

INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

9 April 2014, 17:30

Ewing Suite Room QE2, Glasgow Marriott, 500 Argyle Street, Glasgow, Scotland G3 8RR

Minutes

Present: Leonora O'Brien (LO'B, Chair), Gerry Wait (GW, Treasurer), Kenneth Aitchison (Ordinary Member), Paul Belford (Ordinary Member), David Jennings (Ordinary Member), Ian Oxley (Ordinary Member), Annette Roe (Ordinary Member), Jen Parker Wooding (IfA)

Apologies: Alice Hobson (Secretary)

1.	Groups membership update	Action
	There are currently around 381 members of IPSIG. The Chair's report and the first paper of the preceding conference session described the results of the member survey.	-
2.	Minutes of Founding AGM & matters arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 37 members – now 381 • Seminars and workshops – ideas welcome! • IPSIG session at IfA conference – achieved • IfA webpage – online • LinkedIn group – 45 members • IPSIG posters at EAA & African Arch. Research Day • Publicity leaflets and postcards • Article in IfA Archaeologist Magazine • Membership survey in progress 	-
3.	Chair's welcome and opening remarks	-
4.	Officers' Reports: Hon Chair - IPSIG Membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 381 members in 23 countries • Cover all membership grades • Employment includes wide range of specialisms and sub-sectors • Overview of ongoing membership survey provided <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 51 responses, still open! ○ 75% have between 10 and 30+ years' experience ○ 56% have been working internationally for over 5 years • Membership of other organisations includes a wide range of other professional and expert organisations which may provide opportunities for working with other groups • Most members are employed by consultancies (20), followed by other (13), universities (5), archaeological contractors (5), and local government curators (4), the remainder were museums, students and national heritage agencies. • In terms of research geography, Northern, Southern and Eastern Europe were most popular, with Sub-Saharan Africa, North America and Latin America and the Caribbean the least common research areas. • Hearteningly, IPSIG members are particularly keen on 	-

	<p>collaboration opportunities, offering capacity building and sharing news (policy and legal) with many fewer interested in it for business opportunities or jobs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Perceived challenges noted in the membership survey include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Inconsistency of approach, poor/inconsistent standards & lack of guidance ○ Politics and wars; negotiating international freighting and customs ○ Sustainable long-term management vs. short-term international projects ○ Failure of UK government to promote & engage in international projects ○ Lack of funding (e.g. Interreg, local government), governments under significant fiscal pressure (e.g. Greece and Italy) ○ Lack of enforcement & theft of cultural heritage ○ Underdeveloped research frameworks & poor information exchange ○ Gaining employment ○ Bringing together the staff of museums, universities, academies & heritage organisations world-wide regardless of political persuasions ● Positive experiences noted in the membership survey include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ People, fantastic environments, diversity of projects ○ Capacity building, helping develop local fieldworkers & knowledge ○ Learning new techniques & working in a different environment ○ I worked with a French team in Bhanbore (Pakistan), it was a great experience for me and I learned so many things ○ Beginnings of the end of the Arab Spring, new areas opening up to archaeologists ○ Seeing new ways of working, and reflecting on UK heritage profession as a result ○ Finding each other! 	
4.	<p>Officers' Reports: Hon Treasurer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The budget for 2013-2014 was £475 ● The budget for 2014-2015 is £550 ● In the black 	-
4.	<p>Officers' Reports: Hon Secretary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Apologies 	-
5.	<p>Business plan 2014-17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Committee meetings 3 x year, Spring, Summer, Winter ● Membership competency matrix – explore membership views via survey ● Events - annual IfA conference session ● CPD workshop(s) - jointly with Committee on Professional 	Actions: All

	<p>Associations in Archaeology @ EAA conference annually</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group member survey annually, pre-conference • Ebulletin 1 or 2 times a year • Maintain and update publicity materials • Linkage to other organisations - as and when opportunities arise, forge and develop links with other groups 	
6.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Discussion of IPSIG potential CPD workshop(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topics may include: • Intangible heritage • Hard law, soft law – international standards, legislation and guidance • Qualitative research, anthropology and ethnography • Ethical aspects of conflict heritage • Technology/ tools • Built heritage and conservation • Capacity building in developing countries • Running overseas projects: practicalities, constraints and ethics • Securing long-term funding and measuring results 	-
	<p>Date and place of the next meeting.</p> <p>Venue and time to be confirmed.</p>	-