

Annual report for NKF-DK from May 21, 2017 to May 21, 2018

Board members:

Camilla Jul Bastholm, president
Pernille Holm Mogensen, vice president
Carsten Korthauer, treasurer
Anne Kerstine Trollehave, board member
Jannie Amsgaard Edsen, board member
Julie Kofod Hansen, board member
Maj Ringgaard, board member
Sigrid Ninel Kledal, board member
Maiken Ploug Riisom, board alternate
Johs Hamilton Stephensen, board alternate
Torben Ernst, board alternate

Auditors:

Micka Steinrud, auditor
Ditte Duus, auditor alternate

Members:

Full members + E.C.C.O.	222	Institutional members:	23
Full Members:	16	Honorable members:	2
Associate members:	132		

Activities:

2017

- Paper working group meeting, October 3
- NKF Professional Council Meeting, November 20
- Meeting with the working groups coordinates: November 23

2018

- Waterlogged materials working group meeting, January 17
- Guided tour of the Erik Mortensen Haute Couture exhibition at the Design museum of Denmark, February 15
- Textile working group meeting, February 22
- Meeting regarding a new proposed museum politic, March 5
- Day of conservation, March 15
- Guided tour of the art collection at the parliament building, April 4

- Conservators in private practice working group meeting, May 8

Political work

Minister of Culture, Mette Bock launched a vision process in June 2017 to redeploy the museum's state subsidies, contribute to the development of future museums and a possible revision of the museum act. As the first step in the process, the minister has gathered suggestions and ideas. Two vision groups have come up with two new grant systems, and a number of suggestions and comments have been received from stakeholders in the field; museums, interest groups and municipalities. NKF-DK's board has also contributed. Since NKF-DK represents many members; museum employees in state, municipality and self-employed, employees in conservation centers, private employees and self-employed, the Board's focus has been overall: Conservation of Denmark's cultural heritage. Including 1: Denmark's commitment according to international goals, 2: Museums responsibilities and obligations in connection with state grants and 3: Museum evaluations with consistency. On 25 January 2018, the Minister for Culture organized a seminar on the role and visions of the state in connection with a forthcoming reform of museum subsidies. Chairman Camilla Jul Bastholm and board member Maiken Ploug Riisom participated on behalf of NKF-DK, contributing to the discussion with conservation subjects. NKF-DK expressed the wish that museums' gathering, including conservation, should be a state concern. The state should earmark sections of government subsidies for the preservation of cultural heritage to give the museums the opportunity to work on their most important tasks at present: to ensure development, visitor numbers and earnings. NKF-DK also expressed its wish for an alignment of the Cultural Board's quality assessments. At the moment there is no policy of how this work should be done, why quality assessments cannot be used to draw a national overview of the Danish cultural heritage. Alignment of the method will create a national overview that can also be used in future conservation strategies.

In February 2018, president Camilla Bastholm is contacted by Danmarks Radio in connection with her's research project on mold in Denmark's cultural heritage. There was media coverage in DR 21-Sunday, features in the DR News, TV2 regional and the radio P1 Morgen and P4. The media coverage, which rolled from March 2018, was a kickstarter for public awareness of the conservation of Denmark's cultural heritage and led to meetings between NKF-DK and politicians in the parliamentary culture committee. We are now in dialogue with politicians to focus on critical storage and conservation issues in the museums. We are also working on having a meeting with the Minister of Culture to address her about the problems regarding management of museums' collection management responsibilities. In the coming months, NKF-DK's board of directors will therefore work on further questions to the Ministers for Culture, Government and Politicians: What does Denmark want with its cultural heritage? And how do we ensure that the museums in the future will work with the requirements described in Danish legislation and in international regulations? For this we still need reports on museums' issues with storage and lack of resources for active conservation and preventive conservation strategies.

Bulletin and MoK

The Bulletin is a member magazine, which receives great praise for its layout and content. This thanks to an in-depth and effective editorial work with Anne-Marie Eriksen as chief editor. Anne-Marie has been on parental leave this spring but has expressed her wish to return as editor when she is ready again. Meanwhile, Signe Lillebæk has taken the editorial post with knowledgeable hands.

During this year MoK has changed editor. The new editor is Rikke Melin. The former editor, Loa Ludvigsen, has helped to strengthen the journal's scientific competence on systematization of peer review, etc. Together with an effective editorial report from the five different member states, MoK has also developed their layout.

Social media, home page and email

NKF-DK is still active on both Facebook and Twitter as well as via the e-mail list, which operates via the online service MailChimp. MailChimp handles the European Data Protection Act very well, and we therefore expect that they will also be able to handle a new personal data regulation in the future.

Our Facebook strategy, with an official 'page' to send notifications from the association, next to a common 'group' that members can freely use as forums, works well. Facebook groups have also been created for those of the working groups who have wanted it.

Work on a new website, announced the last general assembly, is still moving forward, although it is slow. The Board has had a great desire to create a member database belonging to the new website that will facilitate the administrative work.

Besides the fact that the development of both website and database takes time, it also costs money. Therefore, the Board's website workgroup should both work on obtaining offers and fund applications. Now the Board has an offer from a good partner, but still lacks the full funding. Last year, DKK 15,000 was deposited in the annual budget for the development of the new website, and this year the Board wishes to increase this to ensure self-financing if no funding is granted.

April 26, 2018

Camilla Jul Bastholm