

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**The sixty-seventh Annual General Meeting of the International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works took place at
6:00 pm on Monday 23rd January 2017 at
the Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1**

Present: Sarah Staniforth, President, in the Chair
Mikkel Scharff, Vice-President
Valentine Walsh, Vice-President
Jo Kirby Atkinson, Secretary-General
Joyce Townsend, Director of Publications

Stavroula Golfomitsou, Tom Learner, Austin Nevin, Velayudhan Nair,
Tiina Sonninen (*members of IIC Council*)

John S. Mills (*Honorary Fellow*)

Jonathan Ashley-Smith, James Black, Barbara Borghese, Aviva
Burnstock, Michael Corfield, Janey Cronyn, Dinah Eastop, Clare Finn,
Helen Ganiaris, Helen Hughes, Barry Knight, David Leigh, Hazel Newey,
Robert Payton, Alison Richmond, Athanasios Velios (*Fellows*)

Linda Bullock, Amy Crossman, George Cooper, Stephen Hackney, Stefan
Michalski, Amarilli Rava, Flavia Ravaioli, Clive Raymond, David
Salisbury, Donald Sale, Marika Spring, Matija Strlic, Elizabeth Woolley
(*Individual Members*)

Jorien Duivenvoorden, Eugenia Geddes da Filicaia, Wendy Rose (*Student
members*)

Unable to attend:

David Saunders, (Vice-President), Velson Horie (Treasurer), Julian
Bickersteth (Director of Communications) Amber Kerr, Stephen Koob,
Barbara Reeve, Lorenzo Appolonia, Alice Tsang (*members of IIC
Council*)

In attendance: Graham Voce (Executive Secretary)
Mary Breeding (Finance Secretary)
Tina Churcher (Membership Secretary)

Sarah Staniforth, President, in the Chair, extended a welcome to all those present, and especially to those who had travelled long distances. Sarah Staniforth explained that the meeting would be followed by a panel discussion entitled *Preventive Conservation: The State of the Art*, which would be part of the IIC's *Point of the Matter* Dialogues series. The panel members would be: Austin Nevin, IIC Council member and Chair of IIC's Congress Technical Committee (Chair); Sarah Staniforth, President, IIC; Stefan Michalski, Senior Conservation Scientist, Canadian Conservation Institute; Tom Learner, Head of Science, Getty Conservation Institute and Anna Bülow, Head of Conservation, British Museum and Assistant Co-ordinator ICOM-CC Preventive Conservation Working Group.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, having been published on the IIC web-site and circulated to members with the announcement of this Annual General Meeting, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

The Notice calling the present Meeting, having been published in *News in Conservation* number 57 of December 2016, as well as being posted to members and published on the IIC web-site, was taken as read. The Audited Reports & Accounts for the IIC membership year 2016 – 2017 had been posted to members and published on the IIC web-site at the same time.

The Chairman explained that voting on the Resolutions by members present who had not voted by post or appointed a proxy would be by show of hands for the Ordinary and Special Resolutions, and would be by ballot paper for the elections to positions on Council.

Resolution 1: To receive and consider the Reports of the Council and the Auditors and the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Sarah Staniforth, President, in the Chair, explained that this year IIC's reports and accounts had been published in their conventional form and sent to all members and that, for the first time, a new Annual Review, in a much more engaging and readable format had been produced. There is a copy of the Annual Review for every person attending this Annual General Meeting and copies will be sent to all IIC members. The design for the Annual Review is based on the new corporate identity for IIC prepared via Tangible marketing and the publication itself has been put together by IIC Secretary-General Jo Kirby Atkinson and, as well as a summary of the finances of the last year, it includes the reports from the various Officers of IIC – the Secretary-General, Treasurer, Director of Publications and Director of Communications, as do the audited Annual Report & Accounts sent to all members.. As such there would be no separate reports to the meeting read out by the Officers, but questions would be welcomed from the floor.

Jonathan Ashley Smith asked what Council was doing to reverse the declining number of members of IIC and what positive change IIC was undertaking to address this long-term problem. Sarah Staniforth replied that, in its meeting earlier that day, Council had

discussed the real need to put drive behind developing IIC's membership and that the current situation is indeed very serious for IIC. It had been seen how the recent creation of two Council roles, the Directors of Publications and of Communications, had made for a real step change and improvement in those areas of IIC's activity and that Council would be asking David Saunders to take on a new Council role of Director of Membership and he would also have the support of the new Membership Committee.

The first step in addressing this major task is that the membership rates would be held at their 2016 – 2017 levels for a further year and that for the 2017 – 2018 membership year, the membership rates would be banded according to the UNESCO purchasing power tables. This would mean that members will be able to pay membership rates that more closely match their earnings where they work. For example, on the Indian sub-continent members will pay 50% of the 'headline' membership fee. Additionally, there will be a 10% discount applicable to IIC members who are also members of selected affiliated organisations, thus addressing the costs of belonging to more than one learned society or professional membership organisation.

There will also be the establishment of an IIC Chinese regional group in 2017, which will help cement IIC's reputation among Chinese language speakers and will also encourage Chinese speakers to join IIC. This regional group will be launched at the Hong Kong conference on textiles in November 2017.

IIC's host for this Annual General Meeting, the Society of Antiquaries, is a purely Fellowship-based organisation and this is a very successful model for them. IIC, too, is seeing a real growth in the number of Fellows being elected. There is an increasing recognition that there are many conservation professionals who should be Fellows of IIC and are not currently and Sarah Staniforth encouraged IIC Fellows present in the room and further afield to nominate for ballot people who they think should be recognised by Fellowship of IIC.

Stefan Michalski asked what IIC Council were doing to address the demographics of what appeared, at IIC, to be an ageing membership. Sarah Staniforth replied that this was also of concern to Council and that IIC's successful biennial Student & Emerging Conservator Conferences were doing a great deal to make IIC visible to younger members of the profession, and giving them a genuinely appreciative platform for their views and concerns. The 2017 Student & Emerging Conservator Conference would be held in Switzerland, in Bern, in October.

Alison Richmond asked about the IIC Fellowship International Mentoring Programme that was being put together by Cornelia Weyer and Valentine Walsh. Sarah Staniforth replied that IIC had to focus on what it offers in addition to its publications and conferences. Mentoring was part of that and Council would also like to review its Awards, beyond the Keck Award and Forbes Prize Lecture, noting that the Institute of Conservation's own Conservation Awards scheme was very successful.

David Leigh asked about a long-standing issue, that the financial value to IIC of the Institutional members was greater to IIC than the ‘people’ members : what was being done to nurture Institutional members of IIC? Joyce Townsend, Director of Publications, replied, explaining that IIC’s new publisher, Taylor and Francis, had acquired IIC’s previous publishers, W.S Maney & Sons, and that under the contractual relationship with Maney, IIC had been required to set its Institutional membership fee at the same level as Maney’s own subscription rate for *Studies in Conservation*. However, IIC’s current contract with Taylor & Francis meant that IIC could set its own rates for Institutional membership. Many institutional members of IIC are having to cut costs and their membership of IIC may well be vulnerable; hence IIC is making sure that the many reasons for institutions to join IIC, or remain members of IIC, are clearly communicated. Sarah Staniforth added that from the 2017 volume of *Studies in Conservation* there would be eight issues a year, up from the six of the previous annual volumes, and that this would be another incentive for institutions, and individual members, to stay within IIC.

On completion of this discussion the resolution was duly adopted.

Resolution 2: To appoint Kingston Smith as Auditors to The Institute and to authorise the Council to fix their remuneration for the ensuing year.

Sarah Staniforth asked the meeting to vote on this resolution and the resolution was duly adopted.

Resolution 3: To consider and if thought fit to pass a Special Resolution THAT the Articles of Association produced to the meeting and signed by the Chairman for the purposes of identification be approved and adopted as the new Articles of Association of the Company in substitution for, and to the exclusion of, the existing Articles of Association

Sarah Staniforth, President, in the Chair, showed to the meeting the proposed Articles of Association to the meeting and explained that these had also been displayed on the IIC web-site since the notice of this Annual General Meeting was published. Sarah Staniforth read the new articles to the meeting and added that any other amendments are consequential or clarificatory. Sarah Staniforth explained that Council wished to be able to co-opt non-members of IIC to Council who may have specific skills and experience that would assist Council in the management of IIC, for example in the areas of finance, legal matters and fundraising. The changes to the Articles proposed here would add three such co-opted members to Council in addition to those already on Council.

Sarah Staniforth asked the meeting to vote on this resolution and the resolution was duly adopted.

Resolution 4: To elect four Ordinary Members of the Council

Sarah Staniforth informed the meeting that Tiina Sonninen was retiring from Council and thanked her for the time and energy she had put into her time on Council and in particular to relations between IIC and the IIC Nordic Groups.

There were four vacancies for Ordinary members of Council and there were four candidates standing: Lorenzo Appolonia, Stavroula Golfomitsou and Barbara Reeve were standing for re-election and Eleanora Nagy was standing for the first time as an Ordinary member. On the basis of the total vote, Lorenzo Appolonia, Stavroula Golfomitsou and Barbara Reeve were re-elected and Eleanora Nagy was elected for the first time as Ordinary Members of Council. Sarah Staniforth congratulated them and welcomed them back to, or onto, Council.

Resolution 5: To transact any ordinary business of The Institute

Sarah Staniforth, President in the chair, asked if there was any ordinary business that members wished to raise. There was none.

Sarah Staniforth reminded all present that the panel discussion, entitled *Preventive Conservation: The State of the Art*, would now follow and that this would be an introduction to the 2018 IIC Congress in Turin, which would focus on this topic. The panel discussion will allow for many of the topics that could be addressed in Turin to be introduced and reflected on.

Sarah Staniforth also informed Council about the forthcoming IIC *Point of the Matter* Dialogue in New York, *Viral Images*, on the relationship between protest art and conservation. This would be held on 14th February and flyers had been distributed to everyone present at this Annual General Meeting. This would be an innovative event and would cover a topic not usually covered in conservation research or work. The event would be web-streamed live from New York so even for those who could not be there in person there would be the chance to take part in this innovative event.

There being no further business Sarah Staniforth, President, in the chair, then thanked IIC's advisors, auditors and publishers for attending. The Chairman then declared the meeting closed at 6.40 pm.