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CONSERVATION EDUCATION & TRAINING IN CHILE

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Conservation training started in Chile in 1984 with the first course of conservation training delivered by Gael de Guichen (ICCRUM) in collaboration with Dirección de Bibliotecas Archivos y Museos (DIBAM). For many of the participants it was their first introduction to the important matter of conservation. At the same time Guillermo Yoiko started with the National Center of Restoration, which offers short courses and practical sessions to students. The first programme in conservation was offered by the Pontificia Universidad Católica but it and the programme at the Universidad del Desarrollo (2009- 2012) were both closed in 2012

Today you study conservation as a part of the History of Art programme offered by the Universidad de Chile (Licenciatura en Teoría y Historia del Arte), which is a state university and in the private University SEK. (Licenciado en Historia del Arte, Conservador y Restaurador de Bienes Culturales). Both programmes have a good teaching body

The Universidad de Chile also has a Post Graduate Programme in Restoration. I completed the programme and directed it from 1998 to 2011. The Art School has an area dedicated to heritage and conservation studies in the department of 'Teoría e Historia del Arte' with practical sessions during the classes. It is a more intensive form of study than earlier programmes. It has been involved in helping in the restoration and conservation of heritage damage in the earthquakes of central Chile 2010 and 2014 Iquique, which I co-ordinate. It is currently part of the 'licenciatura' but we are working to make a 5th year with a professional ending in heritage conservation study



Fig 1 Sculpture San Francisco Bucalemo earthquake 2010 students Universidad de Chile

We also have a number of private technical schools DuocUC in Valparaíso and Escuela de Artes Aplicadas el Fuego Santiago. The private Universidad Finis Terrae has also introduced a Master in Restoration, which works well. The curriculum and areas of study are very similar across most conservation programmes in Chile. The private Universidad de los Andes also offer a Master in Heritage, which includes a general overview of conservation studies. As you can see we have a lot of private universities offering conservation programmes, which is good business.

In Chile we have good conservators and restorers who began their studies in Chile and many who on graduation received a scholarship (Beca Chile) to continue their studies outside the country.

Many students go to study in Europe and the US as well as Australia. That is fantastic; when I was young it was very difficult to do so and I was very lucky to go to Mainz, Römisch Germanische Zentral Museum to study.

Now the world is a big classroom we can study conservation together and share our knowledge. We should all work together to make the study of conservation a possibility for everybody.