2014 has been an outstanding year for the RD Milns Antiquities Museum. We welcomed 9865 visitors from the University and the wider Brisbane community, an increase of 27.5% from 2013. We held many successful student and community events and continued to provide a wide range of primary, secondary and tertiary programs at a very high standard. I can mention only a few of these achievements here, but I encourage you to read the full report to gain a deeper understanding of the important role the RD Milns Antiquities Museum plays at the University of Queensland.

The Museum has once again been supported by a number of donors who have provided money not only for the purchase of artefacts which we share with visitors and use in teaching and research, but for the conservation of the collection. We have also enjoyed a number of short and long term loans from institutional and private collections. I would like to thank everyone who has played a part providing donations and loans. Your generosity helps us to develop and grow the collection. Without your support, we would not be able to offer the range of teaching programs and visitor experiences that we achieved this year.

One of the major achievements of 2014 was the curation and opening of our major exhibition *A Study in Stone: The History of Epigraphy*. Our collection was complemented by loans of funerary stele from the Nicholson Museum (University of Sydney), the Classics Museum (Australian National University), the Museum of Antiquities (University of New England), and by rare books from the Fryer Library at the University of Queensland Library. Museum staff also produced a full exhibition catalogue to help celebrate the event.

Our Schools Programs continue to grow from strength to strength, and in 2014 we launched workshops and tours based on the new Australian National Curriculum. We continue to gather feedback from teachers and are proud that for a second year in a row, 100% of teachers reported that they were likely to return in 2015. These programs are important because they introduce the next generation to the wonders of the ancient world and to the University of Queensland.

The Museum continues to support University of Queensland students across the disciplines of Classics
and Ancient History, Archaeology and Art History in particular, through providing access to the collection for tutorials and assignments, through Museum workshops, internships, summer scholarships, and for the first time, an international field school/international museum internship program held in Tuscany, Italy. Museum staff remain committed to providing hands-on, work integrated learning experiences to help UQ students prepare for their future careers.

There are many people to thank for their help in making the Museum a success in 2014, including Associate Professor Martin Crotty, Head of the School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry (formerly History, Philosophy, Religion and Classics), Ms Beck Hurst, School Manager, Mrs Erika Bhandari, School Finance Officer, Professor Tim Dunne, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the HASS team from Marketing and Engagement, Professor Alastair Blanshard and all my colleagues from Classics and Ancient History, our Museum volunteers, tour guides, interns and summer scholars.

In particular I would like to thank all the student volunteers, interns and tour guides, and especially my Museum Administrative Team of Mr James Donaldson, Mr Daniel Press, Ms Jessica Dowdell and Ms Katee Dean, without whom the Museum would not run so smoothly on a day-to-day basis, let alone be the outstanding success it was in 2014. They have also been instrumental in helping to make great inroads into achieving our strategic goals set three years ago which are also summarised in this report. It gives me great pleasure to once again congratulate them on their Chancellor’s Award for Team Excellence 2014. Ms Charlotte Mann, who joined us as Administrative Assistant in mid-2014, was awarded a Roman Society Bursary and placement in the Department of Coins and Medals at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge UK in December. Well done. Charlotte has proved herself a valuable team member in a very short space of time.

We look forward to welcoming you to the RD Milns Antiquities Museum again soon and are planning another fantastic year in 2015.

Dr Janette McWilliam

Director/Curator

April 2015
SUPPORTERS

The RD Milns Antiquities Museum has many supporters. Those who provide monetary donations and donations of artefacts assist in the development of the Museum's collection. We are also fortunate to have a number of artefacts on loan, often the prized possessions of our supporters. These donations and loans help us to enhance our teaching and outreach activities and, in turn, to share the ancient world with the University and wider Queensland public in a variety of ways.

**Gifts**

Monetary gifts are not only used to develop the collection of the RD Milns Antiquities Museum, but provide important funds for conservation and support our teaching, research and outreach activities. In 2014, monetary gifts contributed towards the purchase of an important Greek funerary stele for Theophile, originally excavated by the Grand Tourist Edward Dodwell. This purchase not only marked the Museum’s 50th Anniversary in 2013, but also protects and preserves this beautiful object for future generations of students, researchers and other visitors.

A generous donation of two artefacts from the Kleio Society at Brisbane Girls Grammar School, led by Dr Rashna Taraporewalla, also helped to enrich the collection. The group raised funds to purchase an important coin of the Emperor Augustus which features his young grandsons and heirs, Gaius and Lucius Caesar. They also donated a fragment of Egyptian cartonnage representing a mummification scene. Both artefacts now play an important role in the Museum’s education and exhibition program.

**2014 Donors:**

- **$1,000 - $4,999**
  - Prof A Blanshard
  - Brisbane Girls Grammar School
  - Classics and Ancient History Society
  - Friends of Antiquity Society
  - Adj Prof A Scott
  - Dr D Todman

- **< $1,000**
  - Dr P Davenport
  - Ms E Detsimas
  - Em Prof RD Milns AM
  - Ms L Moore
  - Queensland History Teachers’ Association
  - Mrs M Rahman
  - Ms F Sutton
  - Two Anonymous Donors

**Loans**

During 2014, the RD Milns Antiquities Museum was able to share artefacts from several Australian private and institutional collections. Loans of funerary inscriptions from the Museum of Antiquities at the University of New England, the Nicholson Museum at the University of Sydney, and the Classics Museum at the Australian National University played an important role in the Museum’s major exhibition in 2014/2015 *A Study in Stone*. A number of rare books relating to the Grand Tour were also featured in the exhibition, on loan from the Fryer Library, University of Queensland Library.
The RD Milns Antiquities Museum was established in 1963 to enrich the teaching programs of the then Department of Classics. The Museum remains an integral part of the Discipline of Classics and Ancient History within the School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry. Its mission is to promote and support the study of the classical civilisations of Western Asia, Egypt, Greece and Rome, through their material remains, both within the University community and amongst the broader public.

**Vision Statement**

The RD Milns Antiquities Museum strives to provide up to date, relevant and engaging teaching programs based on the ancient world for all members of the community. It also aims to extend current knowledge of the ancient world through innovative research. It is committed to maintaining its artefact collection at a high standard, and in doing so, providing an inspirational and accessible gallery space in which visitors can gain an understanding of the importance of ancient world cultures and their modern legacy.

**Strategic Plan 2012-2014**

In its three year strategic plan for 2012-2014, the RD Milns Antiquities Museum staff identified seven strategic goals around which its operational plan was developed. With this strategic period ending on December 31, 2014, it is timely to report on the significant progress the Museum made in achieving these goals and reflect on the way these successes will influence the Museum’s future strategy.
**Progress Statement**

1. **Update Museum policies which will be relevant for the period 2012 to 2014.**
   
   *Complete.* The Museum’s core suite of policies will be signed off by management in mid-2015. These policies meet the requirements laid down in the *National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries, 2013.*

2. **Implement a Conservation Management Plan for the Museum’s new gallery.**
   
   *Significant Progress.* Rehousing of the Museum’s large and significant collection of pottery fragments was completed in 2014. The remainder of the permanent collection rehousing project will be completed in 2015. A Preservation Needs Assessment will be undertaken in the first half of 2015 to consolidate progress in this area and develop a long-term preservation and conservation plan.

3. **Develop and implement a plan for the Museum’s exhibitions and displays.**
   
   *Complete.* The Museum now has a rolling three year plan for exhibition programs. Two major exhibitions were successfully curated; in 2013 *Then and Now: 50 Years of Antiquities,* and in 2014 *A Study in Stone.* Refurbishments of the coin and short-term exhibition areas are also complete. Major upgrades to permanent exhibitions are ongoing. Two displays were updated in 2014.

4. **Implement a new Museum website and public database.**
   
   *Complete.* With assistance from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Museum implemented a new database, making its entire collection of almost 6000 artefacts accessible online to students, researchers and the public. Significant progress has been made on 3D scanning of artefacts in the collection. These models are now integrated into the Museum’s education activities.

5. **Establish a Museum Governance Committee.**
   
   *Significant Progress.* Membership for the Museum Governance Committee has been finalised. This committee should meet for the first time in 2015.

6. **Review and redevelop all public programs (school, academic and visitor).**
   
   *Complete.* The redevelopment of the Museum’s Public Programs calendar was a success. Excellent attendance figures were achieved at a range of events tailored towards students, professionals and the public. Primary, Secondary and Tertiary programs were refreshed with engagement in 2014 at record levels. Volunteers continue to play a significant role in the Museum’s engagement with the student body in particular.

7. **Implement a comprehensive research and publication strategy.**
   
   *Significant Progress.* Research into the Museum’s rich collection continues, with our first exhibition catalogue produced in 2014 to accompany the exhibition *A Study in Stone.* Staff have attended a number of national and international conferences and the annual Summer Scholars program continues to provide research opportunities for advanced students.
At the heart of the RD Milns Antiquities Museum is its world-class collection of artefacts from ancient Greece, Rome, Egypt and Mesopotamia. In order to fulfil its mission and continue to provide high quality programs to our audiences, it is necessary for the Museum to develop its collection through acquisitions, conservation and research.

The Museum collection is only of use when it is made available to students, staff and researchers. To make its collection more accessible, the Museum is dedicated to the use of emerging technologies such as 3D images and social media, alongside traditional hands-on teaching.

**Research**

In 2014 the Museum undertook a number of collection research projects, including data entry projects, the production of an exhibition catalogue and Honours level research activities. Dr Janette McWilliam, the Museum’s Director and Curator, continues to prepare material from the wider collection for publication.

Registration of the collection of ceramic fragments in the Museum’s online database was one of the key projects completed in 2014. With the addition of the fragments, the whole collection is now available online. Future projects will focus on enhancing the data by adding individual photographs of each fragment to the catalogue.

**Summer Scholars**

Over the 2014/15 Summer period, the Museum also welcomed two summer scholars who completed additional registration work. Ms Ansam Hummadi and Mr Campbell Orchard worked closely with the Senior Museum Officer, Mr James Donaldson, to research the collecting history of artefacts within the Museum collection for addition to the database.

One important outcome of the research undertaken by the Summer Scholars is the attribution of the Museum’s Egyptian actor figurine (75.005) to the important Fouquet Collection, established in Cairo between 1850 and 1914 by Dr Daniel-Marie Fouquet. This type of research ensures that the most up to date data is available on the history of artefacts within the Museum collection. It also opens new avenues for future research.
Honours Research

Two Honours students in the discipline of Archaeology, Ms Emma-Kay Baird and Ms Abby Capel, partnered with the Museum to conduct original research into its Egyptian collection. The students were supervised by Dr Serena Love, an archaeologist with the School of Social Sciences specialising in Egyptian architecture and landscape. Both students graduated with First Class Honours in the Bachelor of Arts (Archaeology) program and are moving on to graduate programs in Museum Studies and Archaeological Science.

Ms Baird completed a study of the Museum’s collection of kohl pots, used for holding Egyptian eye makeup. Some of these containers still contained significant quantities of the makeup and Ms Baird’s study included a scientific analysis of the chemical composition of the ointment. She concluded that the two samples tested were made up of different types or qualities of kohl, indicated by the presence of galena (lead oxide) in one sample and a mixture of charcoal and mica in the other. Historically, lead oxide based eye makeup was of a higher quality, while charcoal based makeup was a cheaper imitation.

Ms Capel studied the Museum’s death-mask through Radio-Carbon (C-14) dating and a Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS) test. Carbon-dating indicated a date of 2240 +/- 30 BP or 390-340 BCE, slightly earlier than the stylistic date of 300 - 200 BCE originally given to the mask. The GC/MS testing concluded that the resin used to bind the mask’s layers was consistent with traditional construction techniques, using plant or animal derived adhesives to bind layers of linen. The additional information provided by these scientific tests about the age and chemical makeup of the Museum’s Death Mask provides a foundation for future analysis. These tests demonstrate the importance of ongoing scientific investigations into the Museum’s collection.

Conservation

Long-term preservation of the collection continues to be a priority with a variety of projects undertaken in 2014 to increase the quality of storage and transportation facilities at the Museum. Chief among these projects was the finalisation of the fragments rehousing project, which, as mentioned previously, rehoused 6000 ceramic fragments. The fragments were placed in enclosures made of archival foam, then into custom-designed trays to fit the Museum’s drawer system. This project was overseen by James Donaldson, Senior Museum Officer, with assistance from a dedicated team of collection volunteers. The next phase in this project is the rehousing of the Museum’s delicate bronze and glass holdings with the assistance of a professional conservator.

“Working in the Museum has been a great experience and has taught me many valuable skills.”

Campbell Orchard, Summer Scholar 2014/15
The Museum’s handling collection was also rehoused in 2014 to complement the redesign of the Museum’s Education Programmes. This collection is heavily used and new custom-made boxes now facilitate safe storage as well as transport. Tourguide staff are now able to locate the collection easily, safely transport their required resources, and prepare for workshops on site without wasting valuable time. This has resulted in a more streamlined system for staff and a safer environment for the handling collection generally.

**Collection Access**

During 2014 the Antiquities Museum participated in teaching programs for 13 tertiary courses across three schools in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Students engaged with the museum through these visits, tutorials and assessment work, a total of 2394 times across the year. Courses featuring a museum component included:

- ANCH2030: Myth, Magic & Religion - Two Tutorials/Two Assignments
- ANCH2090: Classical Archaeology & Museums - Two Tutorials/Assignment & Internship and International Internship Programs
- ANCH1240: The Rise of Ancient Greece - Tutorial/Assessment*  
- ANCH1250: The Rise of Ancient Rome - Tutorial/Assignment
- ANCH2130: Alexander the Great & the Hellenistic World - Lecture/Assignment  
- ANCH2270: Art & Archaeology of Ancient Rome - Full Tutorial Suite* & International Internship Program
- ARCA1000: Discovering Archaeology - Two Tutorials
- ARCA2130: The Archaeology of Turkey - Two Tutorials
- ARCS1001: Doing Archaeology - Three Tutorials
- ARTT1106: Looking at Art - Two Tutorials
- GREK1110: Introductory Greek - Tutorial
- MUSM7002: Collections - Tutorial
- MUSM7006: Exhibiting Culture: Theory and Practice - Tutorial

*Denotes a course surveyed for data in the sidebar (left)

Feedback from students participating in tutorial sessions as part of the ANCH2270: *Art and Archaeology of Ancient Rome* and ANCH1240: *The Rise of Ancient Greece* courses indicated that for 49% of students, inclusion of a Museum component in a course was of High or Very High Importance in their choice of courses. Likewise, 86% of the students surveyed in this course rated the Museum component of tutorials as Very Good or Excellent. These responses demonstrate the key role that the Museum plays in adding value to the undergraduate experience for students from several Schools at the University of Queensland.

"I was very impressed with the collection and the way museum staff enthusiastically and skilfully set up and ran activities at fairly short notice. The classes were very well received by the way and really beautifully complemented other activities."

- Associate Professor Andrew Fairbairn
The presentation and interpretation of the collection to the various audiences of the RD Milns Antiquities Museum is one of the key roles of the Museum as defined by its Mission Statement. In 2014, Museum staff curated two new exhibitions and two new permanent displays.

These projects are part of the Museum’s wider goal of maintaining a changing series of displays in its gallery space in order to encourage repeat visitation and participation amongst the wider community, UQ staff and students.

**A Study in Stone**

The major exhibition for 2014/15, *A Study in Stone*, focuses on commemorative funerary memorials from the Greek and Roman worlds, ranging from simple niche covers found in group *columbaria* through to the large and expensive burial *stelae* placed in individual and family tombs. Each memorial tells a unique story: of the deceased, of their families, friends, or the patrons who commemorated them.

The exhibition also highlights the role of epigraphy (the study of ancient inscriptions) in the development and reception of the Western Classical tradition. Individuals on ‘The Grand Tour’ travelled to Greece and Rome to collect burial memorials for their private collections in the UK and Europe. In time, these inscriptions were collated and studied by scholars interested in the lives and stories of ordinary men, women, children, slaves and freedmen.

The exhibition has been a great success for the Museum, with high levels of visitation and excellent visitor engagement through public programs and media. The exhibition also provided a backdrop for the display of the Museum’s 50th Anniversary artefact, the Dodwell stele. All respondents to a survey taken at the opening night event rated the exhibition content, design and atmosphere as ‘very good’ or better.

*Guests examine A Study in Stone on its opening night. Image: Kaylene Biggs*
Visitation and Public Programs

Since its opening in June to December 2014, 1840 guests have visited the exhibition *A Study in Stone*. An additional 400 people attended the associated public programs, which comprised a successful opening night and VIP preview, and the ‘Saturday Series’ public lectures based around the exhibition. The Discipline of Classics and Ancient History was fortunate to host Professor John Bodel, the 2014 Milns Visiting Professor, an international expert in epigraphy from Brown University. Professor Bodel spoke in glowing terms of the exhibition and Museum team on the opening night and presented a well-attended Saturday Series public lecture the following day on the topic of ‘American Epigraphic Collections and their Origins.’

Later in the year Dr Marion Diamond, Emeritus Associate Professor and now Honorary Researcher in the School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry, presented a well-attended talk on Sir William Hamilton, the noted diplomat, antiquary and collector. Mr Michael Turner, Senior Curator at the Nicholson Museum, Sydney University, presented the third Saturday Series public lecture on ‘Sir Charles Nicholson’s Grand Tour,’ during which Nicholson collected the artefacts with which he formed his eponymous Museum at the University of Sydney.

Media

*A Study in Stone* received attention from three major media outlets in 2014, resulting in a wide range of coverage in Brisbane. Radio 4BC ran an afternoon interview with Mr Daniel Press, Museum Curatorial Officer on the day of the exhibition opening, attracting 15000 listeners. *Brisbane Times* published an online article entitled *Ancient Times Come to Life in UQ Exhibit Study in Stone* that received 13560 unique daily visitors and a positive number of social media shares. In late August the exhibition also received print media coverage in the *Brisbane News* magazine with an article by arts commentator Phil Brown entitled *Written in Stone: Memorials Tell of Life in Ancient Times*. The *Brisbane News* has a distribution of close to 120 000 copies around Brisbane, making it the most successful media coverage of the exhibition. Articles on *A Study in Stone* also appeared in *UQ News* (Tombstones Bring Ancient Dead to Life, June 2014) and *UQ Contact* (Discover Ancient History: A Study in Stone Exhibition, Summer 2014).

Merchandising

As part of *A Study in Stone* the Museum also produced a comprehensive exhibition catalogue edited by Dr Janette McWilliam, with a foreword by Dr Caillan Davenport and essays by Dr Janette McWilliam, Mr Daniel Press and Prof Alastair McWilliam.

She died almost two millennia ago but the memory of eight year-old Vitalinis lives on in stone. Her tombstone is one of the most moving exhibits in a fascinating exhibition now on at the RD Milns Antiquities Museum at the University of Queensland.

- Phil Brown, Brisbane News, August 2014
Blanshard. Catalogue entries were produced by Mr James Donaldson. This 76 page, full colour publication is an important product of the Museum’s research into its collection and the broader themes of A Study in Stone, making these results available to the public and providing an additional income stream to the Museum. Alongside this catalogue, a range of themed merchandise sold at the new Museum Shop has proven popular with visitors and teachers, including replica Roman wax writing tablets, tote bags and tea towels.

**Curious Cabinets**

In 2014 the Museum again hosted a group of three student interns from the second level undergraduate course ANCH2090: Classical Archaeology and Museums. These students worked closely with Museum staff, gaining industry experience through not only learning about back-of-house activities, but also curating a small exhibition. Alice O’Brien, Socrates Aronis and Oscar Goldman worked hard with Museum staff to put together a successful exhibition entitled Curious Cabinets, which showcased the research and curatorial skills which they learnt during the semester.

*Curious Cabinets* explores some of the ways in which modern museums have been shaped by the collecting and display techniques first used in European aristocratic collections established during the Renaissance and Enlightenment. The students chose artefacts from the Museum’s own collection that reflected the theme of the exhibition, objects that one would easily find in an aristocratic collection of the era, including glass from the Dr J Tranberg collection, curiously designed ancient lamps, and a 1000 year old Byzantine bronze lock in the shape of a horse. A guide to the exhibition is available at the Museum front desk.

The 2014 Interns also presented their exhibition to a public audience. At *Saturnalia: A Festival of Wonders* they gave an introduction to their exhibition to over 100 guests, then during the rest of the evening discussed their exhibition and overall experiences as interns with individuals and groups.
**Permanent Displays**

During the second half of 2014, Museum staff began to implement a program to revitalise the permanent gallery space by installing two new displays entitled *Form & Function* and *Style & Sequence*. This type of thematic display is a core part of the Museum’s interpretive plan. It ensures that visitors can access information about the artefacts on display easily, and, in turn, understand key facts and themes about the ancient Mediterranean world through, for example, encouraging comparison and reflection. Both displays also play a key role in the material studied by primary, secondary and tertiary students in workshops and tutorials.

*Form & Function* is one of the first displays visitors encounter upon entering the Museum. It examines the utilitarian aspects of Greek vases. However, rather than approaching pottery purely as objects of high art or as canvasses for religious/mythological scenes, this display focuses on the importance of pottery in the daily activities associated with drinking and dining, ranging from the mundane to the ceremonial. Included in the display are artefacts in different styles and from different periods which were all used in similar ways. The utilitarian focus on cups, plates, serving and mixing vessels encourages visitors to make connections with modern ceramics.

*Style & Sequence* takes a more traditional and aesthetic approach to pottery, presenting a chronology which traces the development of pottery styles from the Mycenaean to late Roman periods. As an exploration of style and artistic sequence, this cabinet is set out in an art-historical fashion, with single vessels representing the major steps in the development of pottery. This display is also very closely associated with ANCH1240: The Rise of Ancient Greece and its ‘Greece in Formation’ tutorial.
A student guest at Lemuria: A Festival of Witches getting into the spirit with a Tarot themed costume. Image: Emma-Kay Baird
One of the main functions of the Museum is to provide access to the past by providing high quality and accessible information about the ancient world and its need for promotion and preservation. The Museum has traditionally catered for a diverse range of visitors, including teachers and students in primary and secondary schools, and undergraduate and postgraduate students at UQ. Engagement, however, is not only achieved through our school tour and workshop programs and master-classes, but also through social events such as our popular ‘Carpe Noctem’ series. The Museum also has a role in educating the wider community about the ancient world, and in order to attract new visitors, a series of art and lecture events were added during 2014.

**Students**

One of the Museum’s key audiences is the University of Queensland’s student body, particularly those undergraduate and postgraduate students enrolled in programs in Classics and Ancient History, Archaeology and Art History. The Museum aims to provide a range of academic and social events across the year to engage this student body with the past through its collection.

**Masterclasses**

A new program for 2014 was the Museum’s Masterclass series. These events aim to draw on the expertise of both Museum staff and the University’s academic staff and postgraduate students to provide extra-curricular sessions to students wishing to further their knowledge of ancient material culture.

The first session was hosted in April, with 27 students learning about the importance of inscriptions in the study of the Classical World with Museum Director and epigraphy expert, Dr Janette McWilliam. The class introduced students to Roman epigraphic culture and the basic features of Latin inscriptions.

In August, a second masterclass on ancient ceramics led by Senior Museum Officer and resident ceramics enthusiast, James Donaldson, was attended by over 20 students. The class presented information on the technological and social history of ancient ceramics from an archaeological and historical perspective. Students also received hands-on training as they learnt about ceramic production, identification, typology and social significance.

**Carpe Noctem Series**

The Museum’s popular Carpe Noctem series was held again for a third consecutive year in 2014. Visitors were invited to ‘seize the night’ with two thematic evenings based on Roman festivals. A popular feature of the nights is the themed photo booth, which has been especially successful in engaging visitors and encouraging social media interaction. Online ticketing was introduced for the first time in 2014.

April: *Lemuria: A Festival of Witches* combined a quirky evening of entertainment with an educational and academic interpretation of ancient witches and their modern legacy. Almost 60 visitors, dressed in appropriately ‘witchy’ attire, attended a special pop-culture curator talk, and enjoyed wine, canapés and a themed photobooth, the ‘apothecary’s tent’.

October: *Saturnalia: A Festival of Wonders* served as both the second in Carpe Noctem series and as the Museum’s end of year event. Close to 100 visitors attended. This year, the theme for *Saturnalia* was inspired by the Golden-Age...
of collecting and the celebrated wonder-cabinets of the 16th to 19th centuries. The 2014 Museum Interns’ exhibition, Curious Cabinets was also launched at this event, both thematically linked to the 2014 exhibition A Study in Stone. The Enlightenment era photobooth was a popular attraction, and many visitors came in fancy dress especially for the occasion.

**Schools**

Tours and workshops for school students in the greater Brisbane area remain a flagship program for the Antiquities Museum. Grade 7 students, as a result of changes to the Australian National Curriculum, now study a unit on the Ancient World (60,000 BCE - 600 CE) and Museum staff have created a series of high-quality tours and workshops to accommodate this new group of students.

**Education Programs: Primary and Secondary**

During 2014 the RD Milns Antiquities Museum’s Education Programs continued to be developed. New resources for teachers and more worksheets for students were introduced, further complementing both existing and new curriculum-based programs. All workshop activities were updated based on feedback from teachers and tour-guides. By the end of 2014 all programs were tested to ensure that they meet the requirements of both the Australian National and Queensland curricula. Improvements made to the activities also now ensure that students are engaged in active learning during their visits.

In 2014, 25 new schools visit the museum. A total of 1542 students, accompanied by 527 teachers or carers, participated in Museum Education programs.

Our target for the 2015/16 period is to reach a total of 2000 annual student visits.

**School Holidays**

In the final two weeks of the January school holidays in 2014, a range of activities were made available for children between the ages of 6 and 12. Free activities were set up daily between 10am – 4pm and a new series of three paid “Papyrus Making” workshops were offered.

In the July school holidays, the Museum partnered with the Brisbane-based theatre troupe Grin and Tonic to host a paid workshop focusing on the topic of ancient Greek drama. Students were given the opportunity to engage with museum objects and participate in a dynamic workshop where they learnt about acting, ancient drama, ancient actors, and social, cultural and political history.

Both programs were widely advertised through local day-care centres, UQ Alumni networks and the Museum mailing list. The three January workshop sessions were booked out the week prior to the program starting. However, the July program received below average attendance, perhaps due to the shorter holidays at this time of year.

Overall attendance to free activities in January was low indicating that set workshop programs are the best options for future holidays. All surveyed visitors except one responded that they would attend another museum event. Total attendance across the school holiday offerings in 2014 was 210: 112 children attended paid workshops, 50 the free activities, accompanied by 48 guardians.
**Saturday Series**

Through a new program designed to bring visitors to the Museum on weekends, a Saturday Series of public lectures, followed by light refreshments, was developed in 2014. The first of these lectures, held in April, was a well attended presentation by Dr John Ratcliffe, a retired Brisbane medical specialist and Classics and Ancient History PhD student. 67 guests attended Dr Ratcliffe’s lecture on the Museum’s ancient medical instruments.

The remainder of the series was developed in association with the Museum’s *Study in Stone* exhibition. A further 160 guests attended the public lectures given by esteemed visiting scholars Professor John Bodel, RD Milns Visiting Professor 2014 (W. Duncan MacMillan II Professor of Classics at Brown University, and head of the US Epigraphy Project), Emeritus Associate Professor of History (UQ), Marion Diamond and Mr Michael Turner, FSA, Senior Curator at the Nicholson Museum, University of Sydney. The level of attendance at this series across the year demonstrates its success as a model for additional engagement with our audiences. The program continues in 2015.

**Attitudes**

The Attitudes of Lady Emma Hamilton was a life drawing series held at the RD Milns Antiquities Museum during 2014. ‘Attitudes’ was inspired by the life of Lady Emma Hamilton, the wife of Lord Hamilton, English Ambassador to Naples in the late 1700’s. While living in Naples, Emma imitated the poses of figures on Lord Hamilton’s collection of Southern Italian vases for Grand Tourists to sketch. Participants, with the assistance of local Brisbane artists who helped Museum staff re-create the Attitudes in a modern context, were given the opportunity to participate in life drawing sessions.

The four events were made possible with the assistance of Geoff Ginn and Glenda Charles, who facilitated the drawing sessions. Life models were provided by Leeton Models Brisbane.

A total of 43 visitors took part in the life drawing classes inspired by the Classical World. All survey respondents rated the atmosphere and quality of the events as “very good” or “excellent.” Alumni and current university staff comprised the majority of attendees.
The RD Milns Antiquities Museum Team not only maintain the Museum’s collection of artefacts and fragments, but they facilitate visitor experiences and encourage engagement with the Ancient World by providing interpretation of the collection, engaging in research, organising and running events, masterclasses, tours and workshops, and fostering relationships with alumni and donors.

Our Team

The Museum Team comprises the Director/Curator, Specialty Museum Administrative Staff, Tour Guides and Volunteers. All play an important role in the Museum’s success. In 2014, a number of our staff achieved significant milestones and/or awards that demonstrate their wide range of skills and dedication to the Museum’s mission to educate students and the public about the Ancient World.

• Dr Janette McWilliam, Director/Curator, received a prestigious National Award for Teaching Excellence in the 2014 Australian Awards for University Teaching, administered by the Office for Learning and Teaching and the Australian Government. She also organised and led the first Alberese Material Culture Field School/RD Milns International Internship Program to Rome and Grosseto (Tuscany), Italy.

Museum volunteers work with a 3D Scanner to digitise artefacts from the collection. Image: Kaylene Biggs
Mr James Donaldson, Senior Museum Officer, graduated with a Master of Philosophy Degree in Ancient History from the University of Queensland.

Mr Daniel Press, Curatorial Officer, finished his appointment with the Museum and travelled to the United Kingdom to seek further opportunities in the sector.

Ms Jessica Dowdell, Outreach Officer, graduated from a Master of Museum Studies Degree at the University of Queensland and in January 2015, also moved to the United Kingdom to pursue her career further.

Ms Katee Dean, Engagement Officer, completed an Honours degree in Classical Greek and commenced studies towards a Graduate Diploma in Museum Studies, both from the University of Queensland.

Ms Charlotte Mann, Administrative Assistant, completed her Bachelor of Arts majoring in Ancient History and travelled to the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge on a Roman Society Bursary, where she completed an internship in the Dept. of Coins and Medals.

Chancellor’s Award

In 2014 the Museum administrative team also received a prestigious UQ Chancellor’s Award for Team Excellence, recognising their significant achievements. With the professional development funding provided by this award, members of the Museum team travelled to visit interstate museums in Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra and meet with colleagues about exhibition, education and collections development programs. Ms Jessica Dowdell was also able to attend a major Museums Australia education conference in Sydney.

Tour Guides

During 2014 the Museum’s team of dedicated Tour Guides continued to provide a high level of customer service, implementing our improved workshop program and helping to expanding our programs into Grade 7 classes from across Queensland.

Feedback from teachers about the quality of our guides was overwhelmingly positive, with over 85% of teachers “extremely satisfied” with Museum staff. Notably, Emma-Kay Baird and Kate McKelliget welcomed the challenge of large Grade 7 groups of up to 120 students. These groups are a growth area for the Museum and our enthusiastic staff are essential to making the program a success.

All guides have access to personalised training plans and the University of Queensland’s Professional Development program, allowing them to develop their presentation skills and content knowledge, so that the Museum continues to offer high quality education programs for schools across Queensland.

2014 Tourguide Team:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sally O’Grady</th>
<th>Emma-Kay Baird</th>
<th>Ben Steyne</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Smith</td>
<td>Adam Brennan</td>
<td>Dustin McKenzie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kate McKelliget</td>
<td>Wesley Theobald</td>
<td>Catherine Smallcombe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Internship

The internship experience is a valuable part of the Museum’s programs, benefitting students at the University of Queensland and providing access to industry experience. Graduates from the program have gone on to work in museums and
galleries in Australia and around the world, including the Queensland Museum, National Sport Museum in Melbourne and the Nicholson Museum in Sydney.

In 2014 the Antiquities Museum Internship again received a strong field of applicants and the three successful candidates curated the well received *Curious Cabinets* exhibitions. Two interns have now joined the Museum team for 2015, one as a volunteer and one as a tourguide.

The Museum also hosted one Museum Studies student, Jason Parr, who undertook a research project into the Museum’s coin exhibition practices as part of his studies with the UQ Museum Studies Program.

**2014 Internship Team:**
Oscar Goldman
Alice O’Brien

**Volunteers**
Volunteers remain an integral part of the Museum’s outreach and industry training activities within the UQ student body and the general public. Notable projects for 2014 include: education program research, data entry, school holiday program development, coin collection and exhibition research, 3D scanning and visitor enquiries.

**2014 Volunteer Team:**
Alana Strong
Alice O’Brien
Alyssa Carr
Amy Van Der Boor
Ansam Hummadi
Axel Keller
Benjamin Steyne
Brendan Walsh
Catherine Smallcombe
Charlotte Mann
Charmaine Howie
Ciara Briscoe

*Museum volunteers examine artefacts with Daniel Press, Museum Curatorial Officer. Image: Kaylene Biggs*
In January-February 2014, 9 undergraduates and 2 postgraduates from UQ participated in the inaugural Alberese Material Culture Field School/RD Milns Museum International Internship Program in Italy, organised by Dr Janette McWilliam, Museum Director/Curator.

Students spent 2.5 days in Rome visiting some of the major museums and archaeological sites, before travelling to the labs of the University of Siena at Grosseto in Southern Tuscany. Over the next 4 weeks the students analysed, drew and catalogued 3567 fragments of pottery, 163 pieces of marble, 4000+ fragments of glass, and over 90 small finds (including coins, and artefacts in bone, iron and bronze). The results were entered into research databases and contributed to the 2015 publication on the site.

Students received a valuable work-integrated learning experience, not only in the labs, but through further field trips to archaeological sites and museums in the local area. Here they learnt about landscape and environmental archaeology, different museological programs and practices, and experienced modern Italian culture.

Many thanks to the Alberese Archaeological Project team of Dr Alessandro Sebastiani, Marie Curie Fellow at the University of Sheffield, Dr Matteo Colombini, Dr Elena Chirico, Dr Inge Hanson, and other international specialists from Italy and the UK.

2014 International Internship Team:

Daniel Rankin  
Dominic Carmody  
Dustin McKenzie  
Emanuela Alexa  
Emma-Kay Baird  
Gemma Moore  
Georgia O’Byrne  
Heather Donnelly  
Ingrid Veldkamp  
Irena Korenevski  
Isabel Manfield  
Jack Withrington  
Kassandra Cronin  
Kayla McBride  
Krystal Cope  
Lynelle Gale  
Maddelyn Chappell  
Madeline Thompson  
Marc Hunter  
Margaret Morrissey  
Marianne Marshall  
Michael Kretowicz  
Mike Bull  
Morvarid Mazhari  
Nicholas Clarke  
Nicola Holm  
Peter Lugg  
Rachel O’Malley  
Tarah Ferguson  
Taylor Hickman  
Teah Hagberg  
Tegan Martin  
Michael Bull  
Yasmin Clark  
Jonathan Ebert  
Nicola Holm  
Kate Jeremy  
Elizabeth Maclean  
Marianne Marshall  
Kristina McColl  
Ashleigh McInnes  
Sally O’Grady  
Rebecca Smith
In 2015 the Antiquities Museum begins a new strategic plan, and we are excited to share our vision of the Museum’s future. We strive to enrich the cultural experiences of our communities by improving training for volunteers, by continuing to create innovative public programs, through collaborating closely with other cultural collections on campus and showcasing the Museum’s world-class collection with the support of researchers at the University of Queensland.

**A NEW MISSION AND VISION**

*RD Milns Antiquities Museum: Preserving, Connecting and Inspiring*

Through the care, preservation and interpretation of its collection of artefacts from the ancient world, the RD Milns Antiquities Museum seeks to educate, inspire and innovate by engaging with its communities.

**STATEMENT OF GOALS**

The Museum’s strategic direction will focus on four key areas over the next three years: People and Communities; Research and Innovation; Preservation and Presentation; and Education and Engagement. Developing these core areas will enable staff to continue to pursue the Museum’s mission to connect its communities to the collection and to the ancient world.

Museum volunteer, Alana Strong, examines a 3D model of a Palmyrene Grave-Marker (80.010) held in the Museum. Image: Kaylene Biggs
People and Communities

At the core of the Museum’s strategy are the people that make it a success, both its enthusiastic team of staff and volunteers and its equally dedicated audiences/communities who bring their passion for the past to the Museum.

*We will foster a vibrant student experience*

To achieve this we will:

- Offer volunteer, intern and work experience positions which provide meaningful industry experience and that promote work integrated learning.
- Provide student-focused events, enabling student visitors to engage with the ancient world through our collection.
- Facilitate access to the Museum collection for teaching and research based activities.

*We will connect our communities to the past*

To achieve this we will:

- Commit to gaining an even better understanding our communities and their needs, though surveys and market research.
- Provide innovative and engaging programs tailored to the needs of our communities.
- Engage with the wider Brisbane community through participation at cultural events.

*We are dedicated to developing the skills and opportunities of our Museum team.*

To achieve this we will:

- Support staff in their professional development goals and provide opportunities for networking and mentorship.
- Recognize the achievements of the Museum’s diverse team members.
- Remain dedicated to effective leadership and staff safety in the Museum.

Research and Innovation

Innovative research and approaches to the past is at the core of the Museum’s vision for the future, with a growing number of international partnerships and local research collaborations enriching both the Museum’s engagement agenda and its contribution to the wider scholarly community.

*We will establish collaborations with research partners*

To achieve this we will:

- Establish research and exhibition partnerships at the University of Queensland, in Australia and overseas.
- Develop the number and effectiveness of internal and external collaborations that enrich our contribution to scholarship.
We will innovate in approaches to the past

To achieve this we will:

• Create and communicate research in the Museum’s collection and programs.
• Encourage innovative research and development projects that support and extend our existing programs.

Preservation and Presentation

The Museum is committed to high-quality preservation and expansion of its collection alongside an active exhibition program.

We will develop an active and engaging exhibition program

To achieve this we will:

• Provide a changing and engaging series of exhibitions exploring the past and present.
• Develop opportunities for presenting the Museum collection in digital and other formats.
• Maintain an accessible and atmospheric gallery space for community use.

We will commit to a high quality collection and its preservation

To achieve this we will:

• Continue to upgrade and develop our collection storage and data management systems.
• Undertake remedial measures to ensure the collection is maintained at a high level.
• Undertake strategic acquisition activities to grow the collection in critical areas.

Education and Engagement

Innovative engagement with the full range of the Museum’s audiences is important for ensuring its place in building knowledge for the next generation.

We will host an innovative and engaging series of public programs

To achieve this we will:

• Remain committed to providing high quality information about the past through research and through academic staff.
• Provide a range of engaging public programs tailored to the needs of our audiences.

We will build knowledge for the next generation

To achieve this we will:

• Develop and continue to provide opportunities for students to engage with the Museum.
• Collaborate with discipline partners to provide access to additional resources outside of the field of Ancient History.
• Develop strategies to increase awareness and accessibility of our programs in Brisbane and Queensland.