



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

Antiquities Museum Annual Report 2019



Welcome

The RD Milns Antiquities Museum is a dynamic public space that encourages interaction with, and understanding of, the cultures of the ancient Mediterranean, and the profound impact that these cultures have had upon the literature, art, politics, and society of our modern world.

Preserving, Connecting, and Inspiring

The Museum aims to be an accessible space for students at The University of Queensland to explore and learn from the material remains of ancient civilisations. In particular, the Museum supports the discipline of Classics and Ancient History within UQ's School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry. This report reflects on the Museum's activities for the 2019 calendar year, which saw the continued growth of our collection and increased reach of our engagement activities at UQ and beyond.

Exhibition Program

Exhibitions remain at the heart of the Museum's research, education and engagement functions.

New and changed exhibitions in 2019 included:

- Dionysos: Portrait of a God. Major Exhibition, mid 2018 - mid 2019.
- Contested Histories: Photographs from Mandate Palestine in the JH Iliffe Collection. Major Exhibition, mid 2019 - mid 2020.
- Living with the Dead. Permanent Exhibition, from early 2019.
- The Etruscans, Permanent Exhibition, from late 2019.
- Ancient Technologies. Student Exhibition, late 2019 - late 2020.

Collection Development

The Museum added 15 artefacts to its collection in 2019, thanks to the generosity of several donors.

New acquisitions included:

- Two Roman coins of Constantine II (donation in kind)
- A group of nine Egyptian faience pectoral amulets with the Sons of Horus (purchased with funds from an anonymous donation - pictured facing pace)
- An Egyptian faience shabti (Purchased with funds from the Castlehow Bequest)
- An early Islamic bone doll (Purchased with funds from the Castlehow Bequest)
- A late Roman miniature glass pilgrim's flask (Purchased with funds from the Castlehow Bequest)
- A Roman glass unguentarium (donation in kind - pictured right)

2019 in Review



8515
Total visitors to the Museum in 2019



4068
Walk-in visitors to the Museum's gallery



1140
Attendees at Museum events



1936
School students participating in education programs



1343
Tertiary Students accessing the Museum as part of 12 courses



15
Artefacts added to the collection



\$3,000+
Funds raised towards Museum activities and acquisitions





Our Donors

The Museum would like to recognise the support of the following donors:

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Ms J Webber

One Anonymous Donor

<\$1,000

Mr George Ballas OAM*

Archdeacon R Braun*

Ms M Brough

Ms E Detsimas

Mr T Findlay

Ms R Jackson

Mrs D and Dr D Loch

Em Prof RD Milns AM and Mrs L Milns

Queensland History Teachers' Association

Mrs M Rahman

Mr M Reilly

One Anonymous Donor

N.B. Information correct to 31 December 2019, as provided by UQ Advancement Office.

Teaching Support

In 2019, the Museum contributed hands-on experiences to over 1300 undergraduate and postgraduate students at UQ across 9 courses and 5 different majors.

These courses included:

- ANCH1250 - The Rise of Ancient Rome.
- ANCH2030 - Myth, Magic and Religion.
- ANCH2230 - The Roman Empire.
- ANCH2290 - Greek Art and Archaeology.
- ANCH3030 - Special Topic (Ancient Technology).
- ARTT1106 - Looking at Art.
- MUSM7002 - Collections.
- PHSS2000 - Practical Employability Experience.
- TOUR7031 - Visitor Management.



Events

Events and other engagement activities help the Museum to delve more deeply into aspects of its collection and exhibitions, for a variety of audiences.

Over 1100 visitors participated in special events at the Museum in 2019, which included:

- *Thank-you Morning Tea* for Museum Donors. (February)
- *Ancient Greek Coins Masterclass* for undergraduate students. (April)
- *Entertaining Dionysos Public Lecture* with Prof. Alastair Blanshard. (May)
- Exhibition Opening for *Contested Histories: Photographs from Mandate Palestine in the JH Iliffe Collection*. (June)
- *Photography, Empirical Science, and the Politics of History in Mandate Palestine Public Lecture* with Ms Sushma Griffin. (September - with Fryer Library)
- Exhibition Opening for *Ancient Technologies Student Exhibition*. (October)

Student Experiences

A key part of the Museum's mission is to engage with undergraduate students outside of the traditional classroom environment, through volunteering opportunities, Work Integrated Learning and support for student societies.

In 2019 these student engagement activities included:

- Eight volunteer positions, totalling over 500 hours of mentoring and work experience for current students. Volunteer projects included contributions towards: exhibitions research and development (digital and online), collections management, stocktake, and data entry and cleaning.
- Work Integrated Learning Experiences for the course ANCH3030 - Special Topic in Roman History (Ancient Technology). Groups of students curated small exhibitions on the topic of ancient technology based on artefacts from the Museum collection.
- Continued hosting of regular Classics and Ancient History Student Society language mentoring sessions each week, and welcome lunches each semester.

Education Programs

The Museum's education programs for primary and secondary school students remain very popular and are a key way that we engage future generations of ancient historians and archaeologists with the past.

In 2019 these programs saw record numbers while maintaining the high standards of teacher satisfaction achieved in previous years.

Education Program Feedback



46
School Groups



1936
Participants



82%
Surveyed Teachers Extremely
satisfied with Museum Staff



82%
Surveyed Teachers rated
program Excellent

“Our students loved all the activities and it linked perfectly to our recent studies of Ancient Egypt.”



Make your gift to the Museum:
bit.ly/Antiquities-Museum

Museum Staff

Dr Janette McWilliam - Director

j.mcwilliam@uq.edu.au

Mr James Donaldson - Senior Museum Officer

j.donaldson@uq.edu.au

Ms Rebecca Smith - Engagement Officer (Jan - Mar)

Ms Nicola Holm - Engagement Officer (Apr - Jun)

Ms Brianna Sands - Engagement Officer (Jun - present)

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