



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
**National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens**



XVI UNIVERSEUM NETWORK MEETING
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece, 11-13 June 2015

University Heritage and Cultural Engagement of European Universities

Call for Papers

The European Academic Heritage Network UNIVERSEUM announces its 16th Annual Meeting.

In order to stimulate general debate, knowledge sharing and in-depth reflection, **UNIVERSEUM introduces a new meeting format this year**. Papers can be submitted to one of the four sessions below. Papers in the thematic sessions 1, 2 and 3 need to present an argument that we will discuss. Descriptive presentations can be submitted to the poster session (session 4).

1. **THEMATIC SESSIONS** on *University Heritage and Cultural Engagement of European universities*

Oral 15-min papers followed by 5 min discussion

The cultural role of universities in communities and in society receives increasing attention as part of the national and international focus on the universities' so-called 'third mission'. This focus provides interesting opportunities for the preservation and promotion of university heritage. University museums and collections, archives and libraries have a long history as cultural actors in local communities or at the national or international level. The understanding of the cultural role of universities, however, has changed drastically in recent decades. How can the university heritage community contribute to the cultural mission of European universities? In which ways can university heritage become more central to this enterprise? What are the challenges and opportunities? Which projects and activities are currently developed in this direction? What are their goals and who are their audiences? What are the results and how should they be evaluated? We welcome exchanges of experiences, case studies and in-depth papers that help us identify the nature and specificity of these issues and concerns.

2. **THEMATIC IN-DEPTH SPECIAL SESSION** on *The most crucial issue(s) with University Heritage today*

Oral 5-min papers (max. 10), followed by in-depth debate.

Explain to us what you think is the most important/crucial/critical issue – external or internal – that university heritage faces in Europe today. Explain to us why it is important.

3. THEMATIC IN-DEPTH SPECIAL SESSION on *University Heritage, its generators and its scholars*

Oral 5-min papers (max. 10), followed by in-depth debate.

Various communities inside universities have natural ties with specific dimensions of university heritage. Through research and teaching activities, biologists, astronomers, physicists, engineers and technicians are generators of scientific heritage. While art and architecture historians study art and architecture heritage, historians of science may pay attention to scientific heritage. In this session we would like to discuss how different groups of generators and scholars regard university heritage. What are the roles that heritage plays, or could play for and within these communities? How to enhance these possible roles? What are the challenges and perspectives?

4. CHAIRED POSTER SESSION

5-min presentations followed by questions and discussion.

In the poster session, we invite presentations of scientific programmes, technical issues of and around collections such as storage, preservation and documentation, as well as descriptions of museums, collections and other heritage. Presentations of cultural projects and questions related to the promotion of university heritage are also welcome.

The conference language is English. Post-graduate students are encouraged to participate with presentations. The abstract template will be available at

<http://www.universeum.it/meetings.html>

Abstracts for session 1, 2 and 3 need to include: i) introduction/problematic/context, ii) main arguments/methods, iii) results or discussion. Abstracts for posters can be more descriptive. The identification of questions and issues for broad in-depth debate are most welcome.

Please send abstract proposals (max 200 words), with an indication of the session you are submitting, plus a short biographical note highlighting main research interests (max. 50 words) to the following email address before 15 March 2015:

universeum2015@uoa.gr

For more information please see here <http://www.universeum2015.uoa.gr/>

WORKSHOPS

The *Working Group on Databases and Portals for University Collections* and the *Working Group on Recent Heritage of Science* organize workshops which will be held on Friday, 12 June 2015 between 9:30 and 13:15.

You will have to register for the workshops. The workshops are parallel so you can only participate in one of them.

1. WORKSHOP ON DATABASES AND PORTALS FOR UNIVERSITY COLLECTIONS

Universeum's working group on databases and portals for university collections will have its first get together at the Universeum Meeting 2015, in Athens. The main objective is to create a network for sharing knowledge and experience. In this group, we would like to discuss and work on the following:

- to produce a document with best practices and an accompanying contact list.

- to look into the technical issues that come with building a portal, such as “which infrastructure should we use?”, “what fields do we use to present objects to the public?”, “which standards do we need, and should we work towards using the same standards on an European level?” and “the pros and cons of a harvesting model”.

- working together in presenting our collections on a European level: what are the possibilities?

Please write to Esther Boeles <e.boeles@uva.nl> or Delphine Issenmann <delphine.issenmann@unistra.fr> to register for the *Workshop on Databases and Portals*

2. WORKSHOP ON THE PRESERVATION OF RECENT HERITAGE OF SCIENCE

Universeum’s Working Group for the Preservation of Recent Heritage of Science is concerned with the study, conservation and interpretation of the heritage of science, technology and medicine produced after WWII. At our fourth workshop in Athens we will:

- provide a complete checklist of what is needed to preserve recent heritage of science
- discuss the compilation of a bibliography of reference material
- discuss the documentation of objects that we cannot keep (such as nuclear reactors, satellites that go in space, leased instruments).

Please write to Roland.Wittje@psk.uni-regensburg.de or Roland.Wittje@gmail.com to register for the Workshop on Recent Heritage of Science

See also http://universeum.it/working_groups.html for the Universeum working groups

Programme Committee:

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In case of questions or doubts about the new meeting format, please email:
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