

The **Museum** Group

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13th Annual Conversations • Los Angeles, 2010

The Museum Group continues the tradition of hosting Conversations
at the annual meeting of the American Association of Museums.
You are invited to join your colleagues in Conversation

Sunday, May 23 at the J.P. Marriott,
adjacent to the Los Angeles Convention Center.

The MUSEUM Group • Individual Expertise, Collective Wisdom

Sunday, May 23 • Conversation Topics and Hosts

10:15-11:30 a.m.

Whose Stuff Is It Anyway: Collections in the 21st Century

Hosts: Pat Williams, member TMG and Bret Miller, General Counsel, The Barnes Collection

Do museums exist for collections or collections for museums? The shift in museums' perspective to emphasize the desires of audiences and their learning needs may pose risks to collections as a whole and individual collection items. Grappling with these competing "goods" often drives internal discussion about deaccessioning and use of funds derived from disposal of collections. How do board, staff and consultants sort through these questions today? And by the way, what does "inherent" mean anyway?

1:15-2:30 p.m.

Building Community

Hosts: Shelia Grinnell, member TMG and Lynn Lucklow, President and CEO Craigslist Foundation and Consulting Dean to Noyce Leadership Institute

Craigslist Foundation (CFL) believes that engaged communities are the backbone of our society and that community building must be intentional with all stakeholders working together—nonprofits, government, business, philanthropy and community members. To translate these beliefs into action, the foundation's team has been working on new Internet applications and leadership programs that assist people in their quest to be involved and make a difference in the locales where they live and work. CLF welcomes dialog about how new Internet applications might serve and be served by museums as key agents of community, and how museums can play a leadership role in strengthening communities.

2:45-4:00 p.m.

Beyond Reason: Thinking About Alternative Museum Modes

Hosts: Elaine Heumann Gurian, member TMG & Peter Linett, Partner, Slover & Linett Strategies

How are modes of cultural production and consumption changing, and how are those changes affecting museums—especially in the development of exhibitions and public programs? Peter and Elaine come to the question from slightly different perspectives, but both are on unrealized quests and hope you will join them with a quest (or at least a question) of your own. Peter is interested in the transition from modernist to postmodern ways of thinking about culture and the resulting tensions between objectivity and subjectivity, directness and irony, knowing and believing, and seriousness and play. Elaine is interested in the acceptance of less rational, more emotional, more spiritual, more unrealized content in museums, and how such content might support audiences in celebration, reverence, and other experiences that museums have never acknowledged as "museum behavior."