

Museum Management and Curatorship

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Announcement of the 2008 Best Paper Awards

Each year [*Museum Management and Curatorship*](#) (*MMC*) recognizes the best paper that addresses curatorial matters and the best paper that focuses on managerial concerns. The Best Paper Awards Jury consists of members of the *MMC*'s Editorial Board. The Jury's criteria include the scope of the paper, its relevance and applicability to a variety of institutions, and the readability of the work. It is encouraging that each year the selection process becomes more difficult, reflecting the increasing quality of the papers published by the journal. Robert Janes and the *MMC*'s Editorial Board are to be commended for their dedication and persistence in sustaining and improving the quality of *MMC*.

This year we are pleased to give the curatorial award to David J. Minderhout and Andrea T. Frantz for their article '[The Museum of Indian Culture and Lenape Identity](#)' (Volume 23, Number 2). Museums with ethnographic and archaeological collections often find themselves engaged in debates about the authenticity of cultural representation. Sometimes this involves competing claims by indigenous people for the right to be the voice of a particular culture. Few of these discussions occur in the public arena, and Minderhout and Frantz are to be commended for raising an awareness of the complexity of this issue.

The management award goes to Darren Peacock's paper '[Making Ways for Change: Museums, Disruptive Technologies and Organisational Change](#)' (Volume 23, Number 4). This is an outstanding treatment of the subtlety, complexity and challenging nature of museum change. The overarching examination of the field of leadership literature is extremely helpful and the author makes a very strong case for the need to remain flexible when facing an uncertain future. It is a very timely article.

We would like to thank the award winners - and all of the 2008 contributors to *MMC* - for their creativity, hard work and excellent discussions. Their contributions have gone far in advancing our knowledge of museum practice. The Jury would also like to thank Robert R. Janes for his editorial expertise, and our publisher, Routledge, for supporting these awards.

Submitted by the Best Papers Award Jury:

Gerald T. Conaty – Chair of the Awards Jury, Glenbow Museum, Canada

Marjorie, Schwarzer – Member, Awards Jury, John F. Kennedy University, USA

Bernice L. Murphy – Member, Awards Jury, Museums Australia
