

Mission and Vision

The RD Milns Antiquities Museum is a nationally important collection of Mediterranean antiquities in the School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry at The University of Queensland. It has a reputation for high quality and innovative programming, and the support of an enthusiastic community of students, staff and alumni. The Museum's vision statement is:

RD Milns Antiquities Museum: Preserving | Connecting | Inspiring

Audiences

The Museum's primary audience consists of the UQ community, particularly undergraduate and postgraduate students and academic and professional staff. The Museum also engages closely with the alumni community, in particular through the Friends of Antiquity Alumni group. National and International researchers and Queensland based school teachers also engage with the Museum's collection and programs.

SWOT Analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nationally Important Collection - Existing Physical and Digital Presence - Staff Expertise - Backing of UQ Org Units - Reputation for high quality and innovative programs - Supportive Community - Prime campus location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Challenging Funding environment - Very Low Staffing Levels - Small Physical Area - Wide but not deep community reach - Diverse perceptions of our role
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enthusiastic Student Community - Access to Central University Schemes - Capacity to upgrade and extend digital presence - Supportive and forward thinking teaching and learning environment - Increase community, philanthropic and grant funding opportunities - High profile supports performing community advocacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding uncertainty - Difficulty in articulating our full relevance and value - Challenging campus Museum environment - Ongoing impacts of COVID 19

Teaching and Learning

- Transform our undergraduate classroom sessions into a suite of targeted object-based learning experiences that add impact and value, and provide wide and meaningful reach for the Museum across existing Classics and Ancient History and associated majors.
 - o Work with academic colleagues and student partners to streamline, simplify and strengthen our Museum experiences across the undergraduate major.
 - o Develop authentic assessment "building blocks" that utilise the Museum beyond "object analysis" approaches, including Work Integrated Learning opportunities.
 - o Utilise existing relationships at School, Faculty and Institute levels to gain additional support for strategic initiatives (e.g. ITaLI, Faculty Learning Designers, Assessment Ideas Factory).
- Formalise a range of extra-curricular volunteering, intern and employment opportunities to support "work integrated" student learning and the Museum's goals while fostering a sense of student belonging at UQ.
 - o Codify and advertise an annual series of student experiences, including: volunteering, winter/summer scholar programs, and internship experiences.

- Re-establish annual masterclass series for undergraduate students, in consultation with academic colleagues.
- Embed processes to communicate and collect data on the impact of these programs to students and other audiences.
- Explore ways these Museum programs could contribute to short form credentialling and other emerging areas of the Higher Education Sector (e.g. archaeology skills passport).
 - Produce a report exploring existing and emerging opportunities in these areas.

Collection and Research

- Continue to build knowledge about our existing collection through strategic research projects, supported by students where practical.
 - Provide students with opportunities to undertake collection research guided by Museum and academic staff to help them gain vital experience.
 - Develop a range of Internship, Honours and other collection-based projects to provide targeted experiences for students at higher levels.
 - Explore opportunities to secure research funding to support the Museums' research goals.
- Place the Museum's collection within world and cultural contexts and use it to explore contemporary concepts, while retaining our traditional focus on Greece and Rome.
 - Continue to curate a series of biennial collection-based exhibitions and associated digital shows.
 - Explore methods of working with our communities to tell their stories with our collections, including working with non-academic visiting curators.
 - Continue to diversify our stories outside of traditional Greco-Roman culture and history to illuminate contemporary concepts and society.

Enriching our Communities

- Re-establish our range of public and educational programs, in collaboration with the Classics and Ancient History Society, School Disciplines and Alumni groups, that transform the Museum into a hub for interaction with the past and foster students' sense of belonging.
 - Explore funding sources such as UQ Student Futures funding to allow us to reintroduce student social events (one per semester).
 - Renew our a range of exhibition based public programs for our diverse communities in a post-COVID world (one or two per year).
 - Continue to provide high quality school tours and workshops.
- Explore ways to deepen the Museum's reach into our diverse communities and communicate its value.
 - Establish a periodic email update on past and upcoming activities at the Museum (two or three times per year).
 - Explore the possibility of opening the Museum on selected weekends, possibly in collaboration with other campus museums, and to display the Museum collection across UQ Campuses and other sites.
 - Continue to reach out into our communities by attending special events and providing talks and artefact demonstrations to interest groups.
- Explore approaches to make the Museum and its programming more inclusive, diverse and accessible.
 - Produce a report exploring existing and emerging opportunities in this area, including: decolonising our data, and improving website and gallery accessibility.
 - Upgrade our collection search page to be more accessible and user friendly, including the installation of a collection search station in the Museum gallery.