



International Council for Archaeozoology

ICAZ International Committee Meeting
Thursday June 16th, 2022, Stockholm University

Agenda

Attendees:

Umberto Albarella, Joaquin Arroyo-Cabres, Shaw Badenhorst, László Bartosiewicz, Luis Borrero, Pam Crabtree, Arati Deshpande-Mukherjee, Cleia Detry, Angelos Hadjikoumis, Hitomi Hongo, Sarah Kansa, Christian Küchelmann, Richard Madgwick, Marjan Mashkour, Richard Meadow, Mariana Mondini, Marta Moreno, Suzie Pilaar Birch, Vicky Piskin, Richard Thomas, Jean-Denis Vigne, Lizzie Wright [On Zoom – Virginia Butler, Sabine Deshler-Erb, Kitty Emery, Erika Gal, Xiaolin Ma, Terry O'Connor, Kat Szabo]

1. Secretary report (Lizzie)

Upcoming elections

This year is election year, as the new EC, IC, President and Vice President will begin their next terms at the International conference next August in Cairns. The elections will take place online this autumn.

The election process has begun:

For the President and Vice-President the Nominating Committee has been formed. This is Pam, Angelos and Joaquin from the IC, who have recruited Angela Maccinerelli and Justin Bradfield from the general membership to help them.

For the election of the IC – 12 people from the current IC have decided not to restand. These are Pam, Umberto, Canan, Ariane, Guy, Luis, Virginia, Christine, Lembi, Salima, Richard Meadow and Kat Szabo. This leaves 22 people from the current IC who are planning to stand again. Some of the people who are standing down do so after many years of service to ICAZ, so thank you to them – I think we need to find a way to celebrate them at some point.

I've had 16 nominations for new candidates – just to break this down very broadly – 8 of these are based in Europe, 2 in North America, 4 in Asia, 1 in Oceania and 1 in Africa. No one has yet been nominated from South America so if anyone can think of suitable candidates to try and keep up our South American contingent they will be very welcome. As far as I know just 1 person who has been nominated is working in the developer-funded sector. There is still some time to nominate more people – the deadline is **11th of August**. Overall we currently have 38 candidates standing so we have enough to run the election, but it would be good to have more than 40 on the ballot. **Update September 2022 – we have 50 on the ballot!**

It's worth pointing out that quite a few of the nominated candidates are on fixed term contracts (or are PhD students) and do not have job stability longer term, and a number of the candidates also have financial limitations

which mean that they will not be able to attend in-person meetings without some kind of help. If we want to promote diversity within ICAZ structures this is something that we need to think about. At the moment I don't think there is an official policy on this, which is why Sarah and I have included a discussion of this a bit later on in the agenda.

Action point: Lizzie to put deadline for election nominations in newsletter - done

Bids for International Conference 2027

In August we should start inviting bids for our next international conference, which will now be in 2027. Could this go in the next Newsletter (when will this come out?). The deadline will be in December this year.

- There has been a tradition of alternating international meetings between hemispheres.
- Could North America be a good candidate for 2027?
- Open call and brainstorming about options. To be discussed further in the IC meeting.

Action point: Lizzie to write something for next newsletter - done

Social Media Coordinator

Thanks to everyone who helped in the selection process for our Social Media Co-ordinator. We chose Shyama Vermeersch, who's based in Groningen. She's done a really good job of raising the profile of ICAZ on Twitter. She sent this report:

The ICAZ Twitter account has been received with open arms by the (zoo)archaeological community. It has received many positive responses, and the follower count is on the rise. Since the revival of the ICAZ twitter account in March, it has gained 330 followers and we now have 484 followers (status: June 1st).

The goals of the ICAZ Twitter account are to...

- promote ICAZ and its activities
- promote zooarchaeological activities
- provide ECR with a platform
- facilitate collaborations
- building a virtual community

This is achieved by...

- (re)tweeting about ICAZ's activities
- regularly tweeting a thread on the benefits (and costs) of an ICAZ membership
- retweeting new publications from zooarchaeologists
- retweeting zooarchaeology-related posts by zooarchaeologists of all career phases
- having #FaunaFriday. This is a post where zooarchaeologists can introduce themselves and their work, to gain exposure and find new connections

Through the ICAZ Twitter account, I was asked to organise a call-to-action workshop on zooarchaeology and social media for the *Zooarchaeology Saves The World* conference on May 20th. This shows the positive reception of the new Twitter account by the zooarchaeological community.

Now baseline work has been done and the ICAZ twitter account is gaining a small following, I want to increase the follower count and especially engagement. To do this, I will introduce threads on ICAZ history and its board members, and actively start commenting on tweets from zooarchaeologists.

Regarding the social media future of ICAZ, I suggest focussing on the Twitter account for now. Gaining followers and especially getting engagement is a time-consuming activity for this platform. Once the account is established, we may consider exploring other social media.

Stemming from Erika's comment on Working Group Twitter accounts – maybe concerted effort should be put into linking up the accounts. I know that some groups (e.g. Medieval period working group) have accounts that are already doing this.

2. Treasurer report (Suzie)

Overview

- ICAZ ended the 2021 fiscal year (October 1, 2020-September 30, 2021) with a total of \$70,869.05 in our two accounts.
- Total expenditures so far this year are approximately \$5,660 (newsletter and conference support).
- Total income so far this year has been approximately \$10,000 (membership renewals)
- We currently have approximately \$75,000, and with anticipated expenses and income, I expect the end of year balance to be roughly the same. Our balance has fluctuated between 68-75 for the last several years.
- Taxes filed in early 2022, this was the first year we had to file electronically. Still tax exempt but have to show our income and expenditures.

Conference Support Fund

- Since October 2021, we have supported three working groups: Taphonomy, Mediaeval Period, and Neotropical Zooarchaeology, for a total of approximately \$3,000 (plus incidental fees/transfer rates differences). Two paid via PayPal which is much easier, one via bank wire.
 - On the subject of the working group support fund: It seems like PZAF will also be submitting an application, so that will bring us to four groups. In 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 cycles, we have supported three conferences each year. We said our limit is five, and so this seems like a non-issue; we'll see if any other groups request support before October, but we could theoretically support whoever asks. I recommend keeping current wording/policy of five with this in mind.
 - The Neotropical group requested funds while the conference was ongoing; we agreed to support them, but changed wording in the application form and for the newsletter to indicate that applications, while rolling, should be made well in advance (e.g. 6 months).
 - PZAF returned \$115 in unused funds, as stipulated in the application language. They were the first to do this and it was fairly uncomplicated as they just returned it via PayPal.

Other Expenses

- We have also paid our newsletter editor and associate editor for January, \$2,000 and \$500, respectively, plus \$30 each to cover the cost of the transfer fees.
- Financial support for IC meeting attendance available
- We will also pay the social media coordinator an honorarium/stipend of \$500 in this instance.

Membership

- Membership renewals have been high so far this year. The meeting would normally have taken place in 2022, so this is a big year for membership renewals. It will be interesting to see how the delay in the meeting affects renewals; do people renew anyway or will they wait until next year? So far it seems like they are following the email prompts, which is good, hopefully continues.

- Issues-Sarah and I are aware and we are working on some website glitches to streamline
- One issue that has recently come up with membership payment is that a lot of people are not able to use PayPal and have been asking to wire funds instead. Are there alternatives we can consider for international payments? Credit card payments for ICAZ Australia? (Square?)
 - Look into Square and other options
- Alongside membership questions is that of the free memberships for student members in poor countries. I show here a quick screen grab from PayPal. As we can see, membership of paying members skewed (only last 8 months, but still representative)
 - Currently 80 free memberships, from Chile, China, Columbia, Argentina, Turkey, and some European countries. Still low representation in Africa and Asia.
 - Keep membership fees same prices, though maybe increase lifetime membership \$500 to \$1000 (depending on country?)
 - Seems like no need at present
 - Continue to offer free memberships on annual basis?
 - Yes
- Another comment about membership-right now there is a glitch where some people's memberships are automatically renewed when they pay, which means I have to go through manually and check them. This takes me time but results in a lot of people getting worried about it; need to maybe set up PayPal on the website again.
 - Side note about PayPal fees-not insubstantial (over \$500) but still a relatively small percentage. Bank wires are a pain.

Use of Funds for the Future

- Since 2015, we've fluctuated between this \$68-75,000 mark. So we have money to spend.
- Last time we met, we discussed this surplus and as a result, came up with the conference support fund.
 - Possible ICAZ main conference support fund: how much, and application criteria/structure?
 - Contact Melanie to find out whether and how much conference has set aside
 - Annual competition for research support funds (and what amounts-several small grants of \$500, or?)
 - Similar to conference support: total of \$5k per year, up to \$1k each, annual deadline, committee of 4 from IC to be formed; report due within one year for newsletter
 - Language about supporting diversity/justification
 - Ranking-express what is their current funding availability

Notes from the Floor?

- Need to advertise availability of funding support for IC meeting attendance.
- Keep informal; send a call out several months before IC meeting will take place to request that people get in touch with funding requests.
- Funding support IC this time around?
 - Made announcement at IC meeting treasurer report
- EC Agreement on 4 main areas of funding (*from Lizzie's notes*)
 - a. IC/EC meetings – put out call in advance of meeting asking people to let Suzie know what they might need. This can be fairly informal.
 - b. Australia support – tbc after discussion with Australian

- c. Research award - \$5000 max (up to \$1000 per award). Required to submit report afterwards for newsletter
- d. Annual conference support fund – continues in same way as before.

Max pot of money you can apply for and then committee decides.

Action points:

- Sarah and Suzie will meet to discuss all of the webpage glitches and also cost out how much money needs to be set aside for webmaster going into future.
- Suzie will continue to work on transactions issue
- Put something in newsletter on lifetime membership
- Working Groups to provide reports to newsletter on meetings
- Suzie will set out the amounts that are available for the different funds
- Research fund will be advertised in newsletter
- Find out what funding situation is for Australia – are they planning on providing a fund to help attendance? What about prizes?
- Ad-hoc committee to be formed from IC to review funding applications – 4 people from IC plus Suzie.

3. Working groups report (Erika)

Summary of report – powerpoint is appended to the minutes:

There are 18 ICAZ working groups, and one affiliated group, further details of which can be found on the website:

[https:// www.alexandriaarchive.org/icaaz/working](https://www.alexandriaarchive.org/icaaz/working).

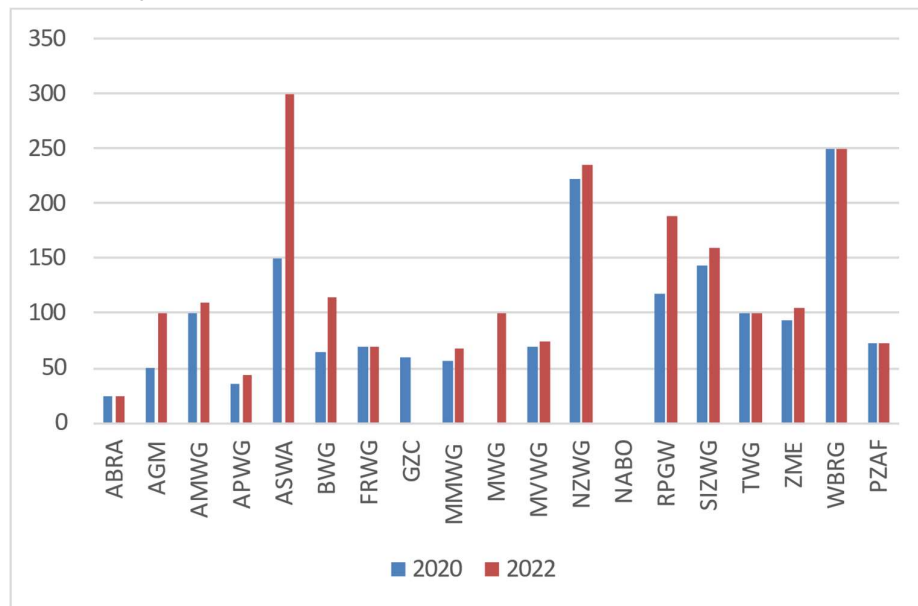
The current list of active groups (and liaison officers) comprises:

- Archaeozoology of the Baltic Region and Adjacent Areas Working Group (ABRA) (Eve Rannamäe)
- Archaeozoology, Genetics, Proteomics and Morphometrics Working Group (AGPM) (Thomas Cucchi)
- Archaeomalacology Working Group (AMWG) (Daniella E. Bar-Yosef)
- Animal Palaeopathology Working Group (APWG) (Eve Rannamäe)
- Archaeozoology of Southwest Asia and Adjacent Areas Working Group (ASWA[AA]) (Hitomi Hongo)
- Bird Working Group (BWG) (Hanneke Meijer)
- Fish Remains Working Group (FRWG) (Alfred Galik)
- Grupo de Zooarqueología de Camelidos (GZC) (Pablo Mercolli)
- Marine Mammal Working Group (MMWG) (Aikaterini Glykou)
- Medieval Working Group (MWG) (Veronica Aniceti and Idoia Grau-Sologestoa)
- Microvertebrate Working Group (MVWG) (Angel BlancoLapaz and Sara E. Rhodes)
- Neotropical Zooarchaeology Working Group (NZWG) (A. Sebastián Muñoz)
- Zooarchaeology of the Roman Period (RPWG) (Sabine Deschler-Erb and Silvia Valenzuela-Lamas)
- Stable Isotopes in Zooarchaeology Working Group (SIZWG) (Roz Gillis)
- Taphonomy Working Group (TWG) (Ana B. Marín-Arroyo)
- Worked Bone Research Group Working Group (WBRG) (Marianne Christensen)
- Zooarchaeology of the Modern Era Working Group (ZMEWG) (Rebecca Gordon)
- Postgraduate ZooArchaeology Forum (PZAF) (Goran Tomac and Antonela Barbir)

Based on the information available, it appears that many of the working group memberships are growing, and overall most of the working groups are very active, as shown in the graph below.

Since 2020, two of the working groups have published proceedings, and about eight more proceedings are underway. Six working groups have their own website in addition to the website of the ICAZ. At least EIGHT of the working groups have social media accounts on at least two platforms: the Archaeomalacology Working Group, Animal Palaeopathology Working Group, Fish Remains Working Group, Grupo de Zooarqueología de Camelidos, Medieval Working Group, Microvertebrate Working Group, Worked Bone Research Group Working Group and Postgraduate ZooArchaeology Forum can be found on Facebook, while the Medieval Working Group is also present on Twitter.

Working group membership numbers, as known in 2022. For abbreviations, see the list above



Lizzie's notes:

The status of NABO is currently unclear – they are not responding to e-mails

The status of the camelid working group is unclear – is this group still affiliated with ICAZ? No mention of ICAZ at most recent meeting.

Action points:

- In the EC meeting a number of strategies for clarifying the situation with NABO and the Camelid working group were discussed – see EC minutes for details.

4. Newsletter update (Eva will provide report and may zoom in).

Eva's report is appended to these minutes

5. Website updates (Sarah)

- Website:
 - The site is running smoothly and is easy to update. The WG liaisons send in their updates periodically, at Erika's request. Mariana did a fantastic job of collecting images and bios for ICAZ Remembers. The ICAZ publications page, which draws on the Zotero bibliography that Idoia maintains, is working but can be a bit "glitchy", requiring reloading the page to do a new search. This was custom-built so it takes some babysitting. The database has grown a lot. NOTE: In the IC meeting, this point led to a discussion

about adding bibliographies from other groups. Can we pull in other bibliographic databases or link to them?

- In the 2020 meeting, we discussed how it would be helpful if content from the Newsletter could be added to the ICAZ website in a more streamlined way. Need a strong link between the NL editors and the Webmaster. Webmaster needs access to text that goes into the newsletter.
- Code of Conduct is posted on the website. We'd like to encourage its use for conferences and working group meetings. Perhaps Erika can share the Code of Conduct along with other working group information when she communicates with WG liaisons and encourage them to use it. We can also look into highlighting it more on the website.
- BoneCommons update:
 - About a year ago, we made a switch over to a service called SiteGround, which keeps the AAI site running more smoothly. The sites that were in Wordpress needed a lot of updates and management and SiteGround provides this well. However, when we made that move, BoneCommons stopped showing live. The files are all still there but the site needs to be either custom updated or migrated elsewhere to make the files show.
 - Recommend migrating BoneCommons (uses Omeka) to somewhere else like humanitiescommons.org. BC was started in 2006. In 2022, there are other services that offer the things we need without needing us to custom build something. (For example, photos and publication can be posted in all sorts of places and linked to the ZOOARCH list.) Humanitiescommons.org offers these kinds of things and would let people build their own nodes in our community.

Mariana asked if there is a way to link interests in working groups to actual working groups, Sarah will look into this.

Christian has checked links on website – this has been updated.

Action points:

- Eva will send Sarah an editable version of newsletter so that content can be put onto website.
- Sarah will investigate website glitches
- Sarah will look into putting tweets onto website
- Sarah will send Eva some text for newsletter about using code of conduct at all conferences.
- Sarah will explore alternatives to bonecommons and how much time, effort and cost would be involved.
- Sarah will look into linking working group interest options on profiles on website with the actual working groups.
- Sarah will look into adding a "donate" button on the website.
- Christian to send text to newsletter to remind people about labs resource.

6. Membership/widening participation scheme update (Sarah, Suzie)

Reaching out to working groups

Open it out beyond IC contacts – Sarah to put something together.

Zoom hubs

Feature some of new members in newsletter/social media

7. Diversifying the IC – nominees, financial support etc (Lizzie, Sarah)

Ask nominees to think about how they want to present themselves in their statements for the election – where are they based? Where do they work? How would they like to be categorised? Pronouns?

Students reps? Does this put them at a “lower grade”?

Action point: Send out another call for nominations and expand wording about diversity (inc students etc) - done

Motion to form a diversity committee – led by Kitty and Lizzie - passed

8. Functioning of the IC

- Should the IC meeting at international conference be a handover meeting involving both ingoing and outgoing members?

Provide more information about how the IC works for new members. This will be integrated into meeting in Australia.

- Should we make yearly virtual meetings the norm? (question from Ariane)

Yes – Action Points: Lizzie amend the statutes

Motion that for every year we don't have an in person meeting we have a virtual meeting - passed

9. Health and Safety page

A reminder to everyone that this page exists

Ariane has been maintaining it but would like to pass on responsibility for this – is there anyone who would be interested in taking this on? It shouldn't take too much work.

Action point: if no takers then perhaps this could be advertised in the next newsletter?

10. Report from current conference organiser (Melanie)

Melanie was not present at the meeting but Lizzie, Sarah and Suzie are in touch with her about the conference and the website is almost ready to go live.

The session call deadline is likely to be 1st November and the abstract deadline end of January 2023

11. 2027 International Conference options

- There was discussion around the potential for a North American conference. Suzie was going to discuss the possibility of hosting at UGA with Betsy.
- People expressed the importance of including hybrid options in all future conferences, a balance needs to be found because this can be pricey
- We should ask for feedback from the people who organised the Zooarchaeology Saves the World conference on tackling timezones etc

Action point: Environmental statement – Richard Thomas to draft something

12. Update on social media situation

This is included in section 1 above

13. Update/more discussion on 50th anniversary celebrations

Ideas

- Need to check-in with conference organisers if they have anything planned
- Committee of Honour could do something? – Live or videos?

- Memoir session at conference and/or keynote?
- Birthday party with a big cake
- New member vignettes – the next 50 years
- Birthday t-shirt design
- Archiving ICAZ documents and the history of ICAZ as an organisation

Things to consider re an archive:

- Could physical documents be archived in the museum in Paris? Then they will be curated.
- Could apply for grants to help pay for this. Could pay students to digitise everything.
- Need to put together an inventory of what could be included in this. E.g. Member lists, Conference attendees, Meeting programmes, Proceedings of conferences, Group photos, Create a spreadsheet of what we have and then ask general membership for these items.

Action point: Jean-Denis and Marjan to ask Christine if she has archival information and lead on the collection of archival material

14. Any other business

Publication of conference proceedings from all ICAZ related meetings (Pam)

Often participants are not being kept in the loop with the publication of proceedings, something especially important for junior people.

Virginia suggested adding text to the code of conduct to reflect this.

INQUA conference

Advertise by Joaquin