

Interactive comment on “Built From the Crater Up – Site Museums in Geosciences Communication and Outreach” by Jaime Urrutia Fucugauchi et al.

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Thanks very much for the review of the paper. We agree and appreciate the comments by Dr. Christian Koeberl. The title and abstract are modified to make explicit that the paper presents and focuses on the Chicxulub museum. We agree that addressing the museums at various impact sites adds to the presentation and discussion. We thank for calling our attention on this omission. In the revised paper, references to the museums at other impact sites and geological and natural history museums and meteorite collections are now included in the Introduction as well as in the Discussion section.

In the revised manuscript, we have included a section on the museum project back-

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ground and development. Dr Koeberl is right that the museum opening has been delayed several times. This has happened for the most recent project phase. The project as described in the paper was originally proposed and developed over a decade and has consisted of several overlapping subprojects that have been completed. The manuscript describes the several phases of exhibitions and development of the Chicxulub project. These include the Chicxulub museum in the Yucatan Science and Technology Park, opened in 2011 by the Yucatan governor, the Exhibition in the Grand Museum of the Maya World on “The Chicxulub Impact and Dinosaur Extinction”, inaugurated by the Mexican president and Yucatan governor in December 2012, and the core repository, research laboratories and facilities. The Chicxulub museum in the Park has been open, with programs with schools and the Yucatan Secretary of Education and has attracted considerable numbers of visitors. In the manuscript figures were included showing the exhibitions and visits by school students in the museum; the overlapping project phases were described, and we referred to the laboratories, core repository, research facilities and the Grand Museum of the Maya World exhibition and Chicxulub Museum in the Park. The third phase was completed last year, with the new Museum building construction, and the exhibitions are complete and operational. We realize that this was not described. In the revised manuscript we have now added additional figures showing these museum facilities and exhibitions, linking them to the text, which has been revised to clarify and differentiate how the museum and research facilities have developed over time.

We agree with the comment on the figures, and the addition of figures on the museum exhibition provides a more adequate balance and focus on the museum activities, status and capabilities.

References in the text and reference list have been corrected and references to the recent IODP-ICDP drilling program and recent studies on the mass extinction are included. The recent studies are interesting and relevant to include and have attracted considerable interest in the media.

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In addition to the section on background and development of the Chicxulub museum, we have added a short section on the programs and interaction with the Yucatan Secretaries of Education and Science, Innovation and High Education (SIIES), schools and teachers. The Chicxulub Museum and Institute are part of the SIIES. Additional activities include digital and printed materials, drawing contests for school children, conferences and seminars.

The review has been most helpful to revise the manuscript and to comment on the prospects and possibilities.

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