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Dear Friends of the Ixchel Museum – We send you our thanks for your support, and an update on this year's activities as we head into the welcome summer months.

We held our annual meeting in Guatemala again and remain impressed by the excellent work done by the Museo staff under the direction of their new Executive Director, Claudia Monzon. Their field research and collection documentation continue apace. Their increased outreach is remarkable...a rich and active website and Facebook pages, noteworthy events on site, and the completion of "ExtraMuros" kits for mounting small exhibits at companies, hotels, and public spaces. Her team also presented funding requests for several projects, including an ambitious new special exhibit on Cofradías. This will make use of our sponsored field research and photographs, as well as contributions from recognized experts. We were delighted to enhance our usual grant commitments thanks to a generous bequest from the estate of Mikiko Stebbing. The Museo is now seeking matching funds for the new exhibit and a Cofradías publication.

Within the US, we affirmed Yolanda Alcorta's cooperative work with indigenous Guatemalan weavers in the Washington, DC area and continued our support. We hope to spark and facilitate more regional exhibits in 2016-17 – a goal facilitated by our newly-databased collection, which continued to receive donations of much-appreciated textiles and display dolls. If you are planning exhibits which could use our materials, please let us know.

Regarding our Board, we happily welcomed Lucy Leonowens and sadly accepted the resignation of Anabella Paiz. I will serve as President for the next term, fortunately with Ray Senuk as VP who will continue his terrific work on our collection/exhibit management, bulletin articles, and direct advice and counsel to the Museo staff in Guatemala. He is amazing.

To our 2014 donors, many thanks. You are acknowledged on the enclosed list, but that is just a small nod compared to our gratitude and that of the Museo for enabling so many worthwhile projects. We especially appreciate those of you who have sustained contributions over the years. Mil gracias!

Ana-Maria V. Zaugg

President, Friends of the Ixchel Museum

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