



E.C.C.O.

European Confederation of Conservator-Restorers' Organisations A.I.S.B.L.

E.C.C.O. reports

Nr. 8 / 2010



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

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E.C.C.O. (European Confederation of Conservator-Restorers' Organisations A.I.S.B.L. / Confederation Européenne des Organisations de Conservateurs-Restaurateurs A.I.S.B.L.) is an international confederation established on 14 October 1991 under the Belgian Law of 25 October 1919.

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Contributions

E.C.C.O. welcomes all contributions of general interest for the profession of Conservator-Restorer to the Reports.



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E.C.C.O. Members 2010	4
E.C.C.O. Committee 2010	5
Letter from the President	8
General Assembly 2010	12
ECROP – European Conservator-Restorers’ Open Platform.....	16
Treasurer’s Report General Assembly 2010	18
National Reports:	
Belgium APROA-BRK	24
Bulgaria – ACB.....	25
Denmark – NKF-dk.....	26
Finland – NKF-FI	28
Germany – VDR	29
International – IADA	30
Ireland – ICHAWI	31
Italy – VRS	35
Spain – GT	36
Sweden – NKF-S.....	38
Switzerland – SKR/SCR.....	41



Full Members

A U S T R I A

ÖRV – Österreichischer Restauratorenverband

B E L G I U M

APROA / BRK – Association Professionnelle des Conservateurs / Restaurateurs d'Oeuvres d'Art – Beroepsvereniging voor Conservators–Restaurateurs van Kunstvoorwerpen vzw.

B U L G A R I A

ACB – Association of Conservator–restorers in Bulgaria

D E N M A R K

NKF-dk – Nordisk Konservatorforbund – Danmark

F I N L A N D

NKF-FI – Pohjoismaisen Konservattoriliiton Suomen Osasto ry

F R A N C E

FFCR – Fédération Française des professionnels de la Conservation-Restauration

G E R M A N Y

VDR – Verband der Restauratoren e.V.

H U N G A R Y

MRE – Magyar Restaurátorok Egyesülete

I N T E R N A T I O N A L

IADA – Internationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Archiv-, Bibliotheks- und Graphikrestauratoren

I R E L A N D

ICHAWI – Institute for the Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works in Ireland

I T A L Y

ARI – Associazione Restauratori d'Italia

VRS – Verband der Restauratoren–Konservatoren Südtirols / Associazione dei Restauratori–Conservatori Dell'Alto Adige

T H E N E T H E R L A N D S

RN –Restauratoren Nederland

N O R W A Y

NKF-N – Nordisk Konservatorforbund / den Norske Seksjon

P O R T U G A L

ARP – Associação Profissional de Conservadores–Restauradores de Portugal

S L O V A K R E P U B L I C

KR – Komora Reštaurátorov

S P A I N

ACRACV – Asociación de Conservadores y Restauradores de Arte de la Comunidad Valenciana

GT – Grup Tècnic – Associació professional dels Conservadors-Restauradors de Catalunya

S W E D E N

NKF-S – Nordiska Konservatorförbundet / Svenska Sektioner

S W I T Z E R L A N D

SKR / SCR – Schweizerischer Verband für Konservierung und Restaurierung / Association Suisse de Conservation et Restauration

Associated Members

C Z E C H R E P U B L I C

AMG–KKR – Asociace muzeí a galerií ČR - Komise konzervátoru-restaurátoru



E.C.C.O. Committee 2010

President

Monica Martelli Castaldi (ARI, Italy)



Born in 1957 in South America where she lived several years. Diploma in Conservation of Easel and Mural Paintings at Istituto Centrale del Restauro (now Istituto Superiore per la Conservazione ed il Restauro) in Rome in 1981. Coordinator of courses on Scientific Principles of Conservation and Mural Painting Conservation at ICCROM for approximately 10 years. Freelance Conservator-Restorer since 1981 with her own firm, works mainly in the Campania region in the South of Italy. Since 1996 works especially in archaeological sites being consultant for the Archeological Superintendency of Pompeii for the conservation of decorative features. Since 2000 in charge of the conservation of all the decorated surfaces of the site for the Herculaneum Conservation Project, financed by the Packard Humanities Institute and directed by the British School at Rome. Since 1994 E.C.C.O. Delegate of ARI, the Associazione Restauratori d'Italia, and from 2003 in the E.C.C.O. Committee.

Vice President

Jaap van der Burg (RN, The Netherlands)

Born in 1958, graduated from School for Conservators (now Institute for Cultural Heritage) in Amsterdam in 1985 specialising in organic polymers (preventive conservation). Has worked as Head of the Keepers Department at the Royal Dutch Army and Arms Museum (1984–1993), Project Manager at the National Museum of Ethnology (1993–1996), Tutor in Preventive Conservation at the Institute for Cultural Heritage (1994–2003) and as Project Manager for Collection, Care & Consult for the Gerlach Art Packers and Shippers (1996–1999). Since 2000 co-founder and Director of Helicon Conservation Support. 1994–1998 Board Member and President of IIC Netherlands, currently Vice President of Restauratoren Nederland (2006–). In the E.C.C.O. Committee since 2007.



Vice President

Mechthild Noll-Minor (VDR, Germany)

Born in 1966, after studying Mathematics and Conservation-Restoration she graduated with a diploma in Conservation of Mural Painting and Architectural Surfaces at the Academy of Fine Arts at Dresden. 1992–2002 she worked as freelance professional in East Germany with several stages at worksites in Georgia (former Soviet Union) and Italy (ICCROM, Opificio delle Pietre Dure, Florence). Since 2003 she is head of the Conservation-Restoration Department at the State Monument Service Agency of the Federal state Brandenburg in Germany. In the E.C.C.O. Committee 1999–2001 and again from 2009.

General Secretary

Susan Corr (ICHAWI, Ireland)

An accredited paper Conservator-Restorer working in private practice. In the E.C.C.O. Committee since 2005.





Deputy Secretary

Jeremy Hutchings (NKF-N, Norway)

Entered the Conservation-Restoration profession in 1985. Originally trained as an engineer, holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Archaeological Conservation, a Postgraduate Diploma in Architectural Conservation and PhD in Conservation. Has extensive experience in public sector museums including a period as an environmental adviser for the UK Museums and Galleries Commission. Moved to Norway in 1999 to take up a conservation management position and has held the full-time position as Associate Professor of Objects Conservation at the University of Oslo since 2001. In the E.C.C.O. Committee since 2008.

Treasurer

Michael Van Gompen (APROA-BRK, Belgium)

Born in 1967, studies in electronics and horology. Freelance Conservator-Restorer of scientific and mechanical instruments and time keepers (clocks, watches, etc.) since 1994 in Brussels. Graduated in Conservation-Restoration from the Edward James Foundation – West Dean College in England in 1992.



Deputy Treasurer

Sebastian Dobrusskin (SKR/SCR, Switzerland)

Born in 1960. Studied Conservation-Restoration at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna. Diploma with focus on the Conservation-Restoration of paper and photography. Specialisation in Conservation-Restoration of photography at the National Archives of Canada, Ottawa. Employment at the Institute for Restoration at the National Library of Austria in Vienna. Set up the paper conservation course at the State Academy of Fine Arts, Stuttgart, as conservation studio manager. Since 1993 Professor for the specialisations Conservation-Restoration of Graphic Art and Photography. Since 2005 head of the Research Area “Materiality of Art and Culture”. In the E.C.C.O. Committee since 2008.

Committee Member

David Aguilera Cueco (FFCR, France)

Born in 1959. After studying (1981–1985) at Maîtrise de sciences et techniques conservation-restauration des biens culturels de l’université de Paris 1 panthéon Sorbonne, worked as a freelance Conservator-Restorer of paintings, specialised in structural problems and conservation of contemporary art. Since 1986 works essentially for museums collections. Graduated from Master course in Preventive Conservation Paris 1 in 2005. Delegate of FFCR and Committee Member of E.C.C.O. since 2006, since 2004 Vice-President of FFCR, after being its President (1998–2003).



Committee Member

Suvi Leukumaavaara (NKF-FI, Finland)

Degree in Paintings Conservation in Finland in 2000. Postgraduate studies in Italy and the UK, doing research on historical and contemporary painting materials. Works also as freelance lecturer and illustrator. In the E.C.C.O. Committee since 2005.

Committee Member**Rui Bordalo** (ARP, Portugal)

Rui Bordalo is a Paintings Conservator. His main interests involve the study of technological applications to Cultural Heritage, such as laser technology and digital applications, and also historical study of artistic production technologies. At the present he is finishing his PhD on laser applications for paintings conservation and its effects to painting materials. In the E.C.C.O. Committee since 2006.

**Committee Member****Barbara Davidson** (KR, Slovak Republic)

Born in 1970. After graduation from High School for Arts and Crafts in Bratislava, worked 1988-1992 as technical support and assistant restorer in the City Gallery of Bratislava. 1992–1998 studies at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava, department of Restoration of Art Works where she obtained the title Magister artis (Mgr.art.) in Fine Art – Restoration of Easel Paintings. 2000-2006 studies at AFAD (Art.D.) From 1998 employed in the City Gallery of Bratislava as an independent specialised restorer. From 1997 member of the Chamber of Restorers (KR) in Slovakia. From 2005 member of the Board of KR and Delegate for E.C.C.O. In 2006 elected to the E.C.C.O. committee.

Committee Member**Stefan Belishki** (ACB, Bulgaria)

Stefan Belishki has been teaching in the Conservation Department of the National Academy of Arts in Sofia for the last 15 years. He also has private practice in the Conservation-Restoration of paintings, icons and wall paintings. He is one of the founders of the Association of Conservator-Restorers in Bulgaria and currently its Chairman. Elected to the E.C.C.O. Committee in 2009.

**Committee Member****Agnès Gall-Ortlik** (GT, Spain)

Agnès Gall-Ortlik is a Conservator-Restorer specialised in Fine Arts conservation (ceramic, glass and enamel on metal). Graduated in 2000 from the Institut National du Patrimoine (Paris, France), she was intern for extended periods at the Corning Museum of Glass (Corning, New York). She lives in Barcelona, Spain and works as a freelance Conservator-Restorer in Europe for institutions and private clients, among them the National Museum of Art of Catalonia, The Vatican Museums or The Renaissance Museum in Paris. Particularly interested in the conservation of enamel on metal, she has published several articles in specialised magazines and given conferences in international congresses. She is the Vice-President and European Delegate of the Catalan Professional Association of Conservators and since 2008 co-ordinator of the Enamel group of the ICOM-CC Glass and Ceramics WG and Metal WG. In 2010 she was elected to the E.C.C.O. Committee.

Letter from the President

Dear Members,

the Report on the work achieved during the year 2010 is coming out with a very long delay. This is not new, as you will probably have remarked, because in the last years we have not been able to produce these Reports exactly “on time”. Every year it is really difficult to collect all the material from the Members and be on time for the date of issue of the publication.

Possible reasons for this usual delay can be based on the fact that times are getting difficult, more and more, and we are all busy with our personal work and life. More motives are based on the timing, as organisations may have different preferences regarding the covered period of their annual report. Hopefully in the future we will find an agreement and are able to collect the material faster in order to avoid long delays.

However, the work in E.C.C.O. has been active and effective as you have seen through the regular information about main issues and results of the Committee, in the Short News, for which I thank the hard work of Susan Corr, our General Secretary.

Suvi Leukumaavaara has been responsible for the editing of the Reports, which is not an easy duty. She has been doing an exhausting and long work, mainly concentrated in collecting the material from the members and inside the Committee, President letter and report included... We thank Suvi, she is patient but her duty

is sometimes frustrating and she has managed to overcome this issue for which we are really grateful.

In 2010 E.C.C.O. has been present in many meetings and conferences. In June the President was invited to present E.C.C.O. and its achievements at *ATHARnet: Education and Practice* in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. This important activity started by ICCROM in 2008 is a long-term programme with a focus on cultural heritage sites in the Arab region.

The overall goal of the programme is to protect and promote the rich cultural heritage in the Arab region and broaden access, appreciation, and understanding of its past with two previous meetings entitled *Integrating of heritage conservation in professional education in the Arab region* and *Networking amongst professional conservation institutions in the region*. The President represented E.C.C.O. also at the follow-up meeting *Making ATHARnet Effective, Making Conservation Relevant - Toward a Professional Body of Conservation Specialists in the Arab Region* in January 2011.

In September E.C.C.O. Committee Member Stefan Belishki attended the IIC Conference *Conservation and the Eastern Mediterranean* in Istanbul where the E.C.C.O poster was on display and resulted in some new contacts being forged or renewed including that with Cornelia Weyer, former VDR E.C.C.O. Delegate and Committee Member, now involved with *INCCA – International Network for the Conservation of Contemporary Art*. Cornelia Weyer informed E.C.C.O. that INCCA

is interested in a possible “partnership” with E.C.C.O. INCCA's members include conservators, curators, scientists, registrars, archivists, art historians and researchers. Members allow access to each others unpublished information (artist interviews, condition reports, installation instructions etc.) through the INCCA database.

In November the President was invited to Korea to represent E.C.C.O. at the international conference on *Conservation ethics for rational decision making: dialogue between the east and the west* organised by the National Research Institute for Cultural Heritage NRICH, Korea. The President delivered a paper on the development of E.C.C.O. and the Code of Ethics as the Institute is working towards the articulation of a code of ethics for practice in Korea. Dr Lee Sujeong of NRICH gave an overview of the Korean position and the intent arising from this meeting to articulate a set of values which will both assimilate and differentiate norms according to Asian cultural and social values. It was apparent that E.C.C.O. is an important reference for this work and the meeting, which was also attended by AIC – *American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works*, gave rise to much discussion.

In November the President also met in Brussels with Dr Cristina Gutiérrez, Member of the European Parliament, who received E.C.C.O. Dossier and E.C.C.O. publications. In December the President attended in Bruges the EU Conference *Europe and cultural heritage: a challenge towards a European cultural heritage strategy*. Vice President Jaap van der Burg was also to attend but due to impossible weather conditions and consequent traffic jam he did not make it. The conference had no immediate outcome.

The most important steps taken on board during the year 2010 concern the following topics:

The Recommendations on Conservation-Restoration, presented at the Council of Europe

At the moment the document has been blocked at internal level. We are trying to use the help of Mounir Bouchenaki, ICCROM Director General, to obtain some action inside the CDPATEP (*Comité Directeur pour le Patrimoine Culturel et le Paysage – Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage and Landscape*) committee. But the possibilities are few at the moment. A meeting between Mr Thérond, President, Council of Europe and Catherine Antomarchi of ICCROM will take place in 2011 to develop a Working Group within CDPATEP to look at the Recommendations.

A new contract will be commissioned to E.C.C.O. consultant Vincent Negri to continue the activity on legislation. Committee Member Agnès Gall-Ortlík has informed E.C.C.O. about a request to organise a meeting in Spain as a follow up of a book published in 2008 with a study comparing legislation within Spain.

The EQF and Competences

The final version of the document has been finished. Its official translations will be ready in four languages for the final publication at the E.C.C.O. General Assembly 2011 in Barcelona. The Competences have already been published in the Slovakia Annual Collection of Lectures by the Association of Restorers and Komora Reštaurátorov and translated by Slovenska Akademicka Asociacia pre Medzinaridnu Spolupracu. There has been discussion inside the Committee to define what is the aim of the document, what can be the use of it, how can the maps be used, in order to prepare the fu-

ture of the text which would become a tool for national organisations, education institutions, professionals, etc.

New members

Possible future members have approached E.C.C.O. The following contacts have been taken: A new Spanish organisation ACRE, is trying to gather together the different representations of Conservation-Restoration organisation in the 21 regional Autonomies. The E.C.C.O. Sub-committee for New Members (Committee Members Barbara Davidson and Stefan Belishki) is discussing about the best possible actions to become member.

Slovenia has applied for Full Membership and Malta for Associated Membership. Romania, Greece and Croatia have been in contact but with no special result. Poland has been contacted. Baltic States, Lichtenstein and Luxembourg will be contacted. Finally, some informal contacts have been also taken to understand if there are possibilities in the future to have UK – ICON back in the organisation, as some changes have occurred in the composition of the Board and if possible new contacts will be started.

Presidents' Meeting

The 2011 E.C.C.O. Presidents' Meeting will take place in Barcelona on Monday 4th April followed by the General Assembly on Tuesday 5th April. The year 2011 marks the 20th year since the formation of E.C.C.O. All founding members and past E.C.C.O. Presidents will be invited to the Meeting. An invitation will also be issued to every non-member organisation to attend the Presidents' Meeting which will be considered an open forum. On the occasion

of the 20th anniversary, all will be welcome to attend the GA as observers. The Committee also welcome any photographs which members may have lurking in their archives, to be shown at the Meeting.

Visibility and contact with the members

Visibility and contact with the Members has been sought through a new activity on the website, named *ECROP - European Conservator-Restorers Open Platform*. Information about this initiative was sent out to members in October, with a subsequent letter to non-members to be circulated. Until there is a registration form on the web no further action is required.

Collaboration and contacts with other organisations

CEN

The work in CEN is very active through the representation of Vice President Jaap van der Burg and Committee Member David Aguilera Cueco. The suggestion of the creation of a CEN section to be opened on E.C.C.O. website Forum was given, to find draft of public inquires to get E.C.C.O. members more involved as "expert". E.C.C.O. should inform about what is going on in other countries and positions of all E.C.C.O. member countries.

ICOMOS

A delegation of E.C.C.O. (President, Vice President Jaap van der Burg, Committee Members Stefan Belishki and David Aguilera Cueco) met ICOMOS General Secretary Bénédicte Selfslagh in Paris, in ICOMOS headquarters. After a short introduction on each one of us and E.C.C.O., a discussion was held on problems regarding Standards and General Terms, ICOMOS is not happy with certain terms. It has been agreed that a common position could be useful.

Action regarding CEN was also discussed. ICOMOS will give suggestions or propose changes. E.C.C.O. and ICOMOS could declare a common position. Several documents were given to Bénédicte Selfslagh to inform about E.C.C.O. actions and activities.

CEPLIS

A meeting on the *Evaluation of the Directive on Profession Qualifications* took place in Brussels in September. It was not possible for E.C.C.O. to get an invitation to the presentation of the review but through CEPLIS, Treasurer Michael Van Gompem attended and CEPLIS submitted a 'non-paper' on eight different issues with regard to the Liberal Professions stating their case for special treatment or derogation. There was no official reaction from the Commission, EU Parliament members and representatives from the European Social Dialogue group. However informal feedback suggested that the arguments were interesting for putting pressure on the Commission to develop considerations/derogations in the Recognition of the Qualifications Directive.

The wish of the Commission is still to deregulate as much as possible. It is one of the intentions of CEPLIS to produce a new survey to stress how important it is to have a code of conduct for Liberal Professions. CEPLIS insist that codes of conducts are not an obstruction to the free movement of professionals within the EU and argue that they are also linked to the protection of the public. CEPLIS has established a new body called the Leeds Institute which will publish studies on research on this area.

NET-Heritage

NET-Heritage is a network of institutions around Europe who work for research in Cultural Heritage and it is linked into the *7th Framework Programme for Research*. Majority of its members are scientific bodies. They are not research or policy making bodies. Vice President Mechthild Noll-Minor informed the committee that VDR have become affiliated to NET-Heritage. E.C.C.O. is to seek further information to determine whether it is important for E.C.C.O. to get involved.

E.C.C.O. has also been informed that a specialist in law for heritage has been appointed by the Maltese government to redraft the law for protection and for the profession (which is defined). The present regulations appears to not work well because the Conservator-Restorers now have to be accredited by a governmental "body" and this has never really worked. So now it is years they work without really being "recognised" by the government. A new "more applicable" law is in preparation.

As you can see, several actions have been taken and the Organisation is invited more and more to inform about the results and the achievements obtained in the past. One of the difficult things the Committee has to deal with is to follow all the issues being ready to react if needed. For this we really need the help of our Members, in order to be informed and updated of any issue at national level.

Thank you

Monica Martelli Castaldi
President of E.C.C.O.

General Assembly 2010

6 June 2010
 Hotel Ibis Sainte Catherine
 rue Joseph Plateau N°2
 BE-1000 Brussels
 9 am - 5 pm

Present:

E.C.C.O. Committee:

President Monica Martelli Castaldi (ARI, Italy), Vice President Mechthild Noll-Minor (VDR, Germany), Vice President Jaap van der Burg (RN, The Netherlands), General Secretary Susan Corr (ICHAWI, Ireland), Deputy Secretary Jeremy Hutchings (NKF-N, Norway), Treasurer Michael Van Gampen (APROA-BRK, Belgium), Deputy Treasurer Sebastian Dobrusskin (SKR/SCR, Switzerland), David Aguilera Cueco (FFCR, France), Rui Bordalo (ARP, Portugal), Barbara Davidson (KR, Slovak Republic) and Stefan Belishki (ACB, Bulgaria).

Delegates and Presidents: Sigrid Eyb-Green (ÖRV, Austria), Karen Borchersen (NKF-dk President, Denmark), Agnès Gall-Ortlík (GT, Spain) and Carin Pettersson (NKF-S, Sweden)

Guests: Wolfgang Baatz (ENCoRE)

Observers: Tina Lindgren (NKF-FI, Finland)

Office Administrator: Natalie Ellwanger

The eruption of the Eyjafjallajökull in Iceland causing disruption across Europe forced E.C.C.O. to postpone the General Assembly until June. We thank all those delegates who did make it to the later venue, your support is greatly appreciated.

Despite being unable to meet in April as planned the Committee remained active across several fronts including a final meeting of the *EQF Working Group* in February; both Jaap van der Burg and David Aguilera Cueco are busy in *CEN* and the President continues to make E.C.C.O. visible 'at home' and abroad!

The President reported that most of the decisions taken at the GA in Sofia have been carried out. Contacts with other organisations have been made and further contact with both *ICCROM* and *ICOM-CC* will be promoted. Some translations have been funded. Contact and collaboration with *ENCoRE* has been maintained.

The proposed *European Recommendation*, presented to the Committee of *CDPATEP* (*Comité Directeur pour le Patrimoine Culturel et le Paysage – Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage and Landscape*) at the Council of Europe was again discussed in Strasbourg at the annual meeting in May. There has been a good response from delegates but there was also some opposition.

The *ICCROM* delegate supported the establishment of a working group that will develop a final draft and a meeting is to be organised at *ICCROM* in Rome.

In helping to find equivalences with past qualifications or training routes it is hoped that the development of the *Professional Competences* will serve as a reference tool for finding equivalence. The *Competences* can also be used as a tool for self evaluation against which knowledge and skills can be measured against academic degrees however the means to validating such self evaluation is yet to be explored.

The value of *CPD (Continuous Professional Development)* was recently explored through the distribution of the *CEPLIS* Questionnaire on CPD. It would be useful work to map CPD possibilities within member organisations and identify where those opportunities lead to credit points in respect of *Lifelong learning*.

Contact and follow up of *CEN* has been difficult and E.C.C.O. has not achieved the goal of having an E.C.C.O. member on every CEN Working Group.

Strategic Plan

A Working Group has been established to revise the Strategic Plan. Members' opinion will be actively sought. The following areas are under consideration for structuring such a plan:

- 1) To examine our current position and future direction
- 2) To strengthen E.C.C.O.'s position – open up to new members within the Council of Europe
- 3) To develop tools for members: a publication presenting the Professional Competences
- 4) To find external funding for future activities
- 5) To continue the work for the approval of the Recommendations within the Council of Europe
- 6) To maintain a constant dialogue with other international organisations in our field
- 7) To deal with the past by finding equivalence through the Professional Competences
- 8) To promote CPD (Continuous Professional Development)
- 9) To promote active participation of our members within CEN

Working Group: Rui Bordalo, Monica Martelli Castaldi, Jaap van der Burg, Jeremy Hutchings.

CEN

E.C.C.O. Vice President Jaap van der Burg is the point of liaison between E.C.C.O. and the CEN project. Committee Member David Aguilera Cueco is the FFCR representative to the French expert committee. Both have kept E.C.C.O. abreast of developments in CEN which they point out are very important and to date have been underestimated by our profession.

The norms and standards that are being developed can be interpreted into national laws; by corollary, where European standards are in effect they must be referred to whenever norms or standards are quoted in laws and tendering processes issuing from national public bodies.

While E.C.C.O. has liaison status it has no vote, its influence is only felt by participation in the discussions. For instance, the second enquiry on *Terminology* has the strong input of Jaap van der Burg and David Aguilera Cueco. These documents are disseminated to the Member Organisations and are available on the Forum.

However, as there are so many areas for consideration it is not possible to cover every norm that is being discussed. Since the last GA in Sofia where E.C.C.O. highlighted this issue a few more members have got involved, but, more members are required to participate and influence the vote of their national standardisation organisations. Funding mechanisms for participation in such activity must be sought by individual associations at national level.

E.C.C.O. realise that there are some conservator-restorers involved with their national bodies as experts but to date E.C.C.O. does not know who they are and where their expertise

lies. If such information could be gathered it would be very useful to gain insight from their experience.

Moreover, all the documents produced by CEN go out in English which is a barrier to their evaluation by some members. For this reason, CEN documents will be made available on the Forum with instructions on how to use them. Finally, given the ratification of the *Professional Competences* it is hoped they might be used for referral in the development of future CEN documents.

EQF

Since the last meeting in Barcelona *EQF Working Group* revised and critiqued the work to date both in respect of its interpretation via the EQF and as a description of *Professional Competences*. The final report which was distributed prior to the GA maps Professional Competences as a series of concepts and processes in conservation-restoration which reflect a decision making narrative. These concepts and processes are subsequently evaluated through the rubric of *Knowledge and Skills* which allows compatibility with the EQF.

The evaluative nature of the levels of knowledge and skills is stressed as the mechanism by which they can be located on the EQF. The Descriptors for Levels 6 and 8 are proposed and final agreement is yet to be found with ENCoRE.

In discussions at the GA, very different views on the role of the BA emerged with respect to the delivery of same and especially in terms of hands on practice. There is an acknowledged need to address the delivery and guarantee of

practical skills throughout the education process and ENCoRE is aware that this issue has to be addressed. The experience of different countries was discussed but the issue remains outstanding.

The value of the academic qualification versus professional qualification was raised and it is hoped that the Professional Competences will help bring clarity and promote skill sets. There is no means of recognising Lifelong learning to date and it is not possible to transfer between levels of the EQF outside the academic route. This is an issue that CEPLIS are also looking at in terms of CPD.

The issue of regulation of the profession and disciplinary measures arose which automatically introduced the question of professional responsibilities. President Monica Martelli Castaldi pointed out that the legal responsibility of the Conservator-Restorer was addressed in the work of *APEL (Acteurs du Patrimoine Européen et Législation)* in 2001. It was suggested that these issues could be considered within the framework of any future strategic plan for E.C.C.O.

The work of the EQF was ratified unanimously and thanks are extended to the committee for their hard work. A small number from the EQF Working Group will help prepare the report for publication.

Working Group: Susan Corr, Jeremy Hutchings, Sebastian Dobrusskin, Agnès Gall-Ortlík, David Aguilera Cueco.

ECROP

It was proposed to the GA and agreed unanimously that a mini website known as *ECROP (European Conservator-Restorers' Open Platform)*, and

which will be a sub domain of E.C.C.O. is to be set up to facilitate a forum for networking amongst those who attended the GA in Sofia (E.C.C.O. members plus Eastern countries within the Council of Europe): E.C.C.O. will host ECROP but is not to be responsible for documents and ideas posted.

Working Group: Mechthild Noll Minor, Rui Bordalo.

CEPLIS

A questionnaire issuing from CEPLIS on CPD as a requisite to professional bodies and its evaluation by same was sent around all member organisations earlier this year. Several members kindly replied and preliminary results are available.

The mechanism to recognise credits obtained through the attendance of credited courses is not in place allowing the movement of individuals through the levels of the EQF. It is suggested that E.C.C.O. explore the possibilities of organisations looking at how more courses can be established which would offer credit points.
CEPLIS Board Member: Michael van Gampen.

Legislation

Council of Europe

Opposition to the *Recommendations* in terms of procedure was voiced at the *CDPATEP* meeting of May 2009 resulting in the proposal to establish a Working Group which would use the proposed text as a draft. This has not been done to date and considerable lobbying was done preparatory to the *CDPATEP* meeting on the 4th May 2010 to resolve the situation.

During the meeting the ICCROM representative and Belgium delegate Myriam Serck-De-

waide voiced strong support for the work of E.C.C.O. and insisted on the formation of a Working Group. This received approval and a Working Group is to be set up in the coming months with ICCROM as coordinator and validated by a formal agreement. This should help to progress the Recommendations.

Directives

Following a proposal of work from Mr Negri, lawyer and E.C.C.O. consultant, the committee agreed to continue developing recommendations for the transposition of the *Services Directive* and the *Directive on the Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications into National law*. This work would help to identify the areas of conflict between the application of the Directives at national level and the competence of the national states to protect their cultural heritage.

Mr Negri wants to further identify the way in which these conflicts can be used to argue a special derogation for cultural heritage thus leading to the generation of compensatory measures which subsequently could address the issue of the conservation-restoration of such heritage. Although the Directives should already be transposed in member countries to date, Mr Negri suggests that it is still possible for compensatory measures to be introduced.
Working Group: Monica Martelli Castaldi, David Aguilera Cueco.

Susan Corr

E.C.C.O. General Secretary

European Conservator-Restorers' Open Platform – ECROP

PURPOSE

The *European Conservator-Restorers' Open Platform – ECROP* will be open to all the professional organisations wishing to participate in a common effort to promote a closer exchange of information and experiences. Improved communication will enhance, for example, the ability of individual organisations to argue for upgrading their legal situation and the quality management of the profession.

This platform is the result of an expressed need for better networking among conservator-restorers' organisations in the broader community of countries members of the Council of Europe. In addition to the platform's forum, a common calendar of activities and conferences will be available together with links to publications of common interest.

Access to the *ECROP Forum* is open but writing contribution will be limited to board or bureau or other mandated members of any member association of E.C.C.O. or via special request from Conservation-Restoration organisations who are associated associations of ECROP.

Instructions for the writing procedure can be requested from the E.C.C.O. coordinator of the platform. For further information about the participating Conservation-Restoration associations please see the member list.

INTENDED OUTCOMES

- The platform will provide a channel through which a better understanding of the professional situation within each participant's country can be gained. This will lead to greater understanding of Conservation-Restoration within Europe as a whole.
- Increase common knowledge of the legal situation, including actual developments and activities to promote the profession within Europe through information provided by individual member countries
- Facilitate common actions and the preparation of common documents by the participating organisations (and institutions) of ECROP
- Provide a channel through which the views of individual organisations can be expressed
- Make more visible progress and results of the E.C.C.O. Working Groups
- Provide a platform through which the work of member organisations can also be presented

CONTENT OF ECROP

The proposed platform will contain the following pages:

- Initial page with purpose and disclaimer from E.C.C.O.
- Member list with links to the web pages of the organisations or if they do not exist a link to one page inside the Platform for presentation of the organisation will be provided

- Link to a common calendar of activities and conferences
- Information about publications produced by member organisations
- Pages dedicated to reporting the progress and results of the Working Groups of E.C.C.O. and other member organisations of ECROP (upon request)
- Link to the ECROP Forum (organisation specific password to write)

GUIDELINES FOR ECROP

E.C.C.O. is the European Confederation of Conservator-Restorers' Organisations. As such, E.C.C.O. represents, through its 21 professional associations, more than 5.000 members throughout Europe from 16 countries within the European Union (EU) and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

In accordance with the outcomes of the Sofia meeting in March 2009, E.C.C.O. has decided to built up a network of conservator-restorers' organisations in the broader community of countries members of the Council of Europe. The network will be entitled "European Conservator-Restorers' Open Platform" ECROP and will be entirely managed by E.C.C.O.

1. ECROP aims to enhance the network capabilities of its member organisations. For this to take place there will be a number of issues that will be the core of discussions. These will include any issue that contributes to the management and advancement of the profession in Europe. These may include, but are not lim-

ited to, national and international politics, regulation and laws, research, standards, events, management expertise, association organization, state of the market, governmental policies and other institutional initiatives, laws, requests for support or assistance.

2. ECROP will be available through the E.C.C.O. website.

3. ECROP will have links and pages dedicated to each member association as well as an agenda of events which may include:

- Seminars meetings etc. in Europe open to conservator-restorers and where all members of associations in ECROP can participate.

- Courses (relevant to Conservation-Restoration) in Europe recognised by International and National Bodies (our (associated) members) to benefit the field of Conservation-restoration where all members of associations in ECROP can participate.

4. The platform will include a moderated discussion forum, which will have restricted access requiring registration.

5. Access to ECROP forum is limited to board or bureau members of any member association of E.C.C.O. or associated associations of ECROP. Registration may be extended to relevant members of the associations whose opinions and feedback is considered by the association to be important.

6. Eligible members will be responsible for their access details which should not be transmitted to any third party. Registration and

further details can be obtained from E.C.C.O. Committee Member Rui Bordalo at rmbordalo@gmail.com.

7. Publicity of new products and services, directly or indirectly, will not be permitted. Any message with such info will be moderated without prior warning.

8. The working language is English. Spanish and French is also permissible although it should be expected that the respective participation will be more limited.

9. Neither E.C.C.O. nor ECROP can be held responsible for the content contained within the forum. The posted messages express solely the views of its author, and not necessarily the views of this forum or this forum's owner.

10. Inappropriate messages can be reported to the moderator who will remove them pending assessment.

For the ECROP Working Group:

Rui Bordalo
Jaap van der Burg
Jeremy Hutchings
Monica Martelli Castaldi
Mechthild Noll-Minor

Treasurer's Report General Assembly 2010

E.C.C.O. –
EUROPEAN CONFEDERATION OF
CONSERVATOR-RESTORERS'
ORGANISATIONS A.I.S.B.L.

General Assembly

Sunday 13 June 2010
IBIS Ste. Catherine Hotel
Rue Joseph Plateau, 2
1000 Brussels, Belgium
9.00 am.

A	RESULTS 2009
I	Expenses
II	Incomes
B	BUDGET 2010
I	Expenses
II	Incomes

A RESULTS 2009

I Expenses

Office & Administration

Administration expenses have been in accordance with provisional budget.

During 2009, E.C.C.O. managed again to keep all office expenses extremely low, thanks to all Committee Members that do not ask for full refunding of their Telephone, Office Supplies and Postage expenses.

E.C.C.O. Reports

Costs are related to the 2007 Reports that were published in 2009.

Bureau & Committee meetings

Costs well under control and therefore less than expected but some Committee Members were not able to attend all meetings so the Budget was in fact realistic.

Membership fees

E.C.C.O. is a full member of CEPLIS (European Council for Liberal Professions). The 2009 Membership Fee has been paid in due course.

Other expenses

The travel costs of E.C.C.O. Delegates is higher than expected, as E.C.C.O. was present at many important events during last year.

No Lobbying Action costs in 2009.

Working Groups costs are higher than expected but still maintained low because of the grouping of WG meetings with other Committee Meetings whenever possible.

The special General Assembly 2009 in Sofia combined with the President Meeting Day has had a significant cost which is reflected on “special events”.

The E.C.C.O. website has not generated much expense in 2009, as expected since our new web site is running well under the expertise of Committee Member Rui Bordalo.

E.C.C.O. Projects

The EQF working Group met a couple of times in 2009.

The costs for the Recommendation to the Council of Europe are not only related to meetings, but also include the invoice of V. Négri for writing the final official document.

II Incomes

The 2009 E.C.C.O. Members Fees have increased because of the new Membership of the Hungarian and Associated Membership of the Czech Organisations.

The total result for 2009 is a loss of € 4.952,67.

B BUDGET 2010

I Expenses

Office & Administration

The administration expenses are supposed to cover the external professional accountant as well as the costs for the E.C.C.O. Administrator.

Translation costs budget has been maintained in accordance with results, the translations related to Projects are included in the Projects budget.

Office supplies, Telephone and Postage expenses are slightly adapted as all telephone expenses were not covered in 2009.

E.C.C.O. Reports

Editing costs only for the Reports, but for two issues (2008 and 2009) at least. The Reports are made in electronic form only.

Committee Meeting Expenses

Budget is slightly decreased according to 2009 results.

Membership Fees

The CEPLIS Membership fee has been kept identical from last year.

Other expenses

The E.C.C.O. Delegation travel costs will be similar to last year probably.

The budget for lobbying costs is maintained at last year's level.

The budget for the working groups has been increased according to last year results.

The costs for legal advices are not likely to be very high this year so the provision is reduced.

No important special event is foreseen for 2010 but some budget is kept in case.

The E.C.C.O. webhotel and website should not generate much cost this year again.

E.C.C.O. Projects

Some expenses for the EQF finalisation are still expected for 2010.

The Recommendation to the Council of Europe will generate some more expenses as the final text has not been adopted yet in Strasbourg. New Projects are foreseen for 2010 with reasonable costs that are reflected in Budget.

II Incomes

The Membership Fees should remain stable for 2010.

The foreseen loss of 1.439,78 is well covered by our savings.

Michael Van Gompen

Treasurer of E.C.C.O.

account expenses	budget 2009	costs 2009	budget 2010
<u>Office administration:</u>			
6100.10 Administration exp.	1,500.00	1,456.08	1,500.00
6100.20 Translations	1,000.00	1,083.75	1,000.00
6100.30 Office supply/photocop.	300.00	87.37	250.00
6100.40 Telephone expenses	300.00	107.51	400.00
6100.50 Postage expenses	200.00	0.00	100.00
6100.60 Swiss Credit Bank costs		0.00	
6100.80 National Tax		0.00	200.00
6570.00 ING costs	250.00	167.89	200.00
6100.70 Sundry expenses	200.00	150.00	200.00
Total:	3,750.00	3,052.60	3,850.00
<u>ECCO Reports</u>			
6104.10 Printing costs			
6104.20 Editing costs	4,000.00	1,623.60	1,500.00
6104.30 Postage expenses			
Total:	4,000.00	1,623.60	1,500.00
<u>Bureau/committee meeting expenses:</u>			
6105.10 Travel costs	7,000.00	6,004.88	6,500.00
6105.20 Hotels	8,000.00	6,023.00	6,500.00
6105.30 Meeting room costs	1,500.00		
Total:	16,500.00	12,027.88	13,000.00
<u>Membership fees</u>			
6110.00 CEPLIS	3,239.51	3,239.51	3,239.78
6110.20 Other Organizations			
Total:	3,239.51	3,239.51	3,239.78
<u>Other expenses:</u>			
6120.80 ECCO Delegates travel costs	3,500.00	4,587.69	4,500.00
ECCO Lobbying actions	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
6120.81 Working Groups	2,000.00	2,332.31	2,500.00
6120.82 Solicitors	1,500.00	214.20	1,000.00
6120.82 Digital material+Articles			
6180.22 Publication of Official Documents	2,000.00	0.00	
6120.70 Special Events	2,000.00	8,302.41	1,000.00
6120.90 Website - ECCO	300.00	179.93	200.00
Total:	13,300.00	15,616.54	11,200.00
<u>ECCO Projects</u>			
6180.22 APEL- advertising			
APEL- Booklet reprint		0.00	
6180.32 ECPL- Expenses			
6180.34 EQF- Expenses	1,500.00	578.83	1,500.00
6190.12 Recommendation CoE New Projects	6,000.00	4,506.99	1,500.00
	1,500.00		1,500.00
Total:	9,000.00	5,085.82	4,500.00
<u>Others</u>			
6340.00 ICON		0.00	
6404.00 Loss IPC & SSCR		0.00	
Total:	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total expenses:	49,789.51	40,645.95	37,289.78

account Incomes	budget 2009	incomes 2009	budget 2010
7000.01 Full members fees year	33,000.00	35,348.00	35,500.00
7000.00 Full members fees last year			
7000.10 Advertising ECCO Reports			
7000.20 Copies ECCO Reports			
7000.30 Sale ECCO publications			
7000.62 Sale APEL publications	100.00	0.00	
ECPL Project Refunds		0.00	
New Projects Incomes			
7510.00 Bank intrest	450.00	345.28	350.00
Total income:	33,550.00	35,693.28	35,850.00

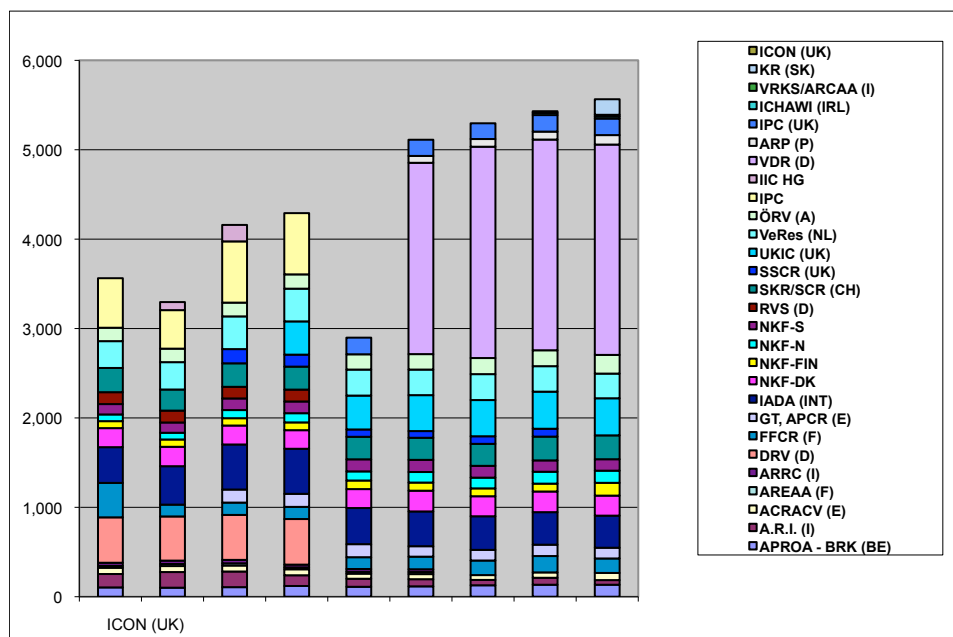
Result:	-16,239.51	-4,952.67	-1,439.78
0.10 Transfer from last year	85,325.22	85,325.22	80,372.55
Saldo :	69,085.71	80,372.55	78,932.77

ING Business account	40,787.69
ING	7,043.91
Members fees + invoices to receive	37,931.05
Saldo :	85,762.65

BALANCE SHEET	31st Dec 2008	31 Dec 2009	LIABILITIES + EQUITY	31st Dec 2008	31 Dec 2009
ASSETS			Capital	83,442.13	85,325.22
waiting account		0.00			
ING Business account	40,461.65	40,787.69	Surplus c/f	1,883.09	-4,952.67
ING	12,954.65	7,043.91	Liabilities	2,720.13	5,685.10
Members fees to receive	34,629.05	38,226.05			

23 Member statistics

Full Members	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	00/01	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
APROA - BRK	96	104	101	107	120	111	116	128	134	134	132	133	134	134
A.R.I. (I)	126	150	175	175	120	90	80	60	78	52	46	78	90	120
ACRACV (E)	44	70	67	67	67	57	57	54	60	80	70	53	35	25
ARBBG (BG)													52	53
AREAA (F)		21	23	25	21	21	23	0						
ARP (P)							77	86	89	106	109	105	123	96
ARRC (I)	34	35	38	38	31	31	31	0						
DRV (D)	440	508	494	503	510									
FFCR (F)	385	385	132	138	136	132	141	163	183	162	193	222	321	322
GT, APCR (E)				146	146	146	117	119	127	120	120	140	132	115
IPC (UK)						186	181	176	185	185				
IADA (INT)	533	400	430	504	504	404	389	376	364	359	356	385	380	393
ICHAWI (IRL)									24	24	27	27	27	31
ICON (UK)											626	1,645		
KR (SK)										174	174	164	160	161
MRE (H)														304
NKF-DK	196	213	217	212	208	212	232	224	231	224	221	205	195	199
NKF-FIN	73	78	82	82	87	96	91	88	88	143	139	149	148	183
NKF-N	75	75	75	91	103	102	118	120	133	136	124	139	126	146
NKF-S	116	116	115	130	131	135	136	132	127	128	145	168	178	189
RN (NL)											302	452	398	403
RVS (D)	126	133	133	130	133									
SKR/SCR (CH)	253	271	236	263	257	252	247	246	266	267	262	263	262	255
SSCR (UK)				159	134	82	75	85	88					
UKIC (UK)					372	379	402	405	415	415				
VeRes (NL)	206	300	306	366	366	291	286	290	285	276				
VDR (D)							2,140	2,364	2,357	2,353	2,250	2,251	1,994	1,850
VRKS/ARCAA (I)									19	18	18	17	16	16
ÖRV (A)	148	150	151	154	160	171	173	180	178	209	219	247	262	235
Assoc. Members														
AMGCR-KKR (CZ)														217
IPC	520	554	431	685	685									
SSCR (UK)	159	201	223											
IIC HG			90	184										
TOTAL	3,530	3,764	3,519	4,159	4,291	2,898	5,112	5,296	5,431	5,565	5,533	6,843	5,033	5,447



BELGIUM

**APROA / BRK – Association
Professionnelle des Conservateurs /
Restaurateurs d’Oeuvres d’Art –
Beroepsvereniging voor Conservators–
Restaurateurs van
Kunstvoorwerpen vzw.**

On the whole, 2010 was quite a calm year for our association. This is a year in between our biennial colloquium. The preparation for the next colloquium on 17th and 18th of November 2011 *Restoring the Invisible* has already begun, and announces itself already to be interesting and inspiring.

In February 2010 we held our General Meeting. The protection of our professional title *conservator-restorer of artefacts and cultural heritage* was once again an important topic. In 2007 we were able – thanks to a new law in Belgium for protection of Professional Titles – to present a request for the recognition of this title.

Despite of some adjustments, on recommendation of the ministry, concerning the interim period, prejudices make one’s rounds and our opponents keep on lobbying against our request. Even after a reunion organised in May 2010 by the Federal Government Services, we still weren’t able to rule out all the misunderstandings and prejudices.

In the meanwhile, as the whole world knows by now, we still are without a new government in Belgium. The current ministers are in fact

all resigning; able to handle current affairs, but not allowed making decisions concerning new laws or dossiers. This means that our request for the recognition of our title is also put on hold. But we remain active and hope to get the support of important persons or institutions within the world of cultural heritage. Maybe a new government, maybe a new breeze...

Two new members and two “emeritus” members were welcomed during the General Meeting; some questions were asked to our Ethic Council. During our boards Meetings we regularly discuss the future of our association. 2011 is the 20th anniversary of the APROA–BRK, so we thought it to be useful to draw up the balance-sheet of our activities and aims of the past, and at the same time to draw the new settings and objectives for the future.

We have to keep organising workshops, seminars, symposiums to achieve continuous training and exchange of knowledge and information between colleagues. And like every year and as in every association, the demand for “young and new blood” for the Board is required to replace bit by bit the residing “older” Board members, but this is never easy.

Our website had some childhood diseases and was revised and renewed. It’s now very conveniently arranged and user-friendly.

www.aproa-brk.org

Els Malyster
President of APROA-BRK

BULGARIA

ACB – Association of Conservator-Restorers in Bulgaria

In 2010 ACB continued its policy of being the leading voice of the Conservator-Restorer's profession in Bulgaria. Its strategy was to improve the communication between Conservator-Restorers, both members and non-members. Website and a mailing group were active instruments in this respect.

The annual meeting of ACB, which traditionally takes place in partnership with the Conservation Section of the Union of Bulgarian Artists, was held in April, and hosted by the Ministry of Culture. The period was chosen to coincide with the International day of the Monuments and Sites. The aim was to attract not only professional interest, but also to focus the attention of the Ministry officers and to facilitate the dialogue with this official institution.

The meeting entitled *Forum Conservation* combined a poster session in the Sredets Gallery of the Ministry and a day-long session of discussions and presentations. Special guest to the Forum was Hungarian Association of Restorers. Their delegation of four colleagues presented 12 posters and took part in the discussion session. Projects from Slovenia and Serbia were also presented.

For the first time the posters of the Forum were presented to the public in the country. In September they were put on display in the City Gallery of Veliko Tirnov, and various aspects

of our profession and activities were presented to the local people.

ACB was presented also on the *Museum Exhibition Fair* in the town of Russe, which took place again in September. Special presentation was given by our colleague Elitsa Tsvetkova and selection of posters was put on display.

ACB started a project on the conservation of the wall paintings in St. Nedelya Cathedral in Sofia. The completion of the first stage of the work was postponed because of insufficient funding. Partial financial support was given by Sofia Municipality. The conservation is planned to be completed in five years. Another conservation project, in more modest scale, was the conservation of two icons of a famous 19th century icon-painter. The project was funded by National endowment fund "13 Centuries of Bulgaria" and was successfully completed by the end of the year.

The Association was in continuous dialog with the Ministry of Culture. One of our objectives was to convince the officers of the necessity of amendment of the Law on Cultural Heritage. The profession of Conservator-Restorers is not properly regulated and in fact the law still allows incompetent people to practice conservation-restoration. Representatives of the Association had two meetings with the Deputy-Minister, sent two letters with official proposals for amendments and had several other meetings with the Ministry. The Deputy-Minister officially expressed his positive attitude to our proposals. Unfortunately, the final draft of the amendment, put forward to the National Assembly, did not include our texts.

Another aspect of the cooperation with the Ministry of Culture was the participation in several expert commissions on cultural heritage conservation, as well as in the specialised consultative council on the conservation of immovable heritage, which is a multidisciplinary body.

In its concern on safeguarding of the cultural heritage, ACB sent a letter to the Ministry of Culture, alarming for the dangerous reconstruction works in the medieval church in the village of Rila. The reconstruction work endangered the 13th century wall paintings in the interior of the church. As a result the reconstruction is now stopped and the project should be revised.

Another part of the association's activities were its relations with other organisations. Close cooperation with ICOMOS-Bulgaria resulted in common position to the Law on Cultural Heritage.

On international scale ACB members took part in the CEN 346 Committee. They were most active in the Working Group I.

The association held its GA in December. The annual report on the ACB activities was presented to the members by the President as well as the financial report of the supervisory board.

Stefan Belishki

E.C.C.O. Delegate

DENMARK

NKF-dk –

**Nordisk Konservatorforbund - Danmark
Nordic Association of Conservators -
Denmark**

This report covers the period from January – December 2010.

Political agenda

The political agenda of our organisation is continuously to promote the professional and political interests of the Conservator-Restorer's profession. The knowledge about our profession is being improved via collaboration with relevant organisations, partnerships in decision making, more visibility in the public arena and by promoting professional conferences, lifelong learning programmes and such.

General Assembly and constitutions

As a continuation of last year's plans to revitalise the board, new members were elected at the GA in May 2010. After the GA the board was constituted as follows: Karen Borchersen was elected president, Maj Ryggaard as vice-president and Maj Ringgaard as treasurer.

Karen Elise Henningsen and later in 2010 Karen Borchersen was appointed editor in chief of our newsletter "Bulletin". Katja Storkholm continues as arrangements officer. Further, Elisabetta Bosetti stepped down and Eva Therkildsen took her place. Feliz Kuvvetli and Susan Ritterband serves as accountants. Helle Strehle continues as E.C.C.O. Delegate.

New categories of membership

In order to fully comply with the E.C.C.O. Guidelines and to conform to a future "Profes-

sional Profile” the NKF-dk General Assembly voted for an extra category of membership: “Full ECCO” (in Danish: “Ordinary-plus”).

In the future only members holding a 3 years Bachelor plus a 2 years master from the School of Conservation (or equivalent higher education institution according to the E.C.C.O. Guidelines) and at least one year Conservation-Restoration work at a recognised institution will be accepted as “Full members in the E.C.C.O. sense”. And NKF-dk will count in E.C.C.O. only with the proportion of our members holding a “Full ECCO” membership.

All former “Full” (in Danish: “Ordinary”) members were by using “the grandfathers clause” transferred to the new “Full ECCO” category. The rules became active by Jan.1st, 2011. We have prepared our colleagues for the change for some years but nevertheless we have encountered some complaints from some members disliking the concept of “members” versus “plus-members”. As a consequence we will propose at the coming GA to change the Danish name for the new category into “Ordinary plus E.C.C.O.”

All our former categories are kept unchanged. Thus, members with a Bachelor and one year’s work experience (as described in more detail above) still holds a full (“Ordinary” in Danish) membership of NKF-dk enjoying full voting and membership rights within NKF-dk. Associated members have no voting rights. Only Full (and Full E.C.C.O.) members may use the title “Member of NKF-dk”.

All member categories can participate in events, seminars and meetings. Furthermore, all members have access to our dynamic site

with job vacancies. It is imperative for the board to stress that; NKF-dk will work indiscriminatively for all our members.

NKF-dk hosted the triennial NKF-Nordic Congress in Copenhagen in 2009. The title was *Incredible Industry* and the theme was the keeping and conservation of industrially produced objects and site management of production plants. The conference was held in English and participants came from the Nordic Countries, Germany, UK, Switzerland, Austria, France, Canada and USA.

It was a highly praised arrangement with high quality pre-printed and peer reviewed papers, arrangements at major institutions in Copenhagen and a gigantic conference dinner and dance. After the conference a tour to major industrial sites in Denmark was arranged.

To manage the enormous work before, under and after the congress, Winnie Odder, Lars Brock Andersen and Morten Ryhl Svendsen generously joined skills with the organising committee.

Political work

The Organisation of Danish Museums – ODM – comprises the vast majority of cultural–historical, natural–historical and art museums in Denmark. Conservator–Restorers have found their deserved way into this organisation. ODM has in recognition of the importance of the Conservation–Restoration issues set up a Network for Preservation where our president holds a seat in the board.

This gives us a platform for discussion among equal museum colleagues and enables us to promote Conservation–Restoration profession-

al matters in a more powerful way. Thus, ODM has continued the series of meetings to discuss the future funding of the county conservation centres.

Publications

The congress publication *Incredible Industry – Preserving the Evidence of Industrial Society* is on sale through the board of NKF-dk. Our newsletter “Bulletin” generated two issues. The newsletter is mainly of organisational content but it also ties together the Working Groups of NKF. We have WGs on:

- Archaeological conservation
- Painting frames
- Modern materials and contemporary art
- Furniture
- Textiles
- Sculpture
- Paper & photography
- Storage rooms, climate & transportation

Several new groups were initiated this year, others were slumbering. Each group is supported financially by NKF-dk when they submit a report for our newsletter.

The joint Nordic magazine *Meddelelser om Konservering* launched two issues with diverse news and peer reviewed articles. The articles appear in English or in one of the Nordic languages with an English summary.

For further information please visit:

www.nkf-dk.dk

www.nordiskkonservatorforbund.org

November 2010

Helle Strehle

E.C.C.O. Delegate

FINLAND

NKF-FI –

Pohjoismaisen konservattoriliiton Suomen osasto ry –

Nordiska konservatorförbundets

finländska sektion rf –

Nordic Association of Conservators –

Finnish Section ra

Chair: Riitta Koskivirta

Vice-Chair: Päivi Ukkonen

Board members: Arja Koskinen

Taina Leppilahti

Tina Lindgren

Henni Reijonen

Liisa Helle-Wlodarczyk

Ulla Setälä

General Secretary: Laura Sallas (until 04/2010

Päivi Allinniemi)

Membership Secretary: Anna Aaltonen

Treasurer: Vuokko Ahlfors

MOK contact person: Liisa Valkeapää

E.C.C.O. Delegate: Suvi Leukumaavaara

In 2010 the NKF-FI Board held 11 meetings.

The association had 265 members, of which 145 full members, 28 associated members, 70 student members and 3 honorary members.

The Spring Meeting and seminar took place in Helsinki on 19th March. 76 members attended. The program included:

- a seminar on copyright issues, from conservation point of view
- a guided visit to the Finnish Parliament, with emphasis on the art collections of the Parliament
- a guided visit to Signe Brander (1869–1942) photo exhibition at Hakasalmi Villa (Helsinki City Museum)

The Autumn Meeting was held in Noormarkku and Pori on the 12th-13th November 2010. Visits included: Satakunta Museum, Pori City Hall, Finnish sculptor Emil Cedercreutz (1879–1949) Museum in Harjavalta, A. Ahlström Oy Ironworks (Antti Ahlström was one of the most influential businessmen in 19th century Finland and patron to several important Finnish artists) and *Villa Mairea* of Alvar Aalto in Noormarkku. 46 people attended on the 12th and 21 on the 13th.

On the 4th of June the NKF representatives gathered at a meeting organised at *Kiasma*, Museum of Contemporary Art (part of Finnish National Gallery). Representatives from Denmark, Iceland, Norway and Finland (Chair Tina Lindgren) attended. Liisa Valkeapää and Suvi Leukumaavaara from NKF-FI also attended.

The NKF-FI newsletter *Konservaattori* was published four times in 2010.

www.konservaattori.fi

Suvi Leukumaavaara
E.C.C.O. Delegate

GERMANY

VDR – Verband der Restauratoren e. V. – Federation of Conservators- Restorers

Political issues

The association VDR chartered the Institute for Liberal Professions to write an expertise about the profession Conservator-Restorer with regard to the accepted (listed) liberal professions and competition processes and contract awarding with regard to existing contract frameworks and rules. The expertise sees the profession on its way to fulfill all characteristics of a liberal profession – with the problems that such transitory position poses. VDR continues a successful collaboration with partners that may help in professional juridical conflicts of its members.

Association work and lifelong learning

Exchange of knowledge and practical experience are basic motifs to engage in a professional organisation. For this the active work of the professional groups in VDR are indispensable. There are twenty different sections that organise their special meetings, colloquia and special visits to bring further and strengthen the expertise of Conservator-Restorers. Examples are the congress at „Neues Museum“ Berlin, a congress about colored metal „Farbig gefasstes Metall“ and a congress about moving objects in the context of relocation and storage.

In collaboration with academic institutions and other partners first steps have been made to offer courses for further education of the members.

Visibility of the association and of each of its members is another topic relevant to membership – actual lists of the members have been printed and promoted.

Board members in 2010 were: Volker Schaible – President, Christian Leonhardt – Vice President, Alexandra Schieweck – Vice President and Treasurer, Helma Groll – Committee Member, Renate Pogendorf – Committee Member.

For any further information please consult the website of VDR: www.restauratoren.de.

Mechthild Noll-Minor
E.C.C.O. Delegate

INTERNATIONAL

IADA - Internationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Archiv-, Bibliotheks- und Graphik- restauratoren – International Association of Archive, Book and Paper Conservators

After a long administrative battle and 53 years existence, on February 2nd 2010, IADA has finally officially confirmed its status as a registered charity. The district court of Göttingen (Germany) hosts the registration of our international association.

On May 27th-28th 2010, IADA organised a conference in cooperation with the Czech National Library, the Czech National Museum and the Czech National Archives in Prague, Czech Republic.

Simultaneously, sketches to the main IADA Conference in Berne 2011 have been drawn and some concrete steps done.

In 2010, IADA's board has been reviewing the association's communication strategy. As a result, existing information channels (website, publications and conferences) have been assessed and their content re-evaluated and reshaped. New channels (emails, newsletters) and new forms (monolingual English communication) have been identified and tested. Concrete implementations will be seen in 2011.

Andre Page
President of IADA

IRELAND

ICHAWI – The Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works in Ireland

The Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works in Ireland, ICHAWI, is the accrediting body for the conservation profession in Ireland and as such is the only body in Ireland representing the profession at European level through its membership of E.C.C.O. Susan Corr, General Secretary of E.C.C.O., is our representative. We are most grateful to her for attending the E.C.C.O. meetings, being involved in the EQF working group, and reporting back to ICHAWI so assiduously.

The year under review was marked by the closure of the Furniture Conservation B.Sc. Course in Letterfrack by Galway/Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT). This means that there are now no training facilities in Ireland for post-graduate students wishing to train as Conservator-Restorers of the movable heritage.

For the last ten years, however, the Institute has been in a position to help financially support Irish students wishing to pursue full-time training abroad. These funds were made available to us initially by the Heritage Council but as this funding stopped, an anonymous donor was sourced by Business to Arts, an organization which seeks to attract sponsorship for the arts from the business community. This 3-year programme now comes to a close.

In relation to this funding a follow up survey has been undertaken by the Institute and a report is appended. The five students receiving

bursaries in 2010 are pursuing training in Book and Paper Conservation, Conservation of Fine Art on Paper, Building Conservation, Fine Art-Easel Paintings Conservation and Conservation Studies. All of these courses take place in the U.K. Twelve awards were made to part-finance conservators wishing to continue their professional development in a relevant field. With the exception of five who attended the international conference, 'Enviart' in Trinity College Dublin, all of the others attended conferences abroad. The Institute is grateful to the Heritage Council for reimbursing these CPD monies.

ICHAWI organised four courses/workshops in 2010, one of these, Wood Identification Seminar was held in the College in Letterfrack in conjunction with GMIT. The Art Handling in Transit course was commissioned by a firm of Fine Art Handlers. The Labelling and Handling and Disaster Planning and Salvage workshops were commissioned by the Heritage Council in support of its established Museum Standards Programme .

Contact with overseas bodies is very important to ICHAWI. Representation continues on the Conservation Register (UK) and contact is maintained with PACR which is part of ICON. In 2008, contact was made with the International Network for the Conservation of Contemporary Art (INCCA). An Irish representative has been appointed to liaise between the artist/researcher and INCCA.

On a local level, the Institute and IPCRA (Irish Professional Conservators' and Restorers' Association) have made contact with the Irish representative of CEN/TC 346, Dr. Ian Cowan,

Standards Officer. ICHAWI looks forward to working closely with him.

Following an Extraordinary General Meeting of the members in 2009, the Articles of the Institute were amended to allow for non-conservators to join the board. This was in recognition of the fact that Conservator-Restorers do not necessarily have all of the skills required to run a successful professional institution. The amended article allows for two such people to join the board. In 2010 we welcomed the first such person who brings with him financial skills.

The Institute and the other conservation body representing conservation in Ireland (IPCRA) are very aware of the benefits which would accrue if both bodies were to work more closely together or possibly amalgamate. IPCRA is currently represented on the board of ICHAWI by two nominated members. Discussions between both bodies have been on-going for some time and progress is being made.

Grellan D. Rourke
Chair, ICHAWI
9th. May 2011

ICHAWI – BURSARIES REPORT 2008 - 2010
Prepared by Maighread McParland and Jessica Baldwin in March 2011

ABOUT ICHAWI

The Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works in Ireland (ICHAWI) was founded in 1991, its main objective being to promote for the benefit of Ireland, the preservation and conservation of historic and artistic works. To

progress this objective, the Institute has accrediting, educational and advisory functions. The Institute organises short courses for those working with collections such as curators, librarians, archivists and administrators; as well as organising courses for conservator/restorers as part of their continuing professional development (CPD). In the absence of training facilities in Ireland ICHAWI awards bursaries to students studying conservation abroad; because of its educational role, ICHAWI has been granted charitable status (CHY 10652).

The Institute is the accrediting body for the conservation profession in Ireland and there are currently thirty-two accredited members. They represent such diverse disciplines as archaeology, architecture, archives, books and manuscripts, furniture, paintings (easel and wall) preventive conservation, stone and textiles. A number of members are employed in the national institutions such as the National Gallery, National Museum, National Library, National Archives, University of Dublin (Trinity College), Chester Beatty Library, University College Dublin, the Office of Public Works; while others are free-lance often undertaking commissions for national institutions and important bodies such as the Royal Irish Academy, the Office of Public Works; the National Trust and the Department of the Environment (Northern Ireland).

BURSARIES AND GRANTS

There are currently no formal training courses in object conservation available in Ireland, thus forcing all potential conservators to study abroad. There is also no government funding or grants available to these students. The Institute awards bursaries to post-graduate students who have been accepted on accredited courses to train as

conservators, usually in the UK; as well as grants to qualified conservators which enable them to attend courses/workshops as part of their continued professional development (CPD).

Thanks to the generous financial support of an anonymous donor over the last three years, ICHAWI has been able to have a very significant and positive impact on a total of 15 students since 2008. This report details how the funding was allocated with information on each individual and what progress they have made as conservation professionals. In many cases the recipients would have been unable to consider studying conservation without these bursaries to assist in paying course fees and living expenses (as highlighted by the many heartfelt words of thanks included in this report).

The impact on the wider local community has been immediate with recipients working as conservators or as interns at six institutions in Ireland; the National Archives, National Library, National Gallery, National Museum, Trinity College Library and Derry and Raphoe Diocesan Library. In the medium to long-term, this impact will extend to the general public and visitors to museums and national monuments around the country who get to see the results of the work of conservators.

The Board of Directors would like to thank the anonymous donor for the invaluable financial support over this three-year project (2008-2010). It has allowed ICHAWI to increase the number of bursaries given and helped to ensure the preservation and conservation of historic and artistic works in Ireland and abroad. Into the future, ICHAWI is actively seeking sponsorship to enable it to continue the vital financial support its Education fund offers.

Jennifer Murray received a bursary in 2008, to study for her Pg Dip in Conservation at the University of the Arts London, Camberwell. She graduated with Distinction and in 2008 was awarded a bursary of 2,500 Euros to study for her M.A. in Book Conservation, also in Camberwell. In the September of that year she was offered a three-year post as a conservation assistant on the Derry and Raphoe Diocesan Library Project, (sited on the University of Ulster Campus) part funded by the Heritage Lottery and the Heritage Council. As this was an opportunity to work with an important collection and gain additional training on the job, she took the post but at the same time continued with her studies at Camberwell, commuting between Derry and London. She graduated with Distinction in 2009. Her final project was based on work she had carried out in Derry.

Stefanie White received a bursary of 2,500 Euros in 2008, to study the Conservation of Objects in Museums and Archaeology at the University of Wales, Cardiff. She graduated with a First-class Honours degree.

Eileen Walsh was awarded a bursary in 2008 totaling 2,000 Euros, to study for her M.A. in Conservation at the University of the Arts London, Camberwell. In September 2009, Eileen joined the National Archives, Ireland as the Crowley Bequest intern working on the Registered Papers of the Chief Secretary' Office 1818-1924; this focused on the conservation of nineteenth century manuscript correspondence. As part of this internship she carried out a research project on nineteenth century Irish watermarks on paper. A research article on this topic is to be published in the summer edition of the BAPH Quarterly, 2011.

Maria Canavan was awarded bursaries in 2008 and 2009 totaling 4,200 Euros, to study for her M.A.

in the Conservation of Fine Art- Easel Painting at the University of Northumbria. She graduated in 2010 with Distinction and was awarded the Wilf Taylor memorial prize for achieving the years' highest marks for an Easel Paintings' student.

Helen Butler was awarded bursaries in 2008 and 2009 totaling 4,200 Euros, to study for her B.Sc. in the Conservation of Objects in Museums and Archaeology at the University of Wales, Cardiff. She graduated with First-class Honours in 2010.

Rebecca Lumsden was awarded a bursary in 2008 and 2009 totaling 4,200 Euros, to study for her B.Sc. in the Conservation of Museum Objects and Archaeology at the University of Wales, Cardiff.

Kristian McComb was awarded bursaries in 2009 and 2010 totaling 6,200 Euros, to study Book and Paper Conservation at the University of the Arts London, Camberwell. He was awarded his Pg Dip with Distinction. He is now studying for his M.A. in Book Conservation, also in Camberwell.

Rebecca de Bút was awarded bursaries in 2009 and 2010 totaling 6,200 Euros, to study for her M.A. in the Conservation of Fine Art on Paper at the University of Northumbria, Newcastle.

Cathy O'Donnell was awarded a grant of 1,000 Euros in 2009 to enable her to complete her studies in Furniture Conservation in Galway/Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT) Letterfrack, followed by a grant of 2,800 Euros to help finance an internship in the Sherman Fairchild Center, attached to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She graduated with Distinction from GMIT Letterfrack, 2010.

Ciárán Lavelle was awarded a bursary in 2009, totaling 2,200 Euros, for his second year to study the

Conservation of Objects in Museums and Archaeology, University of Wales, Cardiff. Now: Ciarán worked on a temporary basis in Bristol Museum until December 2010 and is planning to set up and run a conservation laboratory on an archaeological site in Turkey, summer 2011.

Sue White was awarded a bursary in 2008 totaling 1,500 Euros, to study for a M.Sc. in Gilt-wood Object Conservation at the University of Middlesex (long distance learning); and also a grant of 2,000 Euros to assist her finance a three-month internship in the Sherman Fairchild institute of Objects Conservation, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York in 2009.

Francesca Lemass was awarded a bursary in 2008 totaling 2,000 Euros to study for her FdA (Foundation Degree in Arts) in Book Conservation at the University of the Arts London, Camberwell. During her FdA, Francesca carried out work experience in the conservation departments of the National Library of Ireland, the National Archives, Ireland and Trinity College Library.

Justin McAteer was awarded a bursary in 2010 totaling 3,000 Euros, to study for his M.Sc. in Building Conservation at the University of Bath.

Pearl O'Sullivan was awarded a bursary in 2010 totaling 1,500 Euros, to study oil painting conservation at the Courtauld Institute, London.

Conor Tulloch was awarded a bursary in 2010 totaling 1,500 Euros, to study for a Graduate Diploma in Conservation Studies, University of Lincoln.

ITALY

**VRS –
Verband der Restauratoren-Konservatoren
Südtirols –
Associazione Restauratori-Conservatori
Alto Adige –
Association Restorers-Conservators of
South Tyrol**

Due to the significant effort required from our members in order to provide documents that prove their qualification as professional restorers of cultural property, the association's activity during 2010 was limited.

In 2009, the Ministry of Cultural Assets and Activities finally introduced a rather complex set of regulatory standards for restorers of cultural property. These required the majority of our members to prove they had worked on protected cultural property for several years before 16th December 2001.

Recuperating certifications for jobs completed over the past ten years and entering the relevant data into online forms took a great deal of time and effort.

The local Office for Architectural and Artistic Property, the body in charge of preserving said assets, also experienced a major workload increase due to the sheer volume of certificates to be issued. During these procedures, a number of associations requested that the submission criteria for the above mentioned forms be amended, as they deemed the current requirements inadequate.

After several postponements the procedure was eventually shelved in November 2010, thereby suspending the long-awaited regulation of our sector for an indefinite length of time.

As a local association we will now apply for the local Office for Architectural and Artistic Property to recognise our professional qualification as restorers of cultural property in the Province of Bozen according to the standards set in the currently suspended procedure. Although there may be room for improvement, said standards are in our opinion coherent with local conditions.

Lucia Giacomozzi

Member of the VRS board

GT –

Grup Tècnic –
Conservators' Association of Catalonia

In 2010 the Grup Tècnic took a special interest in lifelong learning. On May 3rd-4th we organised, at the Museu Nacional de Catalunya in Barcelona, our twelfth Technical Meeting on conservation, the *XII Reunió Tècnica*, dedicated this year to the relation between sustainability and conservation: “Towards a sustainable conservation, challenges and projects” (*Vers una conservació-restauració sostenible: reptes i projectes*) (Illustration 1).

In a global world in constant technological revolution, we as conservators felt the responsibility to think over the consequences of our actions on works of art, as well as on the environment, society and economy. In the Grup Tècnic, we asked ourselves: what is the impact of our activity on health and environment? What are the consequences of repeated intervention on the same objects? Do ecological treatments really exist? Does preventive care really save resources? Can we imagine cultural tourism under the parameters of sustainability?

Some of these questions were answered during the meeting, but there is still much work to do. The meeting was a real success, with 164 attendees and 22 speakers coming from Croatia, France, Spain and Italy (Ill. 2). Preprints were distributed the first day of the conference and are still available from our website (<http://www.gruptecnico.org/publicacions.html>).

An information session with 65 attendees also took place in spring on the topics of insurance and accounting. In autumn, a workshop was given to associates by Katarzyna Zych Zmuda, on the use of oriental techniques to treat works on paper. The workshop was attended by 18 conservators and was the occasion to raise a lot of technical issues (Ill. 3).

At Spanish level, there was in 2010 the launching of a creation project of a national association, the *Asociación Profesional de Conservadores-Restauradores de Bienes Culturales de España (ACRE)*. The working group created a Facebook account and had a great success (600 memberships). The Grup Tècnic proposed the creation of a federation of existing associations and for the moment participates in ACRE as an “observer”.

The Grup Tècnic created its own Facebook account in 2010 and acquired 83 memberships (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/GrupT%C3%A8cnic/12125770126502>).

At the end of 2010, during the GA, members voted a new committee, composed by, from left to right and from back to front (Ill. 4): Mariona Parera, Mireia Campuzano (Committee Members), Agnès Gall-Ortlik (Vice President), Carla Puerto (President), Mònica Lopez (Committee Member), Edi Lopez (Administrative Secretary), Rosa Marina Ruiz (Committee Member), Marta Golobardes (Treasurer), Mireia Barrera (Secretary).

Agnès Gall-Ortlik
E.C.C.O. Delegate



Ill. 1:
 Poster of the 12th
 Reunió Tècnica
 © Alex Masalles



Ill. 2: Paolo Cremonesi during the 12th Reunió Tècnica on sustainable conservation.
 Photo © Rosa Marina Ruiz



Ill. 4:
 The new 2010 GT Committee
 Photo © Pau Maynés



Ill. 3: Katarzyna Zych Zmuda giving her workshop in Barcelona.
 Photo © Marta Golobardes

SWEDEN

NKF-S – Nordiska Konservatorsförbundet – Svenska sektionen Nordic Association of Conservators – Sweden

This report covers the period from April 2010 to March 2011.

The NKF-S board, constituted after the General Assembly 2010:

President Ulf Brunne, Permanent member

Vice President Jessica Nilsson, Permanent member

Secretary Thea Winther, Permanent member

Treasurer Erika Hedhammar, Permanent member

Membership files: Vivian Smits, Permanent member / Alissa Andersson, Adjunct member

Web master Natalia Fasth Tjedersmaa, Deputy member

E.C.C.O. Delegate Carin Pettersson, Deputy member

Bothéns Foundation: Jessica Lindewall, Deputy member

Others:

Accountants: Carola Bohm, Yvonne Florman and Marie Klingspor (Deputy Accountant)

Representatives for the Federal Council: Ulf Brunne

Representatives of the Nomination Committee: Anna Klint Habbe, Cecilia Lundin and Karin Calissendorf

Meetings and Gatherings

The General Assembly was held the 16th of April at the Carl Malmsten Furniture Studies in Lidingö, outside Stockholm. The institution belongs to the University of Linköping and is one of the only two universities in Sweden that provides education in conservation.

The first part of the day was devoted to presentations of three on-going dissertations in the subject of conservation. The current graduate students' research dealt with topics such as: tapestry paintings in western Sweden, forced degradation of textiles and interior restoration in theory and practice.

In the afternoon the negotiations of the General Assembly started. The former president Anna Klint Habbe left the presidency and was thanked. New Chairman Ulf Brunne was elected. After the annual meeting the new Board was constituted (see above).

The autumn meeting was held the 25th of November. Host for this meeting was the National Heritage Board's administrative department in Visby, Gotland. The meeting was held in connection with their two-day seminar Forum for collections.

The National Heritage Board underwent a major reorganisation a few years ago. One of the biggest changes was that some of its departments were outsourced to Visby, Gotland. Two executives spoke about their new activities and what would happen in the near future concerning the newly created departments. A guided tour of the newly built premises followed. A well-equipped high-tech laboratory is now available. The National Heritage's new

role also serves as a national resource; it is now possible to use its laboratory with equipment for analysis with for instance Digital X-rays, scanning electron microscopy and X-ray fluorescence. Several devices are also mobile, allowing analysis of non-moveable objects. The proceedings followed the tour.

E.C.C.O.'s General Assembly should have been held the 26th of April in Brussels. But due to the volcanic ash from Iceland at the time being, and the problems it caused to the air traffic, the GA was moved to June 13th instead. Carin Pettersson, the E.C.C.O. representative of the organisation represented the NKF-Swedish section.

The Federal Council Meeting of Nordic Association of Conservators was held in Helsinki in June this year. Unfortunately no representative from the Swedish section was able to participate.

The NKF-S Board meetings are held the last Friday of every month (except the summer months). Sweden is geographically a very stretched country. The Board is as well largely spread. In order to meet both time and cost, NKF-S uses teleconferences.

Bothén's Foundation

Resources from Martha, Gunnar and Arvid Bothén's Foundation have been awarded to 24 full members and one seminar. The total dividend of the foundation in 2010 was approximately 446 000 SEK (50 850 Euro).

For distribution of the funds, the on-going research is in high priority. Graduate students have priority over other applicants and get

financial help to be able to conduct their research through such sponsorship for laboratory tests, field trips, etc. The association strongly believes it is of high importance to have the research on conservation encouraged and developed.

In return may then the graduate students present their work in the NKF-S's meetings for the other members to avail themselves of the new findings.

Newsletters and web

Realia, the members' newsletter has recently made the move from printed to digitalised. It is now to be found on the NKF-S's website. This year two issues were presented.

Meddelelser om Konservering, the Nordic Group's magazine has been published in two issues. Thomas Gütebier represented NKF-S in the Meddelelser's editorial.

NKF-S's web site continues to evolve and the information transmission is increasing in this forum. See www.nkf-s.se.

The e-mail list is a channel that is used frequently and successfully to reach our members. Letters from the Board, notices of seminars, conferences and job vacancies are conveyed thereby.

Development work

The Board is working to be even more efficient in the use the services and opportunities the Internet offers to reach our members. The web page should provide updated information and be the natural forum to seek information in.

The e-mail list works at present well to con-

vey information quickly and effectively to our members. This can of course be further developed. There must be an obvious choice for the conservator field in total to advertise meetings, seminars, courses, news, vacancies, etc., both nationally and internationally.

2009 there was an investigation into how we could simplify the management of the membership files, both for the board and our members. A web-based solution was presented at the annual meeting in 2010 and the proposal was accepted. A company was contracted to manage the register of members and arrange mailings, registration and billing of membership fees. The members themselves will now be able to log on and update their information in the registry. This service is under installation and is expected to be launched soon.

A Press group within the NKF-S was formed 2009. It has the task of guarding and protecting our profession's interests toward the media and vice versa. A media course was held in Stockholm for our members. Lecturers from a PR agency and a journalist were invited to lecture on evaluation news and advocacy. A workshop followed with interview training, practice in writing press releases and how to influence decision makers.

Then must not be forgotten, the Board also intends to organise local pubs where the opportunity for members to socialise and network. Even in this digital world of today, a good pint of beer (or of course a soft drink) is still one of the best ways for colleagues to meet.

Membership status in March 2011:

Full members	205
Associate members	163
Pensioners	22
In total	390

Supporting institutions	5
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Carin Pettersson

E.C.C.O. Delegate

SWITZERLAND

SKR/SCR –

Schweizerischer Verband für Konservierung und Restaurierung (SKR) –

Association suisse de conservation et restauration (SCR) –

Associazione svizzera di conservazione e restauro (SCR)

Internal reorganisation

In 2010, the SKR/SCR sadly lost its chairman Egbert Moll-Thissen who had to step back from his mandate due to severe health problems in February and died in December of the same year. The committee nevertheless continued the internal reorganisation in order to better serve our members:

- The internal communication of the committee, the working groups, and the delegates was reorganised, tasks and goals were clearly defined.
- The bylaws have been updated and transformed into a shorter, more concise and understandable text (to be finished in 2011).
- The long awaited relaunch of the trilingual website now provides the public with a online, searchable list of conservators, members with login protected internal pages, and the possibility to subscribe to certain topics by RSS feeds. The website is – considering the small size of Switzerland – rather successful with over 4000 hits per month, job postings and the “agenda” being the most popular areas.

“Visible” activities: annual conference and workshops

Visible activities of the association were the annual conference and seven courses or work-

shops offered by some of the speciality groups of the association. The topic of the annual conference was “Conservation-Restoration ethics in everyday practice”.

It was divided in four themes and lead from actual trends in historical music on historical and/ or new instruments to digital media and film and included more common topics of Conservation-Restoration. The participants very actively took part in various discussions.

Generally, it was recognised that our ethical codes are nice as leading “red threads”, but not very helpful if they are to be literally applied in everyday work. In addition it was recognised, that the values attributed by Conservator-Restorers and thus decisions taken considerably vary between different fields of specialisations.

“Hidden” work: political participation

Less visible but not less important was the active participation in the political decision making process. The Swiss Parliament discussed on one hand an increase of the budget for culture for 2011, on the other the first target agreement (and budget) ever in Switzerland (*Kulturbotschaft 2012-2015*). This agreement includes active arts (like theatre, film, music, dance etc.) as well as museums, archives and heritage preservation.

In Switzerland such decision-making processes are very democratic and include a phase during which all parties affected by the agreement (law) can comment and make proposals for changes. The SKR/SCR – like many other organisations in the heritage preservation field – have actively participated by comment-

ing the respective paragraphs of the law. The primary problem was that the overall budget allocated for heritage preservation was cut by about 1/3, while the tasks remained the same.

It is important to know, that in Switzerland, responsibility for cultural affairs lies not with the country (the confederation), but with the 26 states, *cantons*. The Swiss Confederation only participates by subsidising projects run by the cantons.

While these subsidising budgets previously have been made on annual basis, this new agreement/law will change to a period of four years. If these subsidies will be cut as drastically for such a long period, the cantons will on their side cut back with budgets for projects.

Almost 80% of our members will be affected directly or indirectly by these cuts. Therefore the SCR, together with other associations and with our National Coordination office for Culture (NIKE) took a public stand. (Result: the budget for 2011 as well as for the agreement 2012-15 were slightly adjusted/increased at the beginning of 2011).

Networking

The SCR continues to foster contacts with partners in all directions, nationally and internationally through personal mutual visits at conferences and through more informal meetings.

Since 2010, the SCR is official partner of the “days of monument preservation” in Switzerland with the aim of increasing visibility of conservator’s work in public.

For further information contact www.skr.ch or karin.vonlerber@skr.ch.

Karin von Lerber

Chairwoman of the Executive Board of the SKR/SCR

Sebastian Dobrusskin

E.C.C.O. Delegate