Report by the Director of Publications 2013

While I am delivering a report for the IIC financial year which ended on 31 July last year, it makes sense to provide updates to the present month, since IIC is changing its processes pretty rapidly.

IIC is working harmoniously with Maney Publishing, which has produced the journal since issue 56-3 published in autumn 2011. At the end of this report, the journal manager for Studies in Conservation, Laura Bradford, will be reminding you about the online access and digitised back copies now available through the IIC website and IngentaConnect. Maney was the publisher for the IIC Vienna congress preprints, which appeared as a digital Supplement to Studies in Conservation, free to members, thus taking advantage of the uniquely good ISI citation status that Studies has, in comparison to all other printed conservation journals. The preprints were printed, in a style to complement the A4 format for Studies from volume 57, and distributed to all delegates in Vienna. It was a lot of work, as I know because I managed the process during the set-up of Maney workflow for Studies, then acted as production editor after also editing many papers and all the poster summaries. The result looks impressive, and paper copies can be purchased from Archetype, along with the other IIC congress preprints that remain in print. I thank my co-editors Sharon Cather, Austin Nevin, Marika Spring, Jo Kirby Atkinson and Dinah Eastop for their work on the papers, and Valentine Walsh for editorial input.

When any congress proceedings goes out of print, the digitised papers will still be on IngentaConnect and accessible to members through the IIC web site, as Laura Bradford, Maney journal editor for Studies, explained to the members at the AGM. The retrodigitisation of congress papers and Studies papers published before 2000 is planned to be complete sooner than the first schedule of 5 years implied: by the end of 2013 all papers back to 1980 will be inline, and during 2014 the remaining papers back to the early 1950s when Studies was first printed, will become available online.

Papers accepted for publication in Studies, but not yet in print, have a DOI (digital object identifier) and appear on IngentaConnect as FastTrack papers, which can then be cited by means of the DOI. Once they appear in print in Studies, they are cited in the usual way, by page number.

Chandra Reedy remain editor-in-chief for Studies but not for supplements such as the Vienna congress preprint. The editorial board working with Chandra has expanded to include Joel Taylor (Norway) for buildings and environment, Aviva Burnstock (UK) and Christoph Krekel (Germany) for paint and analysis, Naomi Luxford (UK) for preventive conservation, and Kate Jennings (UK) for time-based and video art. Shing-Wai Chan has stepped aside from the editorial board to organise Hong Kong 2014. I welcome the new editors and thank Lorenzo Lazzarin and Shing-Wai for their work, Chandra for her excellent work, and Carol Grissom for hers in organising book reviews. So successful has IIC been in receiving and processing good papers, that the FastTrack papers which are fully edited and waiting in turn to be printed are growing in number every quarter. Next year, I’ll be reporting on new initiatives for putting them in print, since Studies will be expanding to 6 issues per year.

Since August, News in Conservation has been re-designed for easier reading online, and is now to be found on the public side of the IIC web page, but no longer in print. Over the years, its ease of use has improved by adding in active links back to the IIC website. Barbara Borghese, its editor, has introduced and designed many of these improvements, and she continues to work with
council member Amber Kerr-Allison, who manages IIC’s Facebook and Twitter content, and with Athanasios Velios and Eike Friedrich, architects of the new IIC web page structure, to streamline IIC communications and to keep IIC up to speed on other social media platforms. I thank her for her innovations and openness to new working methods, as well as for her production of IIC news.

Joyce Townsend, Director of Publications