



Short News – December 2016

Dear members!

We hope you had a very happy Christmas and the E.C.C.O. committee wish you a peaceful 2017, something we all need to cherish and share given recent events across the world.

We are aware that the last edition of the Short News for 2016 is owing but heavy work schedules in the run up to Christmas delayed publication.

In November, we travelled to Athens to meet our potential member *Association of Conservators of Antiquities & Works of Arts – Greece (A.C.A.&W.A.-Gr)*. We seek membership from all EU and EFTA countries to gain visibility and strength in negotiations on a European level. Despite being engaged in longstanding care for its cultural heritage and having a lively conservation-restoration scene, Greece does not have a professional organisation represented on E.C.C.O.'s members map. We had a very fruitful meeting and an application for full membership is on its way!

Hopefully you have noticed that our redesigned website has become livelier. It is thanks to the working group Website and our committee member Ana Galán, who is our new web administrator.

The long expected 20th Anniversary Book is printed now and was sent out to our member associations. The book contains the presentations delivered by our past presidents and delegates plus important articles concerning the history and work of E.C.C.O. A big thank you is extended to our former vice-secretary general Jeremy D. Hutchings from NKF-N for co-editing and our vice-president Sebastian Dobrusskin, who is also responsible for the graphic design of the book and the very interesting illustrated timeline of E.C.C.O.'s history. The number of printed copies is limited, but the full digital version is accessible on our website at:

<http://www.ecco-eu.org/documents/publications/#c215>.

In November our vice-secretary general Anja Romanowski, as our delegate to Europa Nostra, took part in the European Heritage Alliance meeting at the Monuments fair in Leipzig to discuss the European Year of Cultural Heritage in 2018. Please note, it is important for us Conservator-Restorers to watch and prepare to take part in this initiative, which provides an opportunity to highlight the relevance of conservation-restoration to the access and sustainable protection of Cultural Heritage in your country!

In December E.C.C.O. representatives continued to pursue activities identified in our Strategic Plan: Our vice-presidents – Stefan Belishki and Sebastian Dobrusskin gave presentations to the workshop on *Occupational Competency and Title Definitions in the Field of Conservation-Restoration*, via video-conferencing. The workshop was organised by the *Directorate of Central Laboratory for Restoration and Conservation* in Istanbul, Turkey. E.C.C.O. was approached during our General Assembly in April by Vildan Yarliqaz, as a representative of a group of Turkish Conservator-Restorers, to take part and contribute to this event. The workshop was well attended and our vice-secretary general Anja Romanowski sent Competences booklets, the E.C.C.O. Guidelines and other helpful material well in advance to Istanbul. E.C.C.O. presented the Competences for Access to the Conservation-Restoration Profession as a tool for sustainable cultural heritage conservation and showed how it can be used in the curricula of University education on conservation-restoration.

Based on an invitation, our president Susan Corr presented the E.C.C.O. position on the Code of Ethics of Conservators-Restorers at the ICOM-Switzerland Colloque *Le code de déontologie de l'ICOM pour les musées 1986-2016*, which was held on 7th-8th of December 2016 in Geneva.

To start planning for the upcoming year 2017, please place a note into your calendars: the next E.C.C.O. GA is going to take place on 15th of May – based on the invitation by our Swedish member NKF-S – in Stockholm!

E.C.C.O. has already started discussing the place and dates for 2018 GA and PM.

The E.C.C.O. Committee again wishes you a peaceful and successful 2017!

Barbara Davidson
General Secretary of E.C.C.O.