



E.C.C.O.

European Confederation of Conservator-Restorers' Organisations

E.C.C.O. reports

Nr. 1 / 2003



E.C.C.O. seeks to develop and promote, on a practical, scientific and cultural level, the profession of
Conservator-Restorer of Cultural Heritage.



E.C.C.O. reports

Nr. 1 / 2003

E.C.C.O. is an international association established on 14th October 1991 under the Belgian Law of 25th October 1919.

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E.C.C.O. welcomes all contributions to the reports which are of general interest for the profession of Conservator-Restorer. Proposal papers should be submitted to E.C.C.O. by e-mail or on a disc with a paper copy sent to the following address:

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Friday, 2nd April 2004

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AREAA – Association des Restaurateurs de l'Ecole d'Avignon

ARI – Associazine Restauratori d'Italia

ARP – Associacao Profissional de Conservadores-Restauradores de Portugal

ARRC – Associazione Restauratori Corsi Regionali

FFCR – Fédération Française des Conservateurs-Restaurateurs

GTCRC – Grup Tecnic Associacio Professional dels Conservadors-Restauradors de Catalunya

IADA – Internationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Archiv-Bibliothek- und Graphik-Restauratoren

IPC – Institute of Paper Conservation

NKF-DK – Nordisk Konservatorforbund den Danske Afdeling

NKF-FIN – Pohjoismaiden Konservatoriliitto Suomen Osasto

NKF-N – Nordisk Konservatorforbund den Norske Seksjon

NKF-S – Nordiska Konservatorförbundet Svenska Sektionen

ÖRV – Österreichischer Restauratorenverband

SKR/SCR – Association Suisse de Conservation et Restauration

SSCR – The Scottish Society for Conservation & Restoration

UKIC – United Kingdom Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works

VDR – Verband der Restauratoren e. V.

VERES – Belangenvereniging Restauratoren Nederland

ECCO-Committee meeting, Düsseldorf 2003





Editorial

Dear E.C.C.O. members,

The **E.C.C.O.** newsletter has become the **E.C.C.O.** reports, since it is a yearly report and all the news concerning restoration and restorers in Europe will be now on the E.C.C.O. website: **www.ecco-eu.org**

The website will comprise in general: The memberlist, all official documents – like the E.C.C.O. guidelines, the Statutes, the APEL recommendations –, information about the the E.C.C.O. policy, all E.C.C.O. activities, (like projects and working groups), the E.C.C.O. Newsletters 1–8, all the reports to come, announcements, links, publications and the calendar, which will be revised monthly.

The **E.C.C.O.** reports with the list of activities, the policy plan, the member list and addresses, the resume of the General Assembly, and the national reports, should therefore make a resume of the past year and also function as a link between all member associations.

The **E.C.C.O.** short news will be sent out as usual after each E.C.C.O. committee-meeting via e-mail to all member associations.

I want to thank all my colleagues all over Europe who made it possible to send out this reports nr. 1 on time.

With the coming year, I will hand over my duty as the editor of this magazine to my colleague in the E.C.C.O. committee from the SKR/SCR: Natalie Ellwanger.

The deadline for the next national reports will remain the same: 1st of September 2004.

Suggestions: The following items should be considered in your next national reports:

Education, qualification, legislation, working conditions (VAT, rates and wages), membership situation.

*Adjudication criterias, project of planning, cooperation with other organisations, conferences, symposiums, publications, projects-activities – long term, short term and other activities, as these themes are the main items in the **E.C.C.O.** reports as well.*

Edith Touré

Editor

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From the President

Dear Colleagues and Friends

Let me start by paying tribute to my predecessor Gerlinde Tautschnig, who stepped down as E.C.C.O. President at the General Assembly in March 2003, and whose efforts on our behalf need to be acknowledged and applauded in print.

Working her way up through the Committee from Vice Secretary General, Secretary General, Vice President with the heavy responsibility for the co-ordination of the APEL project and lastly E.C.C.O. President, Gerlinde has consistently delivered all she has promised, and done so with good cheer and enthusiasm. She has by her own example set new standards for hard work, coupled with diplomacy and professionalism and she will definitely be a difficult act to follow. The Committee sends her a well-deserved fanfare and wishes her the best of luck for the future.

This last year has been a strange and unsettling one; posts in hallowed institutions either cut or under threat; successful conservation courses hanging in the balance, and all against the backdrop of an ever worsening world situation where the scale of human tragedy dwarfs considerations of the destruction of cultural heritage. And yet the central importance of that heritage has also manifested itself.

Conservator-Restorers all over the world work under hugely different conditions. Between us, we have many – and very different – political and spiritual beliefs. Yet we all share a basic conviction in the importance of cultural heritage, and a willingness to devote ourselves to its continued survival – often with a dedication far beyond the call of duty and with a passion that sometimes surprises those outside the field.

In times of conflict, it is immensely comforting to know that professional organisations like E.C.C.O. are (and will remain) non-political and completely independent of any national governments and their policies. Following the looting of Iraqi antiquities, it was heartening to witness the spontaneous offers of assistance from all kinds colleagues and it is wonderful to have such a close

collaboration with ICOM-CC. This shared spirit of resolve was summed up by ICOM-CC's President, Jørgen Wadum, in the grand name "Restaurateurs sans Frontières". Our international network of like-minded professionals has also been a useful antidote to the half-truths, propaganda and bad reporting by the press.

Any international organisation is cumbersome to administer, and maybe not as light on its feet as one would wish, and E.C.C.O. is certainly no exception. There have been times when one might wonder what E.C.C.O. is really for. But consider the alternative – if E.C.C.O. did not exist, there would be no possibility of speedy and co-ordinated large-scale international action by conservator-restorers in the event of difficult situations; no agreed Guidelines specifically for our profession and shared across borders; and no forum for pan-European discussion within the profession. We are of course not the only players in the field, and it is very satisfying to see the amount of networking that is happening at last, drawing on our individual strengths to mesh together the different aspects of professional representation at international level to make a meaningful whole and to produce groundbreaking results. E.C.C.O. particularly looks forward to building on the past year's work with ENCoRE and ICOM-CC and I thoroughly recommend that you read the excellent reports, interviews and thoughts in this publication for more details.

Our collective cultural heritage defines and reflects the human condition, helps our understanding of the world and benefits society by contributing to the well-being of individuals and society as a whole. Conservation professionals have an important role to play in the preservation of our collective cultural heritage in its many forms, thereby enabling and facilitating access for purposes of research, enjoyment and personal and collective fulfillment. Let us celebrate diversity, but at the same time acknowledge and be proud of our common beliefs as professionals and as fellow human beings.

Ylva Player-Dahnsjö

E.C.C.O. President

August 2003



PROFILES

The E.C.C.O.-Board and Committee



Janine van Reekum, General Secretary

Metal conservator with private practice in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Conservation and restoration of all kinds of metal art objects, varying from bronze sculpture, silverware, pewter and jewellery.

Chair of VERES since 2000 and General Secretary since 2002.



Edith Touré, Vice President

Paper conservator, free-lancer, works mainly for the national institute of conservation-restoration in Vienna on all kind of art objects: Like wall papers, historical interiors, japanese paravents, drawings and cartapesta.

Studied in Vienna, masters of art at the Academy of Fine Arts 1978.

On the board of ÖRV since 1998, vice president of E.C.C.O. since 2000.



Natalie Ellwanger, Committee

Paintings conservator working at the Kunsthaus Zürich since 1998.

Graduated in 1995 as a conservator from Höhere Fachhochschule für Gestaltung (HFG), Bern.



Michael van Gompén, Treasurer

Born in 1967, studies in electronics and horology. Self-employed, conservator-restorer of scientific

and mechanical instruments and time keepers (clocks, watches, etc.) since 1994 in Brussels.

Graduated in conservation-restoration from the University of Sussex, England (West Dean College) in 1992.



Anna Häkärä, Committee

Private textile conservator for 10 years, working as a lecturer and Head of the Textile Conservation Line at the Evttec Institute in Vantaa, Finland.

Graduated as a textile conservator from the Textile Conservation Centre, Hamton Court Palace in England, in 1992.



Sabine Kessler, Committee

Private sculpture conservator for 6 years, working for the French institutions.

Graduated as a conservator-restorer at the Institut de formation de conservateur de chef d'œuvres d'art (IFROA) in 1997.



Francisca Figueira, Committee

Paper conservator, working at the IPCR (Instituto Portugues de Conservacao Restauo).

Education in paper conservation at the IJF (Instituto Jose de Figueiredo) from 1981–1986.

Member of ARP, appointed delegate for the APEL project in 2000, elected for the E.C.C.O. committee in March 2002.



Ylva Player-Dahnsjö, President

Lectured for some years in English Literature, before training as a paper conservator with rare books as specialism. Head of the Conservation Institute at the University of Dundee in Scotland since 1992. Currently researching “the value of the real” and how this informs our work in the heritage field.

Tanja Røskar-Reed, Vice President

Graduated as objects conservator with ethnography as speciality from the Montfort University in England in 1995. Has worked as conservator-restorer since graduation in Norway and in other countries. Works presently as a c-r manager at Aust-Agder-Museet in Arendal, Norway.



Kathryn Walker-Tubb,

Vice General Secretary

Archaeological conservator and lecturer in Cultural Heritage Studies at the Institute of Archaeology, University College of London, with special interests in conservation of neolithic objects from the Near East.



Cornelia Weyer, Committee

E.C.C.O.-delegate of VDR since March 2003. Before the merger of the German conservator-restorer associations, she had represented DRV in E.C.C.O. (2000–2001).

She was trained as a paintings conservator in Zürich and Munich from 1973 to 1976. In addition to her formation as a conservator she studied art history at the universities of Zürich, München and Marburg. She graduated with a lizentiat on impainting in the early 19th century and finished her studies in 1987 with a PHD-thesis on the beginnings of painting conservation in the late 18/early 19th century, both at the Zürich University. From 1985 to 1992 she was first assisting Thomas Brachert with the training programme of the Institute für Kunsttechnik und Konservierung, Germanisches Nationalmuseum Nürnberg, the painting conservator at the same museum. Since 1992 she is director of the Restaurierungszentrum der Landshauptstadt Düsseldorf/Schenkung Henkel. She lectured on art technology, restoration ethics and history of restoration at the universities of Zürich, Hildesheim, Giessen, Trier and Düsseldorf. From 1990 to 1996 she acted as a coordinator of the ICOM-CC Working Group Theory and History of restoration. Since 2001 she is vicepresident of VDR.

(missing Monica Martelli-Castaldi)

ECCO-Committee meeting, Düsseldorf 2003

from left to right: Francisca Figueira (ARP), Sabine Kessler (FFCR), Cornelia Weyer (VDR), Janine van Reekum (VeRes), Michael van Gompel (APROA-BRK), Natalie Ellwanger (SKR/SCR), Anna Häkari (NKF-FIN).

Missing in the picture: Ylva Player-Dahnsjö (SSCR), Edith Touré (ÖRV), Tanja Røskar-Reed (NKF-N).

Absent: Kathryn Walker Tubb (UKIC), Monica Martelli-Castaldi (ARI)





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October 2003

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DELEGATE

Please help to keep this list up to date by reporting any changes or mistakes to Janine van Reekum,
e-mail: artreg@xs4all.nl
without delay!
Please delete any older versions.

Thank you.



E.C.C.O. General Assembly 2003



The Assembly met on Friday, 7 March at the Headquarters of the Economic and Social Committee in Brussels. Due to the high attendance of delegates and observers, we were offered to use the spacious “Salle de Rotonde”. The President, Gerlinde Tautschnig, thanked the Economic and Social Committee for the use of the conference room and the translators. E.C.C.O. can make use of such facilities because of our membership in CEPLIS.

A week prior to the General Assembly, CEPLIS moved and therefore the official address of E.C.C.O. was changed from the Coudenberg address to:

4, Rue Jacques de Lalaing
B-1040 Brussels.

The President welcomed all delegates, especially Sabina Bellver Cardete of the Asociacion de Conservadores y Restauradores de Arte de la Comunidad Valenciana (ACRACV), Cornelia Weyer of the new member Verband der Restauratoren (VDR), Monica Gast of the Internationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Archiv-, Bibliotheks- und Graphik-Restauratoren (IADA) and the new delegates: Natalie Ellwanger of the Association Suisse de Conservation et Restauration (SKR/SCR) and Helle Strehle of the Nordisk Konservatorforbund – Den Danske Afdeling (NKF-DK).

Eric Favre-Bulle has stepped down as delegate of SKR/SCR and has therefore resigned from the Committee. Eric has been a Committee member and an excellent Treasurer for many years. He was warmly thanked for his numerous contributions.

A special welcome was offered to the observers of the Südtiroler Verband, Verena Mumelter and Martin Pittertschatscher, Suvi Leukumaavaara of the Finnish Section of the Nordiska Konservatorförbundet (NKF-FIN) and Adrian Kennedy of the Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works in Ireland (ICHAWI).

Wolfgang Baatz of the European Network for Conservation-Restoration Education (ENCoRE) and Pierre Masson of the Belgian association (APROA/BRK) were given a warm welcome when they joined the Assembly.

Because of updating of the Statutes, Code of Ethics, Guidelines III and the E.C.C.O.-ENCoRE Discussion Paper were going to be discussed and voted upon. The high attendance of this General Assembly was greatly appreciated and the President expressed her hope to uphold this collaboration in the future. The President reported furthermore on the work performed by the Committee, emphasising on the importance of internal and external communication. Several letters of protest were sent by the E.C.C.O. Committee:

- to the British government concerning the cut downs at the British Museum,
- to the Danish government with regard to the threatening situation of the Danish State Archives, and
- concerning the planned cut downs at the ICN education for conservator-restorers, to the Dutch government.

These letters of protest are sent whenever our profession is endangered in any sort of way and upon request of a member of E.C.C.O..

The updates of the E.C.C.O. Guidelines I and III were ratified by the General Assembly on 1 March 2002. The co-ordinator of the working group for updating of the Statutes and the Guidelines, Ylva Player-Dahnsjö, reported extensively on the background of this process in the E.C.C.O. Newsletter nr. 8 / 2002. Prior to this General Assembly 2003, all delegates were sent the proposal of the updated Guidelines II (Code of Ethics), the proposal for the revised Guidelines III and an explanatory cover letter.

The revision of the Guidelines III was needed to bring the Guidelines in line with the recent developments in the harmonisation of the levels of training in Europe and E.C.C.O.'s related work with ENCoRE. It was proposed to increase the number of years of full time study, as stated in these basic requirements for education in conservation-restoration, from 4 to 5 years. The General

Assembly voted in favour of this revision, thus adopting the new Guidelines III.


Concerning the updating of the Code of Ethics, Ylva Player-Dahnsjö explained that she has taken all the comments she received over the past four years into account when formulating the final draft. Ylva thanked all those who contributed. At the Committee meeting in Rome (November 2002) the draft was extensively discussed, resulting in a final draft for the Committee members to comment upon in December 2002. Article 26 (formerly article 24) seemed to provoke truly divided opinions within the Committee, resulting in two versions of this article in the final draft. At the General Assembly the two versions of this article were discussed and after voting on these versions, the opinions seemed still divided given the equal number of votes for both. Therefore, it was decided to keep the already adopted article as it is, and vote upon all other updates. The General Assembly voted in favour of all other changes, thus adopting Guidelines II except for article 26 (formerly article 24).

The updating of the Statutes were needed mainly with respect to legal requirements and beheld several minor aspects of change. The proposed changes were explained, and the Assembly was

notified of the fact that the official Statutes are in French, according to Belgium law, although the votes were on the English version. The General Assembly generously expressed their trust that the changes will be translated accordingly in the official French version. The quorum of 2/3 of the votes was obtained in favour of the update of the Statutes. The working group on the updating of the Statutes and Guidelines was thanked for all the hard work they performed. The working group noted that they will now focus on the official publication of the Statutes and the new E.C.C.O. Official Documents.

Following the Joint Statement on the Education of Conservator-Restorers of Cultural Heritage, that was drafted at a joint meeting in Antwerp (September 2002) and published by the E.C.C.O. and ENCoRE boards in the E.C.C.O. Newsletter nr. 8 / 2002, a discussion paper concerning the higher education system for conservation-restoration was drafted. This discussion paper is based on "The Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Recognition of Professional qualifications (2002/0061 COD)". In order to lobby at the EC to have the qualifications for the Conservator-Restorer incorporated in this European Directive, both E.C.C.O. and ENCoRE





"Survey of the legal and professional responsibilities of the conservators-restorers as regards the other parties involved in the preservation and conservation of cultural heritage"

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and an order-voucher receipt of your transfer by fax to:
Ylva Player-Dahnsjö, General Secretary of ECCO,
Conservation Unit, Main Library, University of Innsbruck
p-00013, y.player-dahnsjo@uibk.ac.at

The APEL project has produced, for the first time on a European level, a survey on the legislation concerning cultural heritage and its conservation-restoration, and an exhaustive analysis of the conservation-restoration processes at present used in the European countries. The publication of 410 pages is now available. The book addresses not only Conservator-Restorers but all the professions involved in the preservation of cultural heritage, including lawyers and administrative operators, and brings together numerous contributions in French and English: an exhaustive survey of the European legislation for the conservation-restoration of cultural property and the legal status of the Conservator-Restorer; an analysis of the European situation of the actors and their responsibilities at the various steps of the process of conservation-restoration; a collection of relevant bibliographies, legal references and web sites; a proposal for a dictionary of legal terms in conservation-restoration. The final document of the project, the "Recommendations and Guidelines for the adoption of common principles regarding the conservation-restoration of the Cultural Heritage in Europe", approved by all the participants of the project and translated into 7 languages (English, Finnish, French, German, Italian, Dutch and Portuguese) constitutes a useful tool to promote the recognition and professional status of the Conservator-Restorer and to improve the quality of conservation-restoration activities.

ECCO
European Confederation of Conservator-Restorers' Organizations
In partnership with:
Afdeling Monumenten en Landschappen van het Ministerie Vlaamse Gemeenschap Belgium /
ARP-Associação Profissional de Conservadores-Restauradores de Portugal / Arts Council of Scotland (United Kingdom) /
Landesamt für Denkmalpflege Sachsen-Anhalt, Germany /
Museum für Kunst und Kunstgeschichte Wien, Austria /
Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali, Italy.
And with:
ICCROM - International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property.
With the financial support of the European Commission, DG X
apel-euro



had to adopt the paper. ENCoRE board member, Wolfgang Baatz, explained the process to the General Assembly. The ECCO General Assembly adopted the Discussion Paper. At the General Assembly of ENCoRE, on 9–10 May 2003, the Discussion Paper was being put to the vote. For an extensive report on the collaboration of ECCO and ENCoRE and further information about the Discussion Paper, I would like to refer to the paper of René Larsen and Janine van Reekum elsewhere in this “E.C.C.O. Reports”.

The working group on “Survey on Rates in Europe” designed a questionnaire to explore the different rates and wages throughout Europe for conservation-restoration. At the General Assembly this questionnaire was handed out and the former coordinator of the working group, Eric Favre-Bulle, explained that both free-lance and employed rates are asked for in the questionnaire and that the answers will be treated confidentially. All delegates were asked to fill out the questionnaire with their national associations and return it in time.

Besides Eric Favre-Bulle, Gerlinde Tautschnig resigned from the Bureau and Committee. Gerlinde

from left to right: Natalie Ellwanger, Sabine Kessler, Janine van Reekum



Eric Favre-Bulle, Michael van Gompén, Janine van Reekum



Natalie Ellwanger, Michael van Gompén, Sabine Kessler

has been in the Bureau for six years. She started as General Secretary and soon after that she became Vice President. After the General Assembly in 2001, Gerlinde became President of E.C.C.O.. She has put in an enormous amount of work as main co-ordinator for the APEL project. The Assembly greatly acknowledged Gerlinde Tautschnig for all the work she has done for E.C.C.O. and she will be dearly missed.

New Committee members are:

Monica Martelli Castaldi (ARI)

Cornelia Weyer (VDR)

Natalie Ellwanger (SKR/SCR)

The new Committee met the next day to choose the Bureau (officers), who will serve for one year. The General Assembly 2004 is scheduled to be held on March 5.

Janine van Reekum
E.C.C.O. General Secretary

E.C.C.O. ACTIVITIES PLAN 2003

Short term

Action by all delegates:

- Active participation to the E.C.C.O. activities
- Forward relevant information to the E.C.C.O. Committee and all member associations
- Exchange of reports between the E.C.C.O. member organisations
- Contribute actively to the working groups
- Presentation of E.C.C.O. at any professional meeting

Action by the E.C.C.O. Committee members:

- Reports
- Short News
- Contact and collaboration with other organisations:
 - CEPLIS, EUROPA NOSTRA
 - ENCORE
 - ICOM-CC
 - ICCROM
 - GETTY INSTITUTE
 - UNESCO
 - SECCO SUARDO ASSOCIATION
 - AIC, ICOMOS
- Working groups:
 - Updating Guidelines and Statutes
 - Education, Qualification, Practice
 - Survey on VAT rates in Europe
- Updating of the E.C.C.O. web site
- CEN, Standardisation on Cultural Property

Long Term

Action by the E.C.C.O. Committee members:

- Reports at least once a year. Deadline for sending contribution: March of every year.
- EU project with other European partners as ICOMOS, ICOM, SECCO SUARDO etc. ...
- Improvement of the E.C.C.O. web site
- Contacts with members of EU Culture Commission
- Contacts with members of cultural affairs Committee who are preparing the work of EC-Contacts with Ministries of Culture and with Directors of Cultural Heritage in E.C.
- Contacts with the General Directorates (DG) of the European Commission

Action by all delegates:

- Research for sponsor contributions and publicity for the E.C.C.O. Reports.
- Fund-raising
- Enhance publication of E.C.C.O. official documents and Reports or any other E.C.C.O. publication.

E.C.C.O.s official documents should be part of the member organisations official documents.





News from the Working Group – Education, Qualification and Practice

E.C.C.O.-ENCoRE

Last year after the E.C.C.O.-ENCoRE Meeting in Antwerp, on the 7th–8th of September, a position paper was drafted for corrections and was approved this Spring at each respective General Assembly. An invited observer was present in each meeting. E.C.C.O. was represented by Janine Van Reeckum. This document in its PDF file is already on the ENCoRE web site with an attachment of two explanatory paragraphs on the present situation of the profession in the field of cultural heritage.

Education Questionnaire

14 European countries have organisations which are full members of E.C.C.O.. Last year the education questionnaire was sent to every delegate and although not all delegates have answered, a very good response has been achieved from almost every country (only Italy and Austria still need to send their answers). In some countries a contact person outside the member organisations was found who could answer the questionnaire, that was the case of Anne Bacon from Northumbria University and Ana Calvo from the IIC-Spanish Group.

A data base file has been started with the contact

person for education matters in each organisation and has been distributed to all the delegates for checking and consulting. The use of a list of the recognised courses in each country by their national organisations, is something that was thought to be important when all European countries will have an increasing amount of foreign workers/students offering their services or wishing to continue their studies. Characteristics of those courses, their names, specialisms, years, and whether already part of the Bologna process, are questions which can be interesting for every organisation and can be updated and enlarged every year. At the moment E.C.C.O. is renovating its web site and perhaps some of this information can be consulted in the near future.

This education information file can be augmented to contain: an historical information on the education courses that have ceased to exist or that have changed their name; contact persons for the present education courses and whether they are members of ENCoRE is also something worth adding.

Ideas for the future

Although each country should have some specific specialisms or areas of practice according to the characteristics of their national cultural heritage, their could be more uniformity within Europe as



Wood Identification, Carl Malmsten CTD

to the main areas of practice. Specialisms seem to spring out from the different education institutions according to factors such as tradition and availability of teachers.

Author: Francisca Figueira



The working group of rates and wages

The working group of rates and wages had a meeting in Paris on the 23th of August, to compare and analyse the result of the questionnaire sent to every association in March 2003.

The members of the working group are: Roberto Borgogno, Natalie Ellwanger, Michael van Gompén and Sabine Kessler.

Out of twenty questionnaires sent, we received eleven answers covering ten different countries: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, United Kingdom Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, and Switzerland.

To complete our work properly we would be happy to receive the missing answers.

The four categories of questions asked were:

- on the image of the profession to either authorities and general public,
- if either authorities or professional associations have ever made recommendations about rates and wages for Conservator-Restorers or not,
- the improvement of the financial situation of the C-Rs according to the increased level of qualification (university master's level),
- the actual earning for both self-employed and employees in Conservation-Restoration.

As far as the image of the profession is concerned the results show that public authorities are starting to look upon C-Rs as a liberal professional with a high level of qualification. This being the result of the higher level of the diplomas, such as a Master's degree. In some countries unfortunately the government still consider us as being craftsmen or specialised technicians. This seems to be the case in Finland, the Netherlands, United Kingdom, and in some parts of Germany and Italy. In Portugal the government recognised the master trained C-Rs on the same level as a curator.

For the general public, the image of the profession hasn't changed much over the last decade. Most of the people seem to consider us as still being craftsmen with some variations in qualification from highly trained, with artistic skills, down to very basic manual workers.



Sabine Kessler, Roberto Borgogno, Natalie Ellwanger

In terms of recommendations made about rates and/or wages no professional association has ever made any, except for Finland (NKF), the Netherlands (VERES), Switzerland (SKR) and Italy (ARI). France (FFCR) plans to do it soon and Germany (VDR) is interested to do so as well. In fact in all these countries those recommendations are not formal obligations.

At the same time, no government has ever made such recommendations except for Germany in 1968, but this is obviously completely out-of-date. In most countries, for employees of public services, there are internal salary scales according to categories usually based on levels of diploma.

As a matter of fact, the financial situation of the C-R has not improved at all in the relation to their level of qualification, especially in the private sector where the impact of higher diplomas has had virtually no effect.

Meanwhile, in most countries things seem to change slowly in the sector of public services. In Denmark, Germany, Portugal, Switzerland and Italy, the salaries have evolved according to the increase of diploma levels.

The results of this inquiry were very difficult to analyse because of the wide variety of situations in the different EU/Non-EU countries. This applies especially for the wages which are subject to different levels of taxation, social security, national health, pension funds etc. ...

This makes it hardly possible to compare the financial situations for employed C-Rs. The working group shall prepare a more precise questionnaire on this subject with the aim to get better comparable answers.

As far as hourly rates for self-employed people and businesses are concerned, we can see that there are mainly three determinates:

- the upper rung from 40 to 53 € per hour applies in Denmark, Finland, United Kingdom, Germany and Switzerland,
- the middle rung from 25 to 35 € per hour is found in France, Netherlands and Belgium,
- the lower rung from 12 to 18 € per hour is found in Italy and Portugal.

Obviously, some differences in the cost of living still exists between northern and southern Europe, but the general cost of living is increasing more in the southern countries for the last couple of years. Then, we can, therefore, observe that in southern countries the purchasing power is in a real constant decrease.

Conclusions

The general perception of our profession is still wrong and has not evolved in-line with the qualification levels. This greatly affects the recognition of our work and profession, and as a consequence, we find ourselves in a poor position. We should not rely on anybody else but ourselves to change this image.

Although most national associations have not so far established recommendations for rates and wages, it seems that many of them are seeing a need for these, and are thinking about working on this subject.

This would be helpful for fighting against price bargaining for conservation restoration work in the private sector which gives a negative image of our discipline, and it would help also to better the position for employed C-Rs.

These results show clearly the need to keep working on the improvement of our image to the authorities and surely as well to the public. We should always bear in mind that cheap work has no value!

Authors:

Roberto Borgogno, Natalie Ellwanger,
Michael van Gampen, Sabine Kessler.

24th August 2003

If you have any comments, please do not hesitate to send them to the E.C.C.O. General Secretary, Janine Van Reekum. All your remarks will be welcome.

If you haven't answered the questionnaire yet, you can still send it to us.



President to President – Ylva Player-Dahnsjö interviews Jørgen Wadum, President of ICOM-CC

Q: How did you get into conservation?

A: In the early 1970's I was a flower-painter at the Royal Copenhagen Porcelain Factory and feeling unsatisfied about doing only manual and little brainwork. Good friends suggested that I should start training as a conservator at the School of Conservation, Copenhagen. In order to enhance my qualifications I studied at the Copenhagen University, which lead to a BA in Art History in 1980. During that time, I also started my studies at the School of Conservation, in 1979.

Q: What would you say characterises your chairmanship?

A: It is my ambition that the current highly qualified and committed directory board in a collective way should achieve a modernised, more visible and engaged ICOM-CC within the entire conservation and museum community.

Q: What is the difference between ICOM and ICOM-CC? How does it work?

A: ICOM-CC is the largest of the 26 International Organisations under ICOM; an organisation with more than 16,000 members worldwide. We are funded by a (very low) percentage of the annual subscription fee paid to ICOM. Those ICOM members who have clearly identified themselves as interested in the work of ICOM-CC will register as our members, something that is free to ICOM members. Our members are assembled as Working Group members in one (or more) of the current 22 Working Groups under ICOM-CC.

Later this year we shall launch our Friends of ICOM-CC membership programme, which will be open to everyone interested in our work. A Friend



Jørgen Wadum

will for an annual fee receive e-information about the work of ICOM-CC and can equally associate him/herself with one of the Working Groups and also receive their Newsletter and other relevant information. Friends of ICOM-CC will receive a considerable reduction on the conference and interim meeting fees.

Q: What are the short-term and long-term goals of ICOM-CC?

A: The short term goals are to get the Friends of ICOM-CC Membership launched in a proper way, and to get the membership hooked up to our web site. The latter is currently under reconstruction and shall early in 2004 change further to enable paid up members to archive even more information and working possibilities via a members-only intranet. Also, the bye-laws of ICOM-CC are under review and most importantly they will result in the entire membership of ICOM-CC being able to vote for the DB – and not only the conference delegates as it now is. Additionally ICOM-CC has set up a task force to write a Charter for Conservation.

This document shall be discussed with partner organisations before being presented to the ICOM membership.

On a slightly longer note, ICOM together with ICOM-CC are fostering a range of programmes, with other international committees, especially ICTOP (Training of personnel) and ICMS (Museum Security), to disseminate information about the vulnerability of the world's heritage, and to support museum professionals in situations of armed conflict or natural disaster. The forthcoming ICOM project *Museums Emergency Program* will address these issues, and is being developed in collaboration with the Getty Conservation Institute (GCI) and ICCROM. We anticipate being able to explain more about this during our ICOM-CC 14th Triennial Meeting in 2005 in The Hague.

Q: How do you think Conservation-Restoration has changed as a profession in the last 10 years?

A: The change from training conservators in an apprenticeship situation into specialised programmes has resulted in a professionalisation of the

discipline. A very good trend is the enhancement of the qualifications of these courses further by linking them up with university level training, something that will lead to highly specialised Masters in Conservation, and for some also to a PhD in this discipline. On a European level, ENCoRe and E.C.C.O. play a crucial role in this work.

Q: Do you think Conservators-Restorers themselves have changed? Do they need to change further?

A: Caring for objects from our past is not just a matter of treating their physical condition but also of understanding their intangible values. A conservator's sensitivity towards the multifaceted task it is to handle, understand, conserve and restore for display, needs complex thinking together with manual skills. I believe that conservators must see their role as creating new and imaginative ways for the public to interact with objects.

Q: What role do you think C-R plays in the world of heritage and culture and what could it contribute to the future?

A: The role of conservation in communicating with and engaging a wider audience is one that is

Jørgen Wadum



highly recognised by ICOM-CC. A plenary session at the 12th triennial meeting in Lyon 1999, was dedicated to the issue of communication, and it was a theme that ran through the 13th triennial meeting in Rio 2002, with an excellent session, “the Museum Forum” organised by ICOM, focusing on Latin American issues of public involvement in conservation. Another special meeting in Rio to consider how ICOM-CC might respond to the growing understanding of the conservator-restorer as narrator of the material culture was also convened, the result of which was the formation of an ICOM-CC Task Force on Public Engagement in Conservation. We are approaching a situation in which we are not only treating and caring for the objects but also serving as an important link between the objects and the public.

Q: what do you see as the main challenges to the profession, both now and in the future?

A: To stay humble towards the objects entrusted to us, and strong as an advocate for cultural protection and engagement in the dissemination about its vulnerability.

Q: Is Conservation-Restoration really that important, in the great scheme of things?

A: In a world torn by wars and gigantic human crises with hunger and illnesses time-consuming and costly conservation projects may appear a tactless luxury. However, we must realize that a people without a living and visible cultural past will have its history amputated, something that again can lead to political and human disasters. The inevitable globalisation also fosters broader views of heritage. Museums and collections are not only places for recognition and reference, or cultural, scientific and educational dialogue, but collections or monuments not even reachable for the majority of the world’s population are regarded as our common cultural heritage. The outcry emerging when the Buddha Statues in Afghanistan were destroyed was a collective reaction of concern hardly experienced so widely in the world’s population before. Experience of destruction of cultural sites and collections during the first Iraq war and during the Balkan wars, led

many organisations, including ICOM-CC, to warn against a repetition of this destruction and illicit trade during the aftermath of what has become known as the second Iraq war. Once again the world’s population witnessed how cultures suffer, and, although mostly forgotten in the daily stream of news, this is something that is continuously and profoundly happening also in Africa and Latin America where illicit trade is flourishing.

Q: What difference would you personally like to have made by the end of your term as Chair?

A: It would cause me immense enjoyment to know that the Co-ordinators and their Working Groups have been offered maximal opportunity to explore, study and present their extremely valuable and innovative research and practical experience for a broad professional field – and beyond. ICOM-CC must be an important and relevant partner in heritage and conservation related issues worldwide. If our information network can run in a way that would offer not only professionals, but also interested parties outside our own professional field the information they look for, then we have reached our objectives.

August 2003



Collaboration of E.C.C.O. and ENCoRE

Introduction

Since its foundation, E.C.C.O. has been actively working to raise standards in the education of conservator-restorers, and has dedicated a working group to this subject. A major project in this respect was the E.C.C.O. partnership in the European CONBEFOR project, which reported in 2000. In the E.C.C.O. Newsletter nr. 8/2002, an extensive paper by René Larsen, Chairman of the Board of ENCoRE, was published detailing how ENCoRE (the European Network for Conservation-Restoration Education) came into being and its activities. In this paper, it was already mentioned how ENCoRE actively promotes close connections and co-operations with public and private institutions which are devoted to practical conservation and with organisations representing the practical conservation field. One major issue for the latter, co-operation, is the implementation of the Bologna Declaration for higher education in Europe. In the ENCoRE clarification document it is defined that conservation-restoration as an academic discipline must be based upon the highest level of research. The aim is that all conservation-restoration education programmes in Europe will fulfil the Bologna Declaration for higher education in Europe by 2010 at the latest¹. Furthermore, in his paper René Larsen described the need to support those activities that adhere to the development of a fully recognised academic education programme in conservation-restoration, in order to avoid drawbacks for the education in some countries as well as to ensure that the professional conservator-restorers' responsibilities can fulfil the recommendations outlined in the APEL report.

Since March 2002, the E.C.C.O. working group of Education, Qualification and Practice was keeping close contact with ENCoRE, building on previous collaboration in the CONBEFOR project. As a result, the board of ENCoRE invited E.C.C.O. to discuss and set-up detailed goals, strategies and recommendations for the development of a Europe-

an conservation-restoration education programme towards 2010 to meet the needs in the profession for the highest possible quality in the protection of cultural heritage. The E.C.C.O. Committee gracefully accepted this invitation and this report will focus on the meetings and papers that will result.

A first meeting was held in Antwerp on the 7th and 8th of September 2002. The meeting was attended by René Larsen, Wolfgang Baatz, Anne Bacon, Joost Caen, Agnes le Gac and Ulrich Schiessl from the board of ENCoRE and Francisca Figueira and Janine van Reekum from the E.C.C.O. Committee. Two major items were discussed; the compilation of a Joint Statement on the education of conservation-restoration and setting up a draft Discussion Paper on the education and access to the conservation-restoration profession.

Recognition of the Conservator-Restorers' profession and its professionals

For decades a major issue of the international society of conservator-restorers has been the recognition of the profession and its professionals. Naturally, this is also a major aim of E.C.C.O. and ENCoRE.

In the ICOM-CC Code of Ethics of 1984 defining the conservator-restorer and the profession is stated that "It should help the profession to achieve parity in status with disciplines such as those of the curator or the archaeologist". Moreover, the document states, "Training should be terminated by a thesis or diploma paper, and its completion recognized by the equivalent of a university graduate degree"². The E.C.C.O. Professional Guidelines (I) of 1993 says "To maintain the standards of the profession, the Conservator-Restorers' professional education and training shall be at the level of a university degree or equivalent"³. Based on the E.C.C.O. professional guidelines and the continuous development of the profession and education, The Document of Pavia recommends, "The recognition and promotion of conservation-restoration as a discipline covering all categories



of cultural property and taught at university level or recognised equivalent, with the possibility of a doctorate”⁴.

All later documents of both E.C.C.O. and ENCoRE support and detail these recommendations thus demonstrating that the recognition of the profession is necessarily linked to the recognition of its educational basis. Moreover, as with other professions, the professional level for the conservator-restorers’ depends on the level of its educational basis as defined by the Authorities.

In Europe, the definitions of professions are in the process of transformation into more general and uniform authorised descriptions based on well defined educational levels. The only way we can achieve the full recognition of the conservator-restorer as a regulated profession is to adapt and follow these definitions and structures for comparable recognised educations and regulated professions at academic level.

Joint Statement on the Education of Conservator-Restorers of Cultural Heritage

The Joint Statement was primarily set up to meet an urgent critical situation in Germany concerning the qualifications and entry into the profession of conservators-restorers trained at a bachelor’s level. Therefore, the Joint Statement notes, among other things, that a bachelor’s level graduate of Conservation-Restoration of Cultural Heritage will be qualified to enter the study at a master’s level and/or work in the conservation-restoration of cultural heritage in the public or private sectors only under the direction and supervision of a mastered conservator-restorer of cultural heritage. A Master’s Level graduate of Conservation-Restoration of Cultural Heritage will be qualified to register for a PhD programme or to work as a conservator-restorer of cultural heritage in the public or private sectors⁵.

After the Antwerp meeting, the draft Joint Statement was presented to the E.C.C.O. Committee of which a majority agreed to the statement. Both Gerlinde Tautschnig, President of E.C.C.O., and René Larsen, Chairman of ENCoRE, thus signed

the Joint Statement which was consequently distributed and published. Since this statement was based upon the current E.C.C.O. Guidelines (III) and the ENCoRE Clarification Document, and due to time pressure, it was only adopted by the boards and not brought to both General Assemblies.

E.C.C.O.-ENCoRE Paper on Education and Access to the Conservation-Restoration Profession

As mentioned above, a draft Discussion Paper (formally referred to as: E.C.C.O.-ENCoRE Paper on Education and Access to the Conservation-Restoration Profession) was also created at the Antwerp meeting. This Discussion Paper is based on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and Council on the recognition of professional qualifications. The proposal was presented to the European Commission and is dated 7th March 2002⁶. The explanatory memorandum of this Directive describes that following the adoption of a prior Directive in May 2001, the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission agreed that “it is important to have consolidated versions, easily accessible to everyone, of the legal texts applicable in the field of mutual recognition of professional qualifications”. Furthermore, the memorandum notes that a High Level Task Force on Skills and Mobility was created which produced a report in December 2001 stating with regard to professional recognition that “the EU and Member States should attach priority to increasing the speed and ease of professional recognition (for regulated professions) including conditions supporting more automatic recognition, and introduce a more uniform, transparent and flexible regime for the recognition of qualifications in the regulated professions by 2005”.

One of the main objectives of this Directive is to contribute to flexible labour and services markets. “A clear, secure and quick system for the recognition of qualifications in the field of the regulated professions is required to ensure free movement”. “In order to make the system clearer, easier and





simpler to understand and apply, this proposal for a single directive comprehensively revises all of the directives founded on recognition of title so as to maintain the principle conditions and guarantees, while simplifying the structure and making improvements to the working of the system. The proposal also provides for simpler conditions for the cross-frontier provision of services compared with those applicable to the freedom of establishment in order further to contribute to the flexibility of labour and services markets”.

The first chapter of Title III “Freedom of Establishment” of the proposal mentions the established five levels of qualification. Starting with the first level described as “attestation of competence”, the second “certificate”, the third “diploma certifying successful completion of a short training course”, the fourth “diploma certifying successful completion of an intermediate training course” and the fifth “diploma certifying successful completion of a higher training course”. These levels are referred to in the Joint Statement as well as in the Discussion Paper. The proposal for the Directive furthermore describes, among other things, conditions for recognition and recognition of professional experience. The training, professional activities and acquired rights of doctors of medicine, nurses responsible for general care, dental practitioners, veterinary surgeons, midwives, pharmacists and architects are described in the proposal.

We, conservator-restorers, also aim to become a regulated profession and what could be better as to join forces from both the education and professional sides in conservation-restoration. Therefore the Discussion Paper was drafted in accordance with specific descriptions from the proposal for the Directive from both the doctors of medicine and architects.

The draft of the Discussion paper was, after the Antwerp meeting, first extensively discussed in both boards. The final draft was presented and adopted at the E.C.C.O. General Assembly on March 7th 2003. The Assembly was attended by Wolfgang Baatz from the board of ENCoRE.

The ENCoRE General Assembly adopted the Dis-

cussion Paper on 9th May 2003. Janine van Reekum from E.C.C.O. attended this meeting. Following the adoptions a draft “Background paper” was created according to specific paragraphs⁷ mentioned in the Directive, dealing with heritage being a matter of public interest and explaining the importance of conservation as regard to architectural heritage. Since these matters are so explicitly mentioned in the Directive, the boards indicated that the importance of cultural heritage and its conservation should be stressed in the Background paper of E.C.C.O. and ENCoRE accordingly. The Background paper was approved by both boards in June 2003⁸.

It is now important to lobby at a European level and have the Discussion and Background papers incorporated in the final European Directive for professional qualifications. Both E.C.C.O. and ENCoRE intend to focus on creating such contacts in order to achieve that goal.

René Larsen

Chairman of the board of ENCoRE

Janine van Reekum

General Secretary of E.C.C.O.

- 1 see for the Bologna Declaration and other ENCoRE documents: www.encore-edu.org
- 2 ICOM-CC The Code of Ethics, The Conservator-Restorer: a Definition of the Profession, 1984.
See www.encore-edu.org
- 3 The E.C.C.O. Professional Guidelines (I) 1993 were updated and adopted in 2002, see: www.ecco-eu.org
- 4 The Document of Pavia, 1997.
See www.encore-edu.org
- 5 see for the Joint Statement the E.C.C.O. and ENCoRE web sites
- 6 the European Directive can be found on the EC web site: www.europa.eu.int, with reference to the document number: 2002/0061 (COD). The complete web site address for the document is: http://europa.eu.int/comm/internal_market/en/qualifications/com02-119_en.pdf
- 7 proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the recognition of professional qualifications. Paragraph 20 and 21, page 20
- 8 both the Discussion and Background papers are to be found on the E.C.C.O. and ENCoRE web sites

APROA-BRK

(Association Professionnelle de Conservateurs-Restaurateurs d'Oeuvres d'Art – Beroepsvereniging voor Conservators-Restaurateurs van Kunstvoorwerpen) – BELGIUM.

Last March, the new Board was elected by the General Assembly.

Christian Copet wished to leave his function as President after two years of service to others.

The new elected bureau is composed as following:

Bernard Delmotte, President

Christian Copet, Vice-president

Michael Van Gompén, Treasurer

Carola Van den Wijngaert, Vice-treasurer

Nathalie Laquiere, Dutch secretary

Baudouin Desmaele, French secretary

For the present, a working group within the association is working on the Professional Profile of the conservator/restorer of wall paintings. In the past already, a profile had been made for a C/R of furniture with the close collaboration of BRK/APROA. The aim is to make a profile for all disciplines. The Professional Profile is an initiative of the SERV, the Social and Economical Council of Flanders, and will be used in the future as a required level of competences for the formations in Conservation/Restauration at High Schools.

Indeed, there is a need and demand for a Professional Profile that embodies the framework of a fullworthy and qualitative education, and the formation of the C/R that specify clearly defined criteria and views to be crossed by and overtaken by the Europising and Globalising for the installation of the bachelors and masters degrees (Bologna Directive). For years, a hard fight has been done to convince the authorities, proprietors, architects, antiquaries, even museums of the explicit difference and the opposite interests between the craftsman (artisan) and the conservator-restorer. By the delivery of a bachelors and a masters degree we risk again to come in an ambiguous and dangerous situation where conservation-restorati-

on could be practiced at two different levels. Very important and necessary this year is the installation of a Deontological Council. Fraternity within a professional association is an absolute priority and a fundamental principle, which in absence of, a professional association had no reason to exist.

Of course, this instrument will be set up more to help members rather than for troubles.

The intention in the future is to treat complaints and indictments concerning irregularities and the none observance of deontological rules and to try to settle the matter amicably. The principles will be inserted in the Statutes of our Professional Association.

The next seminar consisting in two days of lectures about “varnishes and lacquers” and organised by the BRK-APROA is to be held the 20–21 November 2003.

Not only are most disciplines represented but, moreover, we have succeeded to engage nationally as well as internationally renowned specialists to participate in this event as lecturers. The lectures will be given in either Dutch, French or English and simultaneous translation is planned. The post prints will be published in both vernaculars languages with abstracts in English.

For the second time, we can rely on the financial and logistic support of the Flemish Government, Services for Monuments and Sites, which not only lend us their fine conference room free of charges, but also offer the closing reception to all participants.

Bernard DELMOTTE

President of BRK-APROA



ARP

Associação profissional de conservadores-restauradores de Portugal



News from our organisation covering the period from June 2002 to September 2003.

ARP has been studying the accreditation system in the UK ever since our participation as partners in the E.C.C.O.'s APEL Project. Through that project, it has become clearer that our legislation systems are not the same, and, therefore, that the accreditation system cannot be imported as a replica. On the other hand, also because of the APEL Project it was realised that there are big flaws in our Cultural Heritage panorama and that we need to work towards a similar accreditation system.

As ARP is a young organisation, and is still not representative of a great number of conservators-restorers, and as the Instituto Português de Conservação e Restauro (IPCR) – a public organism from the Ministry of Culture, was given the competence, in its internal rules, to develop an accreditation system, ARP has joined forces with IPCR in order to formulate some sort of system. Which will accredit professionals who can be registered and called upon to present their bidding proposals for a conservation project. After a transition period, which still has to be determined, in which acquired rights have to be contemplated, and bearing in mind the E.C.C.O.-ENCoRE position paper, only professionals having a full education in conservation-restoration plus a number of years of guided experience (also to be determined), can present themselves to this accreditation system. It is a complicated situation that needs much pondering and hard work. One of the questions is how specialised should a project manager be? We have been trying to see how other organisations deal with specialisms. Some classify them by support material and others by historical specification. It would be interesting for E.C.C.O.'s Education Qualification and Practice Group to "dig" into such matters more profoundly.

This accreditation system would hopefully be followed by a special government regulation for the acquisition of services in the field of conservation-restoration of National Cultural Heritage.

The similar situation that FFCR brought up in the last General Assembly, which at some time seemed to get out of their control, will give us the possibility to be on the alert and to try and avoid it.

Other News

- **Education-qualification** – The Bologna process has still not been implemented in our university system – some say that our 5-year "licenciatura" will be reduced to 4 years and be equi-



Francisca Figueira presenting the APEL project at the III National Meeting



III National Meeting

valent to the first cycle BA. Perhaps because of that the new conservation-restoration "licenciatura" that has started last fall in Porto only lasts 4 years. It lacks one year to be in accordance with the E.C.C.O.-ENCoRE position paper, but they will for sure add another year when this position paper is brought forward and accepted by the European Council.

- **Legislation – follow up of APEL** – The new Decree Law on cultural heritage DL 107/2001 from the 8th of September, establishes the basis for the policy of cultural heritage together with the regime for its protection and valorization. Under the Article nº 19 “Inventory” – (*ARP would like to see the conservation condition survey as an integrated discipline in this inventory plan*). Under Section III (Immovable Heritage) the Article nº 45 “Projects, works and interventions”

1. “The studies and projects for the intervention works of conservation, modification, reintegration and restoration in classified heritage, or to be classified, are elaborated obligatory and subscribed by legally recognised qualified Professionals, or under its direct responsibility”
2. “The studies and projects referred in the above number should include a report on the importance and artistic or historic assessment of the intervention, which should be the responsibility of the competent Professional in that area.”
3. “The works of interventions in immovable classified heritage in terms of nº15 of the present law, or to be classified as such, will have to be authorised and accompanied by the competent organism for the final decision of the classification process, in the defined terms of the law.
4. “When the intervention is concluded, a report should be submitted to the responsible administration of that cultural heritage, where it is stated its nature, techniques, methodologies, materials and applied treatments, as well graphic and photographic documentation, digitalized or other of the procedures followed.

(ARP thinks these specifications should also be applicable to movable or ‘integrated’ classified heritage. ‘Integrated’ heritage should be defined within the immovable heritage as they involve the competence of a different professional. However this is a general law that may be regulated further in more specific details and we hope to collaborate in its writing, in the near future.)

- **Conferences** – The III National Meeting took place last 12, 13 November. “An eye view of

the conservation-restoration profession by outsiders” was a very interesting theme, and involved much critical thinking. APEL was to be presented by Vincent Négri and Monica Martelli but at the last minute they couldn’t be present and only the web site was presented for all to consult.

- **VAT ranges** – the VAT was raised from 17 to 19% last year. ARP responded promptly to the VAT and wage questionnaire.
- **Working conditions** – Those who have finished their 5-year “licenciatura” have the same salary as the other liberal professions in the public administration (curators, architects, archivists, etc). The problem is that the public administration (museus, archives, and others) rarely employs conservators-restorers. At least 90% of the c-r work as free-lancers.
- **Membership situation** – The number rises slowly as some leave and some arrive. However it has raised since last year to 86 active members and 31 student members.
- **Cooperation with others** – two workshops were co-organised with the archaeologist professional organisation and took place at the National Museum of Archaeology, on the 12th of October 2002 and 15th of February 2003 with the theme “Conserving in Archaeology”. The book of proceedings is fully filled with our members presentation papers. Everybody felt it was a great success.
- **Publications/web site** – ARP’s web site (www.arp-org.pt) has certainly been a great accomplishment this year. Each member will have his private login for personal information and internal discussion matters.

Lisboa, 1 de Setembro de 2003



IADA

Internationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Archiv-, Bibliotheks- und Grafikrestauratoren

International Association of Conservators of Archives, Libraries and Works of Art on Paper



The origin of IADA was established 1957, when a group of archive conservators founded an association (AdA, Association of Archive Conservators) to form a professional platform. The group was based in German speaking countries, however, over the following 10 years, the interest from conservators of other European countries increased. So in 1967, the group added an "I" for "International" to the name of their association, and IADA was born.

The central aim of IADA is to offer professional development and active exchange between colleagues, represent professional interests of their members and promote students. IADA is one of the founding members of E.C.C.O., consenting to its statutes and code of ethics. The association has 523 members in 21 countries.

Every fourth year since 1967, IADA has organized a large international conference. In September 2003 the 10th conference took place at the university in Göttingen. Over 300 participants took the opportunity for professional exchange during these 5 days. It was a week of inspiring discussions, reunion with old colleagues and development of new contacts. The papers given in English and in German, with simultaneous translation were on a very high level. They covered various aspects in the wide field of paper conservation. There was a presentation of the EU project "Water and Paper", a panel discussion on "Lessons from the Flood Disasters", one day was given to the problems of ink corrosion and another day to the conservation of wallpapers. The conference was financially supported by the European Commission through the frame program "Culture 2000" to which the project "Wall and Paper" is affiliated.

The postprints of the papers given at the conference will be published in the next issues of the "Papierrestaurierung", the quarterly publication of the IADA. Just in time for the jubilee conference the IADA managed to give access to the publications of all IADA conferences from 1967 to 2003. They are now available online (pdf-file, <http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/iada/>).

During the conference the general meeting was held. The new committee board was elected and members of the IADA were happy to nominate two new honorary members, Karin Troschke, former president of the IADA, and Mogens Koch, the first president of E.C.C.O. and president of the IADA for 14 years (1987 to 2001).



© Wolfgang Jaworek

In 2002 the IADA organized several workshops and two smaller conferences. The "Scripta" in Leipzig took place for the second time. This meeting aims to establish a platform at the intersection between conservator and archivist/librarian. The IADA is planning to continue the important concept of the "Scripta" every 2 years. The conference on "Parchment and Vellum", in Vienna autumn 2002, proved to be very successful and showed the need for meetings on special topics of paper conservation and allied materials.

In 2007, the next large IADA Conference will be held in Vienna. It will be the year of celebrating the 50th anniversary. However, the IADA will

also be active in the meantime organizing several smaller conferences, meetings and workshops. It is the aim to attract even more members from international countries working in the wide field of book and paper conservation.

Committee board:

Markus Klasz (president), Vienna, Austria

Renate van Issem (vice president), Göttingen, Germany

Julia Bispinck (treasurer), Berlin, Germany

Andrea Pataki (secretary), Stuttgart, Germany

Birgit Reissland (editor), Amsterdam, Netherlands

Alexander Aichinger, Vienna, Austria

Manfred Anders, Leipzig, Germany

Irene Brückle, Buffalo, United States

Anne Bülow, London, Great Britain

Monika Gast, Solingen, Germany

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Web site:

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IPC – The Institute of Paper Conservation

The year 2002 was overshadowed by the cruel disease and death of Clare Hampson.

Clare was a founding member and the first and only Secretary of IPC. She provided continuity and huge support to the Committee, to the various Chairs and to all members. Her loyalty was legend, both to the IPC to her many friends within and outside IPC. To say that IPC and conservation are in her debt is nothing but the truth, as without Clare's devotion and driving force, IPC would not be the respected professional body of today. She is sorely missed by all of us; she will live on in our individual and collective memory, remembered with love and gratitude.

The office has now moved to its new address and Tina Marshall has been appointed Administrator. We continued with our very successful meetings and workshops, all attended to capacity. Many more are planned and we hope to see our European colleagues at these events. We have started to plan a large international conference for 2006 on the subject of preservation in its widest sense.

Accreditation continued with a number of young conservators gaining the title of *Accredited Conservator-Restorer (ACR)*. Those of us who have already gained their credentials struggled with the concept and reality of returning our first *Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Report*, required as part of remaining an accredited conservator. It has been a very useful exercise both for the conservators mapping their future learning and as a guideline to the process and content of accreditation. All professional bodies now require evidence of continuous professional development – accepting and developing such requirements

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can only enhance the conservator's professional status.

The IPC Chantry Library is now open and is serving our members all over the world. It is the only conservation library that is owned and run by a conservation professional body. Our web site www.lib.ox.ac.uk/ipc-chantry is linked to our main web site. Comprehensive information on all books in the Library is available online via the Oxford University Library System (OLIS). Copies of articles are now easily obtainable from the Librarian by e-mail, or letter. It is also open to visitors by appointment.

Although the year has been successful for IPC, news from the world of conservation in museums, libraries and archives, teaching institutions, and even the private sector, has been alarming. Staff cuts at the British Museums and the news from the Danish State Archives confirm our fear that funds are shifting away from conservation to digitisation and to other means of access.

IPC has been thinking long and hard about these changes and their implication for the future of the profession. It was against this background that we have been participating in extensive discussions with the other eleven bodies of the National Council for Conservation-Restoration to explore the creation of a wholly new comprehensive body to represent as widely as possible the interest of all branches of conservation. Our discussions have advanced well and we are cautiously optimistic that some form of convergence might become a reality.

We congratulate E.C.C.O. on completing and publishing the **APEL project**. It is a great step forward to make the conservator-restorer an important professional player in the preservation and conservation of cultural heritage.

Kate Colleran
Chairman

The Institute of Paper Conservation

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NKF-DK

**Nordisk Konservatorforbund –
Den Danske Afdeling**

IIC Nordic – The Danish Section



In the past year, NKF-DK has continued the active line of information and pressure towards the policy makers in the field of preserving our cultural heritage. Extraordinary cuts in the state budgets resulted in a severe step backwards for the conservation-restoration efforts at some state institutions. We believe things would have gone even worse had it not been for the work done by both NKF and the other good national forces and not at least: the prompt and massive support from collegial international bodies. Letters from E.C.C.O., ICP, IIC, VDR, ICOM-CC and ICCROM added a strong international voice in the choir of protest. Our sincere thanks is hereby forwarded.

Other endeavours show that our field has gained some positive focus from the policy-makers. Thus, the Ministry of Culture recently released it's "Survey on the Preservation of the National Heritage". This publication is an answer to questions related to the preservation of cultural heritage, which were raised at a hearing in the Danish parliament in the spring of 2001. The hearing resulted in a request from the Parliamentary Committee for Culture to the Ministry of Culture to produce a survey on:

- The present effort within the preservation of the cultural heritage
- Evaluation of the acute and long-term needs
- Different alternative strategies for preservation

The survey comprises the physical as well as the electronical cultural heritage. The views of the professional conservator-restorers were presented by the Rector of the School of Conservation, René Larsen, the NKF-DK-chairman Michael Højlund Rasmussen and the Head of the Conservation Department at the National Museum, Jesper Stub Johnsen.

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The survey concludes, that the single most important element in a sustainable preservation policy is the establishment of sufficient, safe and adequate storage facilities: Preventive conservation is the key-word. The survey estimates the actual financial needs to about 27–40 mio euros in construction expenses and 6,5 mio euros each year.

NKF-DK is pleased with the majority of the conclusions within the realm of the state institutions. The same does not apply to the local and regional institutions: Here the need for preservation and storage facilities is heavily underestimated.

Following the publication of the survey the parliament has decided to allocate from the 2004 state budget a total sum of 40 mio euros for the purposes advocated for in the survey. NKF-DK is extraordinarily pleased by this. The effort of preservation at last experiences some fair wind following the massive cuts among colleagues at The National Museum and at The State Archives.

Like in the previous years NKF-DK has arranged a series of well attended collegial visits and seminars.

A very succesful event, much in the line with the general trend, was a seminar, arranged in collaboration with the Cultural Historical Museum in Randers. The theme was: Storage: legislation, standards for handling, logistics, access, passive climate control and sharing of storage facilities. The seminar was attended not only by conservator-restorers but also by other museum- and archive professionals.

NKF-DK has formulated a set of minimum standards for storage and handling of objects of cultural importance. The present Danish legislation lacks such standards. We, therefore, closely follow the work of the European Standardisation Committee on “Standardisation in the Field of Conservation of Cultural Heritage”. Our resources within storage management and materials and climate control might enable us to host the secretariat of WG4, i.e. the technical committee on “Environment”.

Among professionals preserving cultural heritage it has been a great relief that Denmark – at last – has ratified the UNESCO Conventions of 1970 and 1954 (The Haag Convention). At last the national legislation has been adapted to the needs of the two conventions. We are, therefore, confident that the implementation of the convention text will be satisfactory.

The long standing collaboration between the Nordic sections of NKF has resulted in some new initiatives: a joint homepage and harmonizing of our logos. We hope that the individual members of NKF will benefit from the site: **www.nordiskkonservatorforbund.org**.

This year the NKF-DK board only changed a little. The general assembly held in April 2003 expressed its thanks to our long serving colleague and former chairman Robert Larsen for the work he has done for our organisation and welcomed Martin Bernsted as a new member of the board.

NKF-DK homepage (in Danish): **www.nkf-dk.dk**
NKF homepage (in the Nordic languages):
www.nordiskkonservatorforbund.org

August 2003

Helle Strehle

NKF-DK delegate to E.C.C.O.



NKF-FIN

**Pohjoismainen konservattoriliitto –
Suomen osasto
Nordiska Konservatorsförbundet –
Finska Sektionen**



IIC Nordic Group – Finnish Section

This year, 2003, is the 40th Anniversary of the Finnish Section. The Anniversary celebration took place on the 16th of August, first during the day at the Sinebrychoff Art Museum, continued at Klippan, a late 19th century restaurant which is situated on one of the islands just in front of Helsinki. About 80 conservators took part in this festive occasion. I hope you are able to read more about the party in another article in this report.

The Annual Spring Meeting was held in Helsinki on the 21st of March at the auditorium of the National Museum of Finland. Before the annual meeting a seminar was organised with a theme “A Conservator and Profession”. The seminar was very fruitful and never in history of the Finnish Section had, about 80 persons attended a seminar. Obviously most people identified with the subject. The day started with various lectures dealing with the conservation profession, and towards the end of the seminar a vivid discussion filled the auditorium, with a conclusion that the profession still needs a huge amount of work in order to be equal to academic professions.

At the meeting 22 students were accepted as associated members. The current number of all members is now 272. The Annual Autumn Meeting will be held in Turku.

During the year 2002, in connection with the Annual Meetings, two other seminars were held. In the spring, the theme was “Conservation of Ecclesiastical Cultural Heritage”. It dealt with lectures of gilding, textile and icon conservation. The autumn seminar was held at the EVTEK

Institute of Art and Design, Department of Conservation. This time the theme was ever so interesting titled “Conservators and the Use of Laser Cleaning Techniques in Conservation”. The seminar was organised by the Conservation Department and the former Head of Studies Christian Degryny, and people from Cost Action G7, an EU granted seminar. Some 160 people attended the seminar, the biggest seminar ever held at the EVTEK Institute of Art and Design. Several foreign experts came and shared their knowledge with audience.

During the year 2003 there was a discussion of changing the regulations of the Finnish Section. The main purpose of changing the regulations is to replace associate members with student members.

The Finnish Section publishes a Newsletter “Konservattoriliiton lehti”. That is the main information channel for the members. The Section also hosts an e-mail discussion list, and is maintained by the Chairman, Jari Heinonen. The web site of the Section is still under development, and it is hoped that the new pages will be opened towards the end of the year. The name of the web site will remain **www.konservattoriliitto.fi**.

Anna Häkäri

*Board Member of IIC Nordic Group
– Finnish Section
E.C.C.O. Delegate*



NKF-N

IIC Nordic Group – the Norwegian Section

Members pr. September 2003:

- 4 Honorary
- 117 Members
- 68 Associates

At the 2002 annual meeting the strategies plan for 2001 was revised and the organisation decided to concentrate on the following points:

- Work actively with arranging lectures, seminars and workshops for members and associates.
- Maintain and develop NKF-N web pages.
- Encourage contact and cooperation between the different specialised work areas.
- Further develop the cooperation with the Norwegian Museums Association (NMA) advisory board on conservation.
- Work towards integrating the occupation within the museum sector. NKF-N should arrange conservation seminars at the NMA general assembly and maintain the contact with the NMA and other museum organisations.
- Work towards getting the profession better known to other related cultural areas and in the media.

NKF-N has arranged three meeting for its members during the last year. The Christmas meeting in 2002 was arranged at the Norwegian Army Museum. The main speaker for the evening was Colonel Roar Glenne who talked about the restoration of a complete fighter plane lifted from the bottom of a Norwegian fiord. Conservator Steve Newman gave an introduction to his newly appointed position as the very first conservator at the Norwegian Technical Museum.

At the winter meeting Paintings Conservator Tine Frøysaker presented her research that lead to her PhD in conservation at the University at Göteborg, Sweden.

The spring meeting was arranged together with the 2003 annual meeting. Several papers were presented during the morning with the annual meeting in the afternoon.

NKF-N arranged a further educational course for the conservators in the IIC Nordic Group on the integration of digital equipment and resources in conservation. The course was arranged in Oslo 2–6 September. All the Nordic national organisations had participants at the course. The course was a part of an ongoing series of courses arranged in succession by the Nordic organisations. The Next course will be held in Denmark in 2004.

In 2003 the NKF-N has arranged an autumn meeting at the National Gallery. The Christmas meeting will be held at the Norwegian Folk Museum in Oslo.

NKF-N publishes the newsletter Norske Konserver twice a year and has an active e-mail list with listings of courses, jobs and relevant information, etc. The NKF-N web pages can be found on **www.museumsnett.no/nkf-n**.

Information regarding NKF-N can be obtained from the following contacts:

NKF-N

Chairperson NKF-N Merete Winness
merete.winness@niku.no

E.C.C.O. representative

Vice-president E.C.C.O. Tanja Reed
tanja.reed@aust-agder.museum.no



NKF-S

**Nordiska Konservatorsförbundet –
Swedish section**

IIC-Nordic Group



The board of NKF-S in 2003 consisted of Rebecka Enhörning (chair), Felix Ginzburg, (vice chair), Britta Nilsson (secretary), Daniel Kwiatkowski (treasurer) and Eva Lundvall (member). The board held six meetings during the year. Representatives in the NKF executive committee (förbundsrådet) besides the chairman have been Ingrid Hall-Roth and Helen Skinner.

At present the membership situation in NKF-S is as follows: 132 ordinary members, 18 associated students, 271 supporting individuals and 35 institutions. The large number of “supporting individuals” has increased since last year. A majority in this category lacks training at university level as stated in the Guidelines and the updated statutes of NK which at present excludes them from ordinary membership. The question is a major concern and is frequently discussed among the members of NKF-S.

The annual meeting was held at the open-air museum Skansen in Stockholm. The theme this year was the preservation of buildings. The members were introduced to the recently opened “Centre for the Preservation of Buildings” by the curator, Mr. Stefan Fickler. There was also information about an inventory done by NKF-members, Hans-Peter Hedlund and Kathrin Degerblad, concerning the restoration and conservation of the houses and buildings at Skansen. The questions raised were the need of treatment and priorities. Among other topics discussed were problems related to mould. Some 80 members took part in the activities at Skansen and the annual meeting.

In addition to the annual meeting, NKF also arranged its traditional autumn meeting, this year at Värmlands Museum in Karlstad. Conservator Cecilia Skoglund had arranged a very interesting programme under the title “New Demands in Old Houses”. One topic that was discussed was how to adopt an old building to modern museum standards. The meeting also included a visit to Echstedska gården outside of Säffle, a rococo building with beautiful wall paintings. Members were informed about both the restoration of the building and the efforts to reconstruct the lost original textiles.

The NKF executive committee held their meeting in Oslo. One item on the agenda was whether the joint newsletter “Meddelelser om konservering” should become digital in the future. The main reason for this is, the high costs for editing and printing the paper version, which is a major concern with very tight budgets. No decision was made.

The national NKF newsletter “Realia” has been published twice during the year as has the joint Scandinavian newsletter “Meddelelser”. The homepage of NKF has been updated and you can now find links to the national sections at the following address: <http://www.kons.dk/nkf/>

Ulf Brunne

Associate Professor in Furniture Conservation

Carl Malmsten

*Centre of Wood Technology & Design
Linköpings universitet*

ÖRV

Österreichischer Restauratorenverband

The Committee:

Stefan Kainz, President

Peter Kalsner, Vice President

Christa Hoffmann, General Secretary

Hilde Neugebauer, Vice General Secretary

Edith Touré, Delegate to E.C.C.O.

Doris Müller-Hess, Treasurer

Martina Ruttin, Committee

Number of ordinary members: 180, with increasing tendency

The General Assembly of the ÖRV took place recently in early October, together with a Symposium about “conservation of art objects and cultural heritage from dictatorships”. The Symposium took place at the Mahler Saal in the State Opera of Vienna with about 100 participants.

The yearly publication of ÖRV has been sent out at the same time. The title is: “Restaurierung und Zeitgeist” from last year’s conference at the Museum of Modern Art, MUMOK.

Both of our schools for conservation-restoration, in the Academy of Fine Arts and in the Academy of Applied Arts have recently revised programmes, both have the masters (Magister) as the Diploma after 5 years, since last year it is possible to add a PHD thesis.

In April we celebrated 50 years of paper conservation in Austria together with the 80th birthday of the HR Prof. Otto Wächter. He has lectured on practical and theoretical conservation to several generations of students at the Academy of Fine Arts and was the Head of the Institute of Paper conservation at the National Library for many years.



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The working conditions of the conservator-restorer in Austria: It has become more difficult, as in most of the European countries, in spite of the fact that several new museums have opened: In Lower Austria the Landesmuseum, in Vienna the renovated Albertina, in Graz the Kunsthaus, in Linz the Kunstmuseum Lentos.

Our mail adress: info@orv.at

Homepage: www.orv.at

Mobil: 0664/50 33 064

Postfach 576, 1011 Wien, Austria

Please send us your remarks, wishes or publication orders.

We sent out as well a quarterly report called “Mitteilungen”. Here you can place your order for papers, etc. in English or German.



SKR/SCR

**Schweizerischer Verband für Konservierung
und Restaurierung
Association Suisse de Conservation
et Restauration**



Members

The number of members rose slightly, but not to the extent the executive board had expected. Students are automatically accepted into our association at the beginning of their studies as “members in training”, but after graduating they are hesitant about renewing their membership in our association.

Publications

To increase the professional magazines on offer, while also taking into account the linguistic diversity of Switzerland, our association has contacted the magazine *Restauro* and the organisations ARAFU and ICC to discuss possible agreements on order agreements or price reductions.

Professional conferences and events

The theme of the 2003 annual conference of the association was “**kunst stoff kunst**” and was devoted to conservation-restoration involving plastics. For the first time a special homepage was created for the conference itself. There are plans to publish the talks given at the conference. Work is already underway on the 2004 annual conference. The association is also joining forces with curators of historic monuments in the Waadt and Geneva cantons to stage a conference with the working title “*Restaurer créer*”. Here too there are plans to publish the conference proceedings.

Political work

The discussion begun last year about the pay of conservators-restorers in Aargau canton was drawn to a successful close. We are satisfied with the pay levels that were created. The pay scheme for the Swiss National Museum is still under discussion. A new addition this year is the evaluation of

the positions for conservators-restorers in Fribourg canton.

In co-operation with ICOM Suisse, association members participated in co-publishing the work *Das Handbuch der Museumsaufsichten*, a handbook for guards of museums.

The efforts to form a working group on the protection of cultural goods in disasters have unfortunately come to naught. Our association will make a new attempt and try, together with ICOM/VMS and SKR, to form a core group. The goal of the project is to create a pool of experts who can render immediate assistance in areas struck by disasters. With the fiercer competition and the narrow limits laid down in the submission laws of the various cantons, conservators-restorers are finding it increasingly difficult to join in the bidding for offers or to be taken into consideration at all. Monument curator representatives have therefore been contacted so these problems can be addressed at a small conference.

Initial and continuing training

The evaluation of degree programmes at the Universities of Applied Sciences (FH) was first set in motion by the Swiss Peer Review 2001–2002. In spring 2003, the evaluation entered its second phase with the simplified second Peer Review 2003. This simplified second Peer Review 2003 re-evaluated degree programmes that had been found to have quality shortcomings in the Peer Review 2001–2002. One was the degree programme for conservation-restoration in Lugano.

The FH Bern decided in March 2003 to launch an in-depth course of studies on wood (i.e., furniture) in 2006.

Museum group

The paper on conservation-restoration in museums and collections presented at the general meeting in 2002 underwent a review process in summer 2002, and the German and French versions were approved by the executive board in December 2002. The paper can be viewed at our homepage at www.skr.ch.

Christian Marty
President SKR/SCR

SSCR

The Scottish Society for Conservation-Restoration

What's been happening in Scotland.

SSCR had its 25th Anniversary in September 2002, and many members old and new celebrated together at the National Library of Scotland. At the same event we had the Annual Plenderleith Lecture given by Andrew Oddy, entitled "the history of the world is the history of great men".

An interesting talk on the personalities in the developing profession, from a great man who had a distinguished career in the British Museum Conservation Department. However, it did prompt the statements "behind every great man is a great woman" and "where were all the great women"?

Indeed at the end of the meeting, a great woman was honoured: Clare Meredith, a paintings conservator and a major player in SSCR over many years, was presented with the Plowden medal for Conservation. This was received with Clare's usual grace and style, and we raised a glass to her and the organisation.

Changes to the personnel of the SSCR Committee were elected at the AGM in July 2003. We now have enthusiastic new events organisers, a new 'Journal' team, new administrator and three new office bearers – Treasurer, Secretary, and Chair. However we have old heads to guide us, as mentors, Clare Meredith and Jim Tate from the National Museums of Scotland. The new group are keen to raise the profile of the group and move forward ...

We have all had to learn something new in our respective roles, but the main topic for discussion has been the future of the organisation within a convergence framework and the role of the development of the National Committee of Conser-

vators and Restorers – NCCR. This body will be an amalgamation of various conservation groups in the UK from October 2004.

We had a constructive meeting with NCCR chair, Carole Milner, and others involved, in late August, and discussed with committee members and observers some of the aspirations of the new group.

The proposal has focussed our thoughts on what we aspire to in the future. Everyone wants proper representation in the profession, as part of a bigger and better structure but we want to keep the local 'dynamic' alive.

We have also had our usual visits and involvement in events like the Historic Scotland Internships show, which showcases the new generation of conservators having experienced a year on this worthwhile programme.

So like everywhere else, the world keeps turning, the profession moves forward, Autumn comes, and the leaves fall by themselves ...

Paul McAuley

Chair SSCR

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UKIC

United Kingdom Institute for Conservation

The discussions on convergence of UK and Ireland professional organisations which started last year under the auspices of the National Council for Conservation-Restoration, chaired by Carole Milner, have gathered pace and – encouragingly – have kept everyone seated round the table, even bringing additional bodies into the debate: most notably the Care of Collections Forum. In Spring 2003 five of these organisations formed the so-called “Vanguard Group” of those who agree to give convergence priority, and in September we jointly appointed a consultant (paid for by one of our sister E.C.C.O. members, IPC) to take the work forward, to create a model for a single new organisation on which we shall consult very widely in coming months, so that – if all goes well – there will be a proposal on which individual members can vote so that, if they approve, we might then have a new organisation in existence by autumn 2004.

The five bodies of the Vanguard Group are UKIC, IPC and SSCR (all E.C.C.O. members), the Care of Collections Forum and the Photographic Materials Conservation Group. The door is being left open throughout this work for others to join the new body if they wish (e.g. the British Association of Paintings Conservator-Restorers, BAPCR, and the British Antique Furniture Restorers’ Association, BAFRA). UKIC’s paintings and furniture membership overlaps with these organisations. Special membership arrangements may need to be devised for those conservators belonging to organisations for whom conservation is not their primary focus, e.g. the Society of Archivists, the British Horological Institute (BHI) and the *Natural Sciences Collections Association*. The two Irish bodies may find it politically difficult to join a new body, but have expressed the wish to remain firmly engaged.

This Institute has been a key player in these developments, being one of the few organisations with paid staff. Its members voted at the 2003 Annual General Meeting to continue exploring convergence, in advance of a later vote on whether to proceed with it. The latest developments towards convergence are tracked on www.nccr.org.uk

In parallel with this work, a project is being pursued to draw the various accreditation schemes under a single umbrella, operating to the same standards, using similar processes and at similar cost. As previously reported, UKIC, IPC and the Society of Archivists jointly operate the *Professional Accreditation of Conservator-Restorers* (PACR) scheme, but it is hoped that this might be allied with the accreditations already offered by BAPCR, BAFRA and ICHAWI; possibly also the BHI. This *Common Accreditation Framework* is making good progress, and there are grounds for optimism that the standards incorporated in the PACR scheme will underlie a wider scheme.

Meanwhile we can report that operation and take up of the PACR scheme has been good among UKIC members. Around 30 UKIC candidates have offered themselves for assessment in the last two years, the majority of whom successfully gained ACR status, while some were advised to defer their applications in order to accumulate further experience. This brings to around 400 the total number of UKIC accredited conservators, taking into account those who went through the Fast Track route.

The working of the scheme has been closely monitored, and feedback from all concerned has been embraced in a revision of the underlying standards, alongside developing a new accreditation route for those whose primary practice is in preventive care of collections rather than active intervention. There are workshops round the country to explain the scheme and help intending applicants, a telephone help-service and a dedicated web site, www.pacr.org.uk, on which full details of the standards and the operation of the scheme can be found. With the help of external charitable

funding (the Radcliffe Trust) we have been able to appoint a part-time training officer, to co-ordinate much of this work, all of which involves our PACR partners IPC and the Society of Archivists.

Once accredited, all conservators are obliged to maintain their professional development (CPD, Continuing Professional Development). This year we recalled everyone's records and were delighted at a response rate of c 98%. In subsequent years we are recalling a randomly selected proportion (c 10%) per annum.

A significant parallel development has been enhancement of the Conservation Register. This database of conservators offering commercial services in the UK and Ireland, is owned and operated by UKIC, in collaboration with Historic Scotland and NCCR. With funding from several national



A meeting of some of the members of the Conservation Register Advisory Board

(l-r) Robert White (Chairman), Kate Collieran (IPC), Susan Moore (standing) (BAPCR), Valentine Walsh (UKIC), Caroline Saye (standing), Register Officer, Seamus Hanna (English Heritage), Chris Woods (UKIC), Helen Lloyd (National Trust), Carol Brown and Rohan Banyard (Historic Scotland)

bodies we are embarked on an enhancement which should result on the database being web-searchable by the time this E.C.C.O. reports is published at www.conservationregister.com.

One of the new features of the Register is that accreditation is now a requirement for all those applying to join the Register, and for all those already on it who wish to remain on it as their entries are reviewed in the next couple of years. Hence the Conservation Register is becoming the main public source of information on accredited

members of the profession wishing to offer their services.

Many in the profession, especially young entrants, are concerned at the low rates of pay offered for conservators, with particular difficulties for those in high-cost London and the South East. We now print a statement in all our recruitment advertising recommending minimum level of pay for new recruits. Together with IPC, we are also working with the Museums Association on a survey of rates of pay in museums and galleries, which we hope to supplement by further work on rates of pay for conservators in archives and libraries, and those in the private sector. Such surveys would provide a firm basis of evidence.

The specialist sections of UKIC (Archaeology, Ceramics & Glass, Ethnography, Furniture & Wood, Gilding & Decorative Surfaces, Historic Interiors, Metals, Paintings, Stained Glass, Stone & Wall-paintings, Textiles) met regularly during the year, held conferences and produced publications of their conferences, detailed on our web site. The Sections are one of the strengths of the Institute, enhancing technical know-how, and helping members to stay up-to-date with developments in their chosen fields.

The Institute's publications continue to thrive. *The Conservator*, which together with *Paper Conservation News*, remains the primary UK peer-reviewed journal in the field, while *Conservation News*, now in its re-designed format, continues to extend its scope and to be well received.

The Joint Public Affairs Committee, which includes representation from SSCR and IPC, continues to survey the rapidly changing scene for regional museums, occasioned by a national "Renaissance" driven by the strategic body, Resource, and in part funded with additional money from the Government. This committee has also responded to a stream of public consultation documents. Meanwhile the Education Committee is working to enable more internships as an essential component of career progression, beyond primary conservation education.



The Institute has expressed to HM Government its concern at the consequences of the invasion of Iraq for that country's heritage, and urged the signing and ratification of the Hague Convention.

The Pilgrim Trust Conservation Awards celebrate excellence in conservation and aim to raise the profession's profile. A careful selection process, involving visits by a judging panel of leading conservators and senior personalities in the arts, media and heritage, led to the presentation of the 2002 Awards in November in the elegant and prestigious Conference Centre of the British Library. This year's winner was Ian Clarke and the Royal Navy Submarine Museum for their conservation and presentation of the first Royal Navy submarine, Holland I. The Student Conservator of the Year was Kathryn Hallett of the RCA/V&A Masters in Conservation Programme, for her work on low lighting levels in the British Museum. The Anna Plowden Trust Award for Research and Innova-

tion was won by Andrew Calver and the Museum of London and the UKIC Nigel Williams prize for ceramics conservation, was won by Ken Watt of West Dean College. This year the awards are expanding to take in the preservation of digital material, with a prize from the Digital Preservation Coalition www.dpconline.org. Details of last year's and the current Awards can be found at www.consawards.ukic.org.uk.

In the coming year the Institute, under its Chairman Christopher Woods, looks forward to the Web-launch of the Conservation Register, to agreement on a Common Accreditation Framework, to the first national UKIC Conference for many years (*Working with the Project Culture*, July 2004), to presentation of the Conservation Awards (June 2004) and – we hope – to the launch in the autumn of a completely new professional organisation.

David Leigh

Executive Director

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VDR

**Verband der Restauratoren –
(Federation of Restorers)**

1. Political activity in the professional field

● Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania:

Co-operation between VDR county group, bureau and the ministry in Schwerin regarding the distribution and acceptance of the restorers' list. Assessment of applicants by the professional committee. Current list status: 32 listed restorers.

● Hamburg:

On the 21st of January a meeting took place between the VDR county group, the bureau and the Zentralverband des deutschen Handwerks (Central Federation of German trades) to initiate the legislative introduction of a job protection law. The association agreed to support the VDR initiative. Hearings will take place in the city parliament during autumn 2003.

● VDR Advanced training conference

On 28 May 2003, an 'advanced training conference' took place under the participation of those universities already offering such courses. Resolution: circulate a questionnaire to ascertain demand for advanced training; further co-operation was agreed upon.

● Professional status and concerns of freelancers

On the request of the VDR working group 'freelancers', the bureau invited representative members to a meeting on 6 May 2003 in the Haus der Kultur in Bonn, where the topics of contract awarding modalities and trade tax were dealt with. The arguments for the contract awarding modality for freelancers are to be compiled in the VDR and serve as an argumentation basis.

● Co-operation with the Kunstrat (art council)

– the working group 'Protection of Cultural Property', with the Deutscher Museumsbund (German Museum Federation), ICOM Germany and Deutscher Kunsthandelsverband (German art trade association) are for the realization of the UNESCO convention and of Unidroit.

● Projects with the Deutschen Kulturrat (German Cultural Council)

Working group 'Social Security', VDR cooperation represented by the chairman of the working group 'Freelancers'. A statement on the 'situation of artists and occupations dealing with art' in Germany is to be developed for the Enquete Commission of the German Parliament.

● Common projects with the Deutscher Museumsbund (German Museum Federation) (DMB)

– questionnaires to register information about restoration projects on museum objects (supported by the Kulturstiftung der Länder (cultural foundation of the counties) (KSL): evaluation of the completed questionnaires and participation in assessing results
– preparation of the international Museumstag (Museum Day) 2004; participation in the publication, joint events

● Co-operation with the (Verband der Präparatoren (federation of the taxidermists)

A co-operation contract was signed. Contact person in the VDR is the chairman of the VDR work group 'archaeological objects'.

2. Public relations work

● Corporate design

The new corporate design was first implemented for the publications. The papers from the conference 'Surface Cleaning' as well as the first issue of 'VDR-Beiträge zur Erhaltung von Kunst- und Kulturgut' ('VDR contributions for the preservation of art and cultural property) are available in addition to various other mate-





VDR President Kornelius Götz, left, next to him Prof. Mainzer and Hans-Dieter Collinet; right: Prof. Ernst van de Wetering, Amsterdam
VDR-meeting, Düsseldorf

rials. Forthcoming: the 'VDR Bulletin' and the 'VDR Schriftenreihe' (series of publications) containing the papers from the conference on mould. The implementation of the CD on the homepage is presently in work supported by the InterNet-expert Roger Kossann and the managing director Dr. Fleitmann. It will be a comprehensive presentation, offering a forum for the working and county groups. It will also include relevant, for external users, information concerning the association. A content management system is in the planning.

- **Mutec Fair, June 2003 in Munich**

Joint presentation with the Deutscher Museumsbund, ICOM Germany, Verband der Kunsthistoriker (Federation of German Art Historians) and the Bundesverband Museumspädagogik (Federal Association of Museum Pedagogics).

- **Monument 2004**

VDR plans participation with a stand and conferences

- **BerufeNet**

The InterNet page of the Bundesanstalt für Arbeit (Federal Institution for Work) on training and an occupation in restoration was established in cooperation with VDR and is available

now under the title BerufeNet. Many avenues of access to the homepage of the VDR go through BerufeNet.

- **Intensification of public relations work**

Co-operation with an agency for public relations work, which is specialised in the area of art and culture. The agency will look after the public relations work for the Restauratoren-tag (Restorers' Day).

3. Publications

- **"VDR-Beiträge zur Erhaltung von Kunst- und Kulturgut" (VDR Contributions for the Preservation of Art and Cultural Property): the new technical periodical of the VDR**

Issue 1 contains 22 contributions on different specialist areas (archaeology, photography, painting, panel painting, investigations, architectural polychromy etc.) as well as on ethical restoration questions. The system of the publication appointees from the working and county groups was established and the first issue has proved to be successful.

- **'VDR Schriftenreihe' (VDR series of publications)**

Publications for 2003 on 'Mould' and 2004 on 'Surface Cleaning' are planned as issues of the VDR series. The volume 'Solvents' (author:

Annik Pietsch) is selling well even outside of the VDR.

- **'VDR Bulletin'**

The member bulletin has become relatively substantial with approx. 100 pages per issue. The information, announcement and dates section is in great demand (visits to the homepage confirm this).

4. Projects

- **'Restauratorenstag' (Restorers' day) and General Assemblée 2003:**

International conference, Düsseldorf (29 September – 4 October)

Participants from Germany, abroad and overseas attended, including official representati-

ves of conservators/restorers associations. The participation of guests from Eastern Europe (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Georgia and others) was particularly pleasing. Total number of participants: approx. 700.

5. Service

- **Legal advice**

Test run in 2003. The offer has been taken up with great interest by the members. Approximately 10 cases were approved from the chairmanship for consultation and were successfully advised by the lawyer Sängenstedt.

Bureau and management

Bonn, the 8th of October 2003



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VeRes

Belangenvereniging Restauratoren Nederland

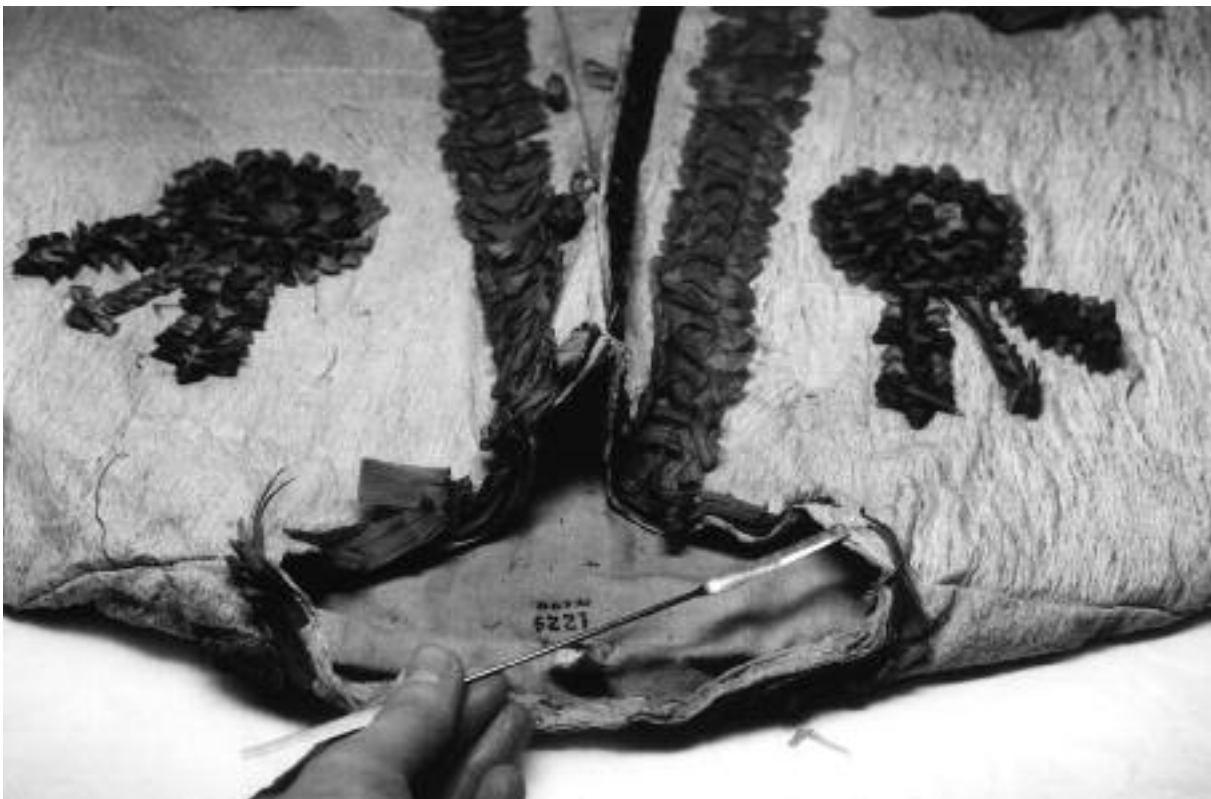
The past year has seen lots of fruitful continuations of long-term projects but was, unfortunately, also characterised by some alarming developments. On a positive note, our profession has seen an increase in external recognition as a result of our effort and commitment over the last ten years; several organisations in the field are closely working together and are, therefore, taken more seriously. For instance, in the Netherlands, we recently witnessed a long-term governmental project to implement a masters' program in conservation-restoration reaching its final stage. However, our profession and cultural heritage in general is threatened; throughout Europe several institutions suffer from major budget cuts. Also, in the Netherlands the Minister of Education proposed funding cuts in November 2002 which seriously threatened the implementation of the masters' program in conservation-restoration, and, which could re-

sult in the closure of the education in conservation at the Instituut Collectie Nederland (ICN) within a period of four years. The ICN is one of the main partners in the proposed realisation of a masters' program in conservation-restoration.

Masters' in conservation-restoration

A model of a masters' programme was designed on the basis of consensus reached between people from within the field and from the current education programmes. Within this model, any relevant Bachelor's degree (such as art history, archaeology, architecture etc.) gives automatic entry into the masters' program in conservation-restoration on condition that the student has completed a minor in conservation-restoration. The masters' study will consist of four years of full time study, including practical internships. Both current education programmes of the "Instituut Collectie Nederland" (ICN) and the "Stichting Restauratie Atelier Limburg" (SRAL), as well as the Universities of Amsterdam and Maastricht and the Free University in Amsterdam are participants in this masters' education program. A declaration of intent was signed by the aforementioned partners

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and by the former Secretary of State of Culture, Dr. F. van der Ploeg. This four year masters' was going to be made possible by funding from the Department of Culture. The proposed funding cuts of the ICN education program, however, does not only imply the waste of expertise but is also a serious threat to the plan for this Masters' in Conservation-Restoration. These cuts can ultimately lead to the termination of the whole Masters' in conservation-restoration.

Since the period between the announcement of the proposed cuts and the actual decision was less than a week, VeRes decided to act quickly and started an e-mail protest. A letter of protest had already been sent to the Parliament, explaining the situation and urging the Parliament to reconsider the proposed cuts. All VeRes members and related professionals received a copy of this letter, with the request to sign the letter and forward it to the Minister. Our action resulted in several hundreds e-mails that have reached the government.

In addition, E.C.C.O. has sent a letter of protest, and so did more than a dozen European and International organisations including ICOM-CC, ICCROM, Blue Shield, VDR, the Hungarian Academy of Fine Arts and the Danish Art Academy. Thanks to this huge response, members of Parliament asked critical questions regarding the proposed cuts. As a result, the director of the ICN was asked to create an alternative plan concerning funding cuts within the organisation. Although it is not yet clear whether the education program at the ICN will be continued, the further development of the Masters' is still in progress.

Policy and action plan

As mentioned in the VeRes report in 2002, the board has developed a new policy and action plan for the period 2002–2007. The General Assembly of September 2002 adopted the plan and the board will evaluate the plan at the General Assembly of 2003. Several outstanding issues described in the action plan for the year 2002–2003 have been realised. Unfortunately, the plans to celebrate the 10th anniversary of VeRes by organising an "Open Restoration Workshop Day" could not be realised due to a lack of funding. The Ve-

Res board has spent over a year in search of sponsors for this event but all attempts have been unsuccessful.

Other issues laid out in the action plan for this period, however, have been realised with great success. The internal procedures are now much clearer thanks to the creation of several protocols for the board, president, secretary, treasurer and the secretariat as well as protocols for specific decision-making processes. These protocols will serve as a solid base for the future. Furthermore, fundamental first steps were taken to improve the software of the secretariat in order to have more frequent electronic contact with the members. Improvement of the web site and frequent web site updates are a main focus for the coming years and the board has started to gather information and training on the subject. A thorough plan of designing a structure for the new web site is in the making.

Another item in the action plan concerned the development of a checklist for documentation of conservation-restoration treatments. The final checklist will be presented to the General Assembly in September 2003 for approval. In the autumn of 2003, a workshop on this subject is planned in co-operation with the ICN.

Saar Crouwel

General Secretary

Janine van Reekum

Chair

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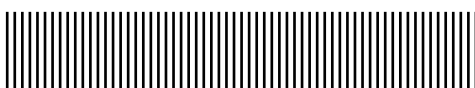


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