Fall 2005 is ICAZ election season. We need you to choose the next ICAZ President and Vice-President and to select the members of the next International Committee (IC). We have enclosed election materials with this newsletter. These include candidates’ biographies and position statements, two ballots (one for President/Vice-President and the other for the IC), and an addressed envelope for the return of the ballot. Ballots must be sent by post to Arturo Morales, and must be postmarked no later than February 1, 2006.

The ICAZ Nominating Committee (Jon Driver, Chair; Luis Borrero, Terry O’Connor, Hitomi Hongo, and Christine Lefèvre) did a superb job of lining up three highly qualified people to run for the offices of ICAZ President and Vice-President. The candidates are: Jim Enloe (USA), László Bartosiewicz (Hungary), and Luis Borrero (Argentina). All three of these individuals have made important contributions to archaeozoology. All have been active in ICAZ. We can be certain that ICAZ will be in good hands no matter what the outcome of the election is.

Remember that, following ICAZ election procedures as specified in the article 8.1 of the ICAZ Constitution (http://www.nmnh.si.edu/icaz/pdf/statutes.pdf), the selection of the ICAZ President/Vice-President follows a preference voting system in which voters rank candidates by preference. The candidate receiving the most first preference votes is elected President. The candidate receiving the second highest number of first preference votes is elected Vice-President.

The list of candidates for the IC is equally strong. Thirty-nine highly qualified individuals have agreed to run for membership on the IC. The list includes 23 current members of the IC who expressed an interest in running for office again. It also includes 16 individuals nominated by individual members who are committed to serving on the IC. Altogether they represent 16 of the 58 countries in the ICAZ membership.

During these transition years, the IC has proven a particularly active and effective body. They have helped shape critical initiatives and procedural changes that ICAZ has needed to take on in the past eight years. They have served as a pool for key ICAZ task forces on Working Groups, Data Bases, and Professional Protocols. Please read the candidate statements included with the ballots carefully before you make your choices. You may vote for up to 30 candidates for the IC. But be careful because, following ICAZ statutes, ballots with more than 30 candidates marked will be discarded.

In addition, elections for ICAZ Secretary and Treasurer will be held soon. The ICAZ Trustees have agreed to run for membership on the IC. Altogether of the IC who expressed an interest in running for office again. It also includes 16 individuals nominated by individual members who are committed to serving on the IC. Altogether they represent 16 of the 58 countries in the ICAZ membership.

BoneCommons is being developed by the Alexandria Archive Institute, as part of its broader “ArchaeoCommons” initiatives, and is generously sponsored by ICAZ. The goal of BoneCommons is to enhance the exchange of scholarly content from the ICAZ 2006 International Conference by providing the broader zooarchaeological community access to the meeting’s content and discussion forums. BoneCommons will not replace face-to-face meetings, but will enhance the upcoming conference in the following ways:

- Conference participants can post papers and related scholarly content;
- Conference participants can contribute to continuing discussions on works presented in the scholarly program; and
- Conference organizers can post announcements and information related to the meeting and other events throughout the year.

As a comprehensive portal for the meeting’s scholarly program, news, and events, BoneCommons will make it easy to find conference information, enabling users to make the most of the ICAZ 2006 International Conference to be held in México City, México, on August 23-28, 2006.

The developers of BoneCommons recognize that intellectual property and copyright issues have increasing significance on
It’s ICAZ Election Time

Constitution stipulates that these individuals be elected by the IC, with elections held when the current Secretary or Treasurer decide to step down from office. After eight years of yeoman service, both Richard Meadow (Secretary) and Arturo Morales (Treasurer) have decided to take a well-deserved rest. The ICAZ Nominating Committee helpfully took on the charge of identifying candidates for these two important positions. Candidates for ICAZ Secretary are: Umberto Albarella (UK), Zbigniew Bochenski (Poland), and Elizabeth Reitz (USA). Pam Crabtree (USA) is running unopposed for the position of ICAZ Treasurer. The IC will vote on these offices by electronic ballot sometime in January. In addition, the 2-4 at-large members of the Executive Committee will be elected by the IC after the ICAZ General Meeting at the 2006 ICAZ conference. Again as stipulated by the ICAZ Constitution, candidates for these positions will be drawn from the IC.

So please read over your election materials carefully and cast your vote. A lot of work has gone into developing the candidate slates for these important positions. What is needed now is for you to participate and help choose the new ICAZ leadership.

ICAZ Membership Drive Begins

In a separate mailing you will soon be receiving a membership renewal form from ICAZ Treasurer Richard Meadow. The memberships of most of ICAZ’s current 557 members will expire at the end of 2005. The new cycle begins on January 1, 2006, and continues until December 31, 2009. We hope that all current members will renew their memberships in ICAZ. The mailing will include a copy of all your membership information listing your address, e-mail, interests, etc. We hope that you will update this information for us when you mail in your membership renewal.

Your membership in ICAZ gives you the following benefits:
1. Reduced ICAZ International Conference registration fees;
2. The ICAZ Newsletter, published twice a year;
3. Access to the ICAZ “For Members” section of the ICAZ Website, with its useful membership directory and back issues of the Newsletter in PDF format;
4. Reduced subscription fees to the journal Archaeofauna;
5. Reduced prices for ICAZ 2002 International Conference volumes published through Oxbow Press (http://www.oxbowbooks.com/); and
6. The satisfaction of supporting the primary professional organization for archaeozoology.

Last October you were sent an e-mail notifying you of the ICAZ Executive Committee’s (EC) decision to raise ICAZ membership dues effective February 1, 2006. Although ICAZ is currently in solid financial shape, the EC felt that a modest dues increase was needed to provide ICAZ the flexibility needed to meet future challenges and opportunities. Dues for a single year of membership at the standard professional level will increase $5, from $15 to $20. Dues for other membership categories will increase proportionately. The mailing you will soon receive will also outline these increases.

So please watch for this membership renewal mailing. You can also go directly to the ICAZ website and download a membership form to renew your membership (http://www.nmnh.si.edu/anthro/icaz/membership.html). Take advantage of the opportunity to renew your membership at the old rates by renewing your membership right away. You are, of course, free to renew your membership at the new higher rates, but you are under no obligation to do so until the February 1 deadline.

The future looks very bright for ICAZ. We will have a vibrant new leadership with lots of energy and new ideas. The ICAZ 2006 International Conference in México City will certainly be a huge success and a meeting not to be missed. We look forward to sharing all this with you over the next four years and beyond.

Sheffield Zooarchaeology Laboratory

(Contributed by Umberto Albarella)

The Department of Archaeology at the University of Sheffield, UK, has a long and distinguished tradition of teaching and research in zooarchaeology. It also houses an important reference collection of animal skeletons that consists of more than 1,000 specimens. The Department’s tradition of teaching and research in zooarchaeology, which started in the early 1970’s, has trained many currently active and distinguished zooarchaeologists. The present staff includes Umberto Albarella, Paul Halstead, Angelos Hadjikoumis, Sarah Viner, and an ever increasing group of collaborators and students. Links to staff web pages may be found at http://www.shef.ac.uk/archaeology/staff/academic.html.

The staff of the zooarchaeology laboratory is involved in both teaching and research activities. The reference collection includes a wide variety of specimens of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish that live or once lived in Europe, as well as a more limited range of specimens from other parts of the world. Part of our reference collection is specifically dedicated to teaching and consists of a collection of modern and archaeological specimens. The teaching collection represents an essential tool for our lectures and practical sessions, for both undergraduate and postgraduate students. Beside the routine use of the collection for teaching, every year these collections are extensively used by

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Zlatozar Boev has examined the archaeological and paleontological avian materials from several sites in Bulgaria and abroad, including: 1) the Early Pleistocene site of Kunino in northwestern Bulgaria, 2) the Early Bronze Age sites of Dyadovo in southeastern Bulgaria, Hotnitsa in north-central Bulgaria, and Kapitan-Ignatievo in south-central Bulgaria, and 3) the Late Miocene site of Velesent (Thessaly) in central Greece (in collaboration with Prof. G. Koufos). Articles describing the project results have been submitted to Bulgarian and German scientific journals. In addition, Ivan Mitev (Ph.D. candidate) successfully defended his dissertation entitled “Subfossil Fauna of Birds and Mammals (Aves et Mammalia–Vertebrata) of Localities of North-Eastern Bulgaria” in October 2005.

Pam Crabtree will be in the UK this January studying fauna that Dr. Catherine Hills recovered from the Roman site of Icklingham in eastern England. Dr. Crabtree is also beginning to organize a three-day conference on the role of DNA analyses in the study of animal domestication. The conference, which will be held in the spring of 2007, will be hosted by the Center for the Study of Human Origins at New York University. If you are interested in participating in this conference, please send her an e-mail at pc4@nyu.edu or pamedougc@comcast.net. In addition, Jen Piro (Ph.D. candidate) is working on a comparative study of Early Bronze Age fauna from northeast Turkey and Armenia at the New York University Zooarchaeology Laboratory. Her Armenian research was supported by a 2004-05 Fulbright Fellowship. Julie Anidjar (Ph.D. candidate) is beginning the study of a major collection of fauna from a coastal Woodland site in South Carolina.

Hans Christian Küchelmann announces the relaunch of his website Knochenarbeit (http://www.knochenarbeit.de), which is concerned with archaeozoology, taphonomy, and worked bone. The site is now bilingual (German and English) and contains searchable databases of archaeozoological institutions, journals, and skeletal collections. A list of related literature is given as well as a calendar of events. One section provides information on and links to worked bone objects, bone artisans, and related scientific institutions. In addition to Frank Dirrigl’s Zooarchaeology Homepage (http://207.16.80.151/zooarch), this site focuses mainly on European institutions. Contributions and comments are welcome and may be sent to info@knochenarbeit.de.

The Alaska Consortium of Zooarchaeologists (ACZ) will be embarking on a new project this year to process a sea lion as part of an educational project with schools in the Pribilof Islands. Mike Etner and Lee Post will be working with the students and the teachers on the islands to reconstruct two large sea lion skeletons for display at the schools. This year we will also be sponsoring a workshop on butchering at the Alaska Anthropological Association (AAA) meetings in Kodiak, Alaska. Pat Shipman, Adjunct Professor of Anthropology at Pennsylvania State University, will be one of the guest instructors. Registration forms for the workshop can be found at http://www.akzooarch.org. We also have some very sad news to report. One of our members, Christina Jensen, died this summer during a glacier hike. She was an important part of our organization and the ACZ.

Julie Anidjar (Ph.D. candidate) is beginning the study of a major collection of fauna from a coastal Woodland site in South Carolina.

The Philip L. Wright Zoological Museum and Montana Comparative Skeletal Collection at the University of Montana in Missoula is developing a website. The website provides information about the collection, which contains over 24,000 specimens of vertebrates, primarily mammals, birds, and fish. It is the largest zoological collection in Montana and one of the major collections of northern Rocky Mountains species. For more information, check out the website at http://zoologicalmuseum.dbs.umt.edu/.

ICAZ Website Gets New Look

You might have noticed on your last visit to the ICAZ Website that it has a new look. This new design improves how the content of the site is displayed and makes it easier for members and other viewers to find information. Two new links—News and Publications—have been added to better represent the organization and its growth in the last four years. Check out the redesigned ICAZ Website at http://www.nmnh.si.edu/anthro/iczaz.

New ICAZ Volumes from Oxbow Books

Three more volumes from the ICAZ 2002 International Conference in Durham, UK, have been published by Oxbow Books (for titles, see page 10 of this newsletter). A complete listing of all of the volumes published to date can be found on the ICAZ Website: http://www.nmnh.si.edu/anthro/iczaz.

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Sheffield Zooarchaeology Laboratory

students who are undertaking undergraduate, M.A., and Ph.D. research.

We make every possible effort to improve our collection and keep it in good order. New specimens are added whenever possible and we are also keen on setting up collaborations and possible exchanges with other laboratories that house animal reference collections. Improvement in the layout of the collection and its accessibility are currently under way as part of a project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (http://www.arhb.ac.uk/). Among other improvements, we are now setting up a new research room specifically dedicated to housing a more specialized part of the collection. In particular, a mammal tooth collection and a bird index collection are currently in preparation. The database of the collection has also recently been updated and is now available for consultation.

At the same time, we are diligently working to increase our team of zooarchaeologists, and will be happy to consider applications by students who would like to base their research at the University of Sheffield. Our ultimate goal is to keep our research environment lively, stimulating, and international, thus maintaining the tradition of excellence in zooarchaeological teaching and research that Sheffield has achieved throughout the years. More information about our facilities, activities, and interests, along with a downloadable database, can be found on the Department’s web page: http://www.shef.ac.uk/archaeology/about/facilities/zooarchaeology.

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International Council for Archaeozoology 3
The Professional Zooarchaeology Group (PZG) is a collaborative initiative founded by members of the School of History and Archaeology at Cardiff University (originally the Laboratory for Social Zooarchaeology, University of Southampton), English Heritage, and Wessex Archaeology to bridge the gap between animal bone specialists based within and outside academic establishments. Currently, by working largely in isolation from one another, we are putting ourselves at an unnecessary disadvantage, often cut off from important new discoveries or practical, methodological, and theoretical developments in our field. Our aim is to facilitate the exchange of ideas between specialists and establish a mutually-beneficial support network. Specialists working within universities can provide access to libraries and reference collections, while those working within units or freelance researchers can offer their knowledge of current British archaeology, project design for forthcoming excavations, and insight into the “grey literature.”

Meetings are scheduled twice a year and include a combination of thematic discussions and practical workshops. The 1st PZG meeting, held July 30, 2005, at Fort Cumberland, was a great success. There is obviously a lot of enthusiasm and willingness to collaborate, share information, and provide support. This will be the main benefit of the group. The minutes of the first meeting are posted on the PZG website (see address below). The next meeting will be held at the University of Leicester on January 21, 2006. The theme is palaeopathology and will be organized by Jen Browning, Matty Holmes, and Dr. Richard Thomas. Details will be sent to members soon. Additional information about the PZG may be found on the English Heritage website at http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/Professional_Zooarchaeology_Group.

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Spanish-English Translation Assistance

ICAZ member Karen Privat extends an offer to assist any Spanish-speaking professionals or students attending the ICAZ 2006 International Conference with the translation or sub-editing of their work from Spanish to English in preparation for the conference (at no charge). Dr. Privat is bilingual and holds degrees in Spanish (B.A.), Biomolecular Archaeology (M.Sc.), and Archaeological Science (Ph.D.). She is happy to work with abstracts, poster text, or papers (in final form) and will provide assistance on a first come, first served basis. If you are interested, please contact her directly via e-mail (karen@emu.usyd.edu.au) or post (1 Park Street, Unit 1, Clovelly NSW 2031, Australia).

The National Museum of the Tatar Republic (Russia) in Kazan is celebrating its 110th anniversary. This year, 2005, also coincides with the millennium anniversary of the city of Kazan. Kazan, the current capital of the Tatar Republic, has been a home to writers, poets, and philosophers such as Gorky, Tolstoy, Pushkin, and Shalapin, to name a few. It boasts a 200 year old university, which stands as a testimony to the great literary and scientific traditions hitherto little known to the non-Russian world. “Kazan Millennium” is the word of the year for the city’s residents. Everyone is participating in these celebrations, even the streets and public structures are decorated with flags of Russia, the Tatarstan Republic, and the city of Kazan to mark the year-long event.

As part of the Kazan Millennium celebrations, the Tatar Republic of Ministry for Culture and the National Museum of the Tatar Republic with the assistance of the Millennium Committee (under the auspices of Kazan Millennium), ICOM, and the Union of the Museums of Russia organized an International Scientific Conference. The conference, entitled “A Contemporary Museum as an Indispensable Source of the Development of the City and the Region on the Whole,” was held at the National Museum in Kazan on September 12-17, 2005. The conference organizers, Dr. Z.R. Valeeva (Tatarstan Minister for Culture), Dr. G.S. Mukhanov (Director General), Dr. Nazipova (Assistant Director of the National Museum), and Ms. Tatiana Desyatikova (Conference Secretary), made the event one of the finest academic endeavors. The conference began with a tour of the city to introduce its rich cultural heritage to the delegates where, at some of these archaeologically significant places, discussions provided a glimpse of the “open air” conference to come. A total of 219 participants, representing almost every state or republic of the former USSR, presented papers on various aspects of museum research. Much of the conference focused on the following issues: 1) theoretical and practical aspects of the museum business; 2) archaeological, ethnographic, historic, and natural history research as the basis of museum activities; 3) museum budgets; 4) the role of museums in fostering tolerance; 5) museums as image makers; 6) museums and technology; 7) museums and the internet; 8) museum marketing as interaction with the public; and 9) effective management as an integrating tool for museums, culture, and society.

The brainstorming sessions on various issues of concern to museums, including the internet and publicity media, evoked great interest and academic vigor. Sessions pertaining to archaeology and natural history included a number of papers. Dr. Olga Bogatkina, an archaeozoologist from the National Museum, presented her recent research on Medieval period sacrificial animals from the Chepetskaya Culture in which she found horse to be a major sacrificial animal. Her study also examined the modern ethnographic traditions of the Udmurts. Dr. Vijay Sathe, from the Deccan College Postgraduate and Research Institute in Pune, India, was the only non-Russian speaker at the conference. He presented some rare examples of diagenesis and enamel dysplasia from a museum collection in Delhi. In his preliminary report of the fossil collection, he described a record of supposedly rapid burial of a deer dentition and explained the possible lack of abrasives in the diet of a fossil...
This report discusses a recent conference, entitled Early Human Impact on Megamollusks (EHIM), that is of interest to Archaeomalacology Working Group (AMWG) participants and other ICAZ members. The study of mollusk exploitation in a historical perspective, based on the evaluation of their economic, social, and symbolic use in the human past, may provide clues for understanding the current ecology, biomass, resilience, and population dynamics of mollusks today. This is the basic philosophy that was behind the gathering of 17 scholars from around the world on September 26-28, 2005, at Isla Margarita, Venezuela, for the EHIM workshop. This project stemmed from a broader endeavor called the History of Marine Animal Populations (HMAP), under the auspices of the Census for Marine Life. These projects are concerned with all marine life and are not limited to mollusks or invertebrates. Their major concern is the examination of changes in marine communities, with special emphasis on large-scale harvesting, long-term changes in stock abundance, and the role of marine resources in the development of human societies.

At the EHIM workshop, there were presentations about various shell mounds and shell middens from Japan, South Africa, Brazil, Denmark, Atlantic Europe, Chile, the Caribbean, and British Colombia. The use of mollusks as artifacts and their role in symbolism were represented by studies from India, Israel, the eastern US, and Los Roques Archipelago, Venezuela. Most papers discussed not only humans’ impact on mollusk exploitation, but also climatic, ecological, and geological factors influencing the changes. Methodologies used for these studies ranged from basic taxonomy, taphonomy, and measuring of shell sizes, to growth increments and isotopic studies as well as radiometric dating.

Following two days of presentations, the participants split into three working groups that carried out stimulating discussions on bioecological, environmental, and cultural aspects. The conclusions of each working group were presented to the rest of the participants at the end of the day, with recommendations for further studies and projects, which will be presented by Andrzej Antczak, the organizer of this workshop, at the next HMAP conference (see website address below). Andrzej and Maria Magdalena Antczak, Roberto Cipriani, with a team of scholars and assistants from Simon Bolivar University at their side, exhibited extraordinary organizing skills, and the location of the workshop at the Costa Caribe resort made this both a stimulating and enjoyable experience for all participants. Detailed information is available at the following websites: http://www.cmrh.dk/EHIM/ and http://www.hmapcoml.org/. The goals of the AMWG and that of EHIM are very similar, and it is my hope that the two groups will collaborate in the future.

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ARCHAEOZOOLOGY & GENETICS WORKING GROUP
(Contributed by Jean-Denis Vigne, A&G Liaison1-2)

The Archaeozoology and Genetics (A&G) Working Group was founded at the 2002 ICAZ International Conference in Durham, UK, by J.-D. Vigne, M. Zeder, and D. Bradley. The group held its first meeting in Paris in June 2004. The A&G Working Group aims to promote exchange and collaboration between archaeo(zoo)logists and (archaeo)geneticists. The second scientific meeting was held June 18-19, 2005, in Cambridge, UK, at the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, ably organized by Mim Bower, Krish Seetah, and their team. The meeting was a great success. Forty-seven scientists from 11 countries attended. Many first class papers from the genetics of wild species through domestication to the methodological challenges posed by ancient DNA were presented.

Only 15 of the delegates attended both the Paris and Cambridge meetings, partly due to the participation of the respective local research communities (47% French at the first meeting and 51% British at the second meeting). This not only demonstrates that a large community is interested in the A&G working group meetings, but also that this particular working group has a committed core of 15 scientists. In contrast to the Paris meeting, more geneticists than archaeozoologists attended and a good proportion of the leading animal aDNA labs were represented (Basel, Cambridge, Dublin, Kyoto, Leiden, Lyon, Mainz, Oxford, Paris, Uppsala, and Victoria). Sixteen papers and two posters were presented, all of a high scientific standard with most demonstrating strong collaborative links between archaeo(zoo)logists and geneticists.

At the second A&G meeting in Cambridge, the first session was devoted to human interactions with wild species. Excellent examples of the effective use of aDNA were presented, which evidenced the impact of the Neoglacial on northern Pacific marine mammals (S. Crockford), showed a west European origin for at least some of the mammals of Ireland (C. Edwards and D. Bradley), dated the demographic decline of woolly mammoth (I. Barnes), described the diversity and ecology of South American wild felids (R. Barnett), and demonstrated hybridization between American and European sturgeon in the Baltic sea (A. Ludwig et al.).

The second section, comprised of six papers, was devoted to the genetic history of domestication. Based on a strict elimination of deaminated artefacts and on quantitative PCR, E.-M. Geigl and colleagues documented 178 sequences of mtDNA of European aurochs which showed a very low diversity, whereas R. Bollongino and colleagues’ data seems to show a larger diversity. On the other hand, the latter strengthened the argument for the Near Eastern origin of Neolithic and present day European cattle, based on 65 aDNA sequences from 33 archaeological sites. E. Finlay and D. Bradley outlined the genetic organization of water buffalo and proposed increased population diversity following domestication. Larson and colleagues added new data from living pig populations which confirmed that domestic pigs are divided into at least nine lineages focused on East Asia, and suggested a European scenario based on 313 original aDNA 80bp sequences. P. Savolainen increased the number of DNA sequences from present day dog populations up to 1,419, and proposed a more refined approach of the domestication of wolf in Eastern Asia. C. Weber and colleagues observed high diversity in ancient horse popula-

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The general discussion at the end of the first day focused on one of the main topics of the working group—the collaboration between archaeo(zoo)logists and molecular biologists. In the introduction of this discussion, it was emphasized that aDNA is an archaeological item and, as such, that processing aDNA leads out of archaeo(zoo)logical constraints and practices, that molecular geneticists who process animal aDNA have to become more familiar with archaeo(zoo)logical approaches and practices, and that it is necessary to take into greater consideration the heavy investment of archaeologists and archaeozoologists to the production of a single good sample for aDNA analyses. The discussion emphasized that consistent improvements have happened in collaborative practice, since most of the presentations in this conference are coauthored with archaeo(zoo)logists and geneticists. However, it also appeared that the question is still relevant (not only for aDNA, but also appeared that the question is still relevant (not only for aDNA, but also for modern animal genetics), and that effort must be made to better inform archaeo(zoo)logists of genetics and ancient DNA. Every session was characterized by free and open discussion, with positive and interesting exchanges after every paper.

It was agreed by all participants that this meeting was a valuable, productive, and positive event just one year after the Paris meeting. A wealth of new data and ancient DNA sequence and results were presented, which testify that collaborations, sampling, and processing are now very active in several labs and that aDNA has a greater and greater importance in the history of the relationships between human societies and animals.

The questions of contamination, degradation, PCR artefacts, and authentication techniques, much discussed at the Paris meetings, were generally not considered in presentations or the following discussions. However, it seems that these problems still require keen attention, and could be at the origin of some differences which appeared in the discussion about the interpretation of certain results. Progress in increasing both the number and quality of ancient DNA sequences should be continued.

From a methodological point of view, besides the three papers devoted to this topic, it is necessary to emphasize the increasing use of demographic modeling, especially skyline diagrams. This is the beginning of a new development in DNA data analysis in the reconstruction of the history of population dynamics.

The next scientific meeting will be held in Estonia in June 2007, as kindly proposed by L. Lojgas.

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2Thanks to Mim Bower’s English assistance
3Representation by country: Canada (1), Estonia (1), France (3), Germany (5), Ireland (2), Japan (2), Sweden (4), Switzerland (1), The Netherlands (1), UK (24), and USA (3)

BIRD WORKING GROUP

(Contributed by Gisela Grupe and Joris Peters)

The proceedings of the 5th Meeting of the Bird Working Group (BWG) held in Munich (July 26–28, 2004) have been published as Volume 3 of the Documenta Archaeobiologiae series. Feathers, Grit and Symbolism: Birds and Humans in the Ancient Old and New Worlds (2005) is edited by Gisela Grupe and Joris Peters. The volume, which is dedicated to the memory of Francisco Hernandez Carrasquilla, is divided into four parts. Part 1 examines bird remains in non-anthropogenic contexts and methodological issues. Part 2 explores the use of isotope analysis, radiography, and histomorphometry to evaluate issues beyond the macroscopic level. Part 3 examines bird bones and feathers as well as depictions of birds in prehistoric contexts from Palaeolithic to Iron Age sites in Chile, Mexico, Spain, France, Scotland, the Baltic States, Turkey, Japan, and Polynesia. The last section, Part 4, deals with birds in historic contexts such as the exploitation of domestic geese and ducks in Roman-Medieval Great Britain, the role of cranes in south-central Europe, the medieval avifaunas collected in a Syrian mosque and the Russian Kama Basin, a 14th century Korean treatise on falconry, the role of birds in pre-Hispanic Mexican medicine, poultry-farming in Roman Eastern Europe, bird offerings in a Roman sanctuary at Mayence, musical instruments made of vulture ulnae on the Iberian peninsula, a Hellenistic bird fauna of Thessaly, Swedish place-names relative to birds, and representations of birds on English misericords. This volume can be ordered from Verlag Marie Leidorf publishers (http://www.vml.de/) for 75€ (plus postage and bank costs). ICAZ members will receive a 20% discount, reducing the cost of the book to 60€ (plus postage and bank costs). Two other volumes in the Documenta Archaeobiologiae series might also interest ICAZ members: Decyphering Ancient Bones (2003) and Conservation Policy and Current Research (2004). These volumes can be purchased for 50€ each (plus postage and bank costs). For details on the contents see the Verlag Marie Leidorf website: http://www.vml.de.

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Contribute to the ICAZ Newsletter

Submit DEADLINES are April 15 (Spring) and October 15 (Fall). E-mail submission to the newsletter editor, Heather Lapham, at hlapham@siu.edu.
You can now access the ICAZ 2006 International Conference website at http://www.alexandriaarchive.org/bonecommons/icaz2006/. This website is the product of several months of hard work by conference organizers Joaquín Arroyo-Cabral and Oscar J. Polaco and the able web designers at the Alexandria Archive Institute, headed by Sarah and Eric Kansa.

The website contains a complete listing of all 21 current symposia being organized for the conference and the contact information for the session organizers. This information can also be found on the following pages of this insert of the ICAZ Newsletter. If you wish to participate in any of these symposia you will need to contact the session organizer(s) as soon as possible. In addition, the ICAZ 2006 conference organizers are still accepting suggestions for symposia. But again, you will need to act quickly. Contributions to general sessions are also welcome. Please see the Program/Scientific Program and Participate/Submissions sections of the conference website for complete details.

A plenary session entitled “Latin-American Archaeozoology: Origins and Development” is being organized by Oscar J. Polaco, Guillermo Mengoni, and Joaquín Arroyo-Cabral. The purpose of the plenary session is to establish the state-of-the-art for the field in the region and to promote the exchange of experiences and personnel in an interinstitutional and international manner among research groups. Another aim is to develop an overview of the research themes and methods used across the region, highlighting both their similarities and their differences. A volume of plenary presentations will be available to all conference participants as part of their registration fees.

The website also contains useful information about travel to and around México City in its General Info/INAH and México City Information page. In particular, please take note of visa requirements which are required for travelers from some countries in Eastern Europe, Asia, and Africa. The website also has contact information for hotels. Conference organizers will soon be posting the names and contact information for a number of hotels in the center of the city on the General Info/Accommodations page. These will include a range of hotels of varying cost that have easy access to subway, restaurants, museums, and other tourist attractions. Transportation will be provided to take conference participants from these hotels to conference social events; participants will need to make their own travel arrangements between their hotel and the meeting itself, however. Conference participants will be responsible for making their own hotel arrangements, but are encouraged to book rooms in one of these designated hotels. Local organizers are trying to arrange for lower rates at a group of downtown hotels for conference participants. Please watch for information on accommodations on the conference website.

The conference itself will be held at the Escuela Nacional de Conservación, Restauración y Museografía (National School of Conservation, Restoration, and Museography), a state-of-the-art facility that the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH) is making available to ICAZ for the week of the conference. The conference center is located about 7 km from the central district of recommended hotels, but in easy subway access (around 20 minute travel time by subway from downtown). Maps and subway information can be found on the conference website.

Social events will be announced soon, but will likely include either a reception or banquet at the Museo National de Antropología (National Museum of Anthropology). Possible mid-conference field trips include a wide variety of sites of archaeological and cultural interest in México City and the basin of México.

A portal for online registration for the conference will soon be available on the conference website. Conference fees for ICAZ members will be $200 ($150 for students). Fees for non-members of ICAZ will be $250 ($200 for students). After May 31, 2006, conference fees will increase to $250 for ICAZ members ($200 for students) and $300 for non-ICAZ members ($250 for students), so please register as early as possible. And, become an ICAZ member to obtain the lower registration rates. There may be a small surcharge for online registration and payment by credit card.

There will be some funds available to help underwrite the costs of participants. ICAZ will be making $10,000 available for participant support and conference organizers have a grant proposal pending with contacts for additional support. Instructions on how to apply for travel support can be found on the website. You would be well advised to apply for these funds as early as possible. Travel support granted by ICAZ will likely not be able to underwrite all costs, so please try to obtain support from other sources as well.

So, check out the ICAZ 2006 International Conference website (http://www.alexandriaarchive.org/bonecommons/icaz2006/) and return to it often for new information about this exciting conference. In particular, a new feature called “BoneCommons” will be added early in 2006. BoneCommons is a special portal developed by the Alexandria Archive Institute for posting abstracts, conference papers, and commentary that we hope will become an ongoing project of ICAZ (see article on page 1 of this newsletter).

Please read the remainder of this insert. It contains information about the symposia organized to date, including the name and e-mail address of the organizer(s) who you should contact if you are interested in participating in one of these symposia.
AN ARCHAEOLOGY OF ZOOS: HISTORIES, MATERIAL CULTURE, CONSERVATION

Organizers: Hannah O’Regan (H.J.O’Regan@livjm.ac.uk), Sally Reynolds, and Cornelius Holtorf

This session will bring together recent studies on zoos from an archaeological perspective. An archaeological approach to zoos can be undertaken on many levels, from a consideration of human-animal interactions, through landscape analysis of the zoo setting to the study of the remains of the animals themselves. The aim is not only to make a novel contribution to the understanding of zoo animals and their (past) cultural contexts but also to underline the potential of an archaeological perspective within the emerging interdisciplinary field of Zoo Studies. The results of such studies will inform much more than just archaeology, as there is scope for input into areas such as history and modern conservation biology.

ANIMAL TRANSFORMATIONS

Organizers: Alice Choyke (h13017cho@helka.iif.hu)
Lynn Snyder (SnyderL@SI.EDU)

All societies mix human and animal, and animal and animal, features in their religious and mythological imaging. The issue of animal transformations speaks strongly to cultural attitudes toward animals and has repercussions far beyond the spiritual life of people, reaching the core of the most prosaic of human-animal interactions (hunting, domestication, herding, etc.). Papers are encouraged from archaeozoologists, cultural anthropologists, art historians and all those interested in the many forms of human-animal interactions.

ANIMALS AND COMPLEXITY: HOW ARCHAEOZOOLOGISTS CONTRIBUTE TO THE STUDY OF COMPLEX SOCIETY IN THE NEW & OLD WORLDS

Organizer: Justin S. E. Lev-Tov (jlevtov@uab.edu)

We hope to demonstrate similarities and differences in New World and Old World approaches to the use of animals by complex societies. Through comparisons of method, theory, and application among diverse complex cultures in different geographic regions of the world we seek to establish a dialog between researchers working on similar themes. The session will concentrate on archaeological periods covering the first emergences of complex societies and continue on to include more recent states and other forms of politically complex cultures. We invite papers dealing with issues of zooarchaeology and complex society from any area of the world, but especially encourage contributions from archaeozoologists living or working in Third World and Latin American countries.

ARCHAEOMALACOLOGY

Organizer: Canan Cakirlar (canancakirlar@yahoo.com)

Papers for this session will focus on a broad range of topics: comparing and discussing molluscan evidence in terms of global ecological trends; aquatic adaptations; human impact on environment; continuity and discontinuity in cultural traditions; trade relationships; gender and social identity. Papers dealing with regional, interregional, methodological, environmental, and anthropological problems, bringing multiple data together are encouraged rather than site-specific discussions or descriptive presentations.

ARCHAEOZOOGY AND COLONIALISM

Organizers: Pam Crabtree
Douglas Campana (PamCDougC@comcast.net)

This session will examine the zooarchaeology of Spanish, French, and British colonialism in the Americas and zooarchaeological approaches to Roman colonialism in the Old World.

BONE RAW MATERIAL EXPLOITATION IN SOUTH AMERICA

Organizer: Vivian Scheinsohn (scheinso@mail.retina.ar)

Bone technology has not been a topic of study in South American zooarchaeology until relatively recently. This is gradually changing and interest in bone as a raw material is increasing. In this symposium we will try to reinforce this trend, supporting the informational potential of bone artifacts in order to enhance the development of this exciting line of inquiry. A variety of papers will be presented, to cover the wide array of environmental and cultural contexts where bone raw materials were utilized.

CATTL AND COD:
TRANSITIONS IN THE LATE MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN NORTH ATLANTIC

Organizer: George Hambrecht (ghambrecht@gmail.com)

This session will examine the zooarchaeology of Spanish, French, and British colonialism in the Americas and zooarchaeological approaches to Roman colonialism in the Old World.

CAVES AND VERTEBRATES

Organizers: Terry O’Connor (tpoc1@york.ac.uk)
Luis Alberto Borrero (laborrero2003@yahoo.com)

This session will review the state of our knowledge regarding the use of caves by people and other vertebrates, and our understanding of caves as places that both attracted and preserved bone assemblages generated by people and other predators and scavengers. How do we distinguish the activities of the many possible users of a cave? How do we integrate data from caves with open sites in the same region? And, how do we preserve zooarchaeological assemblages in situ in caves that are used for recreational reasons?
CUT MARK RESEARCH: NEW AND OLD WORLD PERSPECTIVES ON ADVANCES IN BUTCHERY ANALYSIS

Organizer: Krish Seetah (kseetah@hotmail.com)

The session will explore a range of issues concerning the zooarchaeological study of animal butchery, including species variation and differences in the butchery techniques; the expression of cultural and ethnic identity through butchery in varying geographic localities; variation in methods used for researching butchery based on species, period, location; the extrapolation of economic trends from butchery data. The session will highlight research focused on conceptual attitudes as opposed to purely socioeconomic interpretations. It will provide a forum for new research techniques and methods used to study butchery and demonstrate the importance of understanding overall process and links with implementations.

DOG/WOLF POSTER WORKSHOP

Organizers: Susan Crockford (sjcrock@shaw.ca)
Raúl Valadez (raul_valadez@hotmail.com)

We encourage all participants to report on any dog and/or wolf remains in their possession (including undisputed fully domestic dogs, early breed morphotypes, putative early dogs, wild wolves, tamed wolves and wolf/dog hybrids). The ultimate objective is to start a global dog/wolf database on prehistoric canid remains. The idea is to record the critically important traits and measurements of these remains in a consistent format (no more than two pages), and present them in poster form.

ETHNOZOOARCHAEOLOGY

Organizer: Umberto Albarella (u.albarella@sheffield.ac.uk)

This session will address archaeological questions through the study of human-animal relations in recent human societies. Any activities of traditional societies interacting with animals, such as hunting and husbandry strategies, slaughtering and butchering, ceremonial and ritual practices, techniques of deposition and disposal, etc., can be included. It is hoped that such diversity of papers will also be reflected in the internationally of the participants, and in the variety of approaches, ranging from anthropology, to ethnohistory and pure zooarchaeology.

EXPLOITATION OF COASTAL RESOURCES: NEW AND OLD WORLD PERSPECTIVES

Organizers: Florencia Borella (fborella@soc.unicen.edu.ar)
Wietse J. Prummel (w.prummel@let.rug.nl)

This session explores the worldwide exploitation of coastal resources during the history of mankind. Papers and posters may be proposed that are dealing with: 1. the provision of food, such as molluscs, crustaceans, fish, birds and sea and coastal mammals; 2. the provision of raw materials, such as shells and bones; 3. the transportation of wild and domestic animals along coasts, between mainlands and islands, and between continents; 4. the impact on the wild fauna by human activities on the coast, such as dwelling, hunting, gathering, animal husbandry, introducing exotic plants and animals, and building dikes and damming gullies; 5. the contribution of marine and non-marine food to human and animal diet through stable isotope research; and 6. other topics related with the exploitation of coastal resources.

HERDING PRACTICES AND TECHNIQUES: MODELS AND METHODOLOGICAL TOOLS FOR ARCHAEOZOOGICAL ANALYSIS

Organizers: M. Balasse (balasse@mnhn.fr), H. Yacobaccio, N. Goepfert, D. Helmer, and J.-D. Vigné

This session aims to highlight diversity in herding practices and techniques, by distinguishing between constraints and choices, among physiological, environmental and cultural factors modeling the herding system. Ultimately the aim is to define how reference models should be used (how transferable are they, from one species and/or environment to another and how they reflect management practices) and to discuss the appropriate methodological tools to be used to infer this diversity in archaeozoological assemblages.

LANDSCAPE ZOOARCHAEOLOGY: MULTI-SITE ANALYSIS, HINTERLANDS AND THE RECONSTRUCTION OF DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS

Organizers: Polydora Baker (polydora.baker@english-heritage.org.uk)
Andy Hammon (andy.hammon@english-heritage.org.uk)

Ideally zooarchaeologists would like to comment upon how animals and animal products moved through the landscape and the degree to which husbandry practices and exploitation determined socio-economic and -cultural settlement hierarchies. The aim of this session is to draw together case-studies and methodological approaches that address these issues. It is envisaged that papers will cover a range of chronological epochs from both the Old- and New Worlds to provide an eclectic overview of diverse approaches to this underdeveloped component of zooarchaeological analysis.

NEOTROPICAL ZOOARCHAEOLOGY AND TAPHONOMY

Organizers: Mariana Mondini (mmondini@filo.uba.ar)
Sebastián Muñoz

This session focuses on ecological and biogeographic issues in Neotropical archaeozoology. It will highlight specific research problems in the region from ecological, evolutionary, and biogeographical points of view. It will seek to identify both the primary research problems in Neotropical archaeozoology and ways of addressing these problems.
REVISION AND REJECTION:
REPORTING THE NEGATIVE RESULT

Organizer:  Jill Weber (jweber@sas.upenn.edu)

The purpose of this session is to assemble examples of “negative results” that might not otherwise be publicized, in order to strengthen our collective protocols. Identification of the reasons for which specific failures occur may lead to revision of a particular theory or method and even a better understanding of why it does work in other cases. Ultimately, this will foster more reasoned integration of the results of different types of archaeological inquiry.

SMALL PREY AND THEIR HUNTERS:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ETHNOARCHAEOLOGICAL
ANALYSES OF SMALL-ANIMAL EXPLOITATION

Organizers:  Karen Lupo (taphos@gte.net)
 Dave Schmidt

This symposium presents a collection of papers that utilize pointed, fine-grained techniques to investigate when, why and how human hunters pursued small game. From Europe to the Caribbean to Central Africa, small prey assemblages from archaeological and ethnoarchaeological contexts are examined to identify hunting strategies and technology, changes in diet breadth and human organization, and food sharing patterns.

SUSTAINABLE USE OF WILDLIFE:
THE VIEW FROM ARCHAEOZOOLOGY

Organizer:  Jack Frazier (kurma@shentel.net)

This symposium will promote the exchange of recent information and idea from a variety of regions, marine and terrestrial. It will also provide a forum for the frank exchange and scholarly debate of hypotheses and opinions bearing on varying positions in regard to the importance of prehistoric human activities on wildlife species. In order to put the results of the archaeozoological work into a broader perspective, the final part of the symposium will explore linkages with other disciplines that are fundamental to understanding the conceptual and theoretical constructs basic to the sustainable use debate.

ZOOARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE OF THE
ANCIENT MAYA AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT:
HUMAN IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENT
AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ON CULTURE

Organizers:  Christopher M. Götz (mayaicaz_06@yahoo.com)
 Kitty F. Emery (kemery@flmnh.ufl.edu)

This session explores the close interaction between environment and culture, as it is expressed in the zooarchaeological record of the ancient Maya. The papers in this session will discuss the zooarchaeological evidence for the impact of the ancient Maya culture on the environment and its animal populations, ancient responses to environmental conditions and changes, and the syn-

ICAZ 2006 International Conference Update, México City, August 23-28
The 13th meeting of the Fish Remains Working Group (FRWG) took place Basel, Switzerland, on October 4-9, 2005. The event, organized by Heide Hüster-Plogmann, was hosted by the Institute for Prehistory and Archaeological Science (IPAS) at the University of Basel. The conference venue was located in the Kastelen House for Prehistory and Archaeological Science (IPAS) at the University of Basel. The conference was attended by 45 participants, representing as many as 22 countries—a diversity characteristic of this long-standing working group. This was partly made possible by the generous sponsorship of the University of Basel (in the form of accommodation), as well as by private sponsors, whose donations particularly supported the participation of younger colleagues from less affluent countries. This way, the group as a whole could share both scholarly and social events.

During the 25 year history of the FRWG, this was the first meeting ever held in a landlocked country. The main topics therefore included the reconstruction of special aspects of freshwater fishing, in addition to the interdisciplinary treatment of fish remains. The latter inspired a vivid discussion of to what extent future FRWG conferences should integrate the study of related aquatic animals such as birds, molluscs, and small mammals. This welcomed holistic approach shows the interesting dynamics between specialization and synthesis not only vertically, between ICAZ as a central body (hosting large meetings every four years) and its “satellite” working groups, but also horizontally, between the specialist working groups themselves.

Perhaps not surprisingly, owing to the usual success of FRWG meetings (thanks to an enthusiastic membership, organizers, and participants alike), several proposals were put forward to host the next conference in 2007. These included proposals from members in Alaska (USA), France, Poland, and Scotland. Following numerous, sometimes informal discussions throughout the week, the majority of participants voted to accept the invitation to hold the 14th FRWG Meeting in Antibes, France.

WORKED BONE RESEARCH GROUP

(Contributed by Alice M. Choyke, WBRG Liaison)

The 5th Meeting of the Worked Bone Research Group (WBRG) was held in Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria, in late August 2005. Dr. Milena Stanceva (Regional Historical Museum, Veliko Turnovo; E-mail: milenastancheva@abv.bg) with help from Petar Zidarov (Ph.D. candidate, Tübingen University, Germany; E-mail: topetar@yahoo.com) organized a splendid meeting with 39 participants from 15 countries in Europe and the US in attendance. There were 28 presented papers and 11 posters. The Department of History at the University of Turnovo together with the Archaeological Museum of Veliko Turnovo hosted the event.

Lively scientific discussions were prevalent throughout the meeting, with many younger colleagues participating. Although most papers and posters were concerned with prehistoric bone materials, the essence of these discussions dealt with methodological and theoretical considerations that went far beyond the details of local typologies. It was determined that worked osseous objects were intimately linked to raw material selection, the technical style of their manufacture, and the way the objects were used. Discussions of the social meaning of bone objects included: the identification of marks on bone as abstract thinking in the Middle Paleolithic of Bulgaria (1.1 million ky); the discussion of the manufacture and meaning of bone idols from the Bulgarian Chalcolithic; bone tools as templates for tools and ornaments in other raw materials; problems with pseudo-morphs (skates and runners again!); and interpretation of tools with better written documentation from Medieval Hungary and Bulgaria. Among the papers from later time periods one theme was repeated—the strong association of bone and antler workshops with other crafts such as knife-making. French colleagues beautifully integrated their groundbreaking work on manufacturing and use within individual social contexts. A grasp of microscopic wears elucidates the full range of functional variability occurring in this class of archaeological objects. Identification and separation of flint scraping versus scraping with metal knives, for example, appears much more difficult than first imagined, at least at low magnifications.

Time was also set aside for discussions of the many excellent posters. Material presented ranged in time from early modern age materials from Holland and Medieval “anvils” from Spain, to an experiment on the use of copper knives in Chalcolithic Turkey, to the Neolithic of the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Armenia, as well as Mesolithic objects from Estonia. Publication of the proceedings is being organized by Petar Zidarov in Bulgaria and the publication date is estimated to be sometime before the next meetings in 2007. The deadline for submission of papers was set at the end of February 2006 by mutual agreement of the conference participants. Hopefully, it will be possible to arrange, once again, the publication and distribution of this volume through Oxbow Books.

With the proceeding from the 4th WBRG meeting recently published (see notice on page 10 of this newsletter) and the 5th WBRG meeting proceedings due out early in 2006 in the German series of “Archaeologie International” we shall be well stocked with interesting bone tool papers in the coming year! Announcements of the volumes will be made on the mailing list bonetool@listserv.iif.hu as well as in subsequent ICAZ newsletters.

After a lively discussion, Isabelle Sidera agreed to hold the next WBRG meeting in Nanterre, France. She has already begun to search for outside funds to insure that researchers from all countries can participate. The work by the French CRNS group on bone tools over the last 40 years represents an incredible data resource for less well-funded researchers in this field around the world. I hope that future meetings will also be held outside the European continent to more fully involve colleagues from around the world.

1Alice M. Choyke, Aquincum Museum, Budapest, Hungary; E-mail: H13017cho@helka.iif.hu
2Representation by country: Austria (2), Bulgaria (5), Czech Republic (1), Estonia (3), France (4), Germany (3), Hungary (8), Moldova (1), Poland (2), Scotland (1), Slovakia (1), The Netherlands (1), Turkey (1), UK (2), and USA (4)
The ICAZ Executive Committee (EC) held its yearly meeting in Basel, Switzerland, on October 7, 2005. The meeting was attended by Joaquín Arroyo-Cabrales, Arturo Morales, Heather Lapham, Sebastian Payne, Oscar Polaco, Elizabeth Reitz, and Melinda Zeder. The agenda included a number of important issues, especially those issues related to the future development of the organization and the forthcoming ICAZ 2006 International Conference in México City. The meeting opened with a report from the Secretary on the membership that, as of September 30, totals 557 from 58 countries. During the past 12 months 47 members have joined ICAZ. The Secretary gave details about the renewal process of memberships that will take place at the end of this year. Membership renewal forms should arrive in your mailboxes around the end of the year.

Melinda Zeder presented the Treasurer’s report submitted by Richard Meadow. This report included a statement of ICAZ financial activities for the past quarter and an important projection of ICAZ income and outflow for the upcoming 2006-2009 membership cycle. While ICAZ is currently in good financial health, the Treasurer recommended that the organization would benefit from a larger financial buffer to be able to take advantage of new opportunities and cover unexpected costs. There was a general agreement on the need to raise the fees by US $5 per year for professional members of standard rate countries and by an equivalent proportional increase for the remaining fee categories. This agreement has now been unanimously approved by the International Committee (see article on page 2 of this newsletter).

Developments concerning the ICAZ 2006 International Conference to be held in México City, México, on August 23-28, 2006, were presented by Joaquín Arroyo-Cabrales and Oscar Polaco. It was clear that the organization has made a considerable progress and the conference will constitute a great success. Organizers have had a good response to their call for symposia, they are making headway with local arrangements, and they have developed a conference budget. The conference website is now available at http://www.alexandriaarchive.org/bonecommons/icaｚ2006/. Additional details are also provided in the special ICAZ 2006 International Conference insert in this newsletter.

Arturo Morales next discussed the forthcoming ICAZ elections (see page 1 of this newsletter for details). Ballots and biographies of the three candidates for President/Vice-President plus the 39 running for the International Committee (IC), along with some instructions, will reach members with this newsletter. Ballots shall be returned to the Secretary by February 1, 2006.

The report by Newsletter Editor and Webmaster Heather Lapham about the ICAZ Newsletter evidenced the instrumental role played by the membership in its success after six years of publication. Lapham also previewed the new design for the ICAZ Website, presenting the improvements that will make it easier and more profitable to navigate (see page 3 of this newsletter or check out the new look for yourself at http://www.nmnh.si.edu/anthro/icaz).

Elizabeth Reitz presented a report of the Professional Protocols Task Force that is addressing critical issues such as the professionalism required to practice archaeozoology, statements on collections care and access, publication of archaeozoological data, and access to published and unpublished data. The Task Force hopes to have a more developed draft available for review by the IC at the ICAZ 2006 International Conference.

Joaquín Arroyo-Cabrales presented a report of the Data Base Task Force examining the pros and cons of ICAZ investment in a number of database initiatives concerning reference collections, archaeozoological collections, and analytical data. The group urged the Task Force to consider framing a member survey inquiring about collections within home institutions with the goal of posting this basic information on the ICAZ Website sometime in the future.

Contacts have now been initiated on the part of the President to find a venue for the ICAZ 2010 International Conference. With a report on these plus requests for ICAZ nominal sponsorship and various technical proposals the EC meeting adjourned at 16:55.

Arturo Morales-Muñiz, Secretary
Dénes Jánossy

The community of Hungarian archaeozoologists has recently lost a senior colleague, the palaeontologist and ornithologist Dénes Jánossy, who contributed to several archaeozoological studies by identifying bird bone remains. In fact, until very recently, he was the only Hungarian scholar to have expertise in this special field. He passed away in August 2005.

Born in 1926, he finished his studies at the Pázmány Péter University (recently Eötvös Loránd University) in Budapest. He was granted the Doctor of Science degree in palaeontology 1968. Jánossy joined the staff of the Department of Geology and Palaeontology of the Hungarian Natural History Museum beginning from 1946, and was its leader between 1970-1986. After his retirement in 1986 he continued his work as senior research fellow in the same institute. Jánossy was also the founding chairman of the Hungarian Ornithological and Nature Conservation Society. He also taught osteology and vertebrate palaeontology to generations of students in both the geology and archaeology departments at the Eötvös Loránd University.

In addition to his research in stratigraphy and the palaeontology of micromammals, Jánossy was also devoted to palaeornithology. He published dozens of articles and catalogues on archaeological and palaeontological bird bone assemblages. Moreover, new fossil species and subspecies described by him illustrate his major contribution to this field. Jánossy closely cooperated with archaeozoologists, especially the late Sándor Bökönyi (1926-1994) and helped him, as well as the younger generation, with the identification of avian remains. On the international level, he collaborated most closely with the late Johannes Lepiksaar (1907-2005) in Sweden.

Jánossy published two review articles on wild bird bone remains from archaeological sites in Hungary in 1965 and 1985, respectively. These include catalogues that summarize species and specimens identified from the Neolithic to the Middle Ages as well as biometrical data. Both are seminal articles concerning the field of archaeo-ornithology. He also taught osteology and vertebrate palaeontology to generations of students in both the geology and archaeology departments at the Eötvös Loránd University. Jánossy was also the founding chairman of the Hungarian Ornithological and Nature Conservation Society. He also taught osteology and vertebrate palaeontology to generations of students in both the geology and archaeology departments at the Eötvös Loránd University.

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Medieval Animal Database

(Contributed by Alice M. Choyke)

Animals are woven almost unnoticed into the complex web of human existence. They permeate every part of our lives, from mundane subsistence to our attitudes about the world around us. We prepare dishes from their meat. We use leather for shoes and wool for clothing. Animals can reflect prestige, and hunting them can be a test of manhood. Animals and their attributes appear as symbols in religion and allegory, in the way humans tell their stories. In the medieval world, animals can appear in strange mixed forms, which were as real to the people of those times as the chickens and cows that surrounded them in daily life.

The Medieval Animal Database (MAD) was conceived to address the many ways humans related to and dependent on animals for physical and spiritual existence in Medieval Central Europe. This database is intended to be an interdisciplinary research tool that contains bibliographic data and other information on medieval animal materials. It begins with the end of the Roman Empire in Europe and may extend into the 17th and 18th centuries in areas where clear cultural continuity can be demonstrated. In the earlier periods, Central Europe is defined as the core area of southern Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, northern Serbia, Slovenia, northern Italy, and Transylvanian Rumania, but data from anywhere in Medieval Europe is welcome.

We envision that this database will contain several different categories of data including: 1) textual data (charters, account books, cook books, chronicles, encyclopedias, Latin and vernacular literature inventories); 2) images (panel paintings, book illustrations, bestiaries, textile patterns, stone and wood sculptures, architectural images, graffiti, and gravestones); 3) archaeological topographic data (corrals, animal pens, barns, fishponds, butcher shops, and workshops); 4) artifactual data (yokes, harness elements, leather objects, worked bone, antler, and ivory); and 5) archaeozoological evidence (species representation, carcass processing, bone measurements, subsistence traditions, food preferences, and taboos). This list is by no means complete, but it is a beginning.

Currently, we are developing a trial structure of the database so we can begin to collect data and evaluate the usefulness of the various categories of information. This preliminary version can be found at http://www.imareal.oeaw.ac.at/mad. The site contains a small database and guidelines for inputting data. Over the next several months we hope to collect many more examples regarding the way animals were envisioned, presented, and used in Medieval Central Europe. In the future, we intend to broaden the database to include all medieval Europe, to find additional partners, and to apply for international funding to support the project.

1Alice M. Choyke, Aquincum Museum, Budapest, Hungary; E-mail: H13017cho@helka.iif.hu

New Books

Análisis Arqueozoológico, Tafonómico y de Distribución Espacial de la Fauna de Mamíferos de la Cueva de la Fragua (Santoña, Cantabria) by Ana Belén Marín Arroyo (2004). Ediciones TGD, Santander. (ISBN 8493379239; 245 pages). The book costs 25€ if ordering from Spain (28€ from EU countries and 35€ from non-EU countries). To order, please contact the author, Ana Belén Marín Arroyo, via e-mail at marinab@unican.es.


Three More Volumes Published by Oxbow Books

Archaeomalacology: Molluscs in Former Environments of Human Behaviour edited by Daniella Bar-Yosef

The First Steps of Animal Domestication edited by J.-D. Vigne, J. Peters and D. Helmer

The Zooarchaeology of Fats, Oils, Milk and Dairying edited by Jacqui Mulville and Alan K Outram

ICAZ members receive a 50% discount on all proceedings of the ICAZ 2002 International Conference. Oxbow Books (http://www.oxbowbooks.com/) also offers a discount to libraries purchasing the entire series, so ask your library to buy their set today. These volumes represent an important contribution to zooarchaeology; they must get good distribution. For a list of the other volumes published to date as well as those scheduled for publication in 2006, go to the Publications section of the ICAZ Website, then on to the Conference Proceedings page at http://www.mmnh.si.edu/anthro/icaz/publications_conferences.html.
POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN ZOOARCHAEOLOGY

The Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany, invites applications for a post-doctoral fellowship in Zooarchaeology at the Department of Human Evolution. Within a multidisciplinary environment, the department is dedicated to Palaeoanthropology in a broad meaning, with three main groups of scientists represented: physical anthropologists, Palaeolithic archeologists, and archaeological scientists/geomorphologists. More information about the Department of Human Evolution may be found at http://www.eva.mpdl.mpg.de/evolution/.

The position is a research-only post, with no teaching obligations. The department will provide substantial support in a highly stimulating environment, and we expect the successful candidate to contribute to the research of the group as a whole, as well as to undertake high quality original research in his/her specific field. We are especially, but not exclusively, interested in candidates with innovative approaches, who would participate in our current fieldwork and research projects on: 1) North African Middle Stone Age, and 2) Middle to Upper Palaeolithic Transition in Europe.

The position will begin September 2006. It is for two years initially, and may be extendable for one extra year. A Ph.D. is required. For further information please contact the Director of the Department of Human Evolution, Professor Jean-Jacques Hublin, E-mail: hublin@eva.mpdl.mpg.de. Applications including cover letter, curriculum vitae, list of publications, reprints of selected publications, short statement of research interests, and the names of three referees should be sent to: Prof. Dr. J.J. Hublin, Department of Human Evolution, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Deutscher Platz 6, D-04103 Leipzig Germany. Candidates should ask references to send supporting letters to the same address. Screening of applications will begin January 2006 and will continue until a suitable candidate is found.

THE DIENJE KENYON FELLOWSHIP

A fellowship in honor of the late Dienje M. E. Kenyon is offered through the Society for American Archaeology to support the research of women archaeologists in the early stages of their graduate training. The award, of $500, will be made to a student pursuing research in Zooarchaeology, which was Kenyon’s specialty. To qualify for the award, applicants must be enrolled in a graduate degree program focusing on Archaeology with the intention of receiving either the M.A. or Ph.D. on a topic related to Zooarchaeology, and must be in the first two years of graduate studies. Applications are to consist of: (1) a statement of proposed research related to Zooarchaeology, toward the conduct of which the award would be applied, of no more than 1500 words, including a brief statement indicating how the award would be spent in support of that research; (2) a curriculum vitae; and (3) two letters of support from individuals familiar with the applicant’s work and research potential. One of these letters must be from the student’s primary advisor, and must indicate the year in which the applicant began graduate studies. Strong preference will be given to students working with faculty members with zooarchaeological expertise. Applications, preferably sent via e-mail as an attachment in Microsoft Word, are due no later than January 6, 2006, and are to be sent to Heidi Katz, Thinking Strings, P.O. Box 537, South Orange, NJ 07079, E-mail: hkatz@thinkingstrings.com.

ICAZ Sends its Appreciation

On September 30, 2005, Juan Rosés, who has helped with the updating and maintenance of ICAZ membership databases since September 1, 2002, relinquished his role as assistant to the Secretary. On behalf of the ICAZ Executive Committee and all the members of our organization, I take this opportunity to thank Juan for all his hard work and good efforts he expended over the past three years. We all appreciate how hard it is to keep such a large and diverse database in good order, and we all look forward to Juan’s future active involvement in ICAZ. Gracias de todo corazón, Juan!—Arturo Morales, Secretary

ARCHAEOFAUNA

Beginning with Volume 13 (2004), the international journal of archaeozoology, Archaeofauna, will be included in two Thomson Scientific products, the Arts and Humanities Citation Index® and the Current Contents® Arts & Humanities (http://www.thomsonscientific.com). This is the first time that a journal completely devoted to archaeozoology will appear in the prestigious Journal Citation Reports® series, testifying to the importance that our field has reached within the anthropological sciences. Archaeofauna, whose 14th volume has been recently issued in October 2005, offers a discount rate to ICAZ members (30€ plus shipping and handling) and special rates for back issues. Orders should be addressed to Carmen Alercú (E-mail: carmen@porticolibrerias.es). Consistent with ICAZ’s commitment to fostering international research, Archaeofauna accepts contributions in English, Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, and German. For submission of manuscripts contact Arturo Morales (E-mail: arturo.morales@uam.es). Instructions for authors are available online at http://www.uam.es/otros/paleofau/informacionparalosautores.htm.

ANTHROPOZOOLOGICA

Whether high or low in altitude, mountain slopes and hillsides entail a particular structuring of the natural resources, both spatially and temporally. The strategies of pre-industrial exploitation of these slopes provide a wide range of situations which illustrate the complex interactions between society, human activity, and environment. The articulation between plant production and animal production is at the heart of the strategies used. The round table conference at Penne in Tarn, France (May 6-8, 2004), upon which Anthropozoológica 40(1) is based, was concerned with the contributions of archaeology to these themes.

This volume, entitled “Agriculture and Herding on Mountain Slopes: The View of Archaeologists / Cultures et Élevages par Monts et Par Vaux: Quelle Lecture Archéologique?” edited by Marie-Pierre Ruas and Jean-Denis Vigne, contains nine
A session entitled, “Osteoarchaeology in the Classical Context,” will be held at the 107th Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America in Montréal, Québec, Canada. For more information about this session, contact: Michael MacKinnon (m.mackinnon@uwinnipeg.ca). General conference information can be found online at http://www.archaeological.org.

FEBRUARY 3-4, 2006
The 5th annual symposium of the Scientific Committee of the European Institute of Food History, entitled “Food Excesses (and constraints) in Europe,” will be held in México City, México. For details, contact the organizers: Joaquin Arroyo-Cabrales and Oscar J. Polaco, E-mail: icaz2006@yahoo.com.mx. Information and registration are also available online at http://www.alexandriaarchive.org/bonecommons/icaz2006/.

MARCH 24-25, 2006
A session entitled, “A Zooarchaeological Approach to Romanisation: Cross-Cultural Synthesis or One-Way Traffic?,” will be held at the Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference at Cambridge University, UK. If you are interested in presenting in a paper in this session, contact: James Morris (morrisj@bmth.ac.uk) or Krish Seetah (ks354@hermes.cam.ac.uk). Details available online at http://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/trac06/sessions/sessions.html.

MARCH 28-30, 2006
The Association for Environmental Archaeology Conference, entitled “Novel Environmental Archaeology: Integrating New lines of Evidence and Rethinking Established Techniques,” will be held at the University of Exeter, UK. Submission deadline is the end of November 2005; registration deadline is January 6, 2006. Sessions include bones, seeds and biomolecules: integrating old and new lines of evidence, palaeopathology: social, environmental and evolutionary perspectives, the role of environmental analysis in integrated investigations of ritual deposits, quantitative reconstruction of past landscapes from palaeoecological data, and others. Details available online: http://www.sogaer.ex.ac.uk/archaeology/AEA2006.shtml.

AUGUST 23-28, 2006
The 2006 ICAZ International Conference, hosted by the Escuela Nacional de Conservación, Restauración y Museografía, Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, will be held in México City, México. For details, contact the organizers, Joaquin Arroyo-Cabrales and Oscar J. Polaco, E-mail: icaz2006@yahoo.com.mx. Information and registration are also available online at http://www.alexandriaarchive.org/bonecommons/icaz2006/.

SEPTEMBER 7-9, 2006
The 2nd International Symposium on Biomolecular Archaeology will be held in Stockholm, Sweden. Details will be available online soon at http://www.archaeology.su.se/isba2. For additional information, contact: Professor Kerstin Lidén, Archaeological Research Laboratory, Stockholm University, Sweden. E-mail: kerstin.liden@arklab.su.se.

LATE SEPTEMBER 2006
A multidisciplinary, international conference on the cultural history and ecology of the North Atlantic Region is planned for late September 2006 in Québec City, Canada. This call for papers is extended to both researchers and students working in archaeology, historical and cultural geography, palaeoecology, anthropology, and other related disciplines. The deadline to submit a paper or poster topic is February 1, 2006. For additional information, contact the conference co-chairs: Allison Bain (Allison.Bain@hst.um.edu.mt; Web: http://home.um.edu.mt/medinst/mmhn.html).

OCTOBER 13-15, 2006
The annual conference of the European Association for the Advancement of Archaeology by Experiment (EXAR), entitled Bone and Antler, will be held in Mannheim, Germany. Details online: http://exar.org.

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New Journal Issues

articles concerning ethnozoology, archaeozoology, archaeobotany, and geoarchaeology. Each article is a fertile and original contribution to current archaeological questions: agro-sylvo-pastoral fires, the role of vegetable gardens in the mountains, pastoralism in the Neolithic and the Bronze Age, crop terraces, fodder from trees and fodder cultivation. Methodological questions are also addressed. This volume also contains a CD-rom with two technical notes, two films, and three diaporamas, which reconstitute and enhance our understanding of the practices and knowledge of mountain gardeners, of herders in the Tarn region of southern France, and of the Bakhtiari nomads of Iran.

Please address orders for current and past issues of the journal to: Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle, Service des Publications Scientifiques Diffusion, Anthropozoologica, 57 rue Cuvier, 75231 Paris cedex 05, France; Tél: (33) 01 40 79 48 05; Fax: (33) 01 40 79 38 40; E-mail: diff.pub@mnhn.fr.