Brief Report on the Workshop on Recent Heritage of Science Universeum Meeting Hamburg

Medizinhistorisches Museum University of Hamburg 14 June 2014, 9:30 - 11:30

Organised by Roland Wittje and Marta Lourenco





Program:

- 1. Introduction (RW)
- 2. Discussion on Minimum Requirements document (ML)
- 3. Discussion on how to proceed with the Toolkit (ML)
- 4. Compilation of the Bibliography (RW)
- 5. Future activities (RW)

Minimum Requirements discussion

A proposal for the Minimum Requirements document was discussed item per item. The document had already circulated in the RHS web group. Suggestions were taken and the final text will be distributed to all WG members and also Universeum members.

ML will incorporate the revisions resulting from the Workshop.

Toolkit discussion:

The Toolkit changed name to **Checklist**. Its aim is to provide a complete checklist of what is needed to preserve recent heritage of science.

From now on, the **TOOLKIT** will be the whole package, i.e.

- the Minimum Requirements
- the Selection Criteria
- the Checklist

The contents of the Checklist were structured in 2 parts as follows:

- first part with quidelines (one page, simple and jargon-free)
- second part with helpful forms to collect information

Guidelines on: object information, oral data, documents, contexts, helpful contacts & links, etc.

Flavio Haener already did a significant amount of good work into both, so until September 2014 ML, RW & FH will organise his materials according to this structure.

Christine Nawa will send them the form she uses at the University of Tübingen.

Then: discussion.

Then: test in university departments to collect feedback from scientists (clarity, usefulness, etc).

Then: close the Checklist (and Toolkit) next workshop in Athens (June 2015).

In short, calendar for delivering the Checklist:

June-September 2014: update what we have according to the proposed structure (FH, ML, RW).

September 2014: debate and delivery of pilot checklist

October 2014-March 2015: test of pilot (as much as possible)

March-May 2015: integrate feedback from pilot, preliminary document

June 2015: debate and closure of the Checklist.

Bibliography discussion

The aim is to compile relevant published and unpublished materials on recent heritage of science (reports, articles, documents, etc). This aim was among the initial WG's aims.

The bibliography will include:

- a reference list
- a folder/clearinghouse of all the texts (copyright issues may apply, this needs to be sorted out when we have a clearer idea of the type of published and unpublished materials).

There will be a call for references, as soon as possible, to the Working Group (possibly even beyond). ML and RW will compile the literature.

Cornelia Weber proposed to host the files at the Koordinierungsstelle in Berlin.

The ideal would be to host them at the Universeum website (create an internal website, need more resources).

Next workshop:

At the conference in Athens, date to be announced. More time for the Workshop (preferably 4 hrs). Working in small groups again.

Discussing and closing the toolkit document

Future activities:

Apart from closing the Toolkit and organising relevant literature during the coming year: Documenting objects that we cannot keep (nuclear reactors, satellites that go in space, leased instruments).

16 June 2014 Roland Wittje Marta Lourenço

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