Squamate phylogeny and evolution: fossil marine lizards, snakes, and basal terrestrial lizards</td>
<td>10-04-01</td>
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<td>Soil Nitrogen Indicators for Land Reclamation Policy Development for Forest Ecosystems in the Oilsands Region of Alberta</td>
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<td>Nitrogen cycling and tree nutrition in boreal forests: interactions with understory vegetation and soil water availability</td>
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<td>Foxe Basin Polar Bear IQ Project 2010-11</td>
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<td>00000010</td>
<td>Derocher, Andrew</td>
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<td>Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit of Polar Bear Distribution and Habitat in Foxe Basin</td>
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<td>Polar Bear Subpopulation Research and Movements Tracking in West Hudson Bay and Southern Beaufort Sea</td>
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<td>Development of predictive models for future polar bear habitat and population trends</td>
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<td>NSERC, Biological Sciences</td>
<td>Phylogenetics and morphological diversification in capparaceae, cleomaceae, and brassicaceae</td>
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<td>11-03-31</td>
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<td>Animals Among the Dead: Faunal Remains in Mortuary Contexts, Cis-Baikal, Siberia</td>
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<td>AB Sport Recreation Parks Wildlife Fndn, Biological Sciences</td>
<td>Effects of trout stocking on zooplankton communities in small, boreal foothills lakes</td>
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