

news from ica Flash



N° 36 SEPTEMBER 2018



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Future Past: ICA 70 years of international influence and beyond

Editorial

Welcome back! I hope members who have had time off during the July-August period have come back rested and ready to take on new archival challenges. Over the summer I have been working closely with colleagues in Yaoundé to prepare for the upcoming conference, reviewing the secretariat operations, advocating for the prevention of illicit trafficking of documentary heritage and had the pleasure to attend this year's Society of American Archivists conference in Washington D.C. It has been a busy seven months since my arrival in February and it is an honour to be able to represent the international archival community. I also would like to thank so many of you for your support and kind words when I first arrived. This year marks our 70th Anniversary and I am really proud to be joining ICA at this time, as its first female Secretary General. We have accomplished so much over the past 70 years and the online exhibition is a really good way to reflect on our successes and discover

“This year marks our 70th Anniversary and I am really proud to be joining ICA at this time, as its first female Secretary General.”

more about the impact we have made as an organisation. Also, did you know that one of the ICA founders was a Monuments Man? I had no idea!

Other really important topics that are explored in this issue of Flash deal with 'Archives at Risk' and when I use this term it covers topics such as archives affected by climate change, disaster relief, safe havens and prevention of illicit trafficking of documentary heritage. More and more archives are coming under threat and as a community we need to work together and alongside others like IFLA, ICCROM and ICOM to ensure the protection of documentary heritage.

I also wanted to take this opportunity to flag some important work that I will be taking forward over the next 12-18 months where I would like to get member feedback:

► Strategic review: As some of you may know this year marks the end of the 2014-2018 ICA strategy and we would like members' input on where they think ICA should be going, along with what we should be doing. Watch out for notices that will be posted on the ICA website towards the end of the year

► Ethics: I am keen to launch a webinar series on ethics to get the community thinking about ethics and what things they feel should be part of a revised code of ethics. I will be working closely with the Section for Professional Associations on this but would like members' input as well.

I hope you will contribute to these initiatives and I wish you an enjoyable read!



Anthea Seles
ICA Secretary General



Flash

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The International Council on Archives (ICA) is dedicated to the advancement of archives through international cooperation. Archives, by providing evidence of human activities and transactions, underlie the rights of individuals and states, and are fundamental to democracy and good governance. In pursuing the advancement of archives, ICA works for the protection and enhancement of the memory of the world.

Flash communicates news on ICA activities and highlights current issues in archives. It is the complement to the in-depth professional reflection, reports and debate in *Comma*. The ICA publishes *Flash* twice a year as a membership benefit. Contents may be reproduced and translated in part or in whole, provided that credit is given. Information in this issue of *Flash* was current at the closing date for production on 1st September 2018.

Translators: Céline Fernandez, Eleonore Alquier, Edouard Vasseur, Abdel Kader Kpadonou, Roman Lescano, Margaret Turner, Christine Cross. Most translations are provided by volunteers: please think of offering your help for just a few hours every six months! Photos copyright: ICA, CARBICA, ALA, Ajuntament de Girona, ICA Congress 2016, Christine Trembleau, Monique Nielsen, Florence Clavaud.

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ISSN : 1728-533X. Dépôt légal à parution.

Elections 2018: Elected Officers for 2019-2022

This year marked the end of the terms for the Elected Officer positions (2014-2018) and the International Council on Archives put out a call for nominations in May 2018 with a closing date of July 2 2018. At the end of the call for nominations we received two nominees for President, two nominees for Vice President (Programmes) and one nominee for Vice President (Finance) with the following individuals presenting themselves for these posts:

President:

- ▶ David Fricker, Australie
- ▶ Hedi Jallab, Tunisie

Vice President (Programme):

- ▶ Normand Charbonneau, Canada
- ▶ Desi Pratiwi, Indonesia

Vice President (Finance):

- ▶ Henri Zuber, France

The ICA then proceeded to call elections for the positions of President and Vice President (Programme) whereas the post of Vice President (Finance) was by acclamation and Mr Zuber accepted the offer of post. Mr Zuber is Vice President (Finance) Elect until approved by the General Assembly.

Elections closed on 10 September at 11:59 pm Paris time and the ballot counting was carried out on 11 September 2018 by a member of ECOM.



David Fricker
re-elected ICA President

David Fricker, Director General of the National Archives of Australia, has been re-elected for a further four years as President of the International Council on Archives. Building on his first term in office, during which the "Africa" and "New Professionals" Programmes were developed and a Training Programme launched, efforts undertaken to modernize the Secretariat and a new Secretary General appointed, David Fricker now has even greater ambitions for ICA during his second term.



Normand Charbonneau
elected Vice-President "Programme"

These elections were an opportunity for members to confirm their decision in Seoul in 2016 to appoint Normand Charbonneau, Chief Operating Officer of Library and Archives Canada, to the post of Vice-President "Programme". Normand Charbonneau was first nominated to the post of acting Vice-President by the Executive Board at its meeting in Paris in April 2016. He was then confirmed in this position by the General Assembly in Seoul and will now mastermind ICA Programme activities through until 2022. Priorities include development of the Training Programme, simplifying Programme Commission and, more generally ICA, operations and making PCOM more representative.



Henri Zuber
to continue as Vice-President "Finance"

Heritage Curator at the Defence Historical Service (Service historique de la Défense), France, Henri Zuber has been re-appointed Vice-President "Finance" in an uncontested election. First selected to be Vice-President "Programme" in 2014, he transferred to the position of Vice-President "Finance" in 2015, in replacement of outgoing incumbent, Andreas Kellerhals. At the 2016 General Assembly in Seoul, he was confirmed in this position and will now continue to ensure that the finances of the International Council on Archives remain on track through until 2022.

For more information on the voting process, read the Evaluation Commission announcement:
www.ica.org/en/election-2018-results-for-president-and-vice-president-programme

ICA 1948-2018: 70 years of international influence



To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the International Council on Archives, we began by developing a logo embodying ICA's international influence and making it available for general use. We then created a virtual exhibition featuring not only all the main protagonists (Founders, Presidents and Secretaries General) but also major ICA events and key activities from 1948 to 2018. From identification and classification of ICA archives, design of the exhibition, visuals and communications to choosing titles and reproducing visuals, the exhibition owes its existence to the tireless efforts of Ludivine Ponte, Théo Zanoune, Maeva Pimo, Ghislain Brunel and his team, to whom we owe our sincerest thanks.



The exhibition is accessible free of charge and available in three languages (English, French, Spanish). Since 9 June contributions have also been welcome. So why not discover 70 years of ICA history and share your memories with us, helping

fill in the gaps in our records by sending us copies of your photos, documents, video clips, audio-recordings, etc. to www.ica.org/en/ica-70-virtual-exhibition-form?
How to find out more and make your contribution



Christine Trembleau
Marketing and
Communications Manager

virtual exhibition

70 years of international influence

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speaking up!

send us your sound recordings about ICA

photographs
videos
documents
sound recordings

send your files at:
www.ica.org/en/ica-70-virtual-exhibition-form

Building a virtual exhibition

I arrived at ICA on 9 April 2018 for my end of studies internship, which lasted three months. For me it was a great opportunity to put into practice the skills acquired during my two years of training which covered Internet and Multimedia fields of work, and to gain experience in the field of graphics/web design which I intend to enter. My principal task was to conceptualise and build a virtual exhibition entitled ICA: 70 years of international influence, the aim being to showcase the 70 years of ICA activity. The only constraints were: the exhibition should be attractive, simple and ergonomic for everyone. I thus worked on three phases under the direction of Christine Trembleau, Marketing

and Communications Manager of ICA. Firstly, I created a visual identity appropriate for this celebration, making it available in different formats, (posts, banners, newsletters, content, gif). Secondly, I considered the layout of the exhibition on ICA's website to make it readable and intuitive. Then I put together a communications campaign in three stages, called 'invitation' to promote the event which was widely disseminated by ICA. Following that, I created a campaign of encouragement around the collaborative aspect of the exhibition with the aim of getting ICA members around the world to contribute to the virtual exhibition by sharing their archival documents.

This project would never have seen the light of day without the invaluable help of Maëva Pimo and Ludivine Ponte, archive interns, who themselves worked on the content of the exhibition, as well as the members of ICA. I thus thank the whole team as well as the contributors from throughout the world for taking part in this event, which I hope pleased you!



Théo Zanoune
Communication Assistant

In the Archives of the ICA



Original draft by Jacques Devigne for the International Archives Week in 1979.

Between 12 February and 30 March 2018 as part of a placement at the International Council on Archives, I was asked to consider the key events of its history which were worthy of being included in a virtual exhibition to commemorate its 70th anniversary. This was an opportunity to take stock of the archives of the NGO, both those deposited in the National Archives as well as those still kept on site. In fact, the first part of the fonds had already been processed and deposited in the French National Archives in 2003.

I thus addressed 70 years of intense activity in the service of the cause of archives from the end of the Second World War to the beginning of the 21st century. What emerged very clearly was the influence of current world politics on the work of ICA: the second half of the 20th century was the period of the Cold War, of decolonisation and, in the shadow of these events, of the struggle for democratic freedoms which all involved archives. It thus makes sense that the activities of ICA particularly followed two major themes:

- ▶ support for archive services in countries recently decolonised;
- ▶ the struggle for transparency considered as a corollary of democracy.

The archives of the ICA are redolent of these struggles. One thus finds in both parts of the fonds numerous reports of missions abroad to support the creation of archive services, but also files relating to specific operations

such as, in the 1990's the rescue of the archives of St Petersburg or again the work carried out on the archives of the Comintern in the context of the collapse of the USSR. The remainder of the fonds is mainly split between files dealing with the preparation of various meetings (International Congresses, CITRA etc), documents relating to relations with archival institutions, research projects or finally the archives of volunteers.

With a view to contributing to the virtual exhibition, I concentrated equally on finding iconographic documents: even if they do not form the majority of the fonds they can be found fairly regularly, especially in the files of each meeting (Congress, CITRA etc.) Amongst the most striking one could mention several projects to create a logo for ICA and a brochure published on the occasion of the very first international Congress (Paris and Evreux in 1950).

This immersion in the archives of ICA allows

one to highlight the values which inform its creation. It should be remembered that in the aftermath of the Second World War, heritage, including archives, was in a dire state. Because of their symbolic power, they were subject to destruction, to seizure which only reinvigorated the struggle to save them. In their involvement in the heart of ICA people like Lester K Born—Secretary General of ICA from 1950-1959 and former Monuments Man responsible for collecting and sorting the archives of Nazi Ministries—continued the struggle for archives and for democracy. The creation of ICA should also be viewed in this context.



Ludivine Ponte
Heritage Curator, France



ARCHIVES
Une collection très menacée de documents inestimables.



Left to right: leaflet cover by the Association des archivistes suisse for the International Archives Week in 1979; press article on the ICA mission to St Petersburg, 1990s; ARICA Conference, 1995, Yemen; 13th ICA International Congress, 1996, Beijing; brochure published for the 1st ICA Congress, 1950, Paris; Evreux, p1, picture of the St Petersburg Archives, 1990s.



Interview with Marcel Caya, first of the ICA Fellows



Marcel Caya, awarded the title of ICA Fellow, 40th CITRA, Québec, Canada, 2007, picture published in *Flash* n°14, January 2008.

How did you become involved with the International Council on Archives?

When I became an archivist in Canada, I asked myself what associations could help me progress in my profession. I had started by training as an historian, without great knowledge of the archival environment except for my own experience as a researcher. First of all, I joined the Quebec Archival Association, then took part in 1975 in the foundation of the Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA) and I was subsequently involved in the bureau of Canadian archivists which acted as a link between the ACA and the francophone Quebec Archival Association.

Had you heard of ICA?

Not at all, ICA, as Joan van Albada (1) said, was the directors club. In Canada, only representatives of public archives participated in CITRA meetings and in ICA Congresses. Nobody had a budget for international travel. That was mostly for Europeans because the distances were shorter, but it was more difficult for North Americans.

At Oslo, the representatives of the Public Archives of Canada became interested in the work of the Section for Professional Archivists (SPA) and asked the Canadian associations about it. As I was then Secretary General of the Bureau of Canadian Archivists I was delegated to attend the CITRA (ICA Round Table) in Bratislava in 1983. There I met Joan van Albada who represented the association of Dutch Archivists (KVAN) and Gérard Ermisse (2) from the French archives. We immediately got on together and did what was necessary to generate some action within SPA and to inform national archivists that they now had spokespeople within national associations. That's how it all started.

What did the ICA look like in the period of the Cold War?

During the cold war the ICA operated in the same way as UNESCO. The round Tables (CITRA) were related to a topic: a certain number of specialists presented papers which were then discussed by the directors.

(1) Joan van Albada, Secretary General of ICA from 1998 to 2008, executive member of the Dutch Archival Association.

(2) Gérard Ermisse, President of the French Archival Association, executive member of SPA, founder member of PIAF, Vice President of AIAF.

There were no confrontations between the blocs, but a tendency to have each country state their position on archival matters. The principal objective was to encourage meetings between national directors and the published proceedings were of much greater importance; they were subsequently used in archival training forums.

Between 1992 and 2000 you were editor of the ICA Bulletin and in 2000 you were appointed Deputy Secretary General of ICA. What were the important events for you in the international arena during this period?

It is difficult to grasp the gap which existed at that time between what was coming along, the huge electronic revolution, and the attitude of the profession.

In 1988, the 11th ICA Congress in Paris,

organised by Jean Favier (3), dealt with these new forms of archives and made a lasting impression on many people. At the same time groups were being set up to study archival standards. The proposal for ISAD-G (4) was the first realisation that some standardisation was possible in archives even if all the fonds were different. This proposal was all the more urgent when one started to use computers for archival work. This had been resisted for years on the grounds that it was impossible that computer memory would be able to accommodate archival processing. But computer memory mushroomed and eventually it was no longer a problem. There were thus two levels of work within ICA: the directors, national archivists who ●●●

(3) Jean Favier General Director of the French Archives 1975-1994, President of ICA (1988-1992).

(4) ISAD-G, published 1998.



Speech from Jean Favier, Director of the French Archives, XXIInd CITRA, Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, 17-20 October 1983.

●●● sponsored work to develop their expertise, as well as experts, usually employees of national archives, who were interested in various fields within archives. Archivists thus became archive professionals, rather than historians who worked with archives. Today, ICA has become a huge powerhouse. I am particularly proud of the transformation of the Bulletin into something more dynamic and attractive. Before we were satisfied with publishing reports of branches and sections; now the conception of publications has completely changed. And at the same time the audience has become much more receptive and participative.

In 2007 to celebrate your whole career and your contribution in the international arena, you became the first 'Fellow of ICA'.

In summer 2006 I suffered a stroke which put me out of action for a month. I was paralysed down the whole of one side. During my convalescence I realised it was perhaps time to take a back seat and let others get involved. The nomination as the first 'Fellow' came as a surprise.

Joan van Albada, the Secretary General, made sure that I had arrived in the hall and at the moment the announcement of my nomination as first 'Fellow' was made. I had no speech of thanks ready. For me it was a great physical effort just to get to the microphone, as I was limping a lot to one side. I didn't expect this at all, because I considered that there were many people who had been involved before me and who would have deserved to be the first. But as they say in France 'a vin d'honneur is never sought never refused', so I said to myself that I won't get in the way of the people who wanted to honour me.

Training is an ICA priority. In your opinion what challenges does this bring?

In many countries there is no training available, we therefore took it upon ourselves to

undertake research, build expertise or at least formalise it. Very quickly we became aware that not all expertise was equal and that there are different archival cultures which are often modelled on national cultures. It was thus necessary to be sensitive to the fact that above all the archivist needs to understand the national organisation in order to fit into it. For the archivist there are international standards but above all there are national practices and contexts which must be respected.

ICA should continue along this path and not let itself be discouraged by diversity. Its work is to help archivists reflect on their practices. The second mission of ICA was to work on the problems of countries where there is no formal training. This is a very great need. And beyond the national archives of these countries there are also organisations, religious, commercial and industrial bodies for which we also must work.

ICA is celebrating its 70th anniversary, what have been its greatest achievements and its greatest setbacks?

70 is a great age. To bring archivists together is already a great success. ICA has now reached a plateau and is using the digital means at its disposal.

Training must always be a priority. Thus it is necessary to assure that knowledge is brought up to standard and that ICA needs to make a judgement on what deserves to be disseminated. It is a huge task. I think that it is by doing this that we can convince national archivists to continue to contribute financially to ICA. It's not just about initial training but equally about continuing to help professionals who are in post keep abreast of new developments.

Interview by **Marianne Deraze**,
Flash Publication Editor



Executive Board participants, Brussels, 20-23 May 1973.



Charles Kecskemeti mission (ICA Secretary General) in support of the Guinea Republic Archives, February 1990.

FAN progress



Data Center, illustration of the Symposium AI and Archives organized by FAN and the National Archives UK, September 2018.

Since agreeing last October to lead the Forum of National Archivists (FAN) as interim President, I'm greatly encouraged by the progress FAN has made in such a short time. As I mentioned in the last issue of *Flash*, at the ICA-ALA in Mexico City, FAN members collectively agreed the direction and focus of its transformative programme of work under three key strands – Administration, Activity and Advocacy. Ahead of the ICA Yaounde conference in November, this is a great opportunity to talk to you all and take stock of FAN's progress to date.

Administration

FAN is keen to find ways to improve its governance, efficiency and communications approaches, and members also feel that a link between FAN and ICA's regional branches is critical to future success. The ICA governance

meetings in Paris earlier this year provided a useful opportunity to further discuss these considerations with colleagues at the ICA, and it was evident they shared the same enthusiasm about the future shape of FAN. To that end, I'm pleased to announce that the revised FAN [Terms of Reference](#), created in March 2018, were agreed, marking a significant step towards FAN's drive to improve its governance arrangements at pace. The Terms of Reference aim to provide a broader, more sustainable leadership model, along with a consistent and strong regional mandate. The FAN action plan was also favourably received, and summarises what FAN members agreed should be delivered under the three key strands for 2018. I'm also delighted that the next FAN meeting will take place during the main ICA Yaounde conference. FAN was keen to have it included in the core programme, and the next meeting will provide an ideal

opportunity to set out new plans for 2019 and beyond. Both the Terms of Reference and the action plan are available to view via the [FAN website](#).

FAN wishes to move away from its current 'bureau' structure to a more democratic model. By the time the next issue of *Flash* is published, and in line with the new Terms of Reference, elections for members to join the new FAN Steering Committee may be in motion. Ideally, the Steering Committee will be in place in time for Yaoundé, so do keep an eye on the ICA website and social media channels for the latest information regarding any [elections](#).

Activity

FAN's number one priority is digital. Members want to find better ways to exchange advice and information online, which could also apply to other issues that national archivists share, including legislative ones.

In making a start to address this, the FAN website has undergone some changes, with more to come over the next few months. Following a call to colleagues and peers in archives across the world, we created, published and shared a suite of [online digital resources](#), comprising digital strategies, policies and guidance. They are available on the FAN website, and we would welcome more contributions, so do send them to: internationalstrategy@nationalarchives.gov.uk. In the next issue of *Flash*, you'll hear all about Archives and AI, the digital symposium that took place at The National Archives UK. The symposium explored the potential that artificial intelligence and machine learning holds for the future of archives in growing their digital skills and capacity, for the future.

Advocacy

While this strand still needs to be defined, it remains a shared ambition for FAN to explore how it can work within and outside of the ICA to better advocate on areas of shared interest, for example, on worldwide copyright issues. Just over two years ago, the "Draft Basic Principles On the Role of Archivists In Support Of Human Rights" were written by the ICA Human Rights Working Group (HRWG). FAN was asked for its views on these Basic Principles, and in early 2018, a paper summarising the key issues raised was drafted, along with proposed next steps. FAN members were also consulted on their views to provide a statement of support for the HRWG's work to date. I'm pleased to say that the statement was agreed at the Paris meetings, and it is now available to read via the [FAN website](#).

Having recently been in touch with colleagues leading the 'Safe Havens for Archives at Risk' work, it was suggested that it would be helpful for FAN to consider a response to this work, in a similar way as done for the HRWG Basic Principles. Potentially, any resulting statement could be formally adopted during the governance meetings in Yaounde.

I'm looking forward to updating you all in the next issue of *Flash*.



Jeff James

FAN President by Interim
Chief Executive and
Keeper of the United
Kingdom National
Archives

SPA Second Film Festival

"Rens at the Archive", Regional Archives Rivierenland & Heritage Guelderland, The Netherlands, People's Award at the 1st SPA Film Festival, Seoul, South Korea, 2016: <https://youtu.be/h9p4dAuklKo>



Audiovisual language is a very direct way to get a message to the viewer as shown by the popularity today of YouTube. A video can send a message more quickly and effectively than a written publication. That is why video is a great tool to explain what archives and document management are and to promote our work. Advocacy is one of our main professional goals. And many archives around the world use video as a tool for advocacy. So in 2016 the Section on Professional Associations (SPA) hosted a Film Festival SPA organized the festival to share those advocacy films with the rest of the archival community

and encourage everyone to use them. In that first Film Festival in 2016 seventy films were submitted. Sixty-six of those met the requirements and competed for prizes in three categories. The jury, formed by members of the SPA Steering Committee, chose three finalists per category. All nine finalist videos were shared with the ICA community during the ICA Congress in Seoul so attendees and others could vote for the "People's Choice" winner. The winners in each category were announced during the ICA Congress in Seoul in September. You can view all nine videos at this website: www.ica.org/en/film-festival-2016

The Film Festival was a success and SPA will celebrate a second Film Festival in 2019. We want to encourage more archives and records professionals from every region and sector to participate and share their advocacy films. Many of us already have films which explain some of our functions, activities and projects. Or perhaps because of this SPA festival some may be encouraged to make a new film. Seeing what your colleagues around the world are doing can be an inspiration to us. A film about the importance of records management in our digital age or digital preservation or describe technical challenges. There are a lot of ways to portray archives and records management and how they are important to society, citizens, researchers, businesses or organizations.

The rules are easy: the film must be no more than 10 minutes in length. complete the entry form published here: www.ica.org/en/film-festival. Submissions will be accepted until the end of March 2019.

The jury will select the best three films in each of the following four categories:

- ▶ Best Film for Content: explaining the relevance and importance of archives and records management. The content is important, a good script always helps the message to be understood better.
- ▶ Best Film for Presentation: portraying the relevance and importance of archives and records management. The presentation, the technique used, the artistic ability helps to capture the attention of the viewer.
- ▶ Best Film for Humor: to communicate about archives or records management: using humor and originality.

▶ Best Film made by students: films made by students or young professionals as individuals, rather than a film produced by an institution or an organization.

As was the case in 2016 there will be a prize open to popular voting among all the finalists: People's Award. The Film Festival awards will be announced and all twelve nominated films will be shown during ICA's 2019 Annual Conference. The winning films will also be posted on the ICA/SPA website after that conference. For more information, check our ICA/SPA website where you can find the rules and we will publish updates during the submission period: www.ica.org/en/film-festival



Marta Munuera
Section of Professional Associations



Cédric Champagne
Section of Professional Associations



Mei Du
Section of Professional Associations

Programme Commission projects



Workshop «Analysing Information Culture» presented by Gillian Oliver, 5 September 2016, ICA Congress Seoul.

Each year, ICA's Programme Commission launches an appeal to members to propose projects in line with the organisation's strategic directions and objectives. Projects supported by PCOM take various forms: conferences, training sessions, publications, collaboration with other institutions. Currently, PCOM supports seven projects, lasting from one to three years. These are:

Information Culture phase 2

At the Annual Conference in Mexico in November 2017, Gillian Oliver and her team presented the results of their work on information culture, supported by PCOM since 2016. The toolkit was the subject of one of the workshops of the conference, and publication of its various modules followed at the start of 2018.

The second phase of this project now consists of applying the methodology of the guide to other organisations to refine the style and to give professionals the means to train themselves. A workshop on this theme will be offered at the conference in Yaounde at the end of the year and this will bring the project to an end.

ICA Records in Context by the Expert Group on Archival Description

The Expert Group on Archival Description, led by Daniel Pitti, unveiled the conceptual model ICA-RiC CM at the Seoul Congress in 2016, during a presentation which had a great impact. In 2017 the Programme Commission renewed its support for this undertaking for the next three years. Thus, the group of experts will be able to finalise the ontology corresponding to the conceptual model Record in Context and provide in addition to these two publications a guide to the practical application for publishers involved in archival description and for information technology professionals who develop systems for archival processing. These three publications will be available in English and French. Finally, members of the expert group will heighten awareness of their work within the archival community by means of series of outreach presentations and will contribute to ICA's Training programme currently under development. This project is due to end in 2019.

Collaboration between the Expert Group on Emergency Management and Disaster Prevention and PARBICA

The Expert Group on the Management of Emergency Situations, EG-EMDP, has joined with PARBICA (Regional Branch for the Pacific) to add a section to the "Recordkeeping for Good Governance toolkit" on the management of crisis situations and on preparation for emergency situations. The four sections (identifying vital records-disaster planning-disaster response-disaster recovery) will come out in English at the end of 2018, at the ICA Annual Conference in Yaounde.



Good Records
Good Governance

ADVICE FOR SENIOR
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS





Training and a practical guide to digital records by KARMA

The Kenyan association of archivists, records managers and librarians, led by Dr Cleophas Ambira, proposed developing a practical guide on digital records addressing specific pan-African problems, as part of ICA's Africa Programme and Training Programme. This project is supported by the regional branch for east and southern Africa, ESARBICA. The association has an ambitious project to train 300 archivists, that is 100 per year for a three-year project. Subsequently, ICA will be able to use this training material for wider dissemination.

Practical guide and training for archives and communities in Burundi

This two-year project to train secretaries and archivists of communities in Burundi by creating a practical guide followed by face to face training, is led by the Association of Professional Librarians, Archivists and Documentarists (APROBAD). At the end of 2018 the practical guide will be published in English and French versions. 2019 will be dedicated to training.

The Section on Local, Municipal and Territorial Archives (SLMT) supports this project and the further developments of the practical guide to enable it to be suitable for wider dissemination.

CARBICA Archives at Risk project

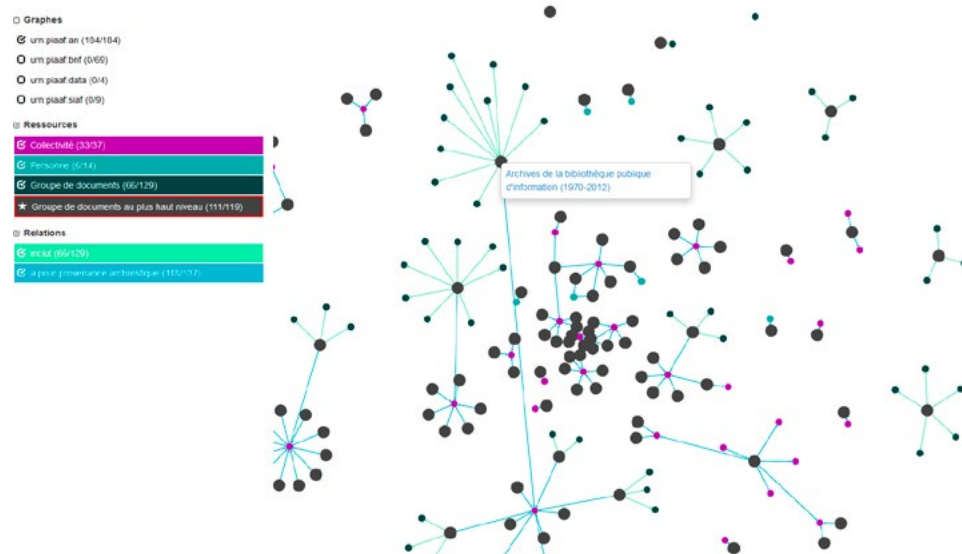
Initially approved by PCOM in 2016, the project of the Antillean branch CARBICA 'Archives at Risk: Advocacy and Capacity Building in the Caribbean', was renewed for two-years in 2017. The aim was to organise training workshops similar to that held in Grenada in 2016 (cf. *Flash* 34). However, following hurricanes Maria and Irma in autumn 2017, the project took a different direction and an international conference on recovery after damage and the preservation of heritage was organised this summer in Sint Maarten, bringing together international and regional decision makers, emergency workers and cultural heritage managers (for more information see the article [page 16](#))

World directory of repositories holding literary and artistic archives

The Section on Literary and Artistic archives (SLA) is carrying out, under the direction of Heather Dean, a one-year project to make available an international directory of this type of archive. The directory will be available on-line and will also be accompanied by good practice guidelines on the creation of directories. These products will be available during 2019.

Other projects

The Programme Commission also provides financial support for many events each year:



PIAAF prototype: graph visualization of a set of records kept by French National Archives and producers of these sets of records (from the webpage <http://piaaf.demo.logilab.fr/ric/TopRecordSet>).

the European branch, EURBICA, organised its annual conference in partnership with ICARUS, the international centre for archival research.

The conference of the Section of University Archives and Research Institutions (SUV) will take place in October with the financial support of PCOM, and the Section on Local Municipal and Territorial Archives (SLMT) is planning a two-day seminar for 300 archivists on the management of local public archives and records in Sri Lanka.

TO KNOW MORE

Are you inspired by these projects? Do you think that the project you are working on could have a wider impact with the support of ICA and could serve the interests of the international community? Contact the Programme Officer (programme@ica.org) or [submit your application](#).



Marianne Deraze
Flash Publication Editor



Jessica Squires
ICA Programme Officer



Association des Professionnels Bibliothécaires, Archivistes et Documentalistes « APROBAD »

Which Way, Ethics?

Ethics can be broadly understood as an effort to do right in order to achieve a just outcome in a specific context. It requires balancing guiding principles, such as those promulgated by professional codes, alongside a careful examination of specific circumstances in a specific setting. Archival codes of ethics focus on the issuance of guiding principles that never wade into the messy details of the lived experience. They offer high level aspirational universals through the deontological approach, wherein the focus is not on the outcome per

“In such circumstances, professional codes are easily coopted to provide the patina of legitimating professional endorsement to manifestly unjust macro political and economic structures.”

se, but rather that the principle is adhered to. The logic is that following the principle will de facto result in an ethical outcome. The problems with this approach become evident upon a deeper analysis. While aspirational principles are important as a roadmap, they are limited in securing a just and ethical outcome in and of themselves. They do not offer the necessary means to grapple with the types complexity, nuance, ambiguity, and uncertainty that are endemic in the social life of information. They elide the realities of how power, privilege, and advantage are wielded through information channels and instead promote a framework of abstract and seemingly value-neutral rationalism. Any renewed effort updating an archival code of ethics must grapple with the heterogeneous nature of the profession, the complexity of context, the hazards of universalism and neutrality, omnipresent global injustices, and the need to frame ethics as a ground-up endeavor steeped in untidy reality as opposed to downwards issued conclusive proclamations.

As noted by philosopher Raymond Geuss, the problem with standard approaches to professional ethics is that developing and applying an ideal theory about how people are supposed to act does not necessarily influence or even reflect how people may actually act in non-abstract value laden situations. It can be convincingly argued that all societies are influenced moreso by “powerful illusions” than by rational factual analysis. Under such a reality, archival codes must do more than simply be issued and held up as an unquestionable signpost for proper professional behavior. At best they are a starting point rather than a terminus for evaluating and resolving ethical challenges.

Codes must be subjected to ongoing and active critical engagement and even rebuttal by admitting and embracing complex realities and circumstances. This is especially pressing given the global scope of contemporary debates over how history is constructed and reconstructed and how the past should be remembered and commemorated. It is further necessary in light of how our globally connected information saturated societies leave abundant voluntary and involuntary records traces of all of us under many jurisdictions that are increasingly sites of social-political-economic contestation.

The ambiguities associated with complex multi-faceted contexts and viewpoints on core records issues such as privacy and confidentiality, security classification and declassification, intellectual property protection and openness, access and control, selection and destruction, user services, relationships with donors and employers, and many other issues, means that professional codes cannot proffer principles that assume universal certainty and definitive application. To meaningfully grapple with archival ethics the profession must accept multi-vocality, conflicting perspectives, and deeper moral responsibilities to the present and the past than that which can be rendered through narrow declarations which offer readymade and pre-judged solutions that dodge the dynamic range of factors in play. Ethical dilemmas must be thoughtfully analyzed on a case-by-case basis where the deep context matters and alternative outcomes are possible.

Professional archival codes as they are currently framed and issued claim to speak for the entire profession and confidently over assume profession-wide unity and

“Far from being a place of quiet contemplation and scholarship, archives clearly sit at the nexus of both propaganda and enlightenment, both oppression and liberation.”

coherence. The reality is that the profession itself is profoundly heterogeneous and lacks clear unity on many fronts. From private to public, institutionally based to independent, open to closed, nonpartisan to activist, the profession is constituted by repositories and professionals with varying and even conflicting missions, motivations, and objectives. Much recent professional literature has called for deeper reflection on and reconsideration of a range of standard practices that implicate ethics, such as collecting building, appraisal, description, reference, and engagement with participatory approaches. There has also been increasing recognition that archival work contributes to and is fundamental to the shaping of knowledge and that knowledge is itself a site of contest. Many archivists ●●●

●●● are comfortably embracing activism and advocacy for social change along a range of key arenas such as human rights, government secrecy, racism, gender, sexuality, identity, indigeneity, colonialism, and neoliberalism. There have also been calls for explicit archival engagement with and advocacy for historical justice and memory recovery movements as a necessary social responsibility. Such dynamics can easily pit archivists and archival institutions against each other depending on what and to whom they see as central and as peripheral to their mission and mandate. As currently constituted, professional codes face considerable challenges in bridging these divides.

Archivists are increasingly being pulled into and shaped by larger social forces that impinge on the ethical canon that presumes apartness through balance, neutrality, impartiality, and objectivity. Ethical codes normally promote professional practice through an insular facing “box” that eschews engagement with how larger societal forces and processes influence and are influenced by archival work and its outcomes. This “box” largely masks or denies upstream and downstream currents and power dynamics that profoundly impact archives, either by locating them as “outside” of our professional concerns or by avoiding them completely and rendering them invisible. This approach omits how recordkeeping and archiving work is implicated in both just and unjust processes and outcomes. The overly narrow focus on the record alone and its management feebly exempts us from our wider social and moral responsibilities in regards to how and to what purposes that record is created and to what ends it is put to use.

A close reading of many codes demonstrates that they serve incongruous ends and are internally contradictory. They promote balance and law abidingness while also advocating the pursuit of social good and

historical factuality as if these are always in alignment. They also, oddly, replicate each other, sometimes word for word, evidencing a concretized mentality over consideration of fresh approaches. This is especially evident in strivings for “objectivity” and “impartiality” as a measure of professionalism without understanding these as complex and even impossible attainments that have been widely criticized by many other professional fields. Our codes are also overly legalistic, such as the admonition to protect “national security,” without considering how this concept is deeply misused and often cloak injustice and anti-democratic rule. An even deeper challenge is that codes imply and reinforce the suspect notion that societies are

“As currently constituted, professional codes offer an easy retreat from complex questions over individual and collective social responsibility and prioritize avoidance of legal liability over moral reasoning.”

administered through legitimate, rational, and accountable structures of governance that operate under fair and diligent procedural and legal oversight mechanisms buttressed by integrity and just outcomes. The painful reality is that politics and societies the world over are deeply flawed, unequal, unjust, and overly influenced by powerful actors who are skilled at influencing the system to their advantage. In such circumstances, professional codes are easily coopted to provide the patina of legitimating professional endorsement to manifestly unjust macro political and economic structures. As currently constituted, professional codes offer an easy retreat from complex questions over individual and collective social responsibility and prioritize avoidance of legal liability over moral reasoning. Far from being a place of quiet contemplation and scholarship, archives clearly sit at the nexus of both propaganda and enlightenment, both oppression and liberation. Any renewal of professional code-making should place the above as central concerns and recognize that a bottom up approach that grapples with the deep context of individual cases might offer more ethical outcomes than the traditional top down approach of principles issuing that assumes universal application. Revised codes need to realize that ethics operate at different levels (individually, organizationally, institutionally, professionally, and society-wide) and on different scales (current vs. historical). As with most conceptual notions, ethics ultimately are manifestly concrete and can and should be analyzed, evaluated and judged.



David Wallace

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ICA Code of Ethics

Produced by the Section of Professional Associations (SPA), the ICA Code of Ethics was approved by the General Assembly on 6 September 1996 in Beijing. Since then it has been translated into 24 languages and widely circulated by the national professional associations.

Ten years after it was first issued, the International Conference of the Round Table on Archives (CITRA) proposed a revision of this “fundamental reference document”. SPA, therefore, carried out a first survey in 2008 on the use made of the Code of Ethics by members. It was also the occasion to flag up the ethical problems encountered by archivists in their everyday lives.

The exercise culminated in the recommendation that the principles of the Code should be explained in greater detail to make it even more helpful for users.

The Code of Ethics may be consulted on the ICA website at:
www.ica.org/en/ica-code-ethics

Stepping up the fight against illicit trafficking of archival documentary heritage



Mercedes de Vega at the 10th International Seminar on Archives of Iberian Tradition.

At the 10th International Seminar on Archives of Iberian Tradition (Seminario Internacional de Archivos de Tradición Ibérica – SIATI) the focus was on the main challenges currently facing Ibero-American archivists and the urgent need to develop national information management systems capable of conserving the original versions

of our documentary heritage and combatting illicit trafficking of these vital cultural records. The papers presented at the seminar confirmed the socio-political, economic, historical and cultural importance of archives and the need for citizens to become the main custodians of their documentary heritage. It was also the opportunity to emphasize the importance of investment in archival resources for preventing illicit trafficking. In Latin America, information loss has become a fact of everyday life, through lack of adequate records management systems and a culture of organization that leaves much to be desired. The key proposals discussed at the 10th SIATI were the following:

- ▶ Developing national policies and guidelines to help prevent trafficking and facilitate prosecution of its perpetrators.

- ▶ Reinforcing the law enforcement units in charge of combatting illicit trafficking and stepping up exchanges and cooperation with those specializing in cyberspace monitoring.
- ▶ Producing guides to assist experts in other areas and their related institutions, in identifying cultural objects.
- ▶ Creating groups of experts in connection with national archive issues.
- ▶ Ensuring sustainable cooperation among institutions affected by this problem.
- ▶ Subscribing to instruments for implementing the undertakings of States and governments under International Conventions.
- ▶ Following up the proposals set out in the “Reference Document on the Illicit Trafficking of Documentary Heritage”, adopted by the UNESCO Subsidiary Committee of the Meeting of States Party to the 1970 Convention.

During the seminar, the Association of Latin American Archives (ALA) decided to set up a Commission on Illicit Trafficking of Documentary Heritage that will be in charge of following up the proposals and experience reported by participants. Similarly, in the [Declaration of Lima](#), signed by the members of ALA, the representatives of the National Archives expressed their commitment to developing action to combat this scourge. The conclusions of this Seminar will be set out in proceedings, which will be consultable via the organizers' web portals.

Mercedes de Vega

Director General of the National Archives of Mexico, President of ALA

International Conference on Safeguarding and Increasing Access to the Documentary Heritage of the Silk Routes

The State Archives Administration of China (SAAC), in conjunction with the East Asian Branch of the International Council on Archives (EASTICA) and Fujian Provincial Archives is organizing an International Conference on Safeguarding and Increasing Access to the Documentary Heritage of the Silk Routes from November 6-8, 2018 in Fuzhou, China.

The Conference will bring together participants from the EASTICA branch, memory institutions (libraries, archives, museums) and universities from across China and the wider region, and is also open to all interested experts and organizations wishing to participate. The Conference aims to promote exchange and collaboration in preserving and providing access to documentary heritage associated

with the Silk Road and Maritime Route, to increase dialogue and cooperation amongst institutions, experts and countries in Asia through the preservation of documentary heritage with regional significance to each country and to advance scholarship enhancing global awareness of the rich documentary heritage of the region through the theme of the Silk Routes.

For the benefit of future cooperation, representatives will be kindly asked to conduct a survey of documentary heritage in their country or institution (including state of preservation and access) relating to the Silk Road and Maritime Route and submit a report. For more information, please feel free to contact Ally Zhang, International Cooperation Department of SAAC at ally@saac.gov.cn.

Strengthening partnership for records preservation



Preservation is a fundamental activity of archival management. Nevertheless, this specific knowledge has often been neglected in archival science education curricula, which has tended to pay more attention to core archival functions, such as the theory and practice of records organization, appraisal, selection and

processing. With the arrival of the digital era and the production of electronic records, preservation has become an increasingly pressing issue due to new media obsolescence, and archival academic curricula and projects have begun to address preservation, mainly of digital records. ICA and ICCROM (1) are two international organizations with very specialized fields of knowledge, but also many convergences and potential synergies that may be useful for facing records preservation challenges. ICCROM, an organization whose mandate is to develop and promote the conservation of all forms of cultural heritage, promptly recognized the importance of archival heritage for good governance. It also acknowledged the need to maintain its accessibility through adequate preservation. The first ICCROM course on the conservation of library and archival materials was organized in 1968, in the aftermath of the 1966 Florence and Venice floods, which extensively damaged collections in archives, museums and libraries. Since the early 1970s to present days, ICCROM has provided specialized training on the conservation of heritage materials, including paper (one of the most widely-used documentary materials

(1) The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCRM) is an intergovernmental organization composed of 136 Member States, which aims at enhancing preservation of cultural heritage worldwide. It was created by UNESCO in 1956 and is based in Rome, Italy, since 1959. www.iccrom.org.

found in archives). From the 1990s, specific courses on the preservation of archival and library collections, highlighting the need for preservation assessment and planning, were developed worldwide. In the last decade, the SOIMA programme (2), which focuses on the preservation and management of sound and image collections (including digital material), has organized several training activities and built up a network of professionals around the world. Despite ICA and ICCROM's shared concern for records preservation and access, relationships between the two institutions only started in the 2000s. In 2004, a formal agreement was signed and joint activities were undertaken, such as a seminar on preservation of photographic materials in archival holdings. A leaflet was also produced: *Are you an archive?* (3) which aimed to raise awareness on preservation among small-sized institutions holding records not formally recognized as archives. This partnership also led the newly-established ICCROM Archives becoming an ICA member. Since 2006, collaborations have involved the participation of resource people in meetings and courses carried out by both institutions.

(2) Further information on the SOIMA programme can be found at: www.iccrom.org/section/people-and-heritage/soima-sound-and-image-collections-conservation.

(3) The leaflet is available in ICCROM's website at: www.iccrom.org/sites/default/files/ICCRM_12_Archive_en.pdf.

ICA and ICCROM have complementary expertise, experience and networks, and both would benefit from reinforcing their partnership for the development of joint activities that respond to the archival community's preservation needs. The ICA Secretary-General, Ms. Anthea Seles visited ICCROM's Director-General in May of this year and several common areas of interest were identified, such as risk management in the case of disasters or conflicts (4), which can be addressed through the formulation of statements and guidelines, and the delivery of interdisciplinary onsite and online training programmes. The main goals are to reinforce policies, institutions and local communities for prevention and disaster risk mitigation; and to safeguard heritage, build resilience and promote the sustainable development of communities. This requires the involvement of heritage professionals and also emergency actors, such as the civil defence, military and humanitarian sectors.



María Mata Caravaca
ICCRM Archivist

(4) Further information on ICCROM's Disaster Risk programme can be found at: www.iccrom.org/section/disaster-resilient-heritage/disaster-resilient-heritage.

CARBICA: Disaster Recovery and Heritage Preservation



Participants of the working conference of Sint Maarten, 30 July-3 August 2018.

The International Council on Archives (ICA) and the Caribbean Branch of the International Council on Archives (CARBICA) in collaboration with the Government of Sint Maarten, hosted a four day working conference entitled "Regional approaches to disaster recovery and heritage preservation" in the New Government Administration building of Sint Maarten from July 30th to August 2nd. The event brought together policy makers, emergency responders and cultural heritage stewards from the Caribbean to exchange priorities and methods that will ensure the best possible outcomes for the

regional protection of cultural heritage. Representatives from the libraries, archives, museums, archaeology, built heritage and intangible heritage were present (Aruba, Bonaire, Saba, Saint Martin - French, Saint Martin (Dutch), Curacao, Dominica, St. Kitts & Nevis, St.Lucia, Antigua & Barbuda, Jamaica, Barbados, Grenada, Trinidad & Tobago, Suriname, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Nicaragua, France.) In 2017, hurricanes Irma, Jose and Maria left a trail of destruction in the Caribbean region. Particularly on St. Maarten, Dominica and the British Virgin Islands (BVI), the category 5 hurricanes, Irma and Maria,

have caused serious damage. After the hurricanes of 2017, CARBICA provided first aid relief assistance (funds and organized a fact-finding mission in which a conservator from Curacao was sent to the islands. Early in 2016 CARBICA already embarked on a three year programme called, "Archives at Risk," which was launched in Grenada, in February 2017. The experience of the Grenada project and the subsequent natural disasters of 2017 which affected cultural properties across the northern Caribbean, led to a shift in CARBICA's priorities; they soon realized that their activities could have the best outcomes through collaboration with other heritage institutions/professionals and emergency disaster agencies in the region rather than through isolated activities since many islands heritage institution such as archives, museums share limited resources. It was therefore the goal of the working conference to strengthen the ties between civil authorities responsible for response and recovery AND cultural institutions responsible for the preservation of both tangible and intangible heritage. CARBICA's goals and objectives of the working conference was:

- ▶ to bring together civil representatives and cultural heritage representatives to dialogue and advocate about supporting a regional recovery plan that includes heritage elements;
- ▶ to form a regional preservation team to support local response in event of future disasters;

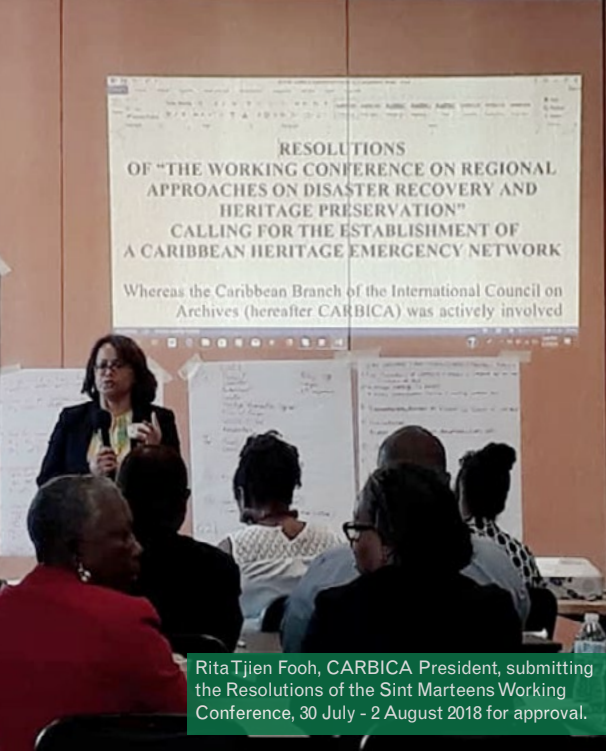
- ▶ to develop a regional disaster preparedness & response plan, plan and a regional recovery unit;

- ▶ to train those members/participants who need to draft institutional disaster preparedness and recovery plans

The conference began with opening remarks by D' Rita Tjien Fooh President of CARBICA, Ms. Anthea Seles, Secretary-General ICA (via audio address), Mr Yuri Peshkov Culture Programme Specialist, UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean and Ms. Leona Romeo-Marlin, Prime Minister of Sint Maarten.

The plenary sessions started with presentations from Regional Civil Authority (CDEMA, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency and Blue Shield- Curacao) and the Cultural Organizations (UNESCO and ICOM). Representatives of the various Caribbean countries (Christopher Varlack - Case study British Virgin Islands (BVI), Carmen Marla Lopez – Puerto Rico, Alfonso Blijden – Sint Maarten, Stephanie Dargaud – Saint Martin and Vernanda Raymond – Dominica) shared their challenges and responses during and after the hurricanes with the participants. At the end of the plenary session CARBICA presented their report on the conservation Case Study held in April 2018; CARBICA's First Aid Programme in St. Maarten, BVI and the Commonwealth of Dominica.

The workshop aspect of the conference was facilitated by D' Emilie G. Leumas, Chair of ICA Expert Group on Emergency Management and Disaster Preparedness ●●●



Rita Tjien Fooh, CARBICA President, submitting the Resolutions of the Sint Maartens Working Conference, 30 July - 2 August 2018 for approval.

●●● and Ms. Margaret Crockett, ICA Training Officer who provided participants with the draft of a workbook they compiled entitled "Emergency Management and Disaster Preparedness Workbook". The draft workbook provides definitions, guidelines, checklists and resources that participants can utilize subsequent to the conference within their individual organizations. Mr. Samuel Franco Arce (ICOM- Nicaragua) facilitated the hands on practical session on 'Post disaster first aid to cultural heritage custodians: mitigation/stabilization measure. Some of the key challenges that was addressed by the participants was the absence of repositories, inadequate storage spaces, limited climate control, improper storage equipment, limited priority of archives by officials and administration, little policy guidance on disaster risk management and heritage and the fact

that few heritage and cultural facilities have disaster plans. After the interactive discussions, recommendations were made to look for committed leadership/guidance; to integrate disaster risk components in existing heritage courses; develop public-private partnerships; integrate heritage sectors; create networks, work together to manage risks and create funding possibilities; develop structural communication at all times and test means of communications (for example radio). The participants concluded that a structural approach was needed to address the challenges of (natural) disasters and heritage preservation and that a heritage network was therefore necessary. They commended CARBICA with their initiative to bring together heritage

professionals from the various fields of cultural heritage in the region and start the discussion on the a coordinated approach. The working conference ended with the adoption of the Resolutions of "the working conference on Regional Approaches on Disaster Recovery and Heritage Preservation" calling for the establishment of a Caribbean Heritage Preservation Network ([see in PDF format](#)). In this context the President of CARBICA installed a working group with representatives of each field of cultural heritage to prepare the launch of the Caribbean Heritage Emergency Network (CHEN). In the coming months they will work on a draft charter/memorandum of understanding, a communication plan and a database consisting a list of experts in the region

and present it to the CARBICA EC by mid October. It is expected that CHEN will be launched at CARBICA's General Assembly early 2019.

This working conference was funded by the International Council on Archives (ICA), the UNESCO Cluster office in Kingston/Jamaica, The Ministry of Education, Culture & Science of the Dutch Caribbean, the Gerda Henkel Foundation (Germany) and last but not least the Government of Sint Maarten.



Rita Tjien-Fooh
CARBICA President

TO KNOW MORE

Access the Resolutions of "the working conference on Regional Approaches on Disaster Recovery and Heritage Preservation" calling for the establishment of a Caribbean Heritage Preservation Network. and CARBICA's actions

www.ica.org/en/resolutions-from-the-working-conference-on-regional-approaches-on-disaster-recovery-and-heritage



Workshop on Disaster Relief Management and Disaster Preparedness, during the working conference in Sint Maarten.

Playing catchup: Africa's time to respond to grand societal challenges



For a continent like Africa, there are complexities upon complexities including the fact that the continent consists of between 47 and 55 countries (although the African Union (AU) and the UN recognize 54) each with its unique set of socio-cultural, political history and development. The variation is a result of disputed territories and inconsistencies around the inclusion of island nations off the coast of Africa. Each country in Africa is facing unique problems but mainly relating to politics. Some countries could be considered a fragile state either currently undergoing or just emerging from a period of political and social upheaval, e.g. Libya, South Sudan and Somalia. A few territories in or near the African continent have complicated sovereignty, e.g. Saint Helena – a dependant territory considered as British overseas territory; Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic – a state recognized by the AU and 47 UN members that claims territory currently occupied by Morocco. Furthermore, Somaliland – a state that has not yet been recognized by any UN member that claims territory in Somalia and was formerly known as British Somaliland Protectorate between the 1920s until 1960. Each of these countries including stable states are characterized by 'wicked problems' such as corruption, poor governance, services, healthcare and others. Archives are central to mitigating most of these grand societal challenges facing the African continent. However, public archives repositories which are charged with the mandate of managing and preserving records are not without problems themselves. These repositories

in Africa are facing their own complex and multidimensional challenges, many of which underpin the wicked problems. It is amazing how the archival field is not given recognition it deserves within the African continent yet no activity can be effectively executed in work environment without records, be auditing, finance, etc. This article highlights some of the challenges facing the archival field in Africa. It is my view that these challenges are infinite and archivists in Africa are not fully engaging with them: resources, skills, technology, infrastructure, advocacy, holdings, collaboration, displaced archives and the list is endless. As a result of not coping with these challenges, Africa is left behind and needs

to catch-up. However, there are pockets of excellence reported especially in Eastern and African Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (ESARBICA) region but these too are happening in silos. Here I will provide the tip of the iceberg about the few challenges:

Legislation: In most African countries, except in South Africa, pieces of archival legislation were often enacted shortly after independence and modelled closely on the UK Public Record Act of 1958 or former colonial masters, like Portugal in Mozambique and Angola. These acts were mostly written with paper records in mind, while being silent on

records that appear in other media such as audio-visual and digital. Most African countries are operating national archival system under out-of-date or incomplete legislation or even without any legislative provision at all, e.g. Zambia (1964), Lesotho (1967), Malawi (1975, amended in 1989), eSwatini (previously Swaziland, 1971) to mention just a few. The situation is compounded by the fact that archival legislation in some countries were never costed despite the huge mandate placed upon the institutions. As a result, the only budget allocated for these institutions are for salaries and training while line function activities are neglected.



ICA Yaounde 2018 Conference

"Archives: Governance, Memory and Heritage", 26-28 November



Holding one of ICA's first conferences on the African continent presents many opportunities for knowledge and cultural exchange as well as collaboration. It is an incredible opportunity to demonstrate the international archival community's support for colleagues in Cameroon and

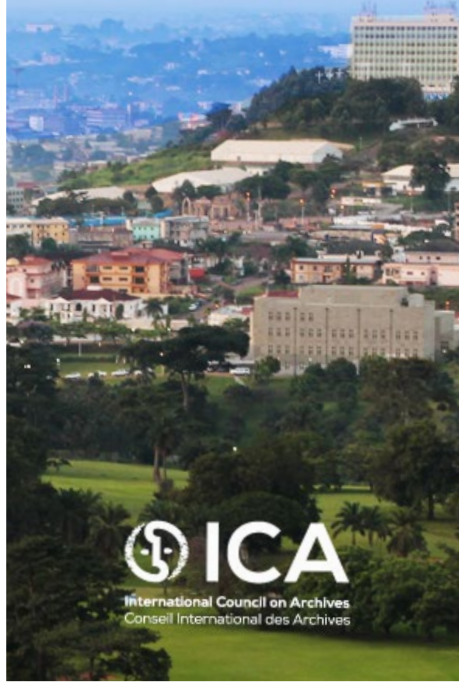
Sub-Saharan Africa. Equally, it permits all of us to exchange knowledge and information on good governance and the role of archives play to enable this. The importance of archives cannot be overstated. There is a saying posted on the wall near the National Archives of

Cameroon that says: 'Archives is us, It is our lives, It is our histories, It is our becoming'.

Come take part in the discussion and support ICA's aims, register today:

<https://icayaounde2018.ica.org/index.php/en/registrations>

#ICAYaounde2018
26 - 28 November



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Education: One of the root causes of the problems in Africa is the availability of few archival training programmes. The numbers of students who qualify in these programmes are very small and in the long run it may be very difficult for the institutions of higher learning to sustain these programmes. For example, InterPARES Team Africa (2018) produced an inventory of training institutions in 38 of the 54 countries in Africa which lists few archival programmes. There have been efforts to address the challenges of lack of education in the field of archives in the continent. In the mid-1960s ICA with support from UNESCO conceptualised regional centres that would be attached to universities and offer archival training. Two such centres were created, one

for Anglophone and the other for Francophone countries. However, due to various financial and logistical challenges, these efforts did not last more than a decade, and since their demise national training programmes emerged.

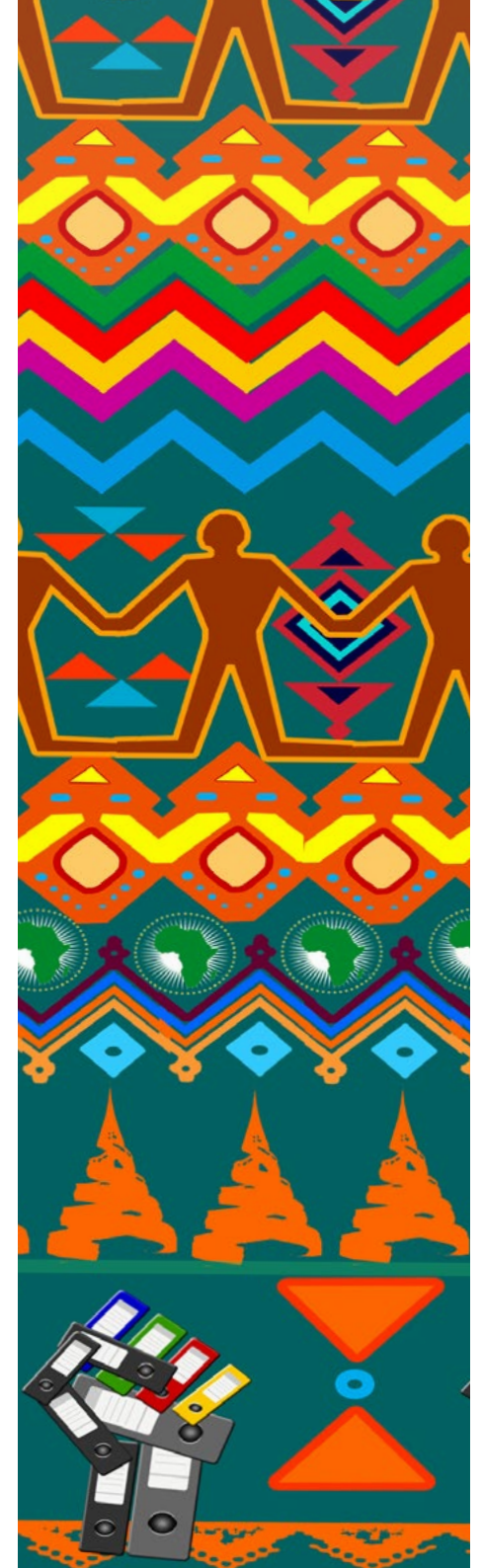
Research and collaboration: There has been a call to increase the visibility of African archival scholars within global professional research initiatives. African scholars have been conspicuous by their absence especially at the conferences organised by ICA. Few if any, present papers at these conferences. While an argument may be made that African professionals have been exposed to international developments, it may be that their own informed contributions have been hampered by the lack of constant and long exposure that can be made possible through research activities at a global level. Furthermore, many African archivists and scholars are not collaborating either at the national, regional or international level. The only project that comes to mind where African archivists and scholars fully collaborated is InterPARES Trust (2013-2018). Even in this project there were a handful of participants from African countries such as Botswana, Kenya, Zimbabwe, South Africa and observers from Ghana, Tanzania, Tunisia and Zambia. Nonetheless, the project covered a number of Africa countries (about 38) and archival issues relating to infrastructure, auditing, education, legislation and disruptive technology.

Advocacy: The situation is worse with regard to advocacy. Few years ago, Verne Harris, one of archival divas in South Africa, lamented that the archival profession is in trouble because archivists have stopped being activists. Indeed, so many of us are stretched to limit, juggling many balls in the air with the challenges of daily work, leaving us with very little energy for related and tangential pursuits of running archival associations. As a result, archival associations are almost non-existence in

Africa. The only known active associations in Africa are the South African Society of Archivists at the national level and ESARBICA at the regional level. There was a hype in 2011 following a vibrant discourse at ESARBICA conference in Maputo, about the formation of national archival associations to take archival issues forward in the continent. Heeding the call, in 2011, Mathias Chida introduced a 'still-birth' of Records and Information Association in Botswana (RIAB). To this day, RIAB is grounded. The same year, Cleopas Ambira also introduced Kenya Association of Records Managers and Archivists (KARMA). KARMA took off but as the acronym suggests it was 'karma' that decided the fate. The association is still visible online but with little participation from its members (a project is conducted with PCOM to address this issue, [page 10](#)). With all the challenges that we are facing in the continent, my question is who is going to take us serious if we cannot even organize ourselves? Even the active associations are not directly participating in the real issues concerning archives such as setting of standards, legislation, policies, curriculum, etc. So if we are failing to address the issues facing archives, we are highly unlikely to contribute to solutions to grand societal problems. Archivists would continue to be viewed as unimportant beings belonging in unimportant spaces working with unimportant material. And "archaic" would be synonymous with irrelevance. Archivists would be more vulnerable as they have to justify their existence to society. We should perhaps inspire new archivists and teach them to learn how to practise the craft as [Eric Ketelaar](#) reckons.



Mpho Ngoepe
Associate Professor
University of South Africa



Digital Records Preservation Training for Practitioners

Recent surveys of ICA membership training needs and the needs of members in Africa suggests that digital records management and preservation should be a high priority for ICA and, in particular, the Training and Africa Programmes managed by the Programme Commission. In response to this clear direction from members we are offering a two-day course on the subject immediately after the ICA Annual Conference in Yaoundé. The training will be at the conference centre where the ICA conference is being held and details of registration are available here <https://icayaounde2018.ica.org/index.php/en/programme/training>.

The course aims to enable participants to understand the main challenges of digital record-keeping, to identify the characteristics of digital records and to begin to manage digital records appropriately in a cost-effective way. It will offer an overview of digital culture and the information society, understanding of digital records authenticity and reliability, skills to identify and measure digital record assets and how to manage them, tactics for specifying, identifying and managing metadata and low cost preservation strategies for institutions with limited resources. The course is based on the Africa Programme Digital Record-keeping Curriculum Development training courses developed under James Lowry's leadership. The course teachers are James Lowry, Basma Makhoul Shabou,

Alain Dubois, Cécile Turner (tbc), Celine Fernandez, Kari Smith (tbc) and Margaret Crockett.

The training is intended for practitioners, archivists and records managers who need to learn how to manage digital records. It presumes students already have a baseline knowledge and experience of the main professional principles and concepts. Participation is limited to ICA members who are either citizens of an African country working in Africa and who are either qualified in archives or records management or have worked for an archival institution for at least two years.

There will be parallel classes in French and English and we can accommodate up to 160 students. The cost is €50 and students will need to fund their own travel and accommodation costs. Online applications will be accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis provided the criteria are met. Participants will need to bring their own laptop with them and be ready to download software needed to participate in the exercises. Participants will be presented with a certificate of completion at the end of the course.



Margaret Crockett
Training Officer

Members' training requirements – survey findings



During August and September 2017, a survey was conducted among ICA members with regard to their training requirements.

The results of the survey were then analysed by Monique Nielsen, Programme Officer in 2015 and 2016, and the conclusions submitted to the Programme Commission by Margaret Crockett, ICA Deputy Secretary General and Training Officer, in November 2017.

The largest number of responses came from three branches (WARBICA, SWARBICA and

CARBICA) and highlighted the training needs of the regions concerned, in particular in relation to digital archive and records management. Findings also revealed the types of training members would like to see dispensed by ICA: short one to three-week courses, which institutions can offer their staff, including on-line and classroom sessions, for people already boasting advanced archiving and records management skills.

Demand for on-line courses has been duly noted and the Training Officer is currently developing an on-line training platform to provide a maximum of members with access to ICA training sessions.

For more information about survey findings, go to: www.ica.org/en/survey-on-training-needs-results

Monique Nielsen
National Archives of Australia



1st International Seminar on Sports Archives

The Section on Sport Archives of the International Council on Archives, the Girona City Council and the Diputació de Girona, will hold a Seminar in Girona on the 9th of October 2018.

The management of sport has many confluences with many professionals and is linked to health, economy, philosophy, physical activities, sports sciences, engineering, legislation, history, archives, political science and journalism, etc. In this seminar many professionals involved with sport archives will explain the importance of sport in society as an element of transmission of values and promote the Section on Sports Archives objectives: to organize, preserve, disseminate and facilitate access to Sports Archives-. We must involve the

clubs, national and international federations and organizations, companies, sponsors, doctors, physiotherapists, journalists, historians, archivists, engineers, referees, coaches, teachers, etc. on the importance of preserving the documents, because it is an essential part of the collective memory of the citizens.

The Section on Sports Archives, ICA/SPO, aims to raise awareness on the importance and relevance of sport archives. SPO's mission is the preservation and safeguarding of sports archives worldwide. In trying to achieve its goals, the section arranges seminars and workshops for increasing information about sports archives, cooperates with institutions, sports research organisations and authorities.

ICA/SPO is raising the awareness of governments and the general public on the needs to preserve sports archives in private and public sports associations, clubs and institutions, personal fonds of sportsmen and sportswomen, and companies involved in sports.

This seminar will serve as a platform for exchange on developments of Sports Archives.

More information on the aims of the 1st International Seminar on Sport Archives here: <http://esportarxiu.ddgi.cat>.

Fina Solà I Gasset
SPO Chair



Tennis Player. 1920 ca. Ajuntament de Girona. CRDI (Josep Jou Parés).



Basketball team. 29/06/1950. Ajuntament de Girona. CRDI (Martí Massafont Costals).

Volunteering opportunities

New Professionals Coordinator

Do you have a passion for the future of archives and record keeping? Do you want to help guide the next generation of archivists and records managers? Then ICA has a volunteer opportunity for you! The International Council on Archives invites expressions of interest for the role of New Professionals Programme Coordinator. This high-profile volunteer position is a fantastic

opportunity for a professional in mid-career, with existing networks, wishing to build upon those networks, and a desire to travel and work internationally. It will also give you an opportunity to give back to the community and help new archivists in their professional journey.

For more information contact programme@ica.org

Volunteer Trainers

ICA is establishing a register of trainers to identify a group of experienced individuals who can help deliver our face-to-face training and online learning programme. We seek volunteers with training experience and expertise who can create, teach, translate and/or adapt training materials in different languages for our multi-lingual and cultural programme and who would like to be considered for inclusion in the register.

There are benefits to volunteering, such as: the opportunity to travel and meet archivists and records managers from other cultures and traditions; the potential to develop and improve training skills; the chance to develop expertise in the use of ICA's new Learning Management

System to create and deliver online learning. Suitable candidates will have a thorough knowledge of one or more aspects of archives and records management practice as well as experience of designing and delivering face-to-face or online training. They will be willing to give time and expertise to ICA for the benefit of the international archives and records management community and be willing to travel to deliver training.

More details are available here: www.ica.org/en/call-for-volunteer-trainers and prospective volunteer trainers are invited to write to the ICA Training Officer, Margaret Crockett (crockett@ica.org), with details of their training experience, country of residence and working language(s).

“Comma” around the Section of Archives of Literature and Art

The next issue of *Comma* (2017:1), a special issue based around the Section of Archives of Literature and Art (ICA-SLA) is due to be circulated to members, and will be available online, during October. Since its reconstitution in 2010, SLA has worked to ensure that its representation of literary archives is a truly global one, and the special issue will include contributions which, geographically, range from Namibia to Russia, and from Finland to Brazil. The issue also addresses strategic concerns of the Section, notably the nature and management of diasporic archives, of the papers of dissident authors – the latter in the context of the Sections alignment with the ICA Basic principles on the role of archivists and records managers in support of human rights – and digital literary archives.

A Miscellany issue is currently also very near

completion and will be published by the end of the year. ICA members responded to a Call for Papers, and the resulting issue covers a diversity of topics, in English, French and Spanish. Again, the range of those topics is wide, and includes access to the documentary heritage in Zimbabwe, records management in Morocco, autoclassification software, the role of the archivist vis-à-vis indigenous knowledge, and in international organisations. Subsequent issues are in the planning stage, and the Editor-in-Chief would be delighted to hear from Sections, Regions or projects who are considering contributing to a future issue.



Margaret Procter
Comma Editor-in-Chief
mprocter@liv.ac.uk



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Category B

Asociación Mexicana de Archivos y Bibliotecas Privados, A. C., *Mexico*
Association pour la promotion des sciences de l'information documentaire en Côte d'Ivoire (APSID-CI), *Ivory Coast*
Adadabu, *Burundi*






Category C

Science History Institute, *United States*
Stadtarchiv Chemnitz, *Germany*
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, *China*
Almostand for Training and HRD., *Sudan*
Senado Federal, *Brazil*
King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, *Saudi Arabia*
Autonomous Organization of Education, *Kazakhstan*
Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, *Macedonia*
Beirut Arab University, *Lebanon*
Tribunal fédéral, *Switzerland*
Atacoff Services LLP Limited, *Nigeria*
State Archives in Zagreb, *Croatia*
Akkasah Center for Photography at New York University Abu Dhabi, *United Arab Emirates*
Conseil de l'Europe - EDQM, *France*
Mahatma Gandhi Institute, *Mauritius*
Centre Joseph Wresinski - ATD Quart Monde, *France*
Ministry of Finance Samoa, *Samoa*

Ministry of Communication and Aviation, Solomon Islands
Office of the Attorney General, *Samoa*
Central Bank of Samoa, *Samoa*
Bank of Papua New Guinea, *Papua New Guinea*
Office of Auditor General - Solomon Islands, *Solomon Islands*
Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Labour, *Samoa*
Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications (MEIDECC), *Tonga*
Department of Justice and Attorney-General, *Papua New Guinea*
Funafuti Kaupule (Tuvalu local government), *Tuvalu*
Gauteng Provincial Archives and Records Service, *South Africa*
Western Libraries, *Canada*
Universiti Teknologi MARA, *Malaysia*
African Union Commission, *Ethiopia*

The ICA also welcomes the 148 new individual members who have joined the organization since the beginning of 2018.

Repartition by continents

 Africa	24
 Americas	62
 Asia	17
 Europe	56
 Oceania	20



Become an archivist in the European institutions

The European institutions are looking for **graduate and non-graduate staff** to work on **records, archives and information management**.

You will **ensure** that the Institutions **manage their archives, information and documents** in accordance with the applicable legal framework. You will be mainly working on the **development, implementation and monitoring** of policies and strategies.

To apply you need a degree or professional training in **archives, information/knowledge management or records management** and **professional experience relevant to the duties**. You must have knowledge of two official EU languages. The second language must be **English or French**. Detailed eligibility criteria are listed in the Notice of Competition on the website.

The EU institutions offer a **comprehensive remuneration package** and numerous opportunities to develop your career.

Deadline: 16 October 2018, 12:00 Brussels time.

For more information and to apply, visit: eu-careers.eu

Reference: EPSO/AD/362/18 and EPSO/AST/145/18



