CENTRE FOR HERITAGE AND MUSEUM STUDIES WORKING PARTY

FINAL REPORT

(1) PARAMETERS AND COMMITTEE

Membership

- Kylie Message, HoS of Archaeology and Anthropology (Chair)
- Laurajane Smith, Heritage & Museum Studies HoD
- Sharon Peoples (IHUG, Liberal Arts convenor)
- Patrick Guinness, Anthropology HoD
- Matthew Spriggs, Archaeology HoD (with Sally May alternate)
- Sandy Blair, IHUG/IPPHA (ex-officio)
- Ann Evans, CASS Associate Dean (Research Training) (ex-officio)
- Sharon Komidar, IHUG (ex-officio)

Member responsibilities

- To represent and keep their discipline/area groups informed and provide feedback to working party when required.
- To contribute to final report and recommendations.

Timetable

The working party met formally on four occasions between 2 October and 31 October to produce this report for the RSHA Steering Committee. This working party and the HRC working party additionally held a joint student forum on 9 October, and informal meetings were held by each discipline group in the SoAA in the week leading up to final submission of the report. Other consultation occurred amongst various members throughout the period.

Purpose and role of working party

The VC has endorsed the decision by the RSHA Restructure Steering Committee to create a Centre for Heritage and Museum Studies (CHMS) within the School of Archaeology and Anthropology and to transfer IPPHA as well as the ICCR and Liberal Arts programs into the Centre.

This working party was established to develop an integration plan for implementing this decision. It was tasked with advising the most appropriate governance, management structure and administrative arrangements for the Centre.
(2) FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS BY WORKING PARTY IN REGARD TO INTEGRATION OF CHMS INTO SOAA

General principles

- The CHMS will be the locus for Heritage and Museum Studies and interdisciplinary research, as well as teaching and professional development training related to these fields.
- The CHMS will continue to build the international profile and reputation of Heritage and Museum Studies at the ANU, working toward a future ERA submission in this FOR code.
- The CHMS will create and support existing interdisciplinary synergies with and between other discipline areas in the School of Archaeology and Anthropology and the ANU.
- The Centre will further strengthen links with industry, government and communities through heritage and museum research and training programs that target key issues and needs.
- The CHMS sits within the School of Archaeology and Anthropology and falls under the administration of the Head of the School of Archaeology and Anthropology.
- The educational program, supervision arrangements, and other entitlements for ICCR students will not change.
- Through its location in the CHMS, the Liberal Arts program will be strengthened to consolidate its place within the School’s programs and to grow opportunities for students.

Governance & budget

- The CHMS will be equivalent to other discipline groups in the School (e.g. Archaeology or Anthropology) in respect of structure, governance and budget. This means, for example, that it will have a Discipline Head, School Advisory Group representative, and HDR convenor (in this case the ICCR convenor).
- The CHMS will operate as a non-AOU Centre.
- The ICCR and MLA programs will be affiliated primarily with the CHMS – just as, for example, the Archaeology HDR program is affiliated with Archaeology and the MCHAM program sits with Anthropology.
- Current School budgetary processes will continue. This means that the programs in the CHMS will have sub-budget codes as do others in the School.
- Individual research projects which may be transferred from IHUG would be expected to have their own codes and sit within the School with their own codes just like we have ARC or Q accounts. They would be associated with individual researchers (and their positions) in line with current practice.
• Staff (academic and professional) appointments will be made to the School.

Organisational charts of the School reflecting integration of CHMS

The attached charts show the SoAA following the integration of the CHMS. They also represent staffing in the School. Terms for additional service roles (Head of Discipline, committee members, HDR convenors, etc) in the School will typically be two years, but renewable. Also please note these charts are provisional and preliminary. Recommendations about the final administration structure (particularly regarding professional staff support and roles) will be made by the RSHA Restructure administration working party.

Attachment (Chart) 1: Proposed staff structure  
Attachment (Chart) 2: Organisational chart of staff roles in School  
Attachment (Chart) 3: Preliminary map of entities in School

(3) NATURE OF THE CHMS

The ANU’s policies on Centres asserts that ‘the term “centre” is a generic term for forms of scholarly organisation adopted at ANU to add value to research and/or education activities, enhance collaboration, and increase knowledge transfer. … A centre is not a College, Research School or Faculty.’ See https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_000802

Under ‘Principles for Centre establishment’, the policy states that centres are established to facilitate and enhance the University’s research, education and outreach activities. They should build scale, visibility and focus of disciplinary or interdisciplinary areas and promote synergies internally and externally; and should aim to achieve improved networks for collaboration; increased academic productivity; improved visibility with peer groups and/or community; and enhanced HDR programs. The Centre should include members who accept responsibility for leadership, management, and managing relationships, ensuring that the Centre continues to add value in a sustainable way.

These are the principles under which the CHMS will operate – as reflected in the following description, mission statement etc.

(4) ABOUT THE CENTRE FOR HERITAGE AND MUSEUM STUDIES

Mission statement

The CHMS will support and promote Heritage and Museum Studies to staff and students within the ANU, and consolidate and build research and teaching networks both nationally and internationally within the field. Specifically our goals are to:

• Develop and consolidate graduate course work and HDR programs within Heritage and Museum Studies
• Develop interdisciplinary research projects between CHMS staff and with national and international research networks
• Long term development of an ARC Centre of Excellence submission

Vision for the Centre

The CHMS will stimulate new ways of thinking about and understanding the cultural and political phenomena of ‘heritage’, museums and public history, and the way these interact with cultural and public policy, cultural institutions, community, and other grassroots expressions of identity, citizenship and sense of place.

The CHMS will make a significant and sustained contribution to the international fields of Heritage and Museum Studies by:

• Producing critical, original, rigorous and internationally influential research.
• Fostering interdisciplinary cross cultural research and collaborative endeavours through our international networks.
• Contributing to the development of museum and heritage based scholarship and practice through outreach with cultural, collecting and heritage institutions in Australia and overseas.
• Training specialists who can innovate and transform organisations and professional practice throughout the world.
• Supporting graduate research at the ANU.

Reputation for research and research training

The CHMS draws together key Heritage and Museum Studies researchers engaged in interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, collaborative and practice-led research. The definition of Heritage and Museum Studies is purposely broad and intersects with such disciplines as public history, museology, archaeology, anthropology, sociology, architecture, geography, linguistics, musicology, law, critical legal studies, political science, public and cultural policy, urban studies, landscape studies, tourism studies, cultural studies, memory studies, gender studies, performance studies, amongst others.

Our work emphasises critical heritage studies, museum studies, material culture and collections research, museum anthropology, intangible cultural heritage, and heritage management including Indigenous and community-based programs. Research by members of the CHMS has explored, amongst other issues, working with marginalised communities, social justice issues and social activism in museums, the commemorative and memorial practices of working class communities and the trade union movement, Indigenous critiques of heritage, and multiculturalism and museums. In addition, our research aims to provide theoretical frameworks for contemporary engagement with practical issues of management and conservation in relation to heritage (including intangible heritage) and museums, and exhibition development, design, and collections analysis. Furthermore, the CHMS’ partnerships and programs with leading cultural agencies and national and international cultural institutions ensures that we will continue to build an environment of research
excellence that contributes to enhanced student learning, as well as community, industry and government outcomes in the heritage and museum fields.

A central focus – and proven area of strength – for the CHMS is graduate research and training. In addition to hosting the largest HDR program in the College of Arts and Social Sciences (ICCR), the CHMS hosts three of the leading Heritage and Museum Studies graduate coursework programs in Australia – Museums and Collections, Cultural and Environmental Heritage, and Museum Education and Heritage Interpretation. Our graduate programs have gained an international reputation for research- and practice-led training and have established award-winning courses (2010 Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Education [Program Award]) at key heritage sites around Australia, and offer students access to leading industry trainers and unique opportunities to network with future employers. The Centre will continue to support, grow these programs and provide greater opportunities for students.

We aim to attract domestic and international students and scholars who are interested in a diverse range of heritage and museum studies - creating a vibrant international and interdisciplinary community of scholars to pursue this vision. We are particularly interested in attracting higher degree students seeking to conduct doctoral research in these or related fields.

**Excellence in graduate programs, including internships and professional development**

The CHMS graduate programs develop and deliver courses that promote critical thinking and professional development and excellence in professional practice in the heritage, museum and arts sectors.

At the forefront is our innovative internship program, which employs a complementary vocational and theoretical framework that responds to the industry sector by incorporating flexible innovative learning approaches for students. Our focus is on our national and international contexts; however, we also take advantage of ANU’s location where over 20 cultural institutions are used as resources to provide authentic learning experiences.
underpinned by sound pedagogical theory. The internship courses facilitate our strong connections to the museum and heritage sector.

The Institute for Professional Practice in Heritage and the Arts (IPPHA)

The graduate programs and work of the CHMS is also complemented by the Institute for Professional Practice in Heritage and the Arts, which collaborates nationally and internationally with practicing heritage and arts professionals, cultural institutions, government agencies, private enterprise and other universities to address matters of professional practice and professional development within the heritage and arts sectors. The Institute seeks to service the contemporary interests and professional development needs of individuals and organisations. Guided by a Board of eminent heritage and arts professionals, IPPHA coordinates a range of professional development activities that are made available to its members and partners. It also utilises its membership base to provide expertise on matters relating to professional practice. Activities developed and promoted by the CHMS through IPPHA and the graduate programs and staff include:

- Short professional development courses (offered concurrently to graduate students in the museum and heritage steams as well as professional development enrolments)
- Workshops, seminars and study tours, and networking activities for professionals locally and internationally
- Key projects that reflect innovative, creative and exemplary professional practice

Proposed key CHMS activities 2014

1. Develop relationships with other relevant academic areas within the School, the ANU and internationally.
2. VIP launch event to establish our profile and communicate our unique strengths and advantages through location in the national capital.
3. Develop web presence, marketing plan and informational and promotional products for the new Centre.
4. Centre staff retreat to review and consolidate research, teaching and training programs over the following 3-5 years.
5. Investigate possibilities for a new research seminar series for staff and students.
6. Support, grow and, where necessary, restructure the Masters of Liberal Arts programs as the Masters of Heritage and Museum Studies.
7. Broaden and strengthen our collaboration within the museum and heritage sector, ensuring that our offerings respond to the practical needs and realities of working in industry and government and helping to make our students job ready.
8. Develop a Visitor program to draw high profile Visitors to the CHMS; this would provide further opportunity for collaborative partnerships

(Kylie Message-30 Oct 2013)
NOTE
This document has been prepared as part of the Heritage and Museums Studies Working Group discussions. This is provisional and subject to change.
SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

List of Entities in School

NOTE
This listing was prepared as part of the Heritage and Museum Studies Working Group – It is a work in progress! We will continue to develop this chart.

Prepared by SOAA
31st October 2013