

ON BOARD

News and Reports from the
ICOM-CC Directory Board

ICOM
international council
of museums – committee
for conservation

ICOM-CC



ICOM-CC VOLUME 27 – APRIL 2024

ISSN: 2618-1401

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



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ISSN: 2618-1401

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Cover: CaixaForum
València cultural centre,
located inside the Ágora
building of the City of
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Above: Getty Foundation
Recipients

Volume 27 – April 2024

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR	4
LETTER FROM THE CHAIR	5
DIRECTORY BOARD REPORT – VALÈNCIA	8
ICOM-CC MEDAL RECIPIENTS	9
WORKING GROUP COORDINATORS’ REPORT – VALÈNCIA	10
GRANT RECIPIENTS AT VALÈNCIA	12
ICOM YOUNG TRAVEL GRANT RECIPIENT’S REPORT	14
ICOM-CC SUSTAINABILITY REPORT	15
ICOM-CC STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2026	18
INTRODUCING THE 2023-26 DIRECTORY BOARD AND WORKING GROUP COORDINATORS	20
STICHTING ICOM-CC FUND REPORT	24
ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ICOM-CC VIRTUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY	25
ANNOUNCEMENT FOR FÉDÉRATION FRANÇAISE DES CONSERVATEURS-RESTAURATEURS CONFERENCE	27
IN PREPARATION FOR ICOM-CC 21ST TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE	29



A Note from the Editor

Deborah Trupin

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This issue of On Board looks forward to ICOM-CC's newly begun 2023-2026 Triennium and backwards at the capstone of the 2020-2023 Triennium, the 20th ICOM-CC Triennial Conference in València. The message from Kate Seymour, ICOM-CC Chair, looks in both of these directions, as does that by the Stichting ICOM-CC FUND Board.

An article on the ICOM-CC Strategic Plan 2023-2026 and another by the National Organising Committee (NOC 2026) for the next ICOM-CC Triennial Conference (September 2026, Oslo, Norway) highlight our future directions. This issue also includes a notice about the recent conference in Paris, 11 April 2024 organised jointly by ICOM-CC and the [FÉDÉRATION FRANÇAISE DES CONSERVATEURS-RESTAURATEURS](#) (FFCR) and another notice for the ICOM-CC virtual General Assembly in May. See p 27.

An article by Directory Board Vice Chair, Stephanie de Roemer, bridges past and future. Steph has written about the last plenary session of the València Conference and highlights how the work from this session is ongoing and how you can be involved.

Looking backwards at the success of the 20th Triennial Conference in València, this issue includes articles from ICOM-CC members who received funding to attend the conference, as well as one (re-)introducing and honouring the 2023 ICOM-CC Medal recipients. This issue is illustrated with photographs from the València Conference.

Finally, as this is the first issue of On Board for this triennium, we include very short introductions to the current ICOM-CC Directory Board and Working Group Coordinators. We hope that this issue inspires you to be an active ICOM-CC member. Happy reading!



Image: ICOM-CC Medal recipients and presenters. Photo Mikkel Schaarf

Letter from the Chair



Image: The ceiling of the Church of San Nicolás de Bari and San Pedro Mártir, València. Photo: © Aija Pince

ICOM-CC's Working Groups remain the lifeblood of our Committee and remain so due to the dedication and efforts of our volunteer community.

Letter from the Chair: Kate Seymour

Chair, ICOM-CC Directory Board
Stichting Restauratie Atelier Limburg,
Maastricht, The Netherlands

Welcome to the inaugural edition of On Board for the 2023-2026 triennium! On Board is your biannual e-magazine delivering news and updates from the ICOM-CC Directory Board to you, ICOM-CC members. As Chair of the International Council of Museums - Committee for Conservation (ICOM-CC), I am thrilled to utilise this platform to spotlight our revised strategic goals for these three years and to acquaint you with some of our projects and activities in the pipeline.

At ICOM-CC, our mission is to champion and advocate for the conservation of cultural heritage while fostering interdisciplinary collaboration. With a membership base exceeding 5000 individuals from 115 countries, ICOM-CC possesses a global voice, empowering us to engage with advocates worldwide to emphasise the pivotal role cultural heritage plays in enriching our experiences and to advocate for its preservation for future generations. As one of the largest bodies within the ICOM community, we are steadfastly committed to recognising conservation as a global endeavour and enhancing our members' experiences while warmly welcoming new additions to ICOM-CC. Sustainability lies at the heart of our focus, as we strive to integrate sustainable practices throughout our operations to uphold relevant professional standards.

In this triennium, our aim is to promote activities pertinent to ongoing issues within our community. Our 21 Working Groups will offer tailored programming covering a diverse array of subjects. Our events are planned with accessibility and inclusivity as top priorities. While some events will take place in person to facilitate networking and communication, others will be conducted online via our Zoom meeting platform, generously financed by the [Stichting ICOM-CC FUND](#) to ensure broader and more inclusive access. Keep an eye for future events - all will be advertised on the ICOM-CC Calendar.

Our Directory Board is also gearing up to organise events, starting with a joint meeting with the Fédération Française des Conservateurs-Restaurateurs (FFCR) in April 2024. This conference, titled, "What's in a name? The conservator-restorer: a definition," took place on 11 April 2024 at the Musée du Quai Branly in Paris, France. This event holds particular significance amidst the evolving landscape of conservation legislation in France and its broader implications for international discourse on the [profession](#).

Moreover, the ICOM-CC Directory Board has received funding this year, via ICOM's Solidarity Projects, to sustain our theme of 'training the trainers'. We have formed a consortium comprising more than 19 partners to focus on conservation, conservation risk assessment, and documentation in Africa. Recognising the critical need for trained conservators in regions where the conservation profession is still nascent, this project employs a 'train the trainer' approach, engaging local stakeholders and communities to address collection care needs aligned with the local context. We hope to hear whether this project will be funded by early April.

Looking ahead, ICOM-CC is committed to developing a robust programme for the ICOM General Conference in Dubai in 2025. We aspire to collaborate with other ICOM committees, focusing on issues of sustainability and integrating conservation into the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals, as well as addressing local issues relevant to cultural heritage conservation in Africa and the Middle East.

These activities and more will be showcased at our upcoming virtual General Assembly which will take place on 23rd May 2024. There is still time to sign up to attend this [assembly](#).

In [this message](#), I have the opportunity to both reminisce and look ahead! As we close, I want to take a moment to reflect on the achievements since the last edition of On Board in July 2023. Alongside our partners at Universitat Politècnica de València, we can cherish the enriching discussions and insights shared under the theme "Towards a Sustainable Past," shedding light on the evolution and future trajectory of the conservation field. Heartfelt gratitude extends to our keynote speakers, panellists, and contributors for their invaluable input, and to the NOC 2023 team, led by Salvador Muñoz Viñas, Monica Espi, Ester Ramon, and Fanny Collado, whose dedication contributed significantly to the triumph of the 20th Triennial Conference in València 2023.

The stunning locale in València immersed conference attendees in Spanish culture, climate, and cuisine, fostering an unforgettable experience. I extend special thanks to keynote speakers and panellists Sofia Labadi, Abba Isa Tijani, Anupam Sah, Jane Henderson, and Salvador Muñoz Viñas for their insightful dialogue on the conference theme, reflecting on lessons learned and charting the course for conservation's future. The wealth of knowledge presented in the form of 137 papers and 89 posters at the conference is now accessible for download on our [Publications Online Platform](#), a testament to the dedication of our Publications Online Platform, a testament to the dedication of our Managing Editor Janet Bridgland and editing team, led by Carla Nunes and Eduardo Pulido, as well as the Preprints Platform team led by Miguel Mertens, Guy Silva and others at UseIT. We express our gratitude to them all and wish Eduardo a fulfilling retirement! Moreover, the conference provided a platform for ICOM-CC to curate a plenary session spotlighting the resilience and rejuvenation possible through

the preservation of cultural heritage in the aftermath of disasters and conflicts. Luis Monreal's triennial lecture remains etched in my memory as a source of inspiration, serving as a guiding light for innovative ideas in the years ahead.

ICOM-CC expresses deep gratitude to our steadfast supporters, the [Stichting ICOM-CC FUND](#), for their unwavering commitment over the past three years. The FUND is a 100% non-profit charitable organisation dedicated solely to serving ICOM-CC and its mission of promoting the conservation and care of cultural heritage worldwide. In collaboration with the ICOM-CC Directory Board, the FUND raises awareness and secures grants and donations to finance initiatives that enhance the global reach and impact of ICOM-CC. Thanks to the FUND, five Coordinators were supported to attend the Triennial Conference in València in September 2023. During the last three years, the FUND have also provided assistance to our Working Groups through small seed grants made possible by a generous contribution by the AKC Fund from the USA. We hope that your continued support of the FUND will enable more projects to receive financial backing - please consider making a donation.

ICOM-CC extends sincere appreciation to the previous Directory Board, including Vice Chairs Emily Williams and Nora Kennedy, Treasurer Reiko Sakaki, Working Group Coordinator Stephanie de Roemer, and Board Members Deborah Lee Trupin and Qinglin Ma, for their exceptional contributions that contributed to ICOM-CC's success over the past three years. Their dedication and hard work are truly valued, and we are grateful for their continued support. It is delightful to see so



many of the team continue to serve ICOM-CC this triennium. We also extend our thanks to the previous Working Group Coordinators. It is wonderful to see some of our Coordinators continuing with the Committee for this triennium, and we welcome the addition of new faces and fresh perspectives, which invigorate the Committee with new enthusiasm and innovative approaches. ICOM-CC's Working Groups remain the lifeblood of our Committee and remain so due to the dedication and efforts of our volunteer community.

I would finally like to give special recognition to the previous editorial team of On Board, led by Editor Deborah Lee Trupin, Layout and Copy Editing by Aleya Lehmann, and Layout and Graphics by Sophia Dorfsman and Christina Labey. Their meticulous attention to detail and creative expertise brought life, buzz and zing to this e-journal making it a joy to read and informative to boot. Deborah has agreed to stay on for at least this issue. Aija Pince has joined the On Board team to help with editing and layout.

In conclusion, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your unwavering dedication and commitment to the preservation and conservation of cultural heritage.

Together, let us persist in advancing the noble mission of ICOM-CC and remain steadfast in safeguarding our shared heritage for the benefit of future generations. Welcome aboard On Board, your gateway to excellence in conservation for the 2023-2026 triennium with ICOM-CC.

Together we are stronger!

Warm regards,

Image: Kate Seymour, Chair, at right, with members of the ICOM-CC leadership team, from the left: ICOM-CC 2020-2023 leadership team Joan Reifsnnyder, Stephanie de Roemer, Reiko Sakaki, Emily Williams, Nora Kennedy, and Deborah Trupin. Photo Credit: Peter Mustardo

The Triennial Conference València – Impressions from ICOM-CC Directory Board Members 2020 – 2023 and 2023-2026

Compiled by Patricia Engel
ICOM-CC Directory Board member 2023-2026

To give a general impression of the 20th Triennial Conference in València in 2023 current Directory Board members who attended the conference chose to focus on three main subjects: an overall impression of the city and venue and conference, some impressions about social meetings and a content review. It is the nature of such a report that it only can contain spotlights and personal views. Still, we would like to share our views with the wider community.

Overall impression of the city and venue and conference
The ICOM-CC 20th Triennial Conference in València was impressive and unforgettable.

“Following a low carbon footprint policy, I walked to the venues on foot. Approaching the Palau de Reina Sofia (Palace of Arts of Queen Sofia), I wondered where the palace was in such a place with streets and junctions, traffic and noise. I saw the impressive building by Calatrava, but in my traditional mind a palace and a queen provoked 17th century pictures. When my navigation app on my mobile indicated “2 minutes from destination” – only then I came to realize: They have a queen here now and the modern building IS the Palace.”

“Another of the Congress venues, the Universitat Politècnica de València campus, was much larger than I had imagined and I felt relaxed and comfortable.”

“Nowadays, conferences and meetings can be held smoothly online. But this Triennial Conference València, held in person, made me realize again that the importance of holding a face-to-face conferences or meetings is not only for their contents, but also for the opportunity to meet and talk with friends across the world.”

Social meetings

“As for social gatherings, I thoroughly enjoyed each event. I would like to express my most sincere gratitude to all the people involved in the venues that have welcomed us.”

“In particular the meeting with the young colleagues was inspiring. We see that our work and effort is continued by smart, kind men and woman of the next generation.”

Content review

“Preparations for the ICOM-CC 20th Triennial Conference València began with great anxiety in the midst of the pandemic. I'm sure that all the staff of the NOC, the organizer of this Conference, must have endured unimaginable hardships. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for their hard work.”

“Content wise the strong interdisciplinarity, which was expressed between the lines – so to say – in many contributions – was a red thread in this conference. One example would be the integration of indigenous people in the conservation of their ritual clothes, which was done in an utmost sensitive and therefore impressive manner.”

“And above all, I would like to thank everyone who participated in this competition.”

We look forward to seeing you again in Oslo in 2026.

Thank you!

Universitat
Politécnica de
València Campus



ICOM-CC Medal Recipients

Kate Seymour

Chair, ICOM-CC and

Deborah Trupin

Guest Editor, *On Board*

In our field, one of the important means we have of honouring the outstanding achievements and commitment of our colleagues is through the bestowing of awards. In 1993, the ICOM-CC Directory Board initiated the striking of a special medal to awarded to individuals who have played a vital role both within the organisation itself and in the field of conservation at large. The medals are conferred during the Triennial Conference so that the honourees can be recognized in the presence of their peers. The Medal award ceremony introduces our members to the work of colleagues without whom the field would not have attained its current level of development.

Since 2014, all current voting members of ICOM-CC may submit nominations for the medal and the ICOM-CC Directory Board selects the recipients from those nominated. In 2023, there were seven nominations and three of those nominated were chosen to receive medals.

At the València Conference, we were delighted to award medals to Miguel Mertens, Tannar Ruuben, and Kristiane Straetkvern. Here are some excerpts from their nominations to inspire you.

Miguel Mertens has played an integral part in ICOM-CC's functioning since 2009 when he began collaborating on the 2011 Lisbon Triennial Conference. The founder and general manager of Use.it, Miguel developed a web platform that has proven indispensable to the Preprints review and publication process. In addition to the development, ongoing evaluation, and improvement of the Preprints platform, he has built the 2011, 2014, 2017 and 2020/2021 Triennial Conference websites, working with Professional Conference Organisers on the ad hoc creation of linkage systems between conference registration and delegate access to papers and posters. For Beijing, he advised on parameters and requirements for ICOM-CC's first online conference, including seamless crossover between China Mobile's conference data system and the ICOM-CC Preprints platform. Miguel and his team expanded ICOM-CC's Publications Online platform to include all contributions from 50+ years of Preprints, totalling almost 3000 papers, and created a parallel mainframe to house past (and future) Working Group interim publications, currently comprising approximately 1000 contributions. More than simply a service provider, Miguel has devoted incalculable uncompensated hours to activities such as developing and finetuning the new ICOM-CC website, providing webinars for users of the website and the Preprints platform, and maintaining close and regular



contact with the Chair, Secretary, and Preprints Managing Editor. He has had a major hand in expanding ICOM-CC's brand and image with high-quality websites and platforms.

Tannar Ruuben is an excellent and dedicated paintings conservator and lecturer in his field of conservation. He engages deeply with his students, their education, training and internships. He has devoted himself to international collaboration in many areas. Tannar has served ICOM-CC more than 20 years, as Assistant Coordinator and then Coordinator for the Education and Training in Conservation Working Group, as Assistant Coordinator for the Paintings Working Group, and as a member of the ICOM-CC Directory Board from 2014 – 2022, where he was the best treasurer ever. Tannar is thorough and reliable – never taking shortcuts or the easy way out; he continues with a problem until it has been solved.

Kristiane Straetkvern has played a vital role within ICOM-CC for more than 20 years and in the field of conservation even longer – always as a highly engaged and inspiring conservator at the National Museum of Denmark. She has a talent for expressing and communicating complex issues simply and has excellent organisational and leadership skills. Kristiane is extremely approachable and supportive of others, always ready to share her experience and valuable advice with colleagues all over the world. She started her career in ICOM-CC as Coordinator for the Wet Organic Archaeological Materials (WOAM) Working Group and then became a member of ICOM-CC's Directory Board (2011-2014) followed by two terms as Chair of the Directory Board (2014-2017 and 2017-2020). Until 2022 she was the Spokesperson for the International Committees of ICOM and remains active in the ICOM Working Group Future of the International Committees. Kristiane was involved in planning and executing several WOAM Interim meetings as well as the 18th Triennial Conference, Copenhagen, Denmark, in 2017. She was also a key organizer for the ICOM-CC Triennial in Beijing in 2021, which took place virtually because of the Covid-pandemic.

Working Group Coordinators Report – València

Editor's note: This report is extracted from the wonderful reports written by the five Working Group coordinators whose attendance at the València Triennial Conference was supported by the Stichting ICOM-CC FUND. These extracts convey a sense of the enthusiasm of these attendees.

Andrea Pataki, Graphic Documents Working Group
Arriving in València, we realised how vibrant, young, and inspiring València is and that the Triennial Meeting becomes part of this town. From the very first event to the very last speech, the Triennial Meeting was full of energy, discussions, exchanges, and spirit of a huge family. Thanks to the travel grant from the Stichting ICOM-CC FUND, the travel expenses could be reduced for which I am very grateful! Thanks for being part of this professional family and community

Doris Oltrogge, Art Technological Source Research Working Group
The ICOM-CC Triennial Conference marked the end of my second and last term as Coordinator of the Working Group. It was a particular pleasure to moderate the exciting lectures of our session in person, and not online. This made a big difference, and I am so glad that the organising team in València and the ICOM-CC Directory Board put so many efforts to make this event possible. I am also grateful to the Stichting ICOM-CC FUND for supporting my attendance.

The stimulating and lively environment of the conference and the fascinating venues offered opportunities to make new acquaintances and refresh old ones, to meet people from all the other Working Groups and chat about possible scientific exchanges and cooperations. I must not forget to mention the fascinating talks I heard in different Working Group sessions. I returned with a wealth of new insights to Cologne.

Anil Dwivedi, Documentation Working Group
As Coordinator, I moderated the session of the Working Group and ran the planning session for the group. I also attended other Working Group sessions and the technical visit to the Museo Arqueológico Provincial de Alicante (MARQ) museum and conservation facility. Of particular note to me was the last day of the conference I with great discussion on the action plan for sustainable development and ICOM-CC medal ceremony. During my stay at València, I was also able to visit museums,

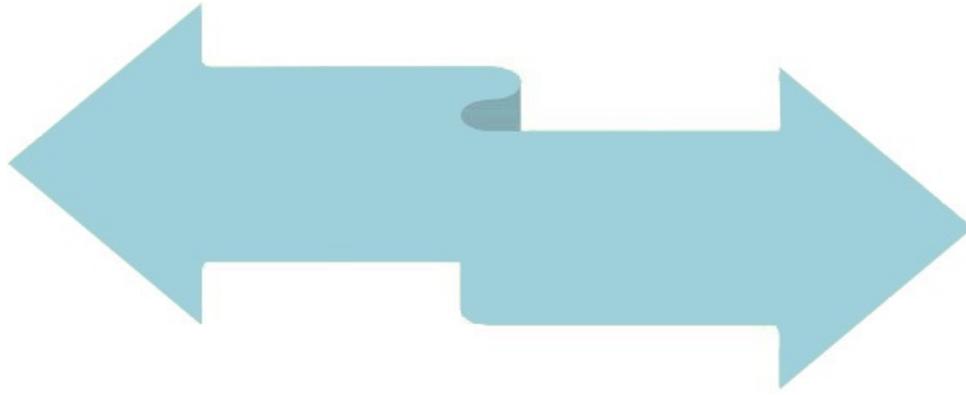


Anil Dwivedi during the Planning Session for the Documentation Working Group.

explore the city, also get familiar with Spanish culture. Indeed, it was great learning experience. I am thankful to Stichting ICOM-CC FUND for providing this opportunity.

Ida Hovmand, Wet Organic Archaeological Materials Working Group
I was very fortunate to be able to participate in the ICOM-CC Triennial Conference in València 18th-22nd September, 2023. This was in part possible due to a contribution from the Stichting ICOM-CC FUND for which I am very grateful. Attending the Triennial Conference was a wonderful opportunity to explore and gain insight into the research, practical and ethical issues which the many different Working Groups are investigating, and to be there chairing the sessions of the Wet Organic Archaeological Materials Working Group for which I am the Coordinator.

The Triennial Conference in València was for me an opportunity to become a great deal wiser in a very short time, not only about material culture and conservation issues. I was reminded how we each with our different perspectives brings diversity to our profession, thus enriching it. Attending the conference certainly made me reflect deeper over non-material culture, issues relating to diversity and accessibility in relation to language, cultural traditions, customs and behaviours.



A heartfelt 'thank you' to the organisers for a week packed with professional knowledge exchange, new impressions, ideas and topics for reflection.

Tanushree Gupta, Education and Training in Conservation Working Group

Considering the last conference was held online, this conference celebrated the joy of meeting colleagues from around the world in-person. The intriguing theme of the conference brought not only best papers and posters to this conference but also left all with a thought to ponder everyday – 'WORKING TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE PAST'. I am grateful to the Stichting ICOM-CC FUND for helping make my attendance possible.

As Coordinator of the ICOM-CC Education and Training in Conservation Working Group, my responsibility, along with that of Assistant Coordinators, was to chair the paper presentations on the sessions.

The trade fare provides a unique opportunity to meet various companies that support conservation, at one place. Not only does it help to learn about the new developments in the technology, it also aids in innovative thinking. Much appreciated was the idea of short presentations by various companies where nitty gritty were explained in detail.

The last day usually leaves everyone with mixed feelings. We gather from different parts of the world to cherish our work, to learn more, collaborate with each other, and to keep in touch – and suddenly it is time to go back. The plenary sessions on the last day did help in realizing the new challenges to address – sustainable development – the only way forward! It is amazing to see how various ideas could be put together in one session – from 'recycling exhibition interior' to 'CO2 neutral museum storage' and much more. Discussions can still be followed on: <https://padlet.com/Chair39/ICOM-CC-20th-Triennial-Conference-Museums-as-Influencers-the-16WP2LG6RMO2M62U>



A glimpse of one of the presentations during the Education and Training in Conservation Working Group session ©/photo by: Tanushree Gupta

Grants to attend ICOM-CC 20th Triennial Conference, València

Kate Seymour

Chair, ICOM-CC

The ICOM-CC Directory Board and the 2023 National Organising Committee (NOC) for the 20th Triennial Conference were committed to prioritising diversity and accessibility by offering support grants to attendees from [CATEGORY 3 AND 4 COUNTRIES](#). Their efforts to do this were greatly helped by a diverse range of funders and supporting institutions.

We are immensely grateful to our esteemed partner, the Getty Foundation, whose support allowed a cohort of 20 individuals to engage in the programmed sessions, contributing to the rich diversity of perspectives present. The Getty Foundation has supported this program since 1993. For more details on these grantees, please visit the [ICOM-CC / GETTY INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM](#)

The [STICHTING ICOM-CC FUND](#) provided grants to five Working Group Coordinators helping to make their participation in person possible. The presence of these Coordinators ensured their vital contributions to the event. Their enthusiasm is reflected in the reports they submitted, summarized on pp 8 - 9.

The ICOM Young Member Grant generously awarded funds to one individual from India, enabling their participation, while the Indian Institute of Heritage extended their support by covering expenses for seven contributors. Furthermore, the Chinese Museum Association/ICOM-China facilitated the attendance of five individuals.

Thanks to the support from [APOYONLINE](#), five individuals from Latin America and the Caribbean regions were able to participate, contributing their unique perspectives and expertise to the discussions.

Acknowledging the importance of nurturing emerging talent, trade fair sponsors [TRU VUE](#) and [DEFFNER & JOHANN](#) generously covered the registration fees for ten Spanish students and five emerging professionals, respectively, providing them with invaluable opportunities for learning and networking. We are also grateful to our gracious hosts, the Universitat Politècnica de València, who extended their hospitality by covering the registration fees for 25 young



The Indian Institute of Heritage covered expenses for seven contributors. ©/Photo by: Ali Nasir

professionals who served as stewards, ensuring the smooth functioning of the event.

In total, these grants supported the attendance of 78 individuals from 21 countries, underscoring our commitment to fostering inclusivity and global collaboration within the conservation community. We are tremendously grateful to all of the organisations who supported this diverse group of grant recipients. You will find pictures and comments from the recipients on their experiences throughout this issue of On Board. ICOM-CC remains grateful to all supporting institutions and individuals who enabled participants to attend the 20th Triennial Conference in person.



The Chinese Museum Association/ICOM-China facilitated the attendance of 5 individuals.



Tru Vue student grantees with ICOM-CC Directory Board members, Stichting ICOM-CC FUND members, and Tru Vue representatives.
Photo Kate Seymour



Deffner and Johann student grantees with Deffner and Johann representatives and Kate Seymour, ICOM-CC Chair
Photo: João Francisco



ApoyOnline Grantees from Latin America. Photo: Beatriz Haspo

ICOM Young Professional Travel Grant

Report on the ICOM-CC 20th Triennial Conference by ICOM Young Professional Travel Grant Recipient, Dr. Md. Ali Nasir, National Museum Institute, New Delhi, India

(Editor's note: Dr. Nasir submitted a wonderfully detailed report of his experiences at the 20th Triennial Conference. This article extracts some of the highlights he reported.)

Over the course of five days, the conference showcased an array of insightful papers and presentations. A highlight of the first day was the ICOM-CC Triennial Lecture, by Luis Monreal, General Manager of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), Geneva, Switzerland. Monreal delivered an inspiring discourse on conserving the heritage of conflict-ridden zones. As representative of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, Monreal's insights were profound, particularly his discussion on the conservation of the Al-Madina Souq in Aleppo, Syria. The rehabilitation of this historic marketplace, which had suffered immense damage during the Syrian conflict between 2012-2016, was not just a structural endeavour but had vast social, economic, and psychological implications for the [COMMUNITY](#).

During the week, I attended contributions by [SREEKUMAR MENON](#), [MANINDER SINGH GILL](#), [RINI HAZEL TEMPLETON](#), [NITIN KUMAR](#), and [SARAH SCATURRO](#). These specific presentations distinguished themselves, garnering widespread acclaim for their invaluable contributions. I was particularly drawn to projects like [MOXY](#), which emphasized eco-friendly conservation methods, and the exploration of natural surfactants for cleaning historic textiles. The multifaceted approach to preserving [BUDDHIST HERITAGE](#) and the emphasis on nurturing empathy among conservation students enriched the conference's narrative. Furthermore, captivating presentations by experts such as [KAROLINA SOPPA](#) and [RACHEL TABET](#) delved into varied facets of conservation, broadening the scope of discussions.

Another highlight of the conference was the chance to engage with distinguished conservators and experts in the field. It was truly a surreal moment to meet and converse with many individuals whom I've deeply respected and admired for their contributions over many years. Additionally, mingling with recipients of the Getty International Program and the Indian Travel Grant added a layer of joy and excitement to the experience.



Image: Sarah Scatturo, Sarah Benson, and Ali Nasir, Textiles Working Group Coordination team.

Attending the ICOM-CC Triennial Conference in València, Spain, was a transformative experience on both a professional and personal level. Reflecting on the moments and learnings, I eagerly await the next ICOM-CC Triennial Conference in 2026, optimistic that it will present even more opportunities for advancement in the realm of conservation.

I extend my deepest appreciation to both the International Council of Museums (ICOM) and its Committee for Conservation (ICOM-CC) for granting me this exceptional experience. The steadfast guidance and support from ICOM-CC Chair Kate Seymour and ICOM-CC Secretariat Joan Reifsnnyder have been pivotal throughout this journey. My contemporaries, including fellow awardees and conservators from India and around the globe, have been a continuous source of inspiration and encouragement.

Museum as Influencers: The Agency of Conservation and Conservators

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 SDG

17 PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS

01 NO POVERTY 	02 ZERO HUNGER 	03 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING 	04 QUALITY EDUCATION 	05 GENDER EQUALITY 
06 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION 	07 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 	08 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 	09 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 	13 CLIMATE ACTION 	14 LIFE BELOW WATER 	15 LIFE ON LAND 
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS 			

ICOM-CC Action plan for Sustainable Development

Stephanie de Roemer

Vice Chair, ICOM-CC

The 19th Triennial Conference in València theme 'Working towards a Sustainable Past' provided a fitting context to evaluate and explore ICOM-CC's work towards sustainable development and join with ICOM to implement the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A session on 'Museum as Influencers: The Agency of Conservation and Conservators' on the last day of the conference invited delegates to engage with this framework and explore what each delegate might do to further sustainable development in their local, regional and broader communities.

ICOM-CC itself can be viewed in this context as one such community, composed of many diverse individuals from all across the world - People and Partnership (two of the 5 P's around which the SDG's are structured) underlie ICOM-CC's essence, course and direction. The session at the 2023 Triennial Conference and this article aim to demonstrate how members of ICOM-CC can view, apply and communicate the activities of ICOM-CC, in actions small and big towards sustainable development.

How can ICOM-CC advance the SDGs?

ICOM-CC and heritage professionals can see much of their work through the lens of the 17 SDGs and the 169 targets associated with them. Perhaps the most obvious goal for ICOM-CC is Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities and, within that, Target 4: Protect the World's Cultural and Natural Heritage: Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.

Another strong connection between ICOM-CC's work and the SDGs can be seen in SDG 8.9: Promote Beneficial and Sustainable Tourism. Certainly, sustainable tourism can both protect heritage sites and let people visiting these learn about conservation and preservation. Closely related to this is SDG 12.B: Develop and Implement Tools to Monitor Sustainable Tourism.

Many of the other SDGs and targets within these goals have direct connections to ICOM-CC and heritage preservation. Here are some that were highlighted at the 2023 Triennial:

Goal 13: Climate Action

Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Goal 4, Target 7 (4.7): Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship.



source: ICCROM

SDG 13.3: build knowledge and capacity to meet climate change.

Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.



SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

SDG 4.7: Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship

By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.



ICOM-CC's Strategic Plan 2023-2026



ICOM's Strategic Plan for 2022-2028 emphasises three key principles: international outlook, professional focus, and collaborative practice. This plan aims to strengthen ICOM's global influence, promote best practices in museum operations, and foster collaboration within the museum community.

ICOM-CC's Strategic Plan

Kate Seymour

Chair, ICOM-CC

ICOM-CC, the International Council of Museums - Committee for Conservation, serves as a hub for professionals in conservation, science, curation, and related fields. With a vision to elevate and fortify the conservation profession, ICOM-CC provides professionals with access to the latest conservation techniques and ethical considerations through specialized events and working groups. The new Directory Board's first task was to review and revise ICOM-CC's strategic goals to align these with those of ICOM, our parent body.

The ICOM-CC Strategic Plan for 2023-2026 outlines objectives focusing on celebrating excellence and diversity, advocating for the conservation profession, enhancing global outreach, promoting sustainability, and ensuring efficient committee operations.

ICOM-CC Strategic Objectives 2023-2026

1. Advocate and celebrate the essential role of conservation philosophy in practice to the sustainable development of museums and the excellence of the work carried out by our members.
2. Explore and develop new opportunities for cross-disciplinary collaboration within the ICOM community.
3. Recognising that conservation is a global undertaking, seek to deepen our member's experience and engage new members in ICOM-CC.
4. Engage with the topic of sustainability throughout the ICOM-CC structure ensuring that the Committee's work is effective in leading relevant professional practice.
5. Manage Committee operations in a consistent, professional, and efficient way.

Exploring ICOM-CC's Strategic Goals for 2023-2026: Charting a Course for Conservation Excellence

In the dynamic world of cultural heritage conservation, the International Council of Museums - Committee for Conservation (ICOM-CC) stands as a beacon of excellence, guiding professionals towards preserving our rich cultural legacy for generations to come. As we embark on the 2023-2026 triennium, ICOM-CC unveils a set of strategic goals that not only underscore its commitment to conservation but also pave the way for transformative change within the field.

Advocating Conservation Philosophy for Sustainable Museums

At the heart of ICOM-CC's mission lies the advocacy for conservation philosophy as a cornerstone for sustainable museum development. By celebrating the integration of conservation principles into museum practices, ICOM-CC aims to elevate the standard of work carried out by its members,

ensuring the longevity and preservation of cultural heritage for future generations.

Fostering Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration

Recognizing the complex challenges faced by the conservation community, ICOM-CC places a strong emphasis on fostering cross-disciplinary collaboration within the wider ICOM community. Through partnerships and dialogue among professionals from diverse backgrounds, ICOM-CC aims to harness collective expertise and innovative approaches to address emerging issues in cultural heritage conservation.

Global Engagement and Inclusivity

Conservation knows no boundaries, and ICOM-CC is committed to deepening global engagement and inclusivity within its ranks. By providing enriching experiences and networking opportunities on a global scale, ICOM-CC seeks to broaden its membership base, ensuring a more diverse and representative community of professionals dedicated to the preservation of cultural heritage.

Embedding Sustainability Across Operations

Sustainability is not just a buzzword at ICOM-CC; it's a guiding principle embedded in every facet of its operations. From conservation methodologies to organizational practices, ICOM-CC leads by example in promoting sustainable practices within the cultural heritage conservation field, inspiring its members to adopt eco-conscious approaches in their professional endeavours.

Efficient and Professional Management

Efficiency and professionalism are the cornerstones of effective organizational management, and ICOM-CC is no exception. By upholding high standards of governance, communication, and resource management, ICOM-CC ensures that its operations are streamlined and responsive to the needs of its members and the wider conservation community.

In conclusion, ICOM-CC's strategic goals for the 2023-2026 triennium set a bold agenda for conservation excellence, fostering collaboration, sustainability, and inclusivity within the cultural heritage conservation field. As we embark on this journey, let us join hands to preserve and celebrate our shared cultural heritage for generations to come. Together we are stronger!

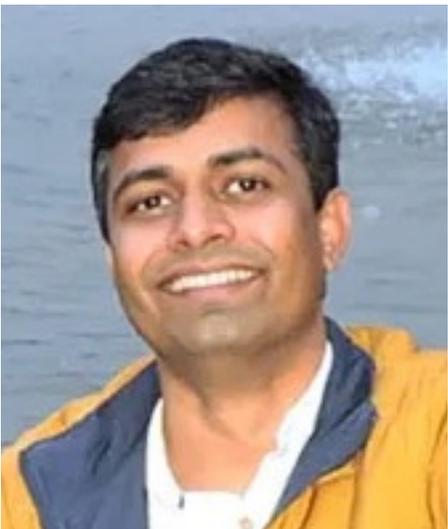
ICOM-CC Directory Board



Kate Seymour
Chair



Reiko Sakaki
Treasurer



Satish Pandey
Vice-chair



Stephanie de Roemer
Vice-chair



Emily Williams
Member



Lori Wong
Member



Lynn Lee
Member



Patricia Engel
Member

ICOM-CC Working Group Coordinators



*Archaeological Materials
and Sites*
Francis Lukezic
NTNU Vitenskapsmuseet
Trondheim NORWAY



*Art Technological Source
Research*
Claire Betelu
Université Paris 1 Panthéon
Sorbonne FRANCE



Documentation
Aditi Nagar
Indira Gandhi National
Centre for the Arts
New Delhi, INDIA



*Education and Training in
Conservation*
Tanushree Gupta
University of Applied Arts
Vienna, AUSTRIA



Glass and Ceramics
Polytimi Loukopoulou
Hellenic Ministry of Culture
Byzantine and Christian
Museum, Athens, GREECE



Graphic Documents
Andrea Pataki-Hundt
CICS Cologne Institute of
Conservation Sciences
Köln, GERMANY



*Leather and Related
Materials*
Rosie Bolton
The Leather Conservation Centre
Northampton, UK



Metals
Nicola Emmerson
Cardiff University
Cardiff
UNITED KINGDOM



*Modern Materials and
Contemporary Art*
Anna Laganà
Getty Conservation
Institute, Los Angeles, USA



Murals, Stone, and Rock Art
Leslie Rainer
 Getty Conservation
 Institute, Los Angeles, USA



Natural History Collections
Davison Chiwara
 Midlands State University
 ZIMBABWE



*Objects from Indigenous
 and World Cultures*
Sabine Cotte
 The Grimwade Centre
 for Cultural Materials
 Conservation. AUSTRALIA



Paintings
Sue Ann Chui
 National Gallery of Art
 Washington DC,
 USA



Photographic Materials
Richard Mulholland
 Northumbria University
 Newcastle upon Tyne
 UNITED KINGDOM



Preventive Conservation
David Cohen
 Universidad de los Andes
 Bogotá, COLOMBIA



Scientific Research
Yong Lei
 Palace Museum
 Dongcheng District
 Beijing, CHINA



*Sculpture, Polychromy, and
 Architectural Decoration*
Deepakshi Sharma
 Dedicated Freight Corridor
 Corp. India Ltd.
 New Delhi, INDIA



Textiles
Sarah Benson
 The National Museum
 Sweden
 Stockholm, SWEDEN



*Theory, History, and Ethics
 of Conservation*
Ayesha Fuentes
 Museum of Archaeology and
 Anthropology, Cantab, UK



*Wet Organic Archaeological
 Materials***Ida Hovmand**
 Bevaringscenter Fyn at
 Langelands Museum
 Rudkøbing, DENMARK



*Wood, Furniture, and
 Lacquer*
Mohamed Moustafa
 The Grand Egyptian
 Museum EGYPT

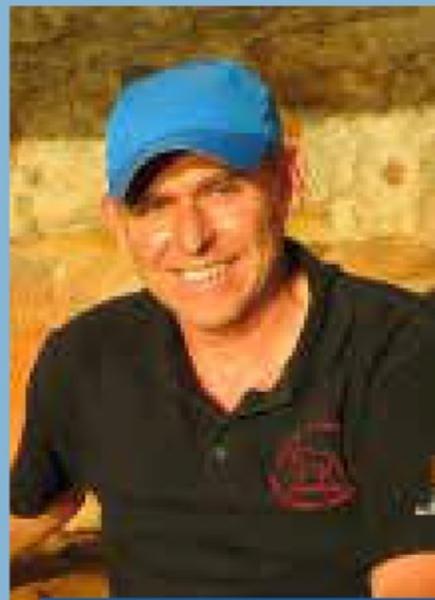
The Stichting ICOM-CC FUND



Tirza Mol - Secretary



Maranthe Lamers - Treasurer



Terry Little - Chair

The Stichting ICOM-CC FUND

Tirza Mol

Secretary, Stichting ICOM-CC FUND

Dear Colleagues,

Here is the first note from the Stichting ICOM-CC FUND board in a brand-new composition!

2023 was quite a year! Both our chair (Debra Hess Norris) and treasurer (Louise Wijnberg) stepped down from the board. Once again, we thank them for their dedication and fantastic achievements. Fortunately, we found Terry Little to replace Debra and Maranthe Lamers will continue Louise's work as treasurer.

You may know **Terry Little** as ICOM-CC Working Group Coordinator for Murals, Stone, and Rock Art (2020-2023). Since 2019, he has been Adjunct Senior Lecturer at Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria, Nigeria, Department of Archaeology and Heritage Studies. Previously Terry served as Chief Operations Officer at TARA - Trust for African Rock Art in Nairobi (2007-2016) where he currently is Senior Advisor. As such he has been responsible for the development of community projects, museum exhibitions, and other outreach activities in Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Maranthe Lamers trained as a paintings conservator at the University of Amsterdam. She worked as a paintings conservator at Rijksmuseum Amsterdam for 5 years, after which she took on a part-time job as collection manager at museum Catharijneconvent Utrecht and combines this with her work as independent paintings conservator.

Tirza Mol, our secretary, is still on board :). Tirza has been employed at Rijksmuseum Amsterdam as a furniture conservator since 2018. She obtained a master's degree in psychology at the University of Amsterdam and a master's degree in conservation/restoration at the University of Antwerp. She is chair of Stichting Ebenist, secretary of the ICOM-CC Fund, and a board member of the Stichting Rietveld Schröder Huis. Her conservation focus is on modern furniture and ship models.

2023 was quite a year! We look back on a great conference in València. As the ICOM-CC FUND, we serve ICOM-CC and its mission to promote the conservation and care of cultural heritage world-wide. The 2023 València Triennial Conference represented the apex of the triennial activity of the Committee and its Working Groups. We are grateful for the many opportunities we were given during the conference to make the FUND more visible and to build and strengthen our network of colleagues and institutions.

The FUND was able to offer grants to assist five of our Working Group Coordinators and ten UPV students to attend the Triennial Conference. Furthermore, we helped secure funding from sponsors for simultaneous interpretation during the plenary sessions of the Conference.

One of the things we took away from this experience is the pressing need to promote diversity, inclusion and accessibility for the 2026 conference in Oslo. In view of this, we will focus our fundraising efforts to enhance ICOM-CC's global outreach, particularly in under-represented countries. Indeed, the FUND's development goals for 2023-2026, listed below, are designed to advance and strengthen inclusivity, access, and global engagement across ICOM-CC and its Working Groups.

- Support efforts to provide virtual attendance of the conference.
- Increase in-person access to those without financial support, particularly conservation students and professionals from countries outside Europe and North America
- Ensure that the wealth of international conservation research and case studies is shared not only with the membership, but with the public at large through ICOM-CC and Working Group publications. These scholarly contributions by our 4000+ members worldwide over the past 50+ years represent the height and breadth of conservation knowledge.
- Strengthen the global reach of ICOM-CC by subsidizing travel funds for conservation professionals from Category 3 and 4 countries to interim meetings and other gatherings, ensuring that all voices are heard and important contributions are not missed.
- Improve the functionality, ease the addition of new content, and secure the maintenance for the ICOM-CC website, fostering greater exchange and ease of navigation to the many and growing ICOM-CC resources.

We would be very grateful for any support and ideas you might have in helping us achieve the above goals. Please reach out to us if you have any questions or ideas at icomccfund@gmail.com

We hope 2024 is off to a sparkling and productive start for you

All the best,
Terry, Maranthe and Tirza



M ICOM-CC

ICOM
international council
of museums – committee
for conservation



ICOM-CC General Assembly 2024

Online, Zoom

The General Assembly will be broadcast live on 23 May 2024 between 13.00-15.00 (Central European Time, Paris). The session will include updates on ICOM-CC's activities and future plans, as well as introductions to the new coordination team from each of the 21 Working Groups. The session will conclude with a Q&A discussion where attendees can ask for more information about ICOM-CC's strategy and governance, projects and goals and upcoming events. Full programme details will be released mid May.

Join us live and connect with ICOM-CC's leadership.

When: 23 May 2024

Where: Zoom Meeting

Time: 13.00 - 15.00 CET/Paris

Find your time zone:

<https://www.thetimenow.com/france/paris>

Registration:

Scan the QR code or go to:

<https://forms.gle/gANez41JAsFNUTFL9>



Zoom link will be provided after Registration.

All welcome.

The session will be recorded.

Recordings can be requested by members

What's in a name?

The conservator-restorer: a definition

Thursday 11 of April 2024

Musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac
222 rue de l'Université 75007 Paris, France & [online](#)

Conference organised by
the Committee for Conservation of the International Council Of Museums
and the Fédération Française des Conservateurs-Restaurateurs

PROGRAM

9h30-10h Arrival and welcome coffee

10h00-10h10 Welcome: Anne-Solène Rolland – directrice du département du patrimoine et des collections – musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac

10h10-10h30 Introduction: FFCR and ICOM-CC

The legacy of the 1984 definition

10h30-11h15

Reflections on the genesis of the 1984 definition and subsequent initiatives

Pierre Leveau (chercheur associé au Centre Granger, Université Aix-Marseille), Janet Bridgland (ICOM-CC), Gaël de Guichen (ICCROM)

11h15-11h30 – Questions & answers

Definitions: a support for regulation

11h30-11h55

Setting and standardizing a profession

Vincent Négri (ISP, ENS Paris-Saclay – CNRS, Paris)

11h55-12h20

*Protecting the title of conservator to enhance the protection of cultural heritage:
a project to change the French legislation*

Raphaël Gérard, member of the French Parliament (Charente-Maritime – 4th district)

12h20-12h35 – Questions & answers

12h35 -14h00 – LUNCH BREAK

Future needs in defining the profession

14h00-14h45 - Round table discussion

It's all about competences: training a new generation

Kate Seymour, moderator (SRAL, Maastricht), **Maggi Loubser** (University of Pretoria), **Satish Pandey** (Indian Institute of Heritage, New Delhi), **Luiz Souza** (Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil), **Laura Fuster López** (ENCoRE)

14h45-15h30 - Round table discussion

Anything new? New conservation practices and theories

David Cohen, modérateur (Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá), **Polytimi Loukopoulou** (Byzantine and Christian Museum, Athens), **Éléonore Kissel** (Musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac, Paris), **Clémentine Bollard** (CY Cergy Paris Université, Paris), **Salvador Muñoz Viñas** (Universitat Politècnica de Valencia, Valencia)

15h30-15h45 – Questions & answers

15h45-16h15 : COFFEE BREAK

16h15-17h00 - Round table discussion

One size fits all? A need for a tailored definition of the conservator?

Stephanie de Roemer, moderator (University of Cambridge Museums), **Patricia Engel** (University for Continuing Education, Krems), **Lori Wong** (The Courtauld Institute of Art, London), **Renata F. Peters** (UCL, London)

17h00-17h15 – Questions & answers

17h15-17h45

Conclusive remarks and perspectives
Susan Corr (CHARTER)

17h45-18h00

Closing words
ICOM-CC and FFCR

General information

Venue: musée du quai Branly – Jacques Chirac, 222 rue de l'Université 75007 Paris or 37 quai Branly

Languages of communication: French and English with simultaneous translation

Live transmission and recording: <https://www.youtube.com/@quaibrantlystreams>

Contact

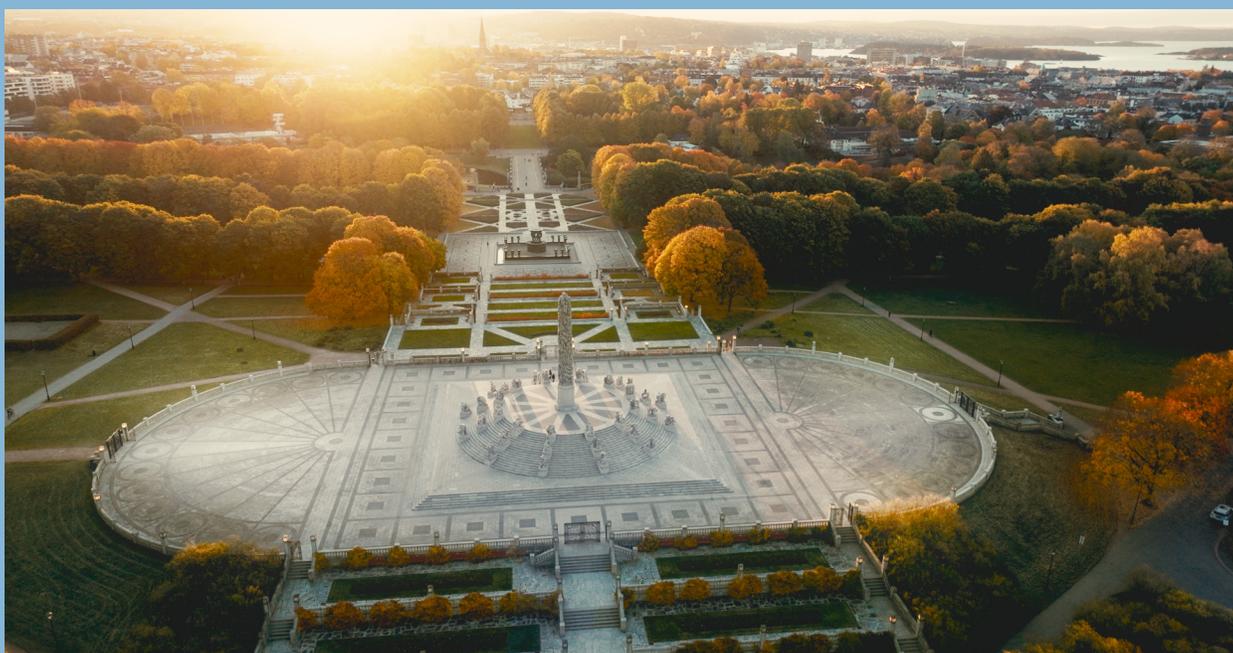
organisingcommittee@ffcr.fr



Part 1/2
RECORDING Fr

Part 2/2
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Oslo Triennial 2026



The Vigeland sculpture park at Frogner in Oslo is one of the most unique sculpture parks in the world. Here, you'll see more than 200 sculptures by the artist Gustav Vigeland, which makes it the world's largest sculpture park made by a single artist. © Visit Oslo.

ICOM
-CC

In preparation for the 21st Triennial Conference in Oslo, Norway. 14th-18th September, 2026

Ida Antonia Tank Bronken

Co-ordinator, National Organising Committee (NOC).
The National Museum of art, architecture and design
Oslo, Norway



In 2021 the new MUNCH museum opened in Bjørvika. The museum shares the shoreline with the new Opera building (opened in 2008) and the new public library Deichmann Bjørvika (opened in 2020). Image © Didrick Stenersen.



Then in 2022 the new National Museum opened in Vika, close to the new Astrup Fearnley museum (opened in 2012). Photo © Nasjonalmuseet/Borre Hostland

There could not be a better timing for the Triennial to visit Oslo while the last of a series of newly built cultural institutions are about to be finalised. Through the last decade, Oslo has made a big leap to strengthen its institutions for cultural heritage. This effort has resulted in several new buildings, technical facilities, exhibition spaces, and meeting places.

The Norwegian National Organising Committee (NOC) for ICOM-CC 2026 is now preparing the 21st ICOM-CC Triennial Conference to be held in Oslo in September 2026. The NOC represents institutions from Oslo, Bergen, Trondheim, Tromsø, Alta, Karasjok and Kautokeino. The conference will be accompanied by a broad program of events, that extends before and after the main program, at venues throughout Norway, which we hope to inform you more about in upcoming newsletters.

The last of the larger cultural heritage institutions under construction is the new Viking Age Museum at Bygdøy. This last building project will house some of our oldest and most fragile objects, the largest of which have remained on-site as the project is underway. Engineering, documentation, architecture, and conservation merge together to find solutions to ensure that the objects survive the building process of giving them a new home - hopefully allowing more visitors to see them, in safer conditions.

The Norwegian conservation community, for the most part, feel that the dust has settled. We are excited to get the opportunity to share our experiences, and present our new facilities.



Museum of the Viking Age © University of Oslo

We look so much forward to welcoming members from all Working Groups, non-members and members to Oslo and Norway. While you consider what topic you could potentially share with us in Oslo, we are preparing the pre-and post-tours in Oslo, Bergen, Trondheim, Alta, Karasjok and Kautokeino. We hope you will consider staying a few extra days and use this opportunity to visit some of the unique institutions, cultural heritage sites, and in-person meetings that are so important for creating new connections, ideas and opportunities.

Stay in touch, we will start updating the website well in time before the call for papers in early 2025.

[ICOM CC 2026](#)



Photo credits: Børre Høstland, Nasjonalmuseet, Didrick Stenersen, VisitOslo and AART architects.