



GENERAL INFORMATION			
Year	2021		
Association	Irish Conservators and Restorers Association (ICRI)		
Country	Ireland		
Webpage	https://www.icriconservation.ie/		
email address	info@icriconservation.ie		
Name of president	Muirne Lydon	email	mlydon@ngi.ie
Name of delegate	Siobhan Conyngham	email	psconyngham@gmail.com
No. regular members	89	No. associate members	38
PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY			
International activity (meetings, visits, international projects...)	<p>Meetings, visits, CPD, ICCROM working groups etc.</p> <p>The ICRI board met 9 times in 2021.</p> <p>Meetings were held on Jan 19, March 2, April 13, May 20, July 6, September 14, October 5, November 2, December 14.</p>		

<p>Events related to the C-R profession (lectures, meetings, workshops, exhibitions, etc)</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, meetings, workshops, accreditation etc. Including:</p> <p>Sustainability and Green Conservation, Caitlin Southwick</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainability in Conservation, presented a workshop that addressed issues of environmental sustainability, starting with theoretical concepts related to energy and materials which can be applied to conservation practice. Armed with the critical thinking skills needed for application, the workshop explored ways that conservators can practice more sustainably in their daily jobs and the role conservators play in large-scale impact for the broader cultural sector. <p>Project Management for Conservation Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ICRI offered a one day online training opportunity in Project Management for Conservation Projects with Andor Vince, independent collections care consultant. This course explored the practical application of the principles of project management in conservation and collections care. <p>Nanoscience for Conservators: Cleaning and Consolidation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ICRI offered a lecture on the topic of ‘Nanoscience for Conservators’. This talk focused on the synthesis and application of several advanced systems for the consolidation and cleaning of works of art, including hydroxides, nanoparticles, microemulsions, chemical gels and hydrogels. The application of these nanoscience-based systems was illustrated with example treatments on historic wall paintings by Beato Angelico and Piero della Francesca, and modern and contemporary paintings by Picasso, Lichtenstein, Pollock, and de Chirico.
<p>Educational Implementation</p>	<p>ICRI focused on delivery of an ambitious education programme. The ICRI education bursary has been central to our activities since the establishment of the Institute. There are currently no training opportunities to degree level in conservation in Ireland so prospective students have the additional expense of travel and accommodation in order to train. ICRI recognized that the additional financial hardships and challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic had impacted those seeking to study to become a conservator. Five education bursaries were awarded to Irish students enrolled in conservation courses at post-graduate level. The bursaries were funded by The Irish Heritage Council and ICRI administration fees received from commissioned courses and ICRI membership subscriptions.</p> <p>Heritage Council funding enabled ICRI to commission a survey of conservation skills in Ireland, this was carried out by Jessica Baldwin, private conservator. This will assist with the on-going development and organization of ICRI training, CPD courses and workshops scheduled for the coming year.</p>
<p>Political activity</p>	<p>ICRI fed into heritage sector policy and framework over the year.</p>

Achievements	<p>ICRI's social media presence continued to grow this year. Of all three social media platforms, Instagram continued to be the busiest. In the lead up to ICRI's annual conference, <i>Conservation Activities in Ireland VII</i>, ICRI social media was very busy. Short biographies of each presenter and presentation summaries were posted daily in the lead up to the conference. The positive social media outreach meant that we had attendees to the online conference from around the world. Facebook reached 2,332 followers at the end of 2021. This was an increase of 59 followers over the year. 162 posts were published, which is an average of 13-14 posts per month. The top Facebook post of 2021 was in April: an article about the National Museums' intention to return the Benin Bronzes to Nigeria with 29 likes & 3 shares. Twitter reached 1,794 followers, with an increase of 215 over the year. 179 tweets were posted; this is an average of 14-15 tweets per month.</p> <p>The top tweet was an interview in the guardian.com in November with John Gillis about the conservation of the medieval manuscript, The Faddan More Psalter, for the National Museum with 35 likes & 13 retweets. ICRI's Instagram page continued into its second year in January 2021. During the year it reached 1,446 followers, an increase of 241. There were 104 posts during the year, which is an average of 8-9 posts per month.</p> <p>The ICRI website was updated during the year with new events, courses, jobs, internships, calls to panels of experts and calls for conference papers.</p> <p>Additional revisions to the website included an update to the charitable donations scheme in the 'Support Us' section, whilst a survey was also added to the 18 website in April to establish the requirements by our members for Continued Professional Development courses.</p>
Obstacles/ Difficulties	No comment.
DISSEMINATION	

Promotional Activity (lectures, meetings, workshops, exhibitions...)	The ICRI Conference ' <i>Conservation Activities in Ireland VII, Celebrating 30 Years of Conservation in Ireland. Challenges in Conservation: Past, Present and Future</i> ', took place virtually on the 14th – 15th of October. ICRI provided free attendance to promote and showcase work undertaken the Irish Conservation network both internationally and nationally. The conference was a rich source of information for the conservator. Speakers included both conservation scientists and conservators, addressing in-depth scientific research, as well as methods, recipes, and the use of particular treatments in practice. The conference was well attended with a highly international audience, across both days, contributing to a strong discourse and exchange of knowledge amongst delegates. Representation of conservators from a wide range of disciplines provided a great opportunity to share ideas and techniques. More than 150 colleagues from around the world logged on to the online conference over the two days.
European Day of Conservation-Restoration	ICRI social media posted a number of images and and comments on social media over the course of the day to mark European Day of Conservation – Restoration.
Publication	<i>Conservation Activities in Ireland VII, Celebrating 30 Years of Conservation in Ireland – Challenges in Conservation: Past, Present and Future</i> . Post prints from the above listed conference. (to be published in 2022)

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Ireland is a full member of ICCROM. The Department of Tourism Culture, Art Gaeltacht Sport and Media (DTCAGSM), nominated delegate is Zoë Reid (Senior Conservator, National Archives of Ireland).

As an elected Council member Zoë attended the following meetings online: - Informal council meeting, 31 May; - Extraordinary session of the General Assembly, 28 June; - 95th Council meeting, 26 October; - 32nd General Assembly, 27-28 October; - 96th Council Meeting, 29 October.

At the 32nd General Assembly Ireland was a member of the Credentials Committee and Louise O'Connor (National Library of Ireland, conservator) attended as an observer. Two highlights from 2021 were the launch of the Mora Samples Collection Catalogue. The Mora Samples Collection Catalogue comprises detailed information regarding 942 material samples from heritage sites and monuments in over 30 countries, collected during numerous national and international conservation campaigns and missions carried out by ICCROM and conservators Paolo and Laura Mora between the 1960s and the 1980s. While wall paintings feature as the core of the collection, other heritage materials are also present, such as ceramics, painted paper, textiles, stone, plaster, stucco and glass. In 2021 ICCROM celebrated the 10th anniversary of the RE-ORG method, an innovative approach to reorganising overcrowded museum storage. An online seminar took place in September when users of the RE-ORG method from different countries discussed how they overcame the same obstacles and challenges faced.

Being a member state of ICCROM ensures that Ireland can continue to access high level training and ensure that mid-career Irish cultural heritage professionals remain relevant professionally and therefore are more able to deliver the highest standard of care for Ireland's cultural heritage.

COMMENTS

No additional comments.

