



Photograph: Maarje Elsevier Stokmans, Drents Museum

Negotiating the Human: Justice, Ethics and Culture in Dealing with Human Remains

Friday 16 September 2022, 8h30 - 17h30
Geneva - Switzerland



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UNESCO Chair in the International Law
of the Protection of Cultural Heritage,
University of Geneva

**INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL
PROPERTY SOCIETY**



**UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE**

Negotiating the Human: Justice, Ethics and Culture in Dealing with Human Remains

Friday 16 September 2022, 8h30 - 17h30
University of Geneva - Uni Mail - Room R070

Conference organized by the
**UNESCO Chair in the International Law
of the Protection of Cultural Heritage,
Art-Law Centre, University of Geneva (UNIGE)**
and
the International Cultural Property Society (ICPS)

8h30

INTRODUCTION

*Representatives of the Rectorate,
the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Science of UNIGE*

WELCOME

*Prof. Ana Vrdoljak, TU Sydney, ICPS President and
Prof. Marc-André Renold, UNIGE and ICPS Vice-President*

9h00

Keynote speaker

Justice Michael Kirby, former Justice of the High Court of Australia

10h00

SESSION I. ISSUES AND PERSPECTIVES

Chair: Prof. Marc-André Renold, UNIGE and ICPS Board

Zhen Chen, Groningen University:

*The Buddha Mummy Statue case in China and the Netherlands:
Contemporary Legal Issues*

Dr. Abena Yalley, University of Konstanz, PhD University of Ibadan:

*The Return of the Head of Badu Bonso II by the Dutch to Ghana – Implications
for the Ahanta People of Ghana*

Roberta Colombo, Curator of the Oceanic Collections,
Museum of Ethnography of Geneva (MEG):
Repatriation of Human Remains: The MEG's experience

Update on the UN Expert Mechanism on Indigenous Cultural Property and
Human Remains

11h10 **TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

11h40 **SESSION 2. USING THE HUMAN: SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE, DNA, FUTURE USES**

Chair: Prof. Derek Gillman, Drexel University and ICPS Board

Prof. Anne Mayor and Prof. Eric Huysecom, Faculty of Science, UNIGE:
University Collections of Human Remains - Experience in Geneva

Margaret Graham, Director, Legacy Center Archives and Special Collections,
Drexel University College of Medicine:
Reckoning with the facts of 19th century body acquisition: one specimen's story

Dr. Nicholas Marquez-Grant, Institute of Forensic Archaeology,
Cranfield University:
Global issues in contemporary forensic anthropology

12h50 **LUNCH (PLEASE REGISTER)**

14h15 **SESSION 3. REPRODUCING THE HUMAN: ISSUES IN USING IMAGES,
BODY CASTS, PHOTOS, EXHIBITIONS**

Chair: Prof. Keun Gwan Lee, Seoul National University and ICPS Board

Rebecca Whiting, British Museum:
Changing Approaches to the Display of Ancient Egyptian Remains

Dr. Linda Fibiger and Dr. John Harries, University of Edinburgh:
*Picturing the Dead: When, Where and How is it Acceptable to Show Images of
Human Remains*

Prof. Marie-Sophie de Clippele, Brussels University:
The Body in the Museum – Recent Experiences in France and Belgium

15h25 **TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

16h00

SESSION 4. HUMAN REMAINS AND RESTORATIVE/TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE: UNFINISHED PROBLEMS, LOOKING FORWARDS

Chair: Prof. Ana Vrdoljak, TU Sydney and ICPS President

Dr. Chip Colwell, Denver Museum of Nature and Science:
The Repatriation Battles and the Ethical Crisis of Ancient DNA

Prof. Jaime Lavallee, University of Saskatchewan:
Reconciling the Colonial Past: From Cultural Genocide to Indigenous Belonging in Canadian 'Collections'

Dr. Alessandro Chechi, Faculty of Law, UNIGE:
Human Remains, Cultural Diplomacy and Transitional Justice

17h10

DISCUSSION AND WRAP-UP

Attendance is free (except for lunch) but registration is required by 5 September 2022, using the online form available on the Art-Law Centre's website: **www.art-law.org**