

ICAZ International Committee Meeting Minutes¹

The ICAZ International Committee (IC) held its business meeting in Visegrád, Hungary, on August 30, 2008. Present: Umberto Albarella (Secretary), László Bartosiewicz (President), Guy Bar-Oz, Zbigniew Bochenski, Luís Borrero (Vice-President), Pam Crabtree (Treasurer), Roel Lauwerier, Christine Lefèvre, Terry O'Connor, Sebastian Payne, Ina Plug, Wietske Prummel, Richard Redding, Elizabeth Reitz, Joerg Schibler, Jean-Denis Vigne, Melinda Zeder. Participation (17) is above quorum (12). Apologies from absentees.

Membership and the State of the Organization: Online membership facilities are now functional. Pam Crabtree reports on membership. There are ca.\$1000 worth of new membership registration. Online registration is helping to recruit members substantially. There is a mix of new members and renewals. Some discussion about facilities for members presently available online takes place. Questions are raised regarding the need to get consent from members to have their own membership details available to other members. ACTION: Pam will get in touch with Sarah Kansa, the ICAZ webmaster, to sort out the issue of consent. Terry O'Connor mentions that it would be useful to check movements regarding attempts to online registration occurred in the last couple of months. ACTION: Pam will take care of this. Melinda Zeder raises the possibility of moving the membership database from FileMaker Pro to Excel software as the latter is much more commonly used. Luís Borrero mentions that payment for membership dues through PayPal may represent a problem for some South American colleagues. Umberto Albarella mentions that now that online facilities are available a membership drive should be implemented. Among other activities it is mentioned that a downloadable publicity flyer could be made available on the ICAZ Website and/or BoneCommons and could be included in paper version in the next newsletter. ACTION: Umberto to coordinate this with Heather Lapham and Sarah Kansa. Elizabeth Reitz suggests that a membership form could be included by default in each newsletter.

ICAZ Newsletter: A report by Heather Lapham, the Newsletter's editor, was read in her absence. In the report Heather highlights the healthy status of the newsletter and mentions her intention to propose a new design for it, on which she is currently working. Sebastian Payne suggests that when contributors submit publication details to the newsletter they should be encouraged to add an URL in those cases when free downloadable versions of the publications are available. Following a query raised by Richard Redding, a general sentiment is expressed that the newsletter still needs a paper copy to be produced alongside the electronic version. Melinda Zeder confirms the Smithsonian Institution is still prepared to pay the postage of the newsletter to the membership. Words of thanks are expressed to all people who contribute to make the newsletter such a key part of ICAZ life, particularly to Heather for her hard and high quality work and to the Smithsonian for supporting it.

ICAZ Website: It is suggested that the membership list is made available in the "for members only" section of the website. ACTION: Umberto to liaise with Sarah to sort this out (discussion on the subject was ongoing even before the meeting). This is also relevant to the issue of consent to make own details available, as discussed above. It is also suggested that a more explicit link to the BoneCommons area where downloadable articles are included is added to the ICAZ Website. ACTION: Umberto to liaise with

Sarah to sort this out. It was also discussed that the posting on BoneCommons of pdfs of out of print or rare, classic books or articles be encouraged if copyright issues could be solved.

Financial Update: Pam Crabtree states that as of July 2008 ICAZ has an available fund of \$32,766.52, which is reasonably healthy. She also states that bank charges in the management of small cheques for which currency had to be converted have been a problem in the past. The problem has been mitigated by the present system of online membership payment through PayPal, which allows issuing larger cheques and therefore reducing bank charges. Pam suggests opening a new bank account in America, to transfer money coming from PayPal. This would allow issuing a credit card, whose details can be provided to PayPal as a guarantee. At the moment a private card is used. A credit card from the British account will not help as PayPal requires an American card. The suggestion is approved by the IC. ACTION: Pam to open a new account. Richard Redding suggests that ICAZ tries to acquire 501(c)(3) status, which means that by being listed as a non-profit organizations it can have exemption from the federal income tax. ACTION: Pam to act on this.

Commemorative Initiatives: László Bartosiewicz suggests raising a fund of \$500 (every four years) in memory of Stine Rossel. This will be used as a contribution towards the expenses of a Ph.D. student attending an ICAZ conference. Elizabeth Reitz suggests setting up a commemorative fund which can be used to assign a number of different awards. Sebastian Payne suggests that donations can be made to the general ICAZ account, with the treasurer taking note of those funds that will be needed to be set apart for commemorative awards. László's suggestion is approved by the IC and it is also decided that, as we wait for the commemorative fund to become available, \$500 are set aside from the present ICAZ account for the award in Stine's memory. It is suggested that Stine's award should be advertised through the usual means—the ICAZ Newsletter, BoneCommons, ZOOARCH listserv, etc. ACTION: A task force composed of László Bartosiewicz, Pam Crabtree, Richard Redding and Guy Bar-Oz is set up to contact Stine's family, set criteria for assigning the award, and evaluate applications. It is also suggested that a profile of Stine be circulated in conjunction with the advert of the award. A symposium in memory of Anneke Clason is suggested for the ICAZ 2010 conference, but decisions about further initiatives to remember Anneke are postponed.

ICAZ 2010 International Conference: Jean-Denis Vigne provides details of the conference organisation. The conference will be held at the P. and M. Curie University near the Jardin des Plantes in central Paris. The planned schedule for the conference is the following: August 23 (registration), August 24 (sessions), August 25 (sessions), August 26 (field trip, business meetings), August 27 (sessions; plenary session on central and eastern Europe), August 28 (sessions, closing session, ICAZ general meeting). Conference location and facilities of the conference centre are described. Accessibility and potential accommodation are also discussed. The organising committee is made of Vigne/Lefèvre/Patou-Mathis et al. A scientific committee has not yet been sorted out. The conference will have no official language and the main thematic priorities will be central and eastern Europe, Palaeolithic, history of archaeozoology. The following milestones have been set up: November 2008 (call for sessions), April 2009 (opening of conference website on BoneCommons), June 2009 (call for papers), and November 2009 (call for abstracts).

The CNRS will manage any public grants provided to the conference, while HASRI will manage private sponsorships. The private company ALPHA VISA CONGRES will help with the organisation. They will cost 11% of the total budget, which is low when compared to alternative options. In terms of sponsorship the organisers are aiming for small local companies rather than big trans-nationals. Various sponsors have already been accepted and these include the P. and M. Curie University, the Museum of Natural History, CNIEL, Bioarch and LECHE. Other potential sponsors are currently under discussion. The registration fee should be below €250 (€150 for students). Jean-Denis also provides an account of planned conference excursions. In brief, these include visits to Upper Palaeolithic sites, the medieval king's city of St Denis and proto-historic and Roman sites in the Chartres area. There will also be some post-conference excursions. László Bartosiewicz reports on what the EC has discussed regarding ICAZ 2010. It is decided that any financial loan that the ICAZ 2010 organisers should require from ICAZ will be approved by the EC rather than the IC.

ICAZ 2014 International Conference Venue: Various possible venues are discussed. There is a general consensus that it would be highly desirable to hold the 2014 ICAZ conference in a continent where it has not yet been organised (i.e., away from Europe and North America). A call for conference bids will be included in the next newsletter.

Professional Protocols: A draft of the professional protocols document had been circulated prior to the meeting by Elizabeth Reitz, who is heading the task force on this issue. It is agreed that the Task Force would make one last round of revisions and that the next version of the protocols would be announced in the Newsletter with a comment period open from October (2008) until February (2009), fitting with newsletter deadlines. At the end of the comment period, we would have a final draft reported in the spring newsletter (and a vote at some point). It is also decided that the document will be posted to Bone Commons, the ZOOARCH listserv, and the ICAZ Website during the comment period in order to reduce the pages required in the newsletter. Since not all members of the task force have been equally active Elizabeth suggests that two more people are added to it. Sebastian Payne and Guy Bar-Oz join the task force.

ICAZ Working Groups: László reports to the IC what the EC has discussed on the subject (see minutes of EC meeting). Zbigniew Bochenski is appointed as the IC communication officer with the working groups. ACTION: László will send an email to all working groups liaison officers to update the situation and to inform them of Zbigniew's new role. Wietske Prummel reports on the successful bird WG meeting just held in Groningen. She remarks that to have the opportunity to use BoneCommons was very helpful. There were about 40 participants in Groningen, with a very good geographic spread. Luminita Bejenaru will organise the next bird WG meeting in Iasi (Romania). László reports that Richard Thomas is going to stand down as liaison office for the Palaeopathology WG. Jean-Denis reports on the biomolecular working group, mentioning that at the last conference there was lower participation and a proportionately smaller number of osteoarchaeologists. The next meeting will be held in Basel or Mainz. The other WGs are briefly discussed. Reports have been received, in one form or the other, for all WGs, with the exception of NABO.

Election of New Officers and IC Members: A call for presidential nominations will be included in the next newsletter. Luís Borrero, Christine Lefèvre, and Terry O'Connor will be part of a nominating committee for the next president and vice-president. They will also identify two non-IC members who are prepared to be part of the committee and will inform the IC accordingly. They will also decide who is going to chair the committee and let the IC know. The new IC must be made of 30 members. The EC is going to find out how many members of the current IC will be invited to stand again and how many are prepared to do so. Once this has been decided the EC will invite the IC to suggest additional candidates. A call for nominations of IC candidates will be included in the next newsletter.

Changes to ICAZ Statutes: A discussion regarding potential changes to the statutes takes place. It is agreed that points 4.2.2, 5.4, 5.6.3, and 6.4.4 should be considered for revision. A task force for changes to statutes is proposed. This will be composed of Melinda (chair), Sebastian, Umberto, Pam, and Roel Lauwerier.

Other Business: Richard Redding proposes the establishment of a "development officer" who will look into ways in which the finances of ICAZ can be improved. A Task Force for ICAZ financial development is created and this will be composed of Redding (chair), Reitz, O'Connor and Schibler.

¹Contributed by Umberto Albarella, Secretary, ICAZ.