It is with some sadness that I announce that this is the last annual report that I will prepare. After twenty-nine years as Director and forty-four years here at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, I will be retiring July 1, 2019. A local search committee led by Dean of University Libraries, Steve Smith is proceeding with the search as I write this. I am proud to have steered the museum to its current prominence in the university and the community; it has been a fun trip and I will miss the multiple experiences the position offers. Perhaps a fitting conclusion, in May 2018, I was awarded the 2018 Extraordinary Service to the University award at the chancellor’s banquet. I am indeed honored and appreciative.

The past year saw the installation of exhibits on Northwest Coast indigenous art, consumer culture in the Gilded Age, and the history of mind-altering drugs—three interesting and diverse special exhibitions that reflect our broad educational mission. That each of these exhibitions was generated in house reflects the talent and dedication of the museum staff.

A close look at the annual report will reveal a year filled with dynamic educational programs for pre-K through college, departmental collaborations, lectures, and ongoing activities in archaeology, malacology, and paleobotany. We are especially proud of our outreach to the local Lonsdale community; our new ‘Viamos al Museo’ program offers shared learning experiences for families in Spanish and promotes the museum as an accessible and welcoming space.

Kudos to Stacy Palado for orchestrating two successful special fund raising events—“All That Glitters, Gilded Age Cocktail Party,” and “Princess Diana: An Intimate Portrait Gala” at the headquarters of Jewelry Television. Private support is essential to the museum covering student assistants, several staff, and most operating expenses. I thank our members and sponsors for their generous contributions and I look forward to working with all of you in my last year as director.

Jefferson Chapman, Director

On the cover:
Prometheus Bound and the Oceanids, c. 1890-1900, Ivory, bequest of Frederick T. Brinham, 1938.5.102; Fish Forks and Fire Furniture, Consumer Culture in the Gilded Age, Octopus Mask, late 1960s, Richard Hunt (Kwakwaka’wakw, 1951-); Wood, cedar bark, paint, Anonymous lender; Northwest Coast Art & Community of Tradition, Advertisement for Coca Cola, 1950; Courtesy: Library of Congress, LC-DIG-cpa-04857. Pick Your Poison: Interacting with Poisons and Medical Prescriptions

vision
The McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture will be one of the top university museums in the country.

mission
The McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture complements and embraces the mission of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

The McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture seeks to advance understanding and appreciation of the earth and its natural wonders, its peoples and societies, their cultural and scientific achievements, and the boundless diversity of the human experience. The museum is committed to excellence in teaching, scholarship, community service, and professional practice.

attendance
The Museum continues to serve visitors from Knoxville and nearby communities, tourists, and university students and faculty. During each semester, UT students attend classes in the museum auditorium two or three times each week. During Fiscal Year 2019, there were 2,957 students enrolled in classes that met either two or three times a week at the museum. This translates to a high per capita student building usage—roughly 335,000 visits. These students are exposed to exhibits while waiting for classes and most look around the museum several times a semester. K-12 and university students engaged in museum programs are detailed in the Education section of the annual report.

The visitor count at the museum, including non-university school groups, and excluding students attending classes in the museum, totaled 44,661. Based on the guest register (sign by less than 4 percent of the visitors), museum visitors came from 50 states, DC, Puerto Rico, and 24 foreign countries. As expected, the majority are from Knoxville and surrounding counties and 14 foreign countries.

As expected, the majority are from Knoxville and surrounding counties.
Special Exhibitions

Fish Forks and Fine Furnishings: Consumer Culture in the Gilded Age. May 26—August 27, 2017. Presented by Home Federal Bank, the Henley and Peggy Tate Museum Fund, Clarence Brown Theatre, City of Knoxville, Knox County, Arts and Heritage Fund. Curated by Catherine Shtyshberg and curatorial assistant, Melissa Narro.


Long-Term Exhibitions


Exhibition-Related Lectures and Special Events

“Say Cheese.” Stroller Tour, July 10 All That Glitters Camp, July 11—13 Fossil Camp, July 17—21

Cherokee artist Freeman Owel, demonstrating stone carving.


Geology bus tour participants.

Dr. Gerald Schroedl: Curator of Northwest Coast Art, filming gallery tour. Video available at tiny.utk.edu/video/utv.


Life on the Roman Frontier. Ongoing case exhibit. Curated by Robert Darby, Department of Art History.


Moonshine still in Pick Your Poison, Gift of Archie Weaver, 1968 8-1/2.

Financial Summary

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What Does Private, Non-University Money Support?

- **50 percent of all exhibits**
- **50 percent of community programs, lectures, Family Fun Day, exhibition events**
- **Acquisitions**
- **5 percent of staff members**
- **12 percent of acquisitions**
- **7-day-per-week guard service**
- **76 percent of all operating expenses (except utilities, janitor, and insurance)**

**Total** $1,804,645

Note: Percentage totals will vary from 100 percent due to rounding.

Endowments

The market value of the museum’s 13 endowments as of June 30, 2018, was $3,707,875 — an increase of 0.6 percent over last year.

Digital Stats

- 64,096 Unique visitors to the McGung Museum website (+4%)
- 4,181 Facebook Likes (+8%)
- 2,150 Twitter Followers (+5%)
- 1,113 Instagram Followers (+14%)
- 3,544 monthly e-newsletter subscribers (+25%)

Volunteers

Volunteers are essential to the programs and success of the McGung Museum. This year, 190 dedicated volunteers provided a total of 1,692 hours of education, collections, exhibitions, publications, and board service.

Awards Received

Award of Excellence from the Tennessee Association of Museums in recognition of superb achievement for the exhibition Fish Forks & Fine Furnishings: Consumer Culture in the Gilded Age.

American Automobile Association Gem Attraction.

Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence; No. 10 of top things to do in Knoxville.

Supporting

- Mr. and Mrs. Brian B. Belden
- Mr. and Mrs. John J. Block
- Mr. and Mrs. John P. Brown
- Dr. John E. Calvillo
- Mr. and Mrs. Michael A. Cole
- Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Compton
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Cooper
- Mr. and Mrs. Ben D. Davis
- Mr. and Mrs. Mark D. DeSalvo
- Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Dennis
- Mr. and Mrs. James B. DeWitt
- Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Dobbin
- Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Driver
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Durbin
- Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Echols
- Mr. and Mrs. William L. Erskine
- Mr. and Mrs. John J. B. Erskine
- Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Farmer
- Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Farquhar
- Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Farquhar
- Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Farquhar
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Farquhar
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- Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Farquhar
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Farquhar
research

ARTS AND CULTURE COLLECTIONS

The Arts and Culture Collections have undergone various large organization, rehousing, and research projects throughout the past fiscal year under the leadership of registrars, Adriane Tafoya, and curator, Catherine Slaytenberg.

Tafoya spearheaded extensive organization projects and implemented various best practices in her first full fiscal year at the museum, including implementing new collection department filing systems, reconciling lapsed incoming and outgoing loans, and coordinating collections committee meetings.

The collections committee is an advisory committee whose members are appointed by the director, who supports the museum’s collections strategy, advise regarding acquisitions and deaccessions, and assist in the creation of collections policies and procedures. The committee is made up of museum staff and advisory board members, all of whom voted in favor of a deaccession of some of the museum’s furniture collection, which occurred in February 2018 under the leadership of Tafoya. Income from the public auction of the furniture will be used for future acquisitions.

Tafoya and Slaytenberg continue to work together to identify objects that are candidates for deaccession or conservation because of condition issues, and to work on rehousing fragile collections. The tremendous amount of space gained at the museum’s offsite storage facility after recent deaccessions allowed Tafoya to conduct much-needed organizing, cleaning, and inventories at both off-site storage and at the museum.

Several of many important collections care projects facilitated by Tafoya and her interns and volunteers include a rehousing project of some of the museum’s sensitive textiles, generously funded by Patty and Richard Mallicote; rehousing other sensitive collections, including hats, shoes, and photographs; and rehousing fine art paintings and furniture at the museum’s offsite storage.

Tafoya also worked to monitor facility conditions and make recommendations for improvements at both facilities, including new lighting in collections areas and implementing integrated pest management to prevent pest damage to collections at both facilities.

Tafoya has been working with Slaytenberg to standardize and add important information to the museum’s database, including tracking university course use of particular objects from the collection. This information will help guide future acquisition plans.

As reflected in the Education section of the annual report, Academic Programs had a banner year, serving a record number of students in the museum’s Object Study Room to view objects from collections storage.

The museum also made many acquisitions for the Arts and Culture Collections in the past year. Of particular note were acquisitions made to help diversify the museum’s holdings, especially in the area of Islamic art. Slaytenberg was kept busy cataloguing and completing provenance research on these new acquisitions, many of which will be featured in her summer 2019 exhibition on recent acquisitions.

Curatorial interns Keneisha Mosley and Josh Leib helped with cataloguing research on a pending gift of Ancient World weights and the museum’s existing Middle Eastern photography collection, respectively. A majority of Slaytenberg’s curatorial role, outside of ongoing collections research for the museum and for Academic Programs coursework, was spent on preparations and project management of the incredibly busy exhibition calendar, now scheduled through 2022, as well as curating her own exhibitions. Slaytenberg will work with the exhibitions committee in the upcoming year to fill gaps in the exhibition calendar moving ahead, and to come up with an exhibition strategy that meshes with overall educational goals for the museum.

ARCHAEOLOGY AND PALEONTOLOGY

Curators Timothy Baumann and Gary Crites continue to lead the archaeology and paleoanthropology division, which contain the museum’s largest and most studied collections. The preservation and research access to these materials and their associated records could not be accomplished without the dedication of graduate assistants Mark Bilban and Chris Lassen, lab assistant Erica Lyle, and ten lab volunteers.

Baumann and Crites have continued their research on the common bean (Phaseolus vulgariss) to determine when, how, and why this domesticate plant was adopted into prehistoric Native American diet in the Southeast. Multiple avenues of research were used to address these questions, including the analysis and direct dating of archaeological specimens, the construction of an experimental garden, and the development of a new method to identify beans derived from their biochemical properties. The oldest directly dated beans in Tennessee are from the early to mid-18th century and indicate the spread from trade and/or migration of people from the Lower Ohio River Valley in response to climate change from the Little Ice Age as well as an increase in socio-political conflict.

In support of this research, the paleoanthropology collection was expanded with a new bean repository that consolidates all wild and domesticate specimens recovered from Tennessee archaeological sites. Then modern comparative samples of New World beans species will support current and future bean research.

Domesticated beans at UT Gardens on com stack trellis.

In addition, a new experimental garden was established at the UT Gardens with both wild and domesticate plants that prehistoric Native Americans collected or cultivated in Tennessee. This was done in collaboration with Kandi Hollenback, Assistant Professor of
Anthropology, and included a very old variety of maize (Zea mays var. Mexica “Renventador”), a small pumpkin variety (Cucurbita pepo), and multiple butternut varieties of domesticated beans (Phaseolus vulgaris). One variety was the “Cherokee Trail of Tears” bean that oral tradition contents was carried by the Cherokee during their forced removal in 1838 and 1839 to Oklahoma. These three companion plants are commonly referred to as the “Three Sisters,” which were grown together in prehistoric garden plots so that the crop stalk served as the bean trellis and the pumpkin vines provided ground cover to reduce weed growth.

Tennessee, Washington, and Wisconsin. Overall, research has resulted in more than thirty publications or presentations, the completion of two dissertations and one thesis, and at least nine current graduate dissertation/thesis projects.

Erika Lyle completed her master's degree in anthropology at UT in August 2017. Her thesis "Hixawas Island: The Research Value and Limitations of Legacy Collections" examines the scientific potential of WPA-era archaeological collections from the Hixawas Island (40GM3) site in east Tennessee. She focused her assessment on the pottery assemblage by comparing the 1950s ceramic data (i.e., pottery types, forms, and sizes) with a 1990s excavation sample to determine differences caused by changing excavation methods. She also applied new testing methods of absorbed residue studies and portable X-ray fluorescence analysis (pXRF) of the 1950s ceramics to evaluate their research potential. Both were successful in extracting data about diet and clay sourcing.

Megan King completed her doctorate in anthropology from UT in August 2017. Her dissertation “Gender, Lithics, and Perishable Technology: Searching for Evidence of Split-Cane Technology in the Archaeological Record” at the Muscle Shoals Site (40FL138) used analyzed stone tool artifacts with both low and high-power microscopy to identify use-wear associated with the processing of plants, particularly river cane, to make objects from their fibers (e.g., baskets, mats). This study was necessary because very few of these plant-based artifacts survive in the archaeological record. King focused on riverine processing and technology through the use of experimental archaeology and was able to link these tasks to female gender roles in the prehistoric past.

Jake Luuwijiz received his doctorate in anthropology from the University of Georgia in May 2018. His dissertation “Network Histories of Southern Appalachia, AD 600–1500” examines the social networks of northwest Georgia and east Tennessee using a seriation study of more than 250,000 pottery artifacts and 200 radiocarbon dates of which 88 are new from seventy-seven different archaeological sites. This study included collections from thirty-eight Tennessee sites and thirty-nine radiocarbon dates from them. In his conclusions, he argues that there were two major cultural transitions in Southern Appalachia over a 1,000-year period in late prehistory. The first occurred at about AD 1500 with an intensification of political hierarchy and the second at about AD 1350 is represented by a collapse of socio-religious oriented mounds.

Curator of Archaeology, Tim Baumann (left) discusses NAGPRA challenges with members of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The biggest challenge for the museum’s archaeological collection has been and will continue to be with the Native America Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 (NAGPRA). The museum curates more than 6,000 human remains and thousands of funerary objects that are subject to this federal law. The majority of these burials were uncovered during reservoir projects by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) or the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). NAGPRA claims were submitted by the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians (EBCI) for Cherokee remains from the Dosee (40PK2), Tallasee (40BT8), Chota (40MR2), Toqua (40MR5), and Austin Springs (40WG103) sites. The EBCI have also claimed all culturally unidentified human remains and funerary objects from every Tennessee county, which represents about 250 archaeological sites. The Chickasaw Nation has a pending NAGPRA claim for all sites from TVAs Kentucky Lake project, which was conducted prior to 1991 with WPA funds. The museum assisted the USACE Nashville District with repatriation to the EBCI of remains and objects from the Lake Barkley Project in Stewart County, Tennessee.

MALACOLOGY

Curator Gerald Dinkins and assistant Kristin Irwin were busy in past fiscal year. Several new cabinets and metal trays were added to the laboratory with funds donated for this purpose by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. With the addition of these new cabinets and trays, the Paul W. Pensak Malacological Collection was reorganized to accommodate growth. The collection was increased by adding 3,454 specimens in 1,125 lots from
twenty-two states and four countries, bringing the number of cataloged specimens to 145,474 specimens in 16,266 lots. Molusk material was donated to the collection from several state and federal agencies, the Carnegie Museum surveys conducted by museum staff, and anonymous donations from several surrounding states. Digitization of the museum’s collection of vertebrate fossils was completed by Ashley Slater, a graduate student in Environmental Sciences and museum volunteers.

Over the year, muskellunge were caught in the Barren River, the Big South Fork Cumberland River, the Obed River, and the Little Tennessee River in Tennessee. In addition, Dunkins assisted in the reintroduction of native species of mussels into Citico Creek, a tributary to the Little Tennessee River. The two-year survey by Dunkins, Irwin, and Stave assisted in the Barren River watershed discovered two new populations of the Kentucky Creekshell (Villosa cernua), a species thought to be restricted to Kentucky. Dunkins with his wife, Barbara, completed a three-year inventory of land snails and slugs in Knox County, Tennessee, revealing that the County supports 173 species, 70 newly reported in the County and 13 newly reported in Tennessee.

Dunkins and Irwin were engaged in workshops and instruction for various UTK classes, for biologists with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, and the National Park Service. Dunkins was awarded a two-year research grant by the US Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct a status survey for two species of Louisville, Tennessee Pigeon (Peyronellidae bavoniensis) and Tennessee Clubshell (Pseudobranchia uniformis) considered for the federal endangered Species List. The grant will involve examining specimens in numerous mollusk collections including the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution and conducting field surveys in streams and rivers historically occupied by both species. The malacology lab bid a farewell to Kristen Irwin who began working in the collection as an undergraduate and finished her Master’s degree this spring which was based on research in the Harpeth and Duck Rivers in middle Tennessee and funded by Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. She was employed by the malacological group at Tennessee Technological University.

**MALACOLOGY**

**Dunkins, Gerald R.**

**Irwin, Kristin L.**

Freshwater mussels of the Harpeth River Drainage and the Upper and Middle Duck River Tributaries, Tennessee. Presentation to the annual Tennessee Mollusk Shelled Meeting December 2017.


**Dunkins, Gerald R. and Irwin, Kristin L.**

Mollusk research at the McGhee Museum of Natural History and Culture. Presentation to the annual Tennessee Rare Mussel Rendezvous December 2017.

**Status of the Pau Fattieria Malacological Collection.**

Presentation to the annual Tennessee Rare Mussel Rendezvous December 2017.

**Freshwater mussels of the Triboro River – Ecology and Identification.**

Presentation to Lincoin Memorial Faculty and Students. March 2018.

**Dunkins, Gerald R., Irwin, Kristin L., and Irwin, Steven A.**


**Dunkins, Gerald R., Irwin, Kristin L., and Irwin, Steven A.**


**Dunkins, Gerald R., Irwin, Kristin L., and Irwin, Steven A.**

PREK-12

Attendance numbers for PREK-12 totaled 4,440 students for onsite tours. The attendance was comprised of a diverse group of public and private schools, after-school programs, and Scout troops, as well as other youth clubs. Additionally, through our outreach lessons done at schools rather than the museum, we served 1,295 students in the Knoxville metro area. The Enhanced Homeschool Program (EHP), now in its third year, welcomed 104 students this past academic cycle. Lessons for the EHP included presentations on all of our permanent galleries and two temporary exhibitions.

In September 2017, the McClung collaborated with the East Tennessee Historical Society and the Tennessee Geographic Alliance to provide a K-12 teacher workshop on the Civil War in Knoxville. This professional development examined the war through its fortifications using artifacts, historical documents, and geospatial technologies. Instructors from Knox, Blount, Cocke, Campbell and Greene counties joined the event.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Stroller Tours and Family Fun Days at the museum continue to engage the general public with innovative family programming. This year we welcomed over 8,000 visitors. We attribute these numbers to our increased collaborations with both on and off campus partners such as Clarence Brown Theater, Cherokee artists, Bridge Refugee Services, and UT’s Center for Children’s and Young Adult Literature.

The third year of expanded summer camp programs provide promising statistics. With registration at capacity (50 campers), 15 percent of attendees were regular participants in our stroller tours, while 16 percent were return campers from the previous two seasons. Such repeat attendance suggests that our programs are becoming more invested in the museum and its various offerings. Thanks to US Bank, we were able to offer scholarships for the first time in the history of our summer camps.

One of our most exciting additions to the education schedule is J!Vamos al Museo! about Northwest Coast art.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Academic Programs served 3,731 students directly from twenty-four distinct units on campus, from Anthropology and English to Geology and Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. Besides UT, Academic Programs also served students from Pellissippi State Community College, Carson Newman University, and Maryville College.

Examples of this engagement include: introductory art classes drawing objects in our galleries; various First Year Studies students engaging with objects in our galleries and Object Study Room to inform writing projects and mock museum exhibitions; English and Public History courses investigating memorialization and representation in the museum space and placing students for practicums at the museum; a History class on Europe in the Age of Total War, in which the weekly lecture was based on viewing WWI and WWII objects from our collections; and an ongoing collaboration with the School of Nursing to use objects to help Nursing PhD students hone their observation and critical thinking skills.

Academic Outreach programming included various exhibition-related tours and lectures. The McClung Museum’s Curator of Civil War History, Joán Markel continued ongoing work with the Knoxville Civil War Roundtable and UT Honors College to host Scribe-A-THON in which UT students helped transcribe Civil War documents.

Academic Programs underwent a transition this year. Lindsey Gharavi stepped down from her role in February 2018, and the position was filled in July by Katy Malone. This shift did result in a small drop in engagement from March–August.
McClung Museum of Natural History & Culture
1327 Circle Park Drive
Knoxville, TN 37996

All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment and admissions without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status, and parental status. In accordance with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, The University of Tennessee affirmatively states that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or disability in its education programs and activities, and this policy extends to employment by the University. Inquiries and charges of violation of Title VI (race, color, and national origin), Title IX (sex), Section 504 (disability), ADA (disability), Age Discrimination in Employment Act (age), sexual orientation, or veteran status should be directed to the Office of Equity and Diversity (OED), 1840 Melrose Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37996-3560, telephone (865)974-2498. Requests for accommodation of a disability should be directed to the ADA Coordinator at the Office of Equity and Diversity. A project of the McClung Museum of Natural History with assistance from the UT Office of Communications and Marketing. PAN EDI0006-0006-19.

McCLUNG MUSEUM

Peacock Panel, 18th century
Sandstone, Northern India (Mughal)
Ardath and Joel E. Rynning Acquisitions Fund, 2018.11