

Minutes of the International Council for Archaeozoology
Executive Committee Meeting
México City, México
August 23, 2006

Present: Mindy Zeder (outgoing President), Richard Meadow (outgoing Treasurer), Laszlo Bartosiewicz (incoming President and outgoing vice President), Luis Borrero (incoming vice President), Umberto Albarella (incoming Secretary), Joaquin Arroyo (present Conference Organizer), Jon Driver, Heather Lapham, Sebastian Payne, Oscar Polaco.

The meeting minutes are taken by Umberto due to the absence, due to family problems, of Arturo Morales, the outgoing Secretary.

Mindy introduces the meeting and expresses her delight in being in Mexico City and her thanks to the organizers of the conference for making this possible.

ICAZ 2006 Organisers Report

Joaquin informs the meeting that registration will start at 2pm on the same day and that the inauguration will take place at 7pm. He also makes some remarks about the conference programme. The banquet is moved from the 28th to the 27th due to questions related to the availability of the venue and also to allow more people to take part into it. There will be buses taking all delegates from the conference venue to the banquet venue.

Mindy asks about registration numbers. Joaquin answers that at the last count there were 220 paid registrations, to which about 60 delegates who had their registrations waived for various reasons must be added.

There is some discussion about the conference budget. The organizers will provide a number of meals for free and are not entirely sure about the state of the budget at the moment.

There is some discussion about the awards and how to manage the money brought by Richard for ICAZ and that belonging to the organization of the conference.

Executive Committee Transition

Richard and Arturo will stay on as officers until the end of the year to overlap with Umberto and Pam Crabtree (incoming Treasurer) and help with a smooth transition.

Richard explains the new cycle of ICAZ membership. There are over 70 new members, though many others have not renewed. Membership is quite stable at about 500 members.

Heather sent a reminder with the ICAZ newsletter to members whose membership was coming to an end. However, this reminder did not produce many new subscriptions.

Arturo, Richard, Pam and Umberto will sort out a system to hand over membership management.

It is suggested that Heather, as newsletters editor, and Sarah Kansa, due to her role with BoneCommons, will be co-opted to the EC meeting.

There is general consensus that we should work towards an integrated system of Bone Commons, ICAZ web page and the email discussion list Zooarch. The possibility that the ICAZ web page will be managed via BoneCommons is raised and Sarah Kansa will be approached to discuss this.

The possibility that we should provide members with the option of receiving their newsletter by ordinary mail (the default option now) or simply through the ICAZ webpage is raised. This will provide the opportunity to cut down printing and postage costs.

Preparation for IC and General Meetings

Following an email conversation on this subject Umberto suggests that the outgoing officers (Mindy, Richard and Arturo) and the IC members who had stood for the officers' positions (Jim Enloe, Betsy Reitz and Zbigniew Bochenski) are nominated as new at-large members of the EC. However, Mindy declines the invitation, as she prefers to remain exclusively an IC member for the new cycle. Richard accepts the nomination, whereas Arturo will be nominated in absentia; should he be elected but unwilling to serve as an EC member, the position will go to the first of the non-elected candidates. Of the EC members present Sebastian is willing to stand again, whereas Jon prefers to stand down. Jim, Betsy and Zbigniew will be approached during the conference to find out whether they are prepared to stand. More nominations can of course be put forward at the IC meeting.

Mindy has calculated that 21 members should take part to the IC meeting, according to conference registration record. Some discussion about the IC agenda follows.

Jean-Denis Vigne has agreed to present a bid to the IC for organizing the 2010 ICAZ conference in Paris. Laszlo explains why the Budapest bid, which was originally suggested as a possibility, has been withdrawn. This was mainly due to lack of institutional support.

The venue of the 2008 IC meeting is discussed. The possibility of holding it in Basel is mentioned. Laszlo and Sebastian also respectively mention Budapest and London as other options.

The poster prize will be announced at the General Meeting.

Joaquin confirms to the Committee that, as announced before, the publication of the 2006 ICAZ conference will be up to the individual session organizers.

Conference Registration Procedures

The status of the delegates who have pre-registered as non-ICAZ members but want to join ICAZ on the spot is discussed. It is decided that they will not have their surcharges refunded to avoid administrative difficulties.

Various details of the operations at registration desk are discussed.