

RD Milns Antiquities Museum

Director/Curator

Dr Janette McWilliam

# Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021

CRICOS PROVIDER NUMBER 00025B

## Mission Statement

Through the care and preservation of its collection, the RD Milns Antiquities Museum seeks to educate and innovate by engaging with its communities and with the past.

*The RD Milns Antiquities Museum: Preserving, Connecting, and Inspiring.*

## Audiences

The RD Milns Antiquities Museum works with a number of audiences to achieve our mission of engaging our communities with the past. These audiences engage with the Museum in many different ways.

- For UQ students, particularly in the disciplines of Classics and Ancient History, Archaeology and Museum Studies, we provide both work-integrated and self-directed learning and research activities, including masterclasses, tutorials, support for research projects and partnerships, support for lectures, volunteer and internship programs.
- For School Teachers and Students, we provide a range of workshops and outreach programs based on the Australian National Curriculum.
- For all members of the UQ community, alumni and the wider Brisbane public, we provide public programs and exhibitions, and handling workshops at special events such as UQ Open Day, Brisbane Open House, and the Paniyiri Greek Festival.
- For researchers and research students, both locally and internationally, we provide digital and physical access to our world class collection to assist in the creation of game-changing traditional and non-traditional research. We also partner with researchers to give our students access to global networks.

## Statement of Goals

Four focus areas form the foundation of the Museum's strategic for the next four years:

1. People
2. Research
3. Collection
4. Engagement

These key areas reflect the importance of the Museum's collection, its staff and its communities in achieving our mission through innovative exploration of the ancient past. The Museum's 2018-2021 strategic plan supports UQ's vision of 'knowledge leadership for a better world' through the pursuit of excellence in teaching, research, and outreach. It also aligns with the strategic and operational goals of the School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry, of which it is a part.

## PEOPLE

One of the core strengths of the Museum is its enthusiastic and high-achieving team of staff and students. Over the next four years, the Museum is dedicated to creating a learning environment that enables both staff and students to develop problem-solving and leadership skills, and make outstanding contributions to the Museum, to the School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry, and to UQ.

*We will support our team of professional and enthusiastic staff and students to create change.*

To achieve this we will:

- Offer a range of opportunities for staff professional development.
- Recognize the achievements of the Museum's diverse team members.
- Provide students with a range of transformative, work-integrated learning experiences, both locally and internationally.
- Remain committed to staff, student, and visitor safety.

## RESEARCH

At the core of the Museum's vision for the future lie innovative approaches to the past which enable us to address complex issues with a global perspective. A growing number of international partnerships and local research collaborations enrich both the Museum's impact and engagement agenda, and its contribution to the wider scholarly community.

*We will generate new knowledge and be innovative in our approaches to the ancient past.*

To achieve this we will:

- Create and communicate innovative research through both traditional and non-traditional research avenues.
- Develop national and international experiences and networks that enrich students and staff.
- Encourage original student projects and research partnerships that extend knowledge about our collection.

## COLLECTION

To ensure the long-term success of the Museum, the ongoing preservation of its world-class collection is imperative. The Museum will continue to develop the collection in strategic areas for the benefit of its communities, the School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry and UQ.

The Museum is also committed to making its collection available to the UQ student and academic community, external researchers, and to the public.

*We will preserve our collection for current and future generations.*

To achieve this we will:

- Maintain high levels of collection care and preventative conservation.
- Improve the data available about our collection using existing collection management systems.
- Maintain and develop permanent and digital displays to present our collection to students and the public.
- Undertake strategic acquisition activities to grow the collection in critical areas.

## ENGAGEMENT

Innovative engagement with our audiences is important for ensuring the Museum's place in building knowledge for current and future generations. By utilising the specialist skills of Museum and university staff, we will continue to deliver a variety of exhibitions and public programs for our audiences.

*We will make the Museum an innovative learning space that provides inspiration to our diverse audiences.*

To achieve this we will:

- Build collaborations and encouraging cross-disciplinary perspectives.
- Provide an engaging series of changing exhibitions in traditional and digital formats.
- Provide innovative public, education and outreach programs for our diverse audiences.
- Find opportunities to engage with our audiences and other areas of the UQ outside of traditional programs.