

# **University Museums and Collections Journal**

## **Volume 1 – 2008**

The University Museums and Collections Journal (UMACJ) is a peer-reviewed, on-line journal for the proceedings of the International Committee for University Museums and Collections (UMAC), a Committee of the International Council of Museums (ICOM).

The journal will appear at least once a year at: <http://edoc.hu-berlin.de/umacj>

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<http://umac.icom.museum>

ISSN 2071-7229

**Museums and Universal Heritage  
Universities in Transition – Responsibilities for Heritage**



**Proceedings of the 7<sup>th</sup> Conference of the  
International Committee of ICOM for  
University Museums and Collections (UMAC)**

**Vienna, 19<sup>th</sup>–24<sup>th</sup> August 2007**



## Foreword

*University Museums and Collections (UMAC)* was founded in 2001 as an international committee of the International Council of Museums (ICOM). Since its founding, UMAC has organized one conference a year and published a strong series of topical papers based on its Proceedings. However, with authors and editors in many countries, hard copy publications have been difficult and expensive to produce and distribute, and this has meant that UMAC members and other interested professionals have found them hard to access. This unsatisfactory situation stimulated UMAC to establish an electronic journal: the *University Museums and Collections Journal (UACMJ)*. It will provide global, inclusive accessibility and distribution to UMAC's conference results everywhere in the world.

The peer-reviewed UMACJ will appear at least once a year. It seeks to improve the museums, galleries and collections within universities worldwide by stimulating and amplifying discussion of relevant issues and concerns.

The first volume presents the Proceedings of the 7th UMAC Conference, held in Vienna during the General Conference of ICOM, 19<sup>th</sup>–24<sup>th</sup> August 2007, on the theme *Museums and Universal Heritage*. As a part of the conference, Austrian colleagues gave an insight into the situation of university museums and collections in their country and enabled UMAC delegates to visit some collections located in Vienna. Therefore, this issue contains not only papers given at the conference, but also some descriptions of Austrian university collections.

The electronic publication would not have been possible without the technical support of the Humboldt University of Berlin which will host the journal on the Document and Publication Server, and the financial support of ICOM for the Design, Establishment, and Launch of UMACJ. We would like to express our deep gratitude towards these institutions.

We are also greatly indebted to the peers evaluating the papers and advising the authors. Without their enormous support UMAC would not be able to publish the proceedings.

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