

**Minutes CECA General Assembly 2017 – London (UK)**

**15-10-2017, 13.00-14.45 hrs – Banqueting Suite, Tower of London**

1. **Opening - Agenda**

President Mila Chiovatto opens the General Assembly and welcomes all participants. She announces that Arja van Veldhuizen will chair the General Assembly.

1. **Adoption of the Minutes of the General Assembly 2016 in Milan**

Arja van Veldhuizen presents the minutes of the General Assembly 2016 in Milan pointing out that due to the departure of Cinzia Angelini some parts of the minutes are missing. No recollections of those missing information are available and they could not be completed by members of the board.

The minutes were adopted unanimously.

1. **Core reports**
* **President’s report**

Mila Chiovatto presents her activities as president and those done under the CECA umbrella. Her written report will be put online on the CECA website. She adds a few words, underlining the wonderful job that CECA Board did this year: International joint annual conference; International workshop supported by ICOM; Development in the social media; Research Award; Best Practice Award; Three publications (Best practice 6; ICOM Education 27 Special issue on research; Proceedings of the Milan conference). Also, several local meetings were held in Cordoba, México and Portugal. Presently, a project to be nominated as ICOM Special-Project is in development.

* **Secretary’s Report**

Mila Chiovatto presents the secretary’s report on behalf of Secretary Ani Avagyan. From the numbers provided by the ICOM membership department, we are proud to have reached the number of 1 774 members as of July 21, 2017, which is an increase compared to July 2016 (then: 1 568 members). The numbers are indicated in general including all individual and institutional active members.

The president asked that every CECA member check their own information in the new members’ database that is now accessed through ICOMMUNITY and make sure they have “CECA” checked in the field “Membership in an international committee”. Mário Antas completed the information by specifying that the database is now called “ICOM member space”, and links to ICOM’s membership database, using a system called IRIS.

In this period of the modification of the ICOM-database/platform, Mila Chiovatto informed the members that a CECA board member verified her profile in this new database and noticed she was not registered as a member of any international committee. Acknowledging that the budget allocated to CECA is in correlation with the number of members, not to forget the right to vote during the election of the board, each member needs to verify their status. On August 31st, members should have received an email with the sender being “'no-reply@icom.museum sonia.agudo@icom.museum'. This email gives your username, and instructions on how to enter a (new) password. When this is done, you can enter your personal member space, and edit your information. Here you can give in your International Committee.

* **Treasurer’s Report and Budget 2017-2018**

Ayumu Ota presents the budget file that will be available on line (see the PowerPoint presentation of this meeting), and asks the members if there are any questions or remarks. Frederike van Ouwerkerk inquired about the definition of “special projects”. Ayumu Ota explains that these are one-off projects getting a grant from ICOM. Arja van Veldhuizen added that the procedure for the “young members’ grants” has changed. The international committees are asked to take over the responsibility of selecting the granted member(s), we get instructions soon and will then distribute more information among the members.

The 2017-2018 Budget is approved.

1. **Regional reports**

Arja van Veldhuizen asks the Board Members who will read their reports to keep them short and focus only on the main items, since all the documents will be online.

* **Africa**

Report by Victoria Phiri Chitungu will be published on the CECA website.

* **USA and Canada**

Therese Quinn sent her report. The main tasks for the Canada and USA region are to build awareness about ICOM and CECA activities globally and in the regions. It is essential to attract new members to ICOM-CECA and develop a strong network. No comments.

* **Latin America and the Caribbean**

Margarita Laraignée reads the report. Since 2013, the priority has been supporting the contact amongst all CECA Members of the Region, maintaining regular and permanent relations in order to transmit all the developments, accomplished projects and the one to be accomplished by the Committee.

The countries of the Region, that is, Brazil, Argentine, Chile, Equator, Peru, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Colombia are in constant communication. Recently, Paraguay joined the participating countries of the Region. The long-term objective is to build bridges amongst the Latin American people. No comments.

* **Asia Pacific**

Ayumu Ota reads the report. It is important to note that the ICOM General Conference will be held at Kyoto International Conference Center in Kyoto, Japan from September 1 to 7, 2019. The theme of the conference is “Museums as Cultural Hubs: The Future of Tradition.” The website of the conference was recently launched: www.icom-kyoto-2019.org. No comments.

* **Europe**

Mário Antas reads the report. He asked European members to meet with him after the General Assembly to appoint national correspondents for several European countries, to enhance the communication with members in a more effective way and to organize a workshop in 2018 (European Year of Heritage) about “What does mean Cultural Action in European Countries”. No comments.

1. **Communication reports:**
* **Web and Social Media**

Jorge Arturo Albuja Tutivén reads the report, presenting the processes and results of work in social networks and proposes future development for the web. More precisely, Jorge Arturo Albuja Tutivén mentions the precious help of Ani Avagyan who maintains the translations in the 3 official languages of ICOM in all the publications of the web. This implies investing much time and work, and this is why Jorge Arturo Albuja Tutivén proposes to seek the collaboration of a specialist of web management. Finally, he encourages members to follow CECA on social media.

1. **Board members’ reports**
* **Best practice**

Marie-Clarté O’Neill reads the report explaining that this year communication about the Best Practice award was scarce and done notably late, that led to a decrease in candidates. The final number of candidates was 11 which represents an important decrease in participation if we compare with the 23 candidates in 2016, 25 in 2015, 35 in 2014. But the quality was very good this year. Thus, jury was organised in Paris May 13th and 14th with Marie-Clarté O’Neill as president and two of last year awardees as members: Alexandre Therwath (France) and Nairi Khatchadourian (Armenia).

* **Professional Development**

Michael Gyldendal reads the report. This year three Pre-conference workshops were offered to members, one in Spanish and one in English with two-time slots. Paola Araiza Bolaños was the speaker for the Spanish workshop and Karen Chin for both English workshops. His complete report will be presented on the website.

* **Research Network**

Colette Dufresne-Tassé reads the report. There are now 105 members in the researchers’ network. Since the last researchers’ network meeting, 2 templates for CECA Conference Organizers were created for introducing research proposals, one for empirical research, the other for historical research. The Reading Committee for reviewing the texts submitted for the 2017 Colette Dufresne-Tassé Research Award was composed of N. Gesché-Koning, M. Laraignée and C. Dufresne-Tassé. Two texts were received not complying with the requirements. Regretfully, this year, no award was distributed. A research workshop was to be held during the London Conference but unfortunately this workshop could not take place because it was organized around the piece of research winning the Research Award. Important to mention that Margarita Laraignée collaborates with the Delegate to Research.

* **Special Projects**

Arja van Veldhuizen presents the Cultural Action special project that is in relation to the theme of the 2018 CECA-Conference and involves the second part of our association’s name. The question, “What is cultural action?” was proposed to CECA members through two social media campaigns. Discussion on the preparation of the subject is to be continued during the year.

1. **Publications**

ICOM Education 27, Special issue on research edited by Colette Dufresne-Tassé and Margarita Laraigné.

Best Practice 6, A tool to improve museum education internationally edited by Cinzia Angelini.

Will be available on the CECA-website.

* **Other publications**

A new item is added to the CECA website, called ‘other publications’ (see under ‘other’). The first publication downloadable there is: Education Toolkit, Methods & techniques from museum and heritage education, Arja van Veldhuizen.

1. **Next conferences**

The next CECA conference will be held on the second half of September 2018 in Tblisi, Georgia.

The General Conference will be held in Kyoto, Japan from 1-7 September 2019.

1. **Comments/issues from the membership**

Stéphanie Wintzerith, asked members to find people who could help sporadically to do short translations or to proofread and correct texts to be published in ICOM Education, texts on the website or any other type of publications. In particular, we need people whose mother tongue is English or Spanish, not excluding French even though it is well represented at the moment on the Board. Those who might be interested are asked to contact directly Stéphanie.

Angela Manders and Frederike van Ouwerkerk asked for much better information about the annual conference in advance for future conferences.

Frederike van Ouwerkerk told members that she felt sorry not to have been able to fulfil her role as a national correspondent in a proper way, since she had no information to pass on. She recommended publishing at least something on the website, like “we’ll come back to you as soon as we know the details”, instead of having no communication at all. This point is recognised by the CECA Board. Next year the communication should be much better, since the organisation is in the hands of CECA-members directly.

The National correspondent for Austria, Wencke Maderbacher informed CECA members that once a year in October ICOM CECA Austria holds a general conference (since 2016). This conference takes place in connection with the Austrian Museums day (ICOM Austria and Austrian Museum Association). In 2016 60 museums education experts joint the conference - and in 2017 an important increase with 130 participants. A great success!