ICOM-CC Working Group Programmes 2011-2014

Name of Working Group: Working Group on Ethnographic Collections

Coordinator: Renata Peters

Projects

- Discussions with the membership to reach a decision on whether the group should change its name and if so what the new name should be (coordinated by Carole Dignard).
- Publication of annual issues of the ICOM-CC Ethnographic Conservation Newsletter (coordinated by Kim Cobb).
- Follow up on research of biocides in collections and updating the WG’s Biocides webpage (coordinated by Farideh Fekrsanati, Monika Harter and Emily Kaplan)
- Participation in the ICOM 23rd General Conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, August 2013. (WG contact: Renata Peters).

Specific themes of research /investigations

The Working Group will investigate, research, and report on the following areas of interest. Many of the items may be explored concurrently.

A. Materials science, deterioration and conservation
   - Investigation/ technical study of objects, object materials and production methods
   - Deterioration of materials found in objects
   - Conservation case studies

B. Ethics, values and decision-making
   - Preservation rationales and decision-making processes
   - The role of conservators in negotiations between different interest groups
   - Historical reviews
   - Socio-political responsibilities

C. Indigenous Knowledge, Communities and Collaborations
   - Traditional preservation knowledge and techniques used since ancient times
   - Consultations and collaborations
   - Community involvement in conservation

D. Cross-disciplinary collaborations
   - Collaborations between conservators and other professionals (in conjunction with item C or not)