

ICME BOARD MEETING 2018 KEY POINTS FROM THE MINUTES (Draft Viv & Keiko at 21.10.18)

Date: Monday, 8 October, 2018

Venue: Hotel Tartu, 5th Floor

Time: TBC 16.00-18.00

Chair: Viv (Chairing meeting)

Secretary: Keiko volunteered to take minutes in place of Sylvia

1. **Attendance** TBC (Viv, Agnes, Mario, Ulf, Keiko, Martin, Tone) & **Apologies** (Sylvia, Ralf, Laurie, Jenny, Sarah, Brittany, Graeme, Kiwon, Esther)
2. **All** board members gave a brief (2-3 minute) outline of their personal museum and university projects during 2018 and forthcoming
3. **Viv** gave a Chair's Report on the following points and noted the full details will be available, as usual, in the 2018 annual report:
 - a) Annual conferences & committees

Thanks were given to Agnes, Mario, Sylvia, Ulf & Brittany who comprised the excellent 2018 conference committee;

Thanks were given to Keiko and Taku Iida who have been working on the Kyoto 2019 Conference. Keiko will report on this work later at the board meeting. She will show the ppt she has prepared for the AGM. Taku will show a promotional video at the AGM.
 - b) Fellowships

Thanks were given to Ralf, Laurie and Tone for their fellowship work. Five Fellowships were awarded to: Ms. Suvdaa Sampil (Mongolia); Mr Wycliffe Oloo Omondi (Kenya); Mr Abdelrahman Othman (Egypt); Ms Ms. Tatjana Bugarski (Serbia) and Ms. Saamia Ahmed (Pakistan). Wycliffe and Saamia both experienced visa problems this year. Because of her visa problems Saamia's award was transferred to the Horniman meeting in November, where she will represent ICOM Pakistan.
 - c) Communication
 1. Website. Thanks were given to Mario for regularly uploading information to the ICME website;
 2. Publication 2018. Thanks were given to Jenny for co-editing the forthcoming ICME volume *Museums and Communities: Diversity and Dialogue in an Age of Migration*, which is at the typesetting stage and scheduled for publication with Cambridge Scholars Published later this year. The book has sixteen chapters from authors around the world and a range of excellent images that will be shown at the AGM;
 3. Newsletter; Thanks were given especially to Jenny, Mario and the designer Tihana Nalić for the newly formatted and organized ICME News. The object and country focus sections in particular have received positive feedback;
 - d) Special Projects, Research, Training: The following ICME work was noted prior to fuller details in the annual report

1. *Ethos. What We Do.* Thanks were given to Laurie who led a team to work on this project. Laurie sent Viv highlights for the Board meeting prior to making a full report at the AGM (see below)

2. *Human Remains Management.* Thanks were given to CAM, ICOM South Africa, Jeremy Silvester ICOM Namibia. ICME was represented on this collaborative project by Jeremy Silvester in 2018, which is now in its second year. In 2018 a workshop was held in Namibia, where the online exhibition was launched. ICME helped develop the text panels for the exhibition that we hope will be online in 2019. A chapter on this CAM led project will appear in the next ICME publication.

3. *Engaging Communities.* Thanks were given to Sylvia for the collaborative activities she has been leading with ICOM Pakistan. In May 2018 five intensive days of workshop activities were delivered at Kinnaird Women's College Lahore by Sylvia and Viv. Thirty participants benefitted from this training course and contact has been maintained to improve training opportunities in Pakistan;

4. *Re-imagining the Human: Exploring Best Practice in Object-led work with Ethnographic Collections.*^[1] Thanks were given to ICOM Germany, ICOM Croatia, ICOM Norway, ICOM Pakistan and the Horniman Museum and Gardens for developing this successful special project bid to ICOM. The dates of this conference and workshop are 28-29 November.^[1] Guidelines will be produced and made available at the ICME website in due course.

5. *Representations of Identity and Power: Enunciation in Museums* with ICOM Chile & CECA. Thanks were given to the National Museum of Art in Santiago Chile where Viv delivered a lecture and participated at two workshops with CECA representatives.

6. ICOM requests: ICME answered ICOM requests for comments on museums and gender equality, for suggesting published papers on Indigenous Peoples, and to work on the Brazil catastrophe. Tone was thanked for leading ICME's work in Brazil and she will speak at a forthcoming conference in Rio.

7. ICME name addition proposal. Viv thanked President Suay Aksoy for her ideas on ICME's name. The name ICME does not describe the full extent of the work on Diversity and Indigenous Peoples ICME undertakes and there is a danger that ICME will continue to lose members to newly formed committees. ICOM cannot add more and more new committees and so Viv made a proposal that was seconded by Tone that the words Diversity & Indigenous Peoples be added to the name ICME. This would make the committee ICMEDIP. This proposal would be taken to the AGM for discussion in Estonia and further disseminated via the Newsletter and the Yahoo list over the coming months. Martin and Mario expressed some opposition to this proposal. Martin said he believed the "What we do" statement must be confirmed before ICME can address a name change.

e) 2019 ICME Board elections. Viv thanked Ulf for adding this item to the agenda. She noted the procedure for ICME elections requires two ICME members who are not board members to lead the process and highlighted

Tone's role on the elections in 2013. ICME board members will canvass the memberships for offers to conduct the next elections in Kyoto.

A call for candidates to join the next ICME board (2019-2022) will be included in the next Newsletter and at the yahoo list. Prospective board members will need to submit their proposals by March/April 2019.

Ulf suggested board members apply for specific roles and the number of board members is limited to nine. (As Ulf was unable to attend the AGM Keiko wanted to propose this motion at the AGM.)

Ulf and Martin both declared their intent to stand as Chair of ICME (2019-2022);

g) Annual conferences post 2019. Viv thanked Ulf for adding this item to the agenda. She noted tentative offers to host conference from Azerbaijan and Czech Republic. Agnes suggested Norway might be approached through Tone to host a post 2019 conference.

4. **Ulf** Treasurer's Report. Ulf gave a paper noting the healthy financial position of ICME.
5. **Sylvia (via Viv)** Secretary's Report: The issues many ICs faced gaining accurate figures for membership from the IRIS database was noted. ICME membership in January 2017 was believed to stand at 404 members. The pleasing figures for Likes (2,557) and Followers (2,328) at Facebook were noted.
6. **Mario** Webmaster's Report. Mario noted the forthcoming changes to the ICOM website that were made in 2018 and the further changes to follow imminently.
7. **Laurie (via Viv)** ICME 'What we do' Working Group Report. Laurie sent an outline of the committee's report that Viv read to the meeting. Laurie observed

In response to intermittent discussions among some ICME members over the past few years about revisions to ICME's mission, name and identity, ICME President Viv Golding called for a Working Group on "What We Do" to examine the larger ICME membership's attitudes toward our current mission and the committee's name. She invited me, as a second-term board member, to lead it.

Through the spring and early summer of 2018, five members of a newly formed Working Group created a questionnaire asking individuals to define and describe their institutions and collections and distributed it to the ICME membership.

Of about 402 individual and institutional members of ICME, only 37 responded. Of 16 board members, 7 responded to the questionnaire. In total, we had less than a 10% response rate to our questionnaire.

Even with limited response, though, we did gather some interesting information.

A varied range of museums responded to the questionnaire, including

university, open air and First Nation cultural institutes as well as large national museums. A unifying factor for respondents was less the type of institution they came from or studied than was a similarity in approach to working with cultures and cultural objects, which often was described as collaborative with communities and/or groups whose artifacts were in the museum.

Many respondents were not concerned with the term ethnographic. They did not problematize it but rather, as I stated above, explained the approaches they took to their collections, however they were categorized or defined.

Some respondents argued for broadening the social spectrum of peoples and communities represented in their collections while others argued that politics had no place in a mission statement for ICME, although could be applied to particular museum initiatives.

While responses were revealing of a wide-ranging membership, there was a shared concern among the Working Group that less than half of ICME board members completed the questionnaire, and only a small percentage of other members filled it out. What is the general level of participation of ICME members?

More outreach, via social media and other Internet platforms, including language translation, could broaden the members' participation, although the questionnaire had been posted on all ICME internet platforms. The Working Group members suggest that the questionnaire cannot stop now. It needs more follow up and perhaps more pointed questions about where ICME goes from here.

8. **Jenny (via Viv)** Newsletter Report. Jen thanked Mario for all his help with the newly formatted ICME News. She especially noted the excellent new design and brilliant designer Tihana Nalić. She highlighted the new structure and sections including news, object focus and country focus as well as the range of short and longer pieces that Sarah has helped develop and that have proved popular with readers. Once again Jen is pleased to report that ICME will produce four issues in 2018. Finally she reiterates the need for everyone on the board to contribute articles and photo essays
9. **Agnes** Conference 2018 Report. Agnes thanks the 2018 Conference Committee board members (Ulf, Brittany, Mario, Sylvia and Viv). She looked forward to an inspiring conference.
Keiko Conference 2019 Report. Keiko gave a ppt on the progress for the next triennial. She noted the venue at Kyoto International Conference Center (ICC Kyoto), the dates 2-9 September 2019 and the theme MUSEUM AS CULTURAL HUBS: The Future of Tradition, which aimed at supporting collaborative partnerships and invigorating communities at the local level.

Keiko outlined the ICME programme that was discussed with Professor

Yoshida Kenji during their meeting in September 2018. Professor Yoshida suggested the ICME Theme of Diversity and Universality for the Off-site meeting (5 September) that would be hosted at the National Museum of Ethnology (Minpaku), Osaka.

ICME will have a joint programme with CimCim (the musical instruments and Music IC). Professor Yoshida will give a keynote speech on behalf of ICME and CimCim will select a keynote speaker in due course.

There will be joint panel sessions, gallery visits (to the permanent & special exhibitions) and behind the scenes tours as well as a reception at Minpaku.

Further Information can be obtained from ICOM Kyoto 2019

<http://icom-kyoto-2019.org/>

10. AOB. No matters were raised.

11. Agnes Agnes suggested postponing the Annual Board members group photo as the light was fading and we could include Laurie at a later date.