

Dear Colleagues,

In September, the current Triennium of ICOM-CC will end giving way to the upcoming Triennium 2020-2023. In this period, starting from the Triennial Conference in Copenhagen 2017, Valentine Dubard (Louvre/ Musée des Arts Décoratifs, France) and Paul Garside (British Library, UK) served as Assistant Coordinators. Paul Garside has fulfilled his three terms as an Assistant Coordinator and must step down. He has served as an Assistant Coordinator for nine consecutive years from 2011-2014, 2014-2017, 2017-2020. I am very grateful for their help and wish to thank both of them for supporting me with the compilation of the ICOM-CC Interim Meeting Program and the scientific program of the upcoming Triennial Conference in May 2021 in Beijing. It was a pleasure working with them and I hope that we will stay in contact despite of the fact that Paul and I will step down. The Directory Board also wishes to express its thanks to Valentine and Paul for their dedicated service and support of ICOM-CC activities over the years.

Our Working Group's specific themes for investigation covered the application of existing micro-fading tester devices as a tool to evaluate the impact of light in exhibitions, to encourage the development of simple analytical techniques to be used in every-day practice of conservators and to share experiences on the impact of digitisation for the conservation of objects. In addition, we intended to emphasize scientific research relevant to materials represented in the Graphic Documents Working Group and to highlight conservation case studies that have the potential to inspire novel approaches and techniques in practical work. To achieve these goals, we organized and executed a Working Group Interim Meeting at Schaulager in cooperation with Kunstmuseum Basel in Basel (Switzerland) from 30 January to 1 February 2019. We gratefully acknowledge Lorenz Stiftung for hosting the Interim Meeting at Schaulager and the support of the team of conservators at Kunstmuseum Basel as indispensable local organization team.

Currently, we are contributing to the Triennial Conference in Beijing in 2021 with a scientific programme. The Graphic Documents Working Group received in total 27 contributions for oral presentations and 14 contributions for poster presentations. Among those, we have carefully selected the ones that fit best our Working Group goals. We are grateful to all authors who made an effort to submit abstracts of their work and we regret that not all works, despite of good quality, can be presented on the Triennial Conference. As of the date of this newsletter, the Graphic Documents Working Group is working closely with the editing manager of the Triennial Preprints to assure high quality of the contributions despite of the challenging times imposed to us by measures taken to limit the spread of the Corona virus.

At the end of 2017, the Graphic Documents Working Group had about 100 members and reached more than 110 listed members by the end of 2019. For the upcoming Triennium, the Working Group presents a new candidate for the position of the Working Group coordinator, Andrea Pataki-Hundt (TH Köln, Germany), a long-term member of the Graphic Documents Working Group. With this newsletter, I would like to encourage all active Working Group members to participate in the upcoming voting for the 2020-2023 Working Group Coordinators. Voting starts on Monday 31 August 2020 (08:00 CEST) and will close on Tuesday 15 September 2020 (23:59 CEST). You can go to: www.icom-cc.org to see who the candidates are and read their candidacy statements. Also, you will find more details on the voting procedure.

Of course, it will be the prerogative of the new Coordinator to accept and select nominations from any Working Group members who wish to contribute as Assistant Coordinators for the Group. The Assistant Coordinator position is not automatic nor is it self-continuing. ICOM-CC aims to work with a strong dedicated management team with the Coordinator choosing Assistant Coordinators best suited for the tasks and activities undertaken by the Working Group during the triennial period. Working Group members wishing to take up an Assistant Coordinator position should indicate their interest to the Coordinator at the start of the new triennium in late September. The Coordinator will nominate them to the Directory Board when submitting the Working Group Triennial Programme. The deadline for this will be provided by the next Directory Board Coordinator-Working Group Liaison officer and will be at some time in December 2020.

Serving as Working Group Coordinator was an interesting experience and in my last newsletter, I wish to say thank you and looking forward to meeting all of you again.

Best, Ute Henniges