Steps need to be taken to fight climate change...

The effects of the devastating earthquake that hit Peru last August were described by Rommel Angesías Falcon, Director of the Huaca Malena Museum, in issue 2 of News in Conservation (October 2007). The original article was followed by a plea for conservators to donate their time, expertise, materials and funds. That plea was answered earlier this year, when Camille Myers Breeze, a textile conservator based in Massachusetts, took a group of North American conservation students to Peru, where they began an intensive week of conservation at a donated work space in the Museo de Sitio Huallamarca in Lima. They were joined at the museum by students and conservators from Peru. Ms Breeze says, “We stabilised and mounted twelve textiles from Huaca Malena and Huallamarca. At the same time we prepared a new exhibition for the Huaca Malena Museum featuring more than forty textiles, mummies and mumified heads conserved by us over the last five years.” She has been running courses in Peru for conservation students, in association with the Huaca Malena Museum, for five years; this year, however, their assistance was more valuable and timely than ever. Peggy Whitehead, a student on the course, described it as “an opportunity to give where there is a real need.” Another trip to Peru is planned for January 2009; if you would like information about participating, please contact Camille Myers Breeze at museumtextiles@gmail.com.

Students help Peruvian museums affected by earthquake.
Editorial

This marks the completion of News in Conservation's first year in print. We can hardly believe that the time has gone so fast—it seems like only yesterday that we were planning the first issue and wondering how the newspaper would develop over the following numbers! Since then, we have published many interesting articles, news stories and interviews, on subjects as diverse as earthquake mitigation, the conservation and relocation of a monumental petrachrome mural, the conservation and museum training courses at the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, passed away on 24 March. Born in Nottinghamshire in 1936, John studied chemistry at Cambridge and Manchester Universities, before joining the staff of the Technical Laboratory of the Freer Gallery of Art in 1971. A distinguished career in conservation science followed, including groundbreaking studies of East Asian paintings and pigments.

John Winter was very active in many professional conservation organisations. He served terms as Vice-President and President of IIC, coordinated various working groups of ICOM’s Committee for Conservation, and was on the editorial board of Reviews in Conservation. He served as a dedicated abstractor for Art and Archaeology Technical Abstracts for over 30 years and in recent years represented the IIC on the AATA Editorial Board.

Professor John Ashurst passed away at home peacefully on 19 May, after losing the struggle with secondary cancer. An exceptional conservation architect, with a rare practical understanding of materials and a passionate interest in history, John was at the forefront of the lime revival in the UK. He was an authority on stone conservation and lime-based materials, as well as a gifted writer, lecturer and artist. Among his many publications were Conservation of Building and Decorative Stone (with Frank Dumes, 1996) and Conservation of Ruins (2007). John was responsible for establishing the Heritage Conservation degree course at Bournemouth University. He was instrumental in the development of the English Heritage Training Centre at Fort Brockhurst, which continues at West Dean College as the Building Conservation Masterclasses. These training courses are an important part of his legacy and will carry on to influence future conservation work.

Fuller obituaries will be published on the IIC website in the near future.

New IIC Fellows

Congratulations to Nigel Bamforth, Betty Engel, Alan Farance, Helen Hughes, Masako Koyano, William Lindsay, Mervyn Richard and Marjorie Shelly, who have been recently elected as Fellows of IIC. Profiles of the new Fellows will appear in a future issue of News in Conservation, and on the IIC website.

People on the move...

As part of an institutional reorganization, aimed at defining the relative roles of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum and its parent foundation, Paul Schwartzbaum, IIC Fellow and Council member has been appointed the Chief Conservator and Technical Director for International Projects of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation.

Guggenheim Foundation. Leaving the position of Chief Conservator at the museum, a post he held for the last 21 years, he will now be freer to concentrate on the conservation and museum construction needs of the Guggenheim’s extensive non-New York based programs. These include the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice, where he will be based, and the other world-wide Guggenheim museums, especially the Guggenheim’s extensive new museum building project in Abu Dhabi. He continues to play a significant role in the ongoing restoration of the Guggenheim’s landmarked Frank Lloyd Wright Museum, scheduled for completion in September 2008 and featured in this issue of News in Conservation.

IIC 2008 London Congress, Provisional Programme

Sunday 14th September

16:00 Registration opens: Museum of London
18:00 Welcome reception: Museum of London

Monday 15th September

09:30 Coffee
11:00 Opening Ceremony
11:45 Forbes Prize Lecture: David Bomford
12:30 Lunch

Session 1 Chaired by Jonathan Askley-Smith
14:00 Renate Petres and Devorah Romanek: Approaches to acoustic factors and variables
14:20 Joel Taylor and Morwenna Parry: Representation and intervention: The symbolic relationship of conservation and value
14:40 Bill Shank and Debra Hess Norris: Giving contemporary murals a longer life: the challenges for murals and conservators
15:00 Rosa Liongier and Andrea Morse: The conservation and relocation of a monumental petrachrome mural: Helen Laing’s The History of Transportation
15:20 Discussion
16:30 Break
16:40 Roberta Nardi: Conservation for presentation: a key for protecting monuments

Session 2 Chaired by Paul Marzonie
09:00 Catherine Magee and Getts Hansen: Creating pre-packaged exhibits
09:40 Tiara Doherty, Bruce Metro and Rita Gomez: The transport and display of icons from Saint Catherines Monastery
10:00 Jessica S. Johnson: Access for native people and the public: exhibitions at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian
10:20 Discussion
10:50 Break
11:20 Discussion
11:40 Renate Petres and Devorah Romanek: Representation and intervention: The symbolic relationship of conservation and value
12:00 Joel Taylor and Morwenna Parry: Giving contemporary murals a longer life: the challenges for murals and conservators
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15:20 Discussion
16:30 Break
16:40 Roberta Nardi: Conservation for presentation: a key for protecting monuments

Tuesday 16th September

Session 3 Chaired by Liana Gill
09:00 Linda Natoli: The conservation and presentation of the cactus collection of the British Museum
09:30 Catherine Magee and Getts Hansen: Creating pre-packaged exhibits
09:50 Stephen P. Kohl, Scott Fulton and Susan Ross Wulson: ‘Botanical wonders’: the conservation and exhibition of the Harvard glass flowers
10:10 Jessica S. Johnson: Access for native people and the public: exhibitions at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian
10:30 Break
11:00 Renate Petres and Devorah Romanek: Representation and intervention: The symbolic relationship of conservation and value
11:20 Joel Taylor and Morwenna Parry: Giving contemporary murals a longer life: the challenges for murals and conservators
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15:20 Discussion
16:30 Break
16:40 Roberta Nardi: Conservation for presentation: a key for protecting monuments

Wednesday 17th September

10:00 Discussion
10:50 Break
11:20 Discussion
11:40 Renate Petres and Devorah Romanek: Representation and intervention: The symbolic relationship of conservation and value
12:00 Joel Taylor and Morwenna Parry: Giving contemporary murals a longer life: the challenges for murals and conservators
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15:50 Discussion
16:20 Stephanie Fundel, Rainer Drohla, Sean Hoyos and Barbara Krieg: Values and opinions of the general public on wall paintings and their restoration: a preliminary study
17:00 Discussion
17:20 Break
17:50 Discussion
18:30 Reception: The British Museum and Hadrian exhibition

How do fragmentary images affect us?

News in Conservation is published by The International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works 8 Buckingham Street, London WC2N 2AU, UK Telephone +44 (0) 20 7882 3575 Fax +44 (0) 20 7876 1564 www.iic.org
ISSN 1995-2635
Editor Christina Rozek
news@iicconservation.org
Advertising Graham Vose, IICзовес@iicconservation.org
Design Webs & Webb Design Limited www.websandweb.co.uk
Printing L&S Printing Company Limited www.lsprinting.com

Design for next issue (August 2008)
Editorial 1 July 2008
Advertising 15 July 2008

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11:00 Nobuyuki Kamba, Hiroshi Wada, Masahiko Tsukada, Yoshitake Takagi and Kazuhiko Tadokoro: Conservation and reburial at the British Museum of Athens

11:30 Michael Lomonosov, Lukas Jaritz, Lukas Krenat and Roman Kozlowski: Vibration as a hazard during the transportation of canvas paintings

11:40 Maria Papadimitriou and Ephraim Yarmarkar: Risk assessment during art loan and transportation at the Byzantine and Christian Museum of Athens

12:00 Discussion

12:30 Lunch

Meeting for students

Session 3 Chaired by David Saunders

14:00 Joyce E. Norman, Jacob Thomas, Stephen Hackney and Andrew Lawrell: The benefits and risks of anisotropic display for colourcharts

14:20 Agnieszka Broderof, Margot Bean, Fiona MacKinnon, Frank Ligertwood, Han Nopens, Farid Eframzamani and Graeme Scott: Optimum access at minimum risk: the dilemma of displaying Japanese woodblock prints

14:40 Naoaki Sonoda and Shingo Nakada: Between conservation and access: implementation of integrated pest management at the National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan

15:00 Valerie Myh and Claire Battisson: Access to technical analysis: visualising the invisible

15:20 Discussion

15:30 Lunch

16:00 David Thickett: Presentation in original contexts via microclimates

16:20 Nigel Blakes, May Cassar and Philip Baldwin: Optimising drying strategies to reduce down times for actively used flood damaged historic buildings

16:40 David Warkinson and Matthew Tanner: SS Great Britain: conservation and access - synergy and cost

17:00 Discussion

17:30 Session ends

18:15 Climate Change and Museum Collections: IIC round table event, National Gallery, Trafalgar Square

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**Provisional list of poster presentations**

E. Arterete, M. Barandiaran, M. J. Maguregui: The conservation of handcoloured photographic works: between painting and photography conservation

Hosniye Nihonco Pereira: The city as art: repurposing of the historic project of the historic centre of Catheirne

Kozi Fukumaga, Yuichi Ogawa, Shin‘ichi Hayashi and Iwao Hizaka: Terahertz spectroscopy: a new non-invasive technique for art material analysis

Ian Geraghty: Frames, plinths and vitrines in contemporary art

Ana Calvo, Maria Aguilar: Art and religion: a challenging relationship for the conservator

Monika Bogdanowska, Martin Taylor: Enhancing cultural accessibility through provision of tools for extending knowledge

Brate Kazish, Neill Munro-Briewski: The new exhibition workshop in the Auschwitz-Birkenau state museum

Bika Daphne: The preservation system of cultural property in Greece: could a collection condition survey be a reality?

Catherine Nunn: Access and quality of the fruition in the conservation project

Carmen Marian: Access to archeological textiles by conservation - from discovery to display

Eddy S. T. Leung, Evita S. Young, Shing-wai Chan: Finding the missing: wall tiles transfer for Ken Teng Hall

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M. Chimenti, A. Felici, M.R. Landfranchi, P. Lauri, R. Vaca: The restoration campaign in the main apse of the Basilica of Santa Croce

Bruno Derina, Ioanid Ghicecl, Ionad Amaile, Marian Totolani, Scrumto Jordans: Conservation of fragile organic supports by means of protective coating in HF plasma

Helena Gamiare and Dean Sally: Presenting conservation: a collaboration between the Museum of London and UCL Institute of Archaeology

Elhbeta Medielewka, Agnieska Lekievicz-Landy: Presentation of artwork on paper at Museum of the Solidarity Salvador Allende in Chile

Kamani Perera: Preservation for long-term access in developing countries

Yasuhiko Kikawa, Chie Sano: Analysis for preservation of historical remains on paper in Japan

Harriett Woolmore: Kestenberg New Century project, lighting strategy - safe access

Sharon Fenton: The Decorder Inductor Coil: conserving change

David Kerr, Kate Kidd: Idea that shaped the world: John Murray Archive – the preservation challenge

Marzena Circhmanska: Conservation, restoration and reconstruction of the wallpapers in China Room of Walsingham Palace in Warrington, Poland

Cathy Collins, Roy Marchant: Outdoor sculpture at the NGA

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**Victoria & Albert Museum**
Pamela Jerome, Angel Ayón and Paul Schwartzbaum describe the process of examining, documenting and restoring one of New York’s most famous landmarks.

Restoration and facilities enhancement of Frank Lloyd Wright’s Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York

Commencing at the end of 2004, for the first time since its opening to the public in 1959, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum is the object of an in-depth exterior rehabilitation. Combined with a simultaneous renovation of our building’s technical facilities, this comprehensive project will not only contribute significantly to the long term survival of this extraordinary Frank Lloyd Wright landmark museum, but also guarantee the correct exhibition and preservation of works of art in the stewardship of our foundation.

A group of dedicated preservation professionals are working on this project which is scheduled for completion in September of 2008, on time and within its almost $30,000,000 budget.

Over the past fifty years, the building had developed a pattern of cracking, particularly on the "gunite" walls (Wright’s early use of sprayed, lightweight "concrete"). The cracks, many of which date from the original construction, were becoming more and more unsightly as the building aged. A dozen paint layers, vestiges of numerous cosmetic repainting campaigns, led to tearing, blistering, detachment, and localized loss of exterior finishes. During the winter, condensation would occur along the edges of the interior walls and on the metallic surfaces of skylights and single-glazed window frames and doors. Condensation aggravated corrosion of the reinforcing steel within the concrete.

The first phase of the project concentrated on analyzing and understanding the causes of the deterioration observed, and devising appropriate repairs to address the pathologies. Our methodology stressed preserving and documenting the historical fabric, and accomplishing the necessary repairs as unobtrusively as possible. Innovative technical solutions were often required. Every attempt was made to retain the integrity of the building as an icon of modern architecture and a designated landmark. Our greatest challenge was balancing the needs of preserving this unique architectural monument...
with the requirements of a functioning world-class museum that houses equally important art masterpieces.

An in-depth research of the Museum’s original design and construction documentation, including copies of the Taliesin archive housed at the Getty Research Institute was carried out as well as an exhaustive laser survey, using the most advanced technology. This produced a 3-D digital model for analyzing the building’s movement and AutoCAD drawings of all surfaces. The condition of the exterior finishes was scrupulously surveyed before the paint layers were removed, documenting cracks, spills, open joints, failing repairs and delaminating concrete. Structural and climatic sensors were installed and monitored over an 18-month period.

Numerous non-destructive analyses were performed. At some locations, probes revealed ongoing or incipient corrosion of embedded steel members: rebar (reinforcement bar), welded-wire mesh, and vertical T-shaped steel beams. Significantly, in terms of structure, field evidence revealed that, at the level of the 6th (top) floor Rotunda walls, the horizontal steel rebar was discontinuous between the vertical steel TIs. Here the walls are twice the height of those of the lower ramps, and larger-sized steel TIs were required. These however, were installed without increasing the thickness of the 5-inch shotcrete (sprayed, compacted concrete), thus leaving insufficient room for the horizontal reinforcing to pass continuously in front of and behind the TIs as originally designed. This discontinuity, among other factors, explains the degree of cracking and movement measured on these walls.

More than two years of condition assessment and field documentation, monitoring, exploratory probes, non-destructive evaluation and analysis of the building’s envelope and structure concluded that, despite all of the visible indications of deterioration, the Guggenheim was after all in reasonably good condition. Structural interventions were necessary only on the 6th floor Rotunda walls. However, extensive repair of exterior cracks, exposure and treatment of corroding steel, recoating etc. was required to prevent continued humidity infiltration and thus to ensure the preservation of the building.

After extensive on-site testing to evaluate comparative products and establish protocols for the treatment of spills and cracks, MAPEI’s line of modified cementitious patching and flexible crack fillers was selected. The original precast fascia at the cornice of the 4th floor of the Monitor Building had its coatings removed and its spills and cracks treated in a similar fashion. Vertical joints are being re-sealed and a new MAPEI elastomeric coating is being applied to all concrete surfaces. Concealed structural repairs have been carried out on the interior face of the 6th floor Rotunda walls, including the installation of carbon fiber reinforcement.

In conjunction with the restoration of the exterior shotcrete and concrete surfaces, necessary mechanical and glazing upgrades, funded by the City of New York, will greatly improve the interior environmental conditions. To this end, all single-glazed window units and skylights are being replaced with custom thermally-broken systems and insulating glass units with profiles closely based on the original Wright design. Interventions are also being implemented to avoid condensation along the interior wall edges which will decrease the potential for interior moisture infiltration and the likelihood of corrosion.

The project team includes WASA/Studio A (Wank Adams Slavin Associates LLP) as the preservation architect, collaborating with Robert Silman Associates, structural engineers, Integrated Conservation Resources, conservation scientists; Atkinson Koven Feinberg Engineers, M/E/P engineers; and William B. Rose and Associates, exterior envelope specialist. Additional members of the team include Eng. Ippolito Massai, humidity specialist, the Paratus Group, project client representative, and an in-house Guggenheim team.

The project has been made possible through the generous support of Peter B. Lewis, the Board of Trustees of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation and the City of New York. Additional support has been provided by the State of New York and the MAPEI Corporation.

Author biographies

Pamela Jerome, AIA is a registered architect. She is Partner-in-Charge of Preservation at WASA/Studio A, a New York City-based architecture and engineering firm, and an Adjunct Associate Professor at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. She is a board member of US/ICOMOS and the US/ICOMOS liaison to the APT board. Ms Jerome is Vice President of ICOMOS’s International Scientific Committee on Earthen Architectural Heritage, expert member for ICOMOS’s ICC 20th Century Heritage, and an elected coordinator of ICOMOS’s Scientific Council. Her expertise is in masonry conservation and waterproofing.

Angel Ayón, an Associate for Preservation at WASA, is the Project Architect for the restoration of the Guggenheim Museum. He is trained and experienced in Architecture and Historic Preservation in both his native Havana and New York City. Mr Ayón holds a professional degree in Architecture and is a Masters in Architectural Conservation from Havana’s Higher Polytechnic Institute and a Post-Graduate Certificate in Conservation of Historic Buildings and Archaeological Sites from Columbia University in New York.


News in Conservation No. 6, June 2008

Pamela Jerome, AIA

Author biographies

Pamela Jerome, AIA is a registered architect. She is Partner-in-Charge of Preservation at WASA/Studio A, a New York City-based architecture and engineering firm, and an Adjunct Associate Professor at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. She is a board member of US/ICOMOS and the US/ICOMOS liaison to the APT board. Ms Jerome is Vice President of ICOMOS’s International Scientific Committee on Earthen Architectural Heritage, expert member for ICOMOS’s ICC 20th Century Heritage, and an elected coordinator of ICOMOS’s Scientific Council. Her expertise is in masonry conservation and waterproofing.

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News in Conservation No. 6, June 2008

Mock-up of treatment of severe cracking on 6th ramp
IIC News

IIC 2008 London Congress – Conservation and Access

Booking is already well under way for what will be a varied, informative and important conference, demonstrating a breadth and variety of issues indicated by the Congress’s contemporary title.

The focus of the Congress will be the role of conservation in the presentation and protection of the world’s cultural heritage. The 44 papers and 41 poster presentations will explore the ways that conservation professionals engage in the worldwide sharing of art and heritage, whether through people going to see that heritage or the heritage itself travelling the globe. The locations where the contributing conservators are trying to improve access are truly global, extending from St. Catherine’s Monastery to the Antarctic. The approaches vary from practical experimentation and implementation to philosophical analysis, yet a common theme of risk assessment and management can be detected.

As with all IIC Congresses, one of the attractions will be a series of evening events, which will allow delegates to meet fellow conservation professionals socially. There will be an ice-breaker to welcome everyone on the Sunday evening at the Museum of London, a grand reception at the British Museum, complete with a private viewing of the Hadrian exhibition and a new conservation exhibition; and a farewell reception at the V&A Museum on the Friday. On Wednesday evening there will be the linked IIC event – not part of the Congress programme – on Climate Change, described below. In addition, whole-day excursions and half-day visits have been arranged to allow those attending to take full advantage of the heritage venues illustrating conservation work in and around London. Delegates will also receive free two-week travel passes to National Trust and English Heritage properties.

The main venue for the Congress will be the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, which is in the heart of London, hard by Westminster Abbey, the Houses of Parliament and Whitehall, making the Congress easy to get to by public transport, as well as being ideally situated as a base for exploring other parts of London and its environs.

There will also be a Trade Fair for those attending to browse, meet and perhaps buy attractions will be a series of evening events, the linked IIC event – not part of the Congress programme – on Climate Change, described below. In addition, whole-day excursions and half-day visits have been arranged to allow those attending to take full advantage of the heritage venues illustrating conservation work in and around London. Delegates will also receive free two-week travel passes to National Trust and English Heritage properties.

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This is an exciting time to be a member of IIC, and we welcome your subscription renewal for 2008–2009. We look forward to your ongoing to take part in a changing and dynamic IIC!

Subscriptions are due for renewal on 1 July. Subscription rates are as advised on the renewal form, at the levels notified in the previous issue of News in Conservation. Students £19, Individuals £47, Fellows £68 and Institutions £160. Personal members (Fellows, Individuals and Students) should receive a renewal form this News in Conservation. Institutions will receive an invoice separately. No renewal form is enclosed if you have already paid your subscription for 2008–09, if you pay your subscription by standing order (UK members only – reminder already sent), or if your subscription is paid by someone else.

Remember that this is your opportunity to support others less able to afford belonging to IIC by contributing to the Professional Development Fund. Your donation will be most welcome and will put to very good use. To contribute to the fund, please use the renewal form enclosed with News in Conservation or contact the IIC office to make a separate payment.

The easiest – and cheapest – way to pay your subscription is by paying online at www.icconservation.org. Simply go to the IIC website, where you will find the membership renewal form in the Membership section.

You can, of course, choose to post or fax the enclosed form to the IIC office with your payment. If you do, remember that we accept MasterCard and Visa (but cannot accept Visa Electron). We can also accept personal cheques drawn on a UK bank. If you have a problem with paying by any of these methods, or if you want to pay in US Dollars, please contact the IIC office.

IIC Fellowship: a new process and how to apply

Fellowship of IIC is open to all members who are actively engaged in the profession of conservation.

IIC fellowship is one of the most highly regarded ways that those in conservation acknowledge the contributions of their peers. IIC’s new process for consideration of the fellowship’s criteria is much more flexible and open-minded than previous processes. The easiest – and cheapest – way to pay your subscription is by paying online at www.icconservation.org. Simply go to the IIC website, where you will find the membership renewal form in the Membership section.

You can, of course, choose to post or fax the enclosed form to the IIC office with your payment. If you do, remember that we accept MasterCard and Visa (but cannot accept Visa Electron). We can also accept personal cheques drawn on a UK bank. If you have a problem with paying by any of these methods, or if you want to pay in US Dollars, please contact the IIC office.

Potential Fellows may be:

- practising conservators and restorers
- scientists and technologists working in the field of conservation
- conservation educators
- other persons, whether technical, curatorial or administrative, who have made an important contribution to the profession of conservation.

Potential Fellows are normally expected to have been personal members of IIC for five years and to have been active in the conservation profession for at least ten years. For conservators, this includes up to three years of study towards a relevant higher degree or diploma.

Fellows must be able to demonstrate...
commitment to the profession and to show that they keep up to date with relevant developments. Indicators include publications, voluntary service to conservation organisations, participation in conferences and training events, membership of other relevant professional bodies, and accreditation by a national organisation.

The Fellowship application process
One of your colleagues who is already a Fellow may suggest that you apply, and offer to act as your Nominating Fellow (see below), however, potential Fellows do not necessarily have to wait to be invited and can seek nomination by an IIC Fellow.

A Nominating Fellow, namely a Fellow in good standing with the IIC, can nomnitate a member of the IIC for Fellowship status by following these two simple steps:

1. The Nominating Fellow should first ensure that the candidate:
   - is in agreement with being nominated
   - is a current member of IIC (though exceptions will be considered)
   - has been in the field for at least ten years and has made sufficient contribution to the profession to be deserving of the status of IIC Fellow.

2. The Nominating Fellow should also ensure that four other IIC Fellows have agreed to support the nomination and know that they may be asked for their views on the candidate by Council.

II. The Nominating Fellow, in co-operation with the candidate, should then provide by email to the IIC Office, using the downloadable Fellowship Nomination Form available from the Membership section of the IIC website, the following:

- The name, status, affiliation and full contact details of the candidate;
- Two names and electronic contact details or postal address of four Supporting Fellows whose support the Nominating Fellow has assured and can attest to;
- A brief statement, written by either the Nominating Fellow or the candidate, not exceeding 200 words, summarising the candidate's contributions;
- A current photograph for the Nominating Fellow or the candidate, not exceeding 200 words, summarising the candidate's contributions to conservation.

If the nomination has been approved by Council it is sent for ballot to all IIC Fellows. Successful candidates will be notified as soon as possible and will be asked to provide a summary biography and a photograph for News in Conservation and for the IIC website.

IIC Council’s outreach policy starts in Vienna
Eager to make more of the “International” in IIC’s title, Council has set a precedent by holding one of its thrice-yearly meetings outside London, in Vienna, with plans to visit other cities and other regional IIC groups in future years. For two days, 8 and 9 May 2008, Council met at the Conservation Department of the University of Applied Arts in the heart of Vienna, very kindly hosted by Dr Gabriella Krist, Head of Department and IIC Council member.

A highlight of the Vienna meeting was a reception on Thursday 8 May, when Council members were welcomed by members of the Board of IIC Austria and other local conservators and Institute staff and students. This demonstrated one of the benefits of Council meetings outside London: providing an ideal opportunity to meet representatives of regional and national Groups and get to know each other better. Following the meeting, members of Council were taken to see current work by staff and students in the Institute, and also visited the conservation facilities of the Kunsthistorisches Museum and the Museum of Applied Art. IIC is most grateful to the Institute of Applied Arts and to IIC Austria for their hospitality and for facilitating this meeting.

One of the important items on the agenda at the IIC Council meeting itself was a discussion on the relationship between IIC and the various IIC regional and national groups. IIC groups have come into existence at various times over the fifty-eight years of IIC’s existence, some have subsequently taken on their own separate identities, while others retain the name of IIC in their title. Greater collaboration and synergy with IIC itself was explored with representatives of the Board of IIC Austria and will be further discussed with representatives of all the national and regional groups during a dedicated session at the IIC London Congress, on Wednesday 17 September.

Another topic addressed at the IIC Council meeting was the adoption of globally equitable membership rates by IIC. A positive decision for action on this was taken and will be reported soon.

IIC Spanish Group/Grupo Español
The IIC Spanish Group (GE-IIC) has enjoyed a period of intense activity during the past year. The current Council was elected while the General Assembly met last June, and now consists of:

- Pilar Ineja (President),
- Jorge Garcia (Vice-President),
- Churlo Fernandez (Secretary),
- Ana Monereo (Treasurer),
- Ana Laboche (Executive Secretary) and
- Emma Garcia (Webmaster).

At the end of November 2007, the Group’s Third International Congress was held in Oviedo, in collaboration with the History of the Art Faculty at Oviedo University: the theme of the congress was “Infallible conservation: from theory to reality”. We aimed to promote presentations that argued, with methodological and scientific rigour, the need to engage with cultural heritage through the medium of prevention, education, planning and pursuit of priorities. Therefore, we invited professionals involved in the conservation of cultural heritage to contribute under the following themes:

- Prevention of natural and accidental risks; emergency planning;
- Planning, previous and ongoing research in restoration projects;
- Preventing risks in contemporary exhibitions: treatments influenced by this.

The daily technical sessions were followed by round table discussions intended to allow debate and reflection on the earlier presentations, including theory as well as practice. The congress was very well attended, attracting more than 300 professionals and students. The presentations have been published in a book, which can be bought through the GE-IIC website.

Our recent publication Guía de Buenas Prácticas sobre Tratamiento de los Bienes Culturales en Exposiciones Temporales, Propuesta de Sistematización de Procedimientos de Gestión y Conservación (Guide to best practice in the treatment of objects in temporary exhibitions: a proposal for the systematisation of management and conservation procedures) has had a great reception. It began as the write-up of a first meeting organised last year in the Centro Cultural de España en Mexico City and was presented at the Reina Sofia Museum in Madrid on 14 December 2007 in collaboration with ICOM-Spain, to a large group of professionals from institutions and businesses in the sector with the objective of completing the document for publication during 2008.

The main project for this year is the production of an online journal, Notebooks of the IIC Spanish Group, in an open format. It will be published annually and will contain articles on research, treatments, training and literature reviews. Various GE-IIC working groups have also been developed:

- Contemporary Art, Altarpieces, Preventive Conservation, Stone and Photography. The Contemporary Art group is organising an annual meeting to be held at the Reina Sofia Museum. The Altarpieces group is holding biannual single-subject courses in collaboration with the University of Valencia. The Preventive Conservation group meets annually in the Guggenheim-Bilbao Museum and the Stone and Photography groups are still in the process of being formed.

The Reina Sofia Museum, GE-IIC and the company C.T.S. Spain have collaboratively organised a series of annual technical lectures so that experts from different fields can present their research in Spain. The first of these, on the subject Del barro al oxalato: sistemas inorgánicos para la consolidación y la protección de obras de arte en piedra y pintura al fresco (Bauxite oxalate: Inorganic systems for the consolidation and protection of works of art on stone and fresco paintings) was given by Professors Mauro Mattemi and Sabino Giovanni of the Dipartimento di Pittura al Fresco of the Dipartimento di Pittura al Fresco of the Opificio delle Pietre Dure in Florence on 9 March 2007. Another technical encounter was held on 22 February 2008 on the theme Deterioro, restauraciones anadas y nuevas polímeros para la restauración (Solvents, aqueous solutions and new polymers for restoration), by Dr Paolo Cremonesi and Dr Leonardo di Miglio.

For more information, see www.ge-iic.org or e-mail administracion@ge-iic.org.
News in Conservation No.6, June 2008

Calls for Papers

Standards in the science of conservation and restoration of historic monuments
23–25 April 2009
Berlin, Germany
Submit abstracts by: 30 August 2008

Incredible Industry: preserving the evidence of industrial society
24–27 May 2009
Copenhagen, Denmark
Submit abstracts by: 1 September 2008

Meetings and Conferences

Study and serendipity: testimonies on artists’ practice
12–13 June 2008
Glasgow, UK
Submit abstracts by: 30 August 2008

Latest research into painting techniques of Impressionists and Postimpressionists
12–13 June 2008
Cologne, Germany
Submit abstracts by: 30 August 2008

Conservation and Postimpressionists
12–13 June 2008
Glasgow, UK
Submit abstracts by: 30 August 2008

Historic buildings, parks and gardens
11 November 2008
London, UK

Practical insect pest management
17–18 June 2008
London, UK

Digital photography
24–25 June 2008
London, UK

Decalcomania of paper
25–26 June 2008
London, UK

Conservation and preservation of photographs
3–5 July 2008
London, UK

Giltwood frame and object restoration workshop
30 June–4 July 2008
London or Oxford, UK

Lapis lazuli: fact and fiction
8 July 2008
London, UK

Identification of paper
7–8 July 2008
London, UK

Laser scanning in the heritage field
13–14 July 2008
London, UK

AEOMA Online

www.aata.getty.edu

A free resource for professionals engaged in the conservation and management of materials cultural heritage in all its forms: works of art, cultural objects, architectural heritage, and archaeological sites and monuments.

AATA Online includes more than 100,000 abstracts, with new abstracts of both current and historical conservation literature added quarterly.

AATA Online regularly abstracts 130 journals, conference proceedings, and monograph series, and adds data from other publications, both within the field of conservation and from allied fields, are abstracted on an irregular basis by volunteer contributors.

AATA Online includes all 16 volumes of Art and Archaeology Technical Abstracts (AATA), its predecessor, HCT. Abstracts, and over 1,000 abstracts published between 1912 and 1943 by the Freer Art Museum and the Peabody Essex Museum. It also includes abstracts for which they have no original AATA for additional subject supplements and additional supplements added since going online.

For more information, please contact us at aata@getty.edu

Calling all newshounds!

Do you have a nose for a good story? Would you like to get involved with IIC publications?

News in Conservation is looking for volunteer news editors and a picture editor to join the team. You will be responsible for finding news and photographs for each issue of News in Conservation, published every two months.

Interested? Contact the Editor of News in Conservation, Christina Bazeik, at news@iiconservation.org for further details. No journalistic experience is necessary, but a way with words would be helpful, as well as a willingness to track down interesting conservation news stories and pictures, and good access to the internet. This is your chance to make front page news!

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Head of Conservation

The Gallery is seeking to appoint a Head of Conservation who will oversee the care of this internationally renowned collection, direct the associated operations of professional colleagues and liaise with other members of the Gallery’s team, including curatorial, registrar and photographic operations. The successful candidate will be required to develop a brief for new state of the art conservation facilities in the context of the Gallery’s current development programme. Full details on the post are available on www.nationalgallery.ie

Applications including a CV, to be accompanied by a covering letter outlining how the requirements of the post are met and giving contact details for three referees, should be forwarded to humanresources@natioalgallery.ie or by post to the Human Resources Manager, National Gallery of Ireland, Merrion Square West, Dublin 2.

The closing date for receipt of completed applications is 5pm on 19th June 2008. Interviews for shortlisted candidates are provisionally scheduled for the week in July 2008.

The National Gallery of Ireland is an equal opportunities employer.