ICOM-CC Working Groups
Update activities

ICOM 24th General Conference, Milan
ICOM-CC session on loans and environmental guidelines

ICOM-CC 50th Anniversary
Celebrating half a century of professionalism in conservation

ICOM-CC Website
A brief history and a bright future

Call for Posters
ICOM-CC 18th Triennial Conference, September 4-8, Copenhagen
Update from the Chair

Update on Working Group Activities

Report from ICOM 24th General Conference, Milan
July 3-9, 2016

ICOM-CC 50th Anniversary History Project

A brief history of the current ICOM-CC website

ICOM-CC 18th Triennial Conference, Copenhagen
September 4-8, 2016

On Board is published by the Committee for Conservation of the International Council of Museums

Editor
Joan Reifsnyder

Layout
Kriste Sibul
Andries J. van Dam

Contributors
Kristiane Strætkvern
Jean Brown
Luis Souza
Achal Pandya
Joan Reifsnyder
Janet Bridgland
Gijs Wilbrink

Website www.icom-cc.org
E-mail secretariat@icom-cc.org
Update from the Chair

By Kristiane Strætkvern, Chair of ICOM-CC

The third ICOM-CC Directory Board (DB) meeting of the current triennium was hosted by the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands (RCE) at the Ateliergebouw in Amsterdam at the end of March and beginning of April 2016. Michaela Hanssen, interim Head of Conservation of RCE gave the DB a warm welcome and told about RCE and the work carried out by the staff at the Ateliergebouw. Once again, the hospitality of one of ICOM-CC’s supporting institutions enabled the DB to carry out a three-day meeting in an efficient and functional manner.

During the meeting the DB discussed several issues we have been working on, projects in progress and future plans. One of the projects, such as the ICOM General Conference in Milan will be reported on separately in this issue of OnBoard. Additionally, this issue will provide an overview of the many Working Group Interim Meetings organised for 2016. Our Working Groups are very active; not only are they organising meetings and conferences, they are also publishing. A huge flow of articles and extended abstracts on conservation work is made available to the profession through different types of publications. This is good news, but the publication activities have also become a focal point for the DB, as copyright issues and permissions to publish must be carried out in a manner that acknowledges ICOM-CC as the framework for these activities. We are working with publishers as well as the Working Group Coordinators to sort out these issues and eventually the experience and results will be part of the Coordinators’ Toolbox for further guidance in the future.

For some time, the Directory Board has wanted to improve ways for internal and external communications. One of the latest achievements is the ICOM-CC leaflet, which was presented to the DB in Amsterdam. In a clear manner and in a nice design the leaflet provides basic information about ICOM-CC. All Working Group Coordinators can download and print the leaflet in PDF form from the ICOM-CC Coordinators’ Toolbox on our website and use it whenever they take part in events for and with museum professionals.

Another recent effort has to do with the ICOM-CC website, where we now have a dedicated 50th Anniversary page. The idea is to invite you all to participate in this page with photographs and your memories from past ICOM-CC events. Please also note the large DONATE button on both the opening splash page and on the scroll down menu under the 50th tab. This button allows all of us to contribute to the History Project.

You will be seeing and hearing a lot more about the History Project in the year leading up to ICOM-CC’s 50th Anniversary in 2017.

SHARE OUR PASSION BRIGHTEN YOUR VISION

The front page of the ICOM-CC leaflet (layout and design by Andries J. van Dam).

Another new page on the website is the Preprints page. In the near future, we plan to provide an overview of the ICOM-CC preprints process for the selection and review of contributions to our high profiled series of proceedings/conference papers.
The Preprints Online Project (the project of digitalising all previous ICOM-CC Triennial Conference Preprints and making them available online in open access) will be presented, including information on how you can all assist in collecting the required author permissions for all contributions.

Another revision soon to come will be the new ICOM-CC logo, as a new corporate logo and branding design was launched for the entire ICOM community at the ICOM General Conference in early July 2016. During the Amsterdam meeting, the ICOM-CC website provider, OCCHIO bv located in Amsterdam, kindly visited our Directory Board meeting and gave a presentation on the history of the current ICOM-CC website and presented various ideas about the directions our website might take for the future. This was very useful to the DB members and OCCHIO has provided summary of their presentation in this issue of OnBoard.

Two representatives from the Copenhagen ICOM-CC Triennial Conference National Organising Committee (NOC2017), Jesper Stub Johnsen and Jørgen Wadum, attended the meeting and reported on the progress in organising the Conference in 2017. A short welcome from the President of the Copenhagen NOC2017 is included and you can find information about the conference at the ICOM-CC 2017 conference website.

We are very much looking forward to the conference and we hope that many delegates will find their way to Copenhagen to hear about the latest news in conservation, to network with colleagues and share ideas about the profession, its past and its way into the future. More than 500 abstracts for paper contributions have been received for the Copenhagen conference and Preprints. A large group of experts and Working Group Coordinators are working on the review and grading of the contributions. A portion of these abstracts will be invited for full papers, and in the end 150 of the submitted papers will be accepted for presentation in our Working Group sessions at the Triennial Conference and publication in the Preprints. Once again ICOM-CC benefits from Janet Bridgland’s substantial experience as managing editor of the publication.

We are also continuing work on last triennium’s project dealing with environmental issues. One of objective is to collect information on conservators’ practices when dealing with difficult climates, exhibitions in places without climate control systems and practical solutions for loans where objects are subject to changing climates.

How do you as conservators meet and solve these challenges in your museums and institutions? The aim is not to criticize or reproach museums or collections with difficult climate issues, but to share and discuss practical solutions among the various professionals. Case histories from all types of climates and materials are very welcome and all the 21 Working Group Coordinators are ready to collect your personal experiences. The information collected from you will be used at a general level in ICOM-CC, taking the Environmental Project further. A downloadable, Information on Museum Climate template is available for you on the ICOM-CC website.

It is probably well known that ICOM-CC and IIC organise their conferences in the same year every sixth year. Next time this will happen is in 2020 and the two bodies have been investigating the possibilities for the two organisations organising a joint conference in 2020. In Amsterdam, Jo Kirby Atkinson from IIC joined our Directory Meeting for further discussions. There are many factors to consider and a decision on the feasibility of a future joint conference will hopefully be made by the end of summer.

The next and fourth Directory Board meeting of the triennium will take place at the beginning of September in Los Angeles – just before the IIC meeting. The Getty Conservation Institute will host the meeting, and if any of you have issues you feel the Directory Board should discuss at this meeting, please contact your Working Group Coordinators no later than mid August 2016 so the meeting agenda can be developed.

There is only a little more than a year to go to the 18th Triennial Conference in Copenhagen and we look forward to seeing and spending the week with you. Keep checking both the ICOM-CC website and the 18th Triennial Conference website for updates and information as we approach the conference year.

Call for posters

ICOM-CC 18th Triennial Conference, Copenhagen

The deadline for receipt of abstracts for posters is November 18, 2016

Instructions can be found on the conference website: www.icom-cc2017.org

Note: Contributions will be accepted only in English
Update on Working Group Activities

By Jean Brown, Member of the ICOM-CC Directory Board

Directory Board Activity
During the current triennia the Directory Board (DB) has developed and delivered a Coordinator’s Manual to help the Working Group Coordinators understand not only their roles and responsibilities but also the timeline for the various activities with which they are involved. The DB have also developed a range of templates to further assist the coordinators in completing the documentation that they must submit such as applying for an ICOM-CC activity, use of the logo or applying to set up a partnership with an external institution. The feedback from the Coordinators has been positive and very helpful in further refining the documents. The annual updates to the Manual and Appendices will be available from 1 August 2016. We see this as an on-going process and welcome future feedback from the coordinators.

Working Group Activity
During 2015-2016 many Working Groups have been involved in planning and delivering interim meetings as well as co-ordinating publications.

The working group for Art Technological Source Research published the papers presented at their Interim Meeting at the Rijksmuseum, June 2014, in a publication entitled, ‘Sources on Art Technology. Back to Basics’. The 2016 Interim Meeting will be held at the State Academy of Fine Art and Design in Stuttgart on 10-11 November 2016. The focus of this meeting will be to reflect on the artistic process as manifested in visual and written sources between 1850 and 1940, the time of early Modern Art. This period is characterized by completely new artistic ideas and conceptions as well as the introduction of plenty of new products such as tube paints, synthetic organic pigments etc. Artists and art academies reacted to these developments by designing innovative artistic techniques as well as by re-introducing technical concepts, being considered obsolete by established institutions or coming from non-European civilizations.

The Wet Organic Archaeological Materials Working Group met in Florence, Italy, from May 16-20, 2016 (see Fig 2). It was a fabulous full conference with over 70 presentations and a fascinating trip to Pisa to see the nine shipwrecks (dating from the second century BC to the fifth century AD) found during construction for the San Rossore (Pisa) train station undergoing conservation.

Art Technological Source Research Working Group Interim Meeting, Rijksmuseum, June 2014.
The **Theory and History of Conservation** Working Group has been exploring the role that professional organizations have on social network platforms. The working group has begun a dialogue with the Directory Board on this topic. The Working Group has also explored ideas about fostering the culture of care among professionals.

The **Graphic Documents** Working Group held an Interim Meeting in Paris from 1-3 June 2016 at the National Library of France. The meeting was entitled ‘Experience and Evidence’ and the booklet of the paper and poster abstracts for the meeting can be downloaded from the ICOM-CC website.

The **Glass and Ceramics** Working Group held a very successful interim meeting in late May 2016 in Wroclaw, Poland, at the Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Art and Design and was attended by 140 participants from 16 countries. The meeting aimed to provide a forum where professionals in the field could present interesting case studies in the conservation of glass and ceramics, and disseminate important research results to the international cultural heritage field. Another essential goal of the conference was to identify topics of current research and provide networking opportunities for future activities. A preprint volume containing 20 contributions and colour photographs ‘Recent Advances in Glass and Ceramics Conservation 2016’, was also published.

Meetings were also held by the Glass and Ceramics Working Group sub-groups, **Glass Deterioration** in February 2015 in Stuttgart, Germany, and the **Enamels** network in Warsaw, Poland, in late May 2016, just prior to the Glass and Ceramics Working Group Interim Meeting.

The **Scientific Research** and the **Education and Training in Conservation** Working Groups hosted a two-day conference at Harvard University on Conservation Science and Education. It was an intimate meeting with around 60 very enthusiastic delegates. Every paper contained valuable insights from the speaker and their institution and Alison Murray conducted a workshop applying threshold principles to conservation science education. Keynote presentations emphasized that the success of conservation science programs lies in being able to share results with a wide non-specialist audience. Many delegates expressed how energized they felt after the meeting.

‘Conservation, Education and Training in India: Preparing a Road Map for the Future’ is the theme of a meeting that will be held at the request of regional working group members in India. The **Education and Training in Conservation** Working Group will hold an interim meeting at the National Research Laboratory Centre (NRLC), Lucknow, India. This meeting, aimed at Indian but also open to South Asian members and colleagues, will be scheduled for early December 2016. The focus of this meeting would be to gather relevant interested parties in the education and training of conservators in Indian museums and collections. The meeting will provide a platform for the main stakeholders, both national and foreign, in training conservators in India to meet and discuss the current situation with Indian museum directors, curators and conservators.
The Scientific Research and the Education Working Groups hosted a two-day conference at Harvard University on Conservation Science and Education in 2016.

The Sculpture, Polychromy and Architectural Decorations working group held a first interim meeting in Madrid in November 2015 ‘Painting the flesh’. The conference was in collaboration with the Grupo Español de Conservacion of the Group International Institute for Conservation (GE IIC). The conference focused on European and South American polychrome wooden sculptures from the 11th to 18th centuries. The meeting was held at two venues in Madrid, with a lovely opening reception at the National Museum of Archaeology. Talks were presented in English and Spanish, and focused on a wide variety of subjects dealing with technical examinations and treatment as well as ethics of restoration. The Museum of the Americas hosted the first day of talks and the Spanish Institute for Cultural Heritage hosted the second day of presentations in their landmark building.

The Wood, Furniture, and Lacquer and Sculpture, Polychromy, and Architectural Decorations, organized a Joint Interim Meeting entitled Historic and Modern Assemblages/ Treatments of Wood based Media Artworks/ Interiors in Context, in collaboration with the German Association of Conservator-Restorers (Verband der Restauratoren - VDR) specialty group for Furniture and Wooden Artifacts in April 2016. This three-day conference was hosted by the University of Applied Sciences, Potsdam (Fachhochschule Potsdam) in Germany, and attended by around 150 delegates from 13 different countries. The meeting focused mainly on site-specific works of art of a composite nature. The subjects of presentations both included their function and the materials and technology used to create them, as well as conservation strategies designed to preserve and display these often-large structures.
Specific topics included secular and religious interiors or assemblages (in situ or removed from their original setting), composite works of art, architectural elements, and historic and modern artist installations.

The last day of the conference was dedicated to guided tours to local collections and conservation projects related to the theme of the conference, all located within the palaces and museums that showcase the importance of Potsdam and Berlin as historic seats of power. We received much positive feedback for the organization and quality of this conference, and are now working on the postprints.

A small meeting was held in New York City at the New York University Institute of Fine Arts Conservation Center by the Legal Issues in Conservation Working Group. The daylong meeting focused on living artists and conservation issues related to their works.

The Modern Materials and Contemporary Art Working Group’s interim was held just prior to the ICOM General Conference in early July in Milan, Italy. It was organized in partnership with the Getty Conservation Institute, the Museo del Novecento, and the International Network for the Conservation of Contemporary Art (INCCA). The two-day conference entitled ‘Keep it Moving? Conserving Kinetic Art’ was dedicated to exploring the challenges associated with the preservation of kinetic art.

Coming up in September 2016 is the Photographic Materials Working Group Interim Meeting to be held at the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, 21–24 September, with the theme: ‘Uniques & Multiples’. On the first day of lectures, technically and temporally recurrent variations of the unique and the multiple will be studied in breadth and depth.

The second day will see presentations related to the analysis, treatment, study and care of photographic materials.

The Metals Working Group will hold their Interim Meeting in New Delhi, India from 26–30 September 2016. The week will concentrate on papers and posters addressing conservation methods and materials and research and development in metals conservation.

On 29–30 September 2016 there will be a joint Working Group Interim Meeting of three Working Groups, Documentation, Paintings, and Preventive Conservation, addressing ‘Physical Issues in the Conservation of Paintings’. The mechanical and structural behaviour of paintings is an important field encompassing a number of topics in conservation ranging from their measurement and evaluation; how to record and document the condition and changes occurring; and how to monitor, analyse and predict potential problems are a few of the topics that will be addressed at the meeting.
The ICOM General Conference Milano 2016 was the occasion for approximately 3000 museum professionals to participate in ICOM’s triennial conference. This edition of the Conference also saw 120 National Committees, 30 International Committees, regional alliances, technical committees and ICOM Secretariat come together to exchange ideas and experiences. The 24th ICOM General Conference took place in Milano, Italy, from 3–9 July 2016 and the National Organizing Committee in Italy developed an excellent programme in collaboration with ICOM, Paris.

ICOM-CC was present at the July 3rd full-day Advisory Committee meeting, represented by its Chair, Kristiane Strætkvern. During the Advisory Committee session, ICOM-CC offered the help of its network to any and all of the training programmes in the field of conservation of cultural property. Kristiane made the offer to the assembled delegates in response to Raphaël Roig, ICOM’s Senior Programme Officer, who requested suggestions for francophone trainers in an Algeria-ICOM training project in Algeria.

ICOM-CC held three sessions and activities during conference week. ICOM-CC organized a joint session on Disaster Risk Reduction for Museums with the International Committee for Museum Security, ICMS, and the ICOM Technical Committee on Disaster Relief Management (DRMC). The session consisted of presentations by experts working in the protection and safeguard of cultural heritage time of conflict. There were approximately 100 delegates who participated in the very inspiring session.

It was followed by discussion where the audience could give input and make observations from their experiences relating to the issues raised by the presenters. Capitano Francesco Provenza of the Italian Carabinieri for Safeguarding Cultural Heritage gave a presentation on the UNESCO initiative, Unite4Heritage. The session included a panel discussion on Museum Leadership in Safeguarding Heritage at Risk around the world. The panel consisted of Lisa Pilosi, Sherman Fairchild Conservator in Charge at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Markus Hilgert, Director of the Ancient Near East Museum in the Pergamon, Berlin, and Corine Wegener, Cultural Heritage Preservation Officer, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.

The session brought together various types of stakeholders working in and contributing to heritage protection during conflict and it emphasized building capacity for professionals who can take on the responsibility of salvaging cultural objects threatened during conflict. Corine Wegener addressed the preservation of intangible cultural heritage, especially in the context of current refugee crisis situations where people are uprooted from their homes and cut off from their culture and traditions. She also urged museums to contact their national Blue Shield organisation where possible, in order to establish platforms for collaboration and training.

ICOM-CC organized a second session on July 6th entitled: ‘Loans and Environmental guidelines – Current procedures and perspectives’. The keynote address was given by Stefan Michalski, Canadian Conservation Institute, on ‘Objects that travel: What risks? What rules? What to wear?’ Michalski took the audience through past historical discussions and trends examining more rigid parameters and practices for museum climates to more recent trends advising greater flexibility based on specific problems and requirements. The complete programme and the session abstracts are available on the ICOM-CC website. Case studies dealing with lending and museum climate and environment were presented by Kristiane Strætkvern, Achal Pandya, and Luiz Souza giving insights to examples from Sweden, USA, India and Brazil.

These presentations were followed by a participatory dialogue moderated by Bill Wei. The objective of the dialogue was to give the participants the opportunity to exchange their thoughts on climate requirements for museums and to understand why they think the way to do. In small groups, participants provided examples of their experiences with loan climate requirements and expanded on these examples in a question/explanation dialogue format. This form of ‘discussion’ was received very positively. The essence of the dialogue for many of the participants was that there needs to be more communication and flexibility among professionals on the issue of loan climate requirements.
ICOM-CC also organized an off-site session on July 7th, coordinated by Joan Reifsnyder, to the Pinacoteca di Brera. Participants were warmly welcomed by the new Director of Brera, Dr. James M. Bradburne. During the visit conservator Sara Scatragli and technical manager for the collections, Angelo Rossi, interacted with the approximately 40 participants from all museum sectors. Climate and environmental conditions and parameters for the Brera collections were discussed. A special visit to the open conservation laboratory and open storage areas were the major attraction of the morning. Delegates were also able to spend time in the beautiful collection housed in this museum.

A number of important highlights marked the week:

ICOM-CC Chair, Kristiane Strætkvern and ICOM President, Dr. Hans-Martin Hinz, jointly signed the Agreement which will now be signed by the National Organising Committee consortium in Denmark to go forward with the plans and programmes for the ICOM-CC 18th Triennial Conference in Copenhagen, 2017.

During ICOM-Milano the new ICOM logo marking its 70th Anniversary was presented to delegates and the museum community. The new logo will also be adopted by all the ICOM National and International Committees. Shortly, the new ICOM-CC logo will be available under similar guidelines currently in place for the use of the ICOM brand and logo. More details on the new logo and its use will be communicated to Working Group Coordinators in October/November 2016.

The new ICOM Executive Committee was elected and we are pleased to announce the election of Ms Suay Aksoy as the new President of ICOM. We are also pleased to announce that former Vice Chair of ICOM-CC and longstanding member, Vinod Daniel, was elected to the Executive Board of ICOM. Vinod’s nomination was submitted and supported by ICOM-CC. Kristiane Strætkvern was also appointed by ICOM as the new spokesperson for the International Committees of ICOM.

---

The ICOM International Training Centre (ICOM-ITC) is announcing the organisation of its next training programme that will be held from 7 to 15 November, 2016 in Beijing.

The theme of this seventh workshop will be: **Collecting Objects, Telling Stories.**

ICOM, ICOM China and the Palace Museum are pleased to award travel grants to international participants attending the training workshop.

Please refer to ICOM website for the types of grant available and the application procedure.

The application forms should be filled out and the required documents should be sent before **Saturday 10 September, 2016** (France time zone).

Contact: Mr. Raphaël Roig, raphael.roig@icom.museum, at ICOM Secretariat.
ICOM-CC 50th Anniversary History Project

By Janet Bridgland, Preprints Managing Editor, and Joan Reifsnyder, Secretary of ICOM-CC

ICOM-CC will celebrate 50 years (1967–2017) of activity at the 18th Triennial Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark, 4–8 September 2017.

Over the past half century ICOM-CC has seen and initiated many changes. As a preparation to the 2017 celebration in each of the OnBoard newsletters we are highlighting a small piece of ICOM-CC history.

Janet Bridgland (Preprints Managing Editor) and Joan Reifsnyder (ICOM-CC Secretary) are coordinating the history initiatives and information gathering. Among the initiatives underway for the 50th anniversary right now are:

- A new dedicated section on the ICOM-CC website for the 50th Anniversary. This includes an easy way to help by donating through Paypal to the Anniversary publication and related 50th initiatives. All donors (individual and institutional) will have their names and countries published in the 50th Anniversary publication.

- In July 2016, a special “memory” image page was activated. On this page you will be able to upload (a) favourite ICOM-CC-related photo(s) that will contribute to the image-bank for cumulative visual history. We hope that you will take a few minutes to search through your files and help contribute to our memories. We welcome “informal” photos of people in attendance at any of the ICOM-CC Triennial Conferences and/or Working Group meetings – and especially those shots were we all together and having fun!

- A 50th Anniversary print publication will highlights the changes, initiatives and development of ICOM-CC, its Working Groups and its international activities. This publication will be distributed as part of the delegate package at the 2017 Copenhagen Triennial Conference.

Gathering visual documents for ICOM-CC’s 50th Anniversary initiatives

The range of documents that can be used to illustrate a commemorative publication celebrating ICOM-CC’s 50th anniversary and image tile page is broad. Here are just a few examples:

- Photographs of people: people and groups; conferences, lectures and other events; persons performing work or investigations.

- Photographs of documents: manuscripts, sketches and drafts made by researchers.

- Posters and event programs: books, newsletters.

- Other photographic documents: restored artworks; buildings relating to activities of ICOM-CC; machinery, equipment, tools or materials used in conservation and restoration.

Sending the documents

Although we can use any type of document on paper (documents, posters, books, etc.), photographs printed on paper, transparencies (negative or positive) and digital files (TIFF, JGP, PDF, PSD, EPS, etc.), videos, it would be convenient to have all photographic documents supplied in digital format. Alternatively, those who own photographs, posters or books and are not able to convert them into a digital file could seek help from a photography store or copy centre. It may be possible for us to help with this if you send us the hardcopy (originals will be returned).

- Documents in paper form should be scanned with a minimum of 600 dpi.

- Transparencies should be scanned with at least 2400 dpi.

- In both cases, files should be in TIFF, JGP, PDF (with maximum quality), PSD or EPS formats.

For any questions, or to send scanned images and/or written memories, please use the dedicated e-mail address: historyproject@icom-cc.org.

The History Project page can be found on ICOM-CC website, or scan our qr code.
Our roots in ICOM

Following the founding of ICOM in 1946, international subject committees were formed to address broad areas within the scope of ICOM. Commissions and sub-committees were established to deal with the more specialized museum topics and issues.

In 1948, at the first ICOM General Conference, the Commission for the Care of Paintings, under the auspices of the ICOM International Committee for Museums of Art and Applied Art, took form. The Commission, composed of museum directors and curators, was tasked with gathering information on all aspects of the examination, recording, cleaning and repair of paintings.

In 1950, ICOM also established the International Subject Committee for Museum Laboratories, and the Committee held their initial meeting in November 1951.

Each of these groups held separate, bi-annual meetings until 1955, when the first joint meeting of the Commission on Care of Paintings and the Sub-Committee for Museum Laboratories was held. These groups held joint meetings every two years until their activities, directory boards, working groups were officially merged together at the meeting held at the Institut Royal du Patrimoine Artistique, Brussels, Belgium on 6–13 September 1967, creating the ICOM Committee for Conservation (ICOM-CC).

*ICOM logo in 1967 when the Commission and Sub-Committee merged to form ICOM-CC

Are you a member of one of the original ICOM-CC Working Groups? Below are the Working Groups also celebrating 50 years in 2017 with the Coordinators (*) and Assistant Coordinators. A number of these original Working Groups have evolved over the decades and changed their names. The current name of the evolved Working Group(s) in parentheses after the original name.

Care of Works of Art in Transit and Lighting (Preventive Conservation)
*Nathan STOLOW (Transit) (Canada)
*Garry THOMSON (Lighting) (UK)

Conservation of Textiles (Textiles)
*Johan LODEWIJKS (The Netherlands)

Examination and Conservation of Illuminated Manuscripts (Graphic Documents/Leather and Related Materials)
*Françoise FLIEDER (France)

Metal Conservation (Metals)
*Robert ORGAN (USA)
Rutherford J. GETTENS (USA)

Paper Conservation (Graphic Documents)
*Françoise FLIEDER (France)
A. E. Anthony WERNER (UK)

Restoration of Polychrome Sculpture (Sculpture, Polychromy and Architectural Decorations)
*Paul PHILIPPOT (Italy)
Robert DIDIER (Belgium)
Agnes GRÄFIN VON BALLESTREM (Belgium)
Jan STEPPE (Belgium)

Stone Conservation (Murals, Stone, and Rock Art)
*René SNEYERS Belgium)
Norman BROMMELLE (UK)

Technique and Conservation of Mural Paintings (Murals, Stone, and Rock Art)
*Paolo MORA (Italy)
Margaret HEY (UK)
Braj Basi LAL (India)

Technological Study of the Paint Layer (Paintings/Scientific Research)
*Germain BAZIN (France)
Sheldon KECK (USA)
Pasquale ROTONDI (Italy)
Johan LODEWIJKS (The Netherlands)

Training of Conservation Specialists (Education and Training in Conservation)
*Paul PHILIPPOT (Italy)

Wood Conservation (Wet Archaeological Organic Materials/Wooded, Furniture and Lacquer)
*Norman BROMMELLE (UK)
A. E. Anthony WERNER (UK)
Bruno MÜHLETHALER (Switzerland)
A brief history of the current ICOM-CC website

By Gijs Wilbrink, OCCHIO bv

In a year when ICOM-CC is looking at its historical past, it seemed appropriate to include a brief history of our current website and the web provider, OCCHIO.

In 2008, Dutch web agency OCCHIO launched the current website of ICOM-CC. This article explains briefly what the original project goals were, what important decisions were made, and what improvements have been made to the website since its launch eight years ago.

About OCCHIO
OCCHIO is a full-service web development agency based in the cultural heart of Amsterdam since 2000. The company specializes in responsive websites that work on all devices, and their aim is to accompany clients through every step: from the first idea to a fitting design, from development to hosting the website and keeping it online.

OCCHIO and ICOM-CC
OCCHIO and ICOM-CC have been working together for the past eleven years, since 2005, when the company was asked to develop a website for ICOM-CC’s 14th Triennial Conference in The Hague, The Netherlands. At that time, they also designed and developed a new general website for ICOM-CC.

The 2005 ICOM-CC website focused heavily on highlighting the Working Groups, and it featured a calendar for tracking special meetings and conferences. These new features paved the way for an even more interactive website, where the Working Group Coordinators could manage their own pages and calendars. This led to the Website Enhancement Project in 2008, initiated by ICOM-CC and OCCHIO, directed by a collaborative task force chosen from Board members and Coordinators.

In 2008, ICOM-CC and OCCHIO needed to move towards a new, interactive website where everybody in the ICOM-CC community could contribute. To achieve this, the website task force defined three main goals:
- Provide rich content – The updated website had to be filled with rich content (offered by all ICOM-CC Working Groups) and the content needed to be presented in an attractive way.
- Stimulate quality content editors – Working Group Coordinators were stimulated to add quality content to the website.
- Stimulate membership – Visitors were stimulated to sign up as an ICOM-CC member or Friend.

On the new website, each ICOM-CC member could request a digital account where the member could log in to view personalized content. With this feature it became possible to:
- Show which documents, news articles and calendar items the member has not yet read (goal: to stimulate that new rich content would be read as much as possible).
- Give the member shortcut links to his/her own Working Group(s) (goal: to raise commitment to the Working Groups).
- Join a Working Group with minimum effort (goal: to raise commitment to the Working Groups).

On the new website, webmasters as well as Working Group Coordinators could:
- manage website pages
- upload relevant documents
- maintain a calendar
- publish news
- post on the forum

So there were a lot of ways to contribute. No longer was the website’s content a responsibility of one webmaster, but of a big part of the ICOM-CC community. To stimulate this even more, OCCHIO created video tutorials to teach Coordinators the most important features in the content management system.

OCCHIO developed a big document section with content from Working Group Coordinators and the ICOM-CC Directory Board. The section was developed in such a way that search engines (like Google) could index the entire document database, so all documents could be found with a search engine. However, if you clicked on a document and you were not logged in as a member, the website would tell you that you had to be logged in to read this exclusive content. This, at the time, was a very cutting edge method to stimulate membership. A few years later, ICOM-CC decided to open up the entire document database for the public, with the aim of sharing information in open access.

Website enhancements since 2010

Tablet and smartphone version
Since 2008, a lot has happened on the web. Social media became a lot bigger and more popular, used throughout the world by all uses of ages. In 2010 Apple introduced the iPad, which gave a big boost to the tablet market. So the ICOM-CC website needed to adapt to the new internet.

When creating a tablet and/or smartphone version of a website, it’s important to make a clear distinction between essential and additional information. Since the screens are...
smaller, choices have to be made about which content to show immediately and which content to show after a click or a scroll of the user. Luckily, the ICOM-CC website already had a visual distinction between important and extra information: all important information was in the main column, and everything else was in a sidebar. So for the tablet and smartphone version, the sidebar was moved to the bottom of the screen, so the most important content could stay in the spotlight.

Sharing content on social media
Nowadays, all website content can be easily shared on the most important social media platforms. This has increased the amount of visitors from social media, which is slowly even taking over the amounts of visitors from search engines and visitors that enter the site directly.

Interactive graphic about conservation
Based on a design by Andries J. van Dam (during his tenure on the ICOM-CC Board), OCCHIO developed an interactive graphic to clarify the areas of overlap and differences among different disciplines in conservation. This interactive tool is on the website as: Conservation: who, what, and why?

Website enhancements 2016 and beyond
In 2016, the website that was designed and developed in 2008 still doesn’t look out-dated. By consciously maintaining the project goals and keeping up with technology advancements, the website still fully functions on all devices and is still being heavily used by all target audiences defined in the original project goals.

To keep up with modern design trends and user experience demands, however, some features could be modernized.

With the ICOM-CC Directory Board, OCCHIO is now looking into modifications in the font size, which was originally based on ‘book’ font size, but today requires and attracts a larger font for ‘screen’ use. Additionally, the splash screen on the homepage could do a better job of attracting attention and highlighting important topics. OCCHIO is designing and developing a ‘card’ layout instead of the current ‘list’ layout, where the webmaster will have more control over the items while making it easier to highlight an item with images.
ICOM-CC 18th Triennial Conference in Copenhagen

SAVE THE DATES!
4 - 8 SEPTEMBER 2017

Theme: Linking Past and Future

Website: www.icom-cc 2017.org

Submissions for papers closed on April 15. There will be a call for posters in late early August; it will be announced on the conference website. The deadline for poster abstracts will be November 18, 2016.

Welcome to ICOM-CC 2017
It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 18th ICOM-CC Triennial Conference. We will meet in beautiful Copenhagen, the capital of Denmark.

The 18th Triennial Conference of the International Council of Museums Committee for Conservation (ICOM-CC), will attract international keynote speakers and up to 800 delegates, including conservators, scientists, historians and art historians, curators, librarians, archivists, students, collection managers and directors from the world’s leading cultural institutions and the private sector.

ICOM-CC will celebrate its 50th Anniversary at the 18th ICOM-CC Triennial Conference in Copenhagen.

We look forward to welcoming you to Copenhagen.

Sincerely,

Jesper Stub Johnsen
Conference President