

# ISAP Annual General Meeting 2007

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2007

## **Minutes**

Meeting opened 15.30hrs with AS in the chair.

### Attendant ISAP Members

Takayuki Ako, Babak Aminpour, Kayt Armstrong, Pier Matteo Barone, Andrei Belinski, Christophe Benech, Meriç Berge, Karin Berghausen, Ksenisa Bondar, Paul Cheetham, Marcello Ciminale, Michel Dabas, Mahmut Drahor, Alois Eder-Hinterleitner, Jörg Fassbinder, Chris Gaffney, Danilo Gallo, Guillaume Hulin, David Jordan, Hiroyuki Kamei, Akihiro Kaneda, Susanne Kathage, Dmitry Korobov, Roman Krivánek, Ivan Kuzma, Maria Lafuente, Juerg Leckebusch, Neil Linford, Paul Linford, Klaus Löcker, Louise Martin, Krzysztof Misiewicz, Yasushi Nishimura, Alexandre Novo, Luciana Orlando, Salvatore Piro, Martin Posselt, Bronwen Russell, Roger Sala Bartrolí, Armin Schmidt, Volkmar Schultze, Alain Tabbagh, Julien Thiesson, Ján Tirpák, Immo Trinks, Gregory Tsokas, Lieven Verdonck, David Wilbourn

N.B. 48 out of 196 paid members (14 September 2007) = 24.5%, hence quorum reached.

### Apologies

E. Utsi and R. Walker.

## **1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (19th December 2006, London)**

1.1 The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

1.2 Matters Arising.

1.2.1 AS reported on the AARG database (<http://aarg.univie.ac.at/database/db.cgi>) and it was agreed that ISAP would fund a small project to investigate upload and download options.

1.2.2 Email list – moderation had been switched off. It was agreed that the increase in traffic was good and that moderation should remain disabled.

## **2. Annual Report of the Management Committee**

2.1 The ISAP Newsletter was highly praised and Louise Martin was thanked for her hard work. However, she needs more items for future issues. Please contact her directly if you have any news, views or short contributions ([Louise.Martin@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:Louise.Martin@english-heritage.org.uk))

2.2 It was reported that three students were supported by ISAP at the Nitra conference (Alexandre Novo, Gallo Danilo and Meric Berge). It was agreed that they presented well. In general, the conference had been a great success and the organisers were thanked.

2.3 It was noted that ISAP will support a student attending GPR 2008 in Birmingham, UK.

2.4 Although it was hoped to use Access Grid for Man.Com. meetings this was not possible at present. While no money has been used to fund Man.Com meetings so far, some funds may be required in the future.

2.5 Details of the 2009 meeting were provided by Christophe Benech.

Place : Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers.

Address : 292, rue St Martin 75003 Paris.

Date : 9-12 September 2009.

Organised by: UMR 5133 Archéorient, Lyon (Christophe Benech),  
UMR 7619 Sisyphe (Alain Tabbagh) and Chair de geotechnique (Denis Fabre).

Supporting Institutions: CNRS (National Center of Scientific Research)  
Université Louis Lumière (Lyon), Université Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris)  
and Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers (Paris).

There was a short discussion on the number of speakers who failed to turn up to the Nitra conference and who did not send apologies in advance. The 2009 organisers have been asked to investigate ways of reducing this problem. More flexible conference registration options will also be considered.

2.6 Although there are circa 230 ISAP members, only 190 have paid this year's fee. AS reported that the members' password will be changed soon, although this may mean hosting the web pages at an alternative location to the one currently used. There would be a cost incurred in changing hosts.

### 3. Financial Statement and Audited Accounts

3.1 The Financial Statement was presented by the Chair as the Treasurer was unable to be present.

<b>ISAP financial summary</b>		
<b>1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007</b>		
<b>Opening bank balance:</b>	<b>Sterling</b>	<b>Euros</b>
Sterling	£2,699.84	
Euros		€454.49
<b>Receipts:</b>		
Subscriptions	£1,451.90	€195.00
Bank interest	£10.74	€3.71
Other (Advertising&Paypal)	£0.17	
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>£1,462.81</b>	<b>€198.71</b>
<b>Payments:</b>		
Poster Prize, EIGG	£50.00	

<b>ISAP financial summary</b>		
<b>1 April 2007 to 31 August 2007</b>		
<b>Opening bank balance:</b>	<b>Sterling</b>	<b>Euros</b>
Sterling	£4,052.65	
Euros		€653.20
<b>Receipts:</b>		
Subscriptions	£400.06	€164.21
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>£400.06</b>	<b>€164.21</b>
<b>Payments:</b>		
3 Student Bursaries, Nitra		€450.00

Student Bursaries, EIGG	£60.00				
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>£110.00</b>	<b>€0.00</b>		<b>Total payments</b>	<b>£0.00 €450.00</b>
<b>Net surplus/deficit</b>	£1,352.81	€198.71		<b>Net surplus/deficit</b>	£400.06 - €285.79
<b>Closing bank balances</b>	£4,052.65	€653.20		<b>Closing bank balances</b>	£4,452.71 €367.41

#### 4. Election of Officers to the Management Committee for the next term.

As only one nomination was received for each post the elections were agreed by a block vote for all posts together.

- Chair: Armin Schmidt
- Vice-Chair: Apostolos Sarris
- Conference Secretary: Christophe Benech
- Conference Vice-Secretary: Ivan Kuzma
- Honorary Secretary: Chris Gaffney
- Editor: Louise Martin

Chris Leech again agreed to act as Treasurer for the following year and Rob Vernon kindly agreed to audit the accounts.

#### 5. Should a subscription to Archaeological Prospection as Membership Journal be included in The Society's annual fees?

A good discussion was held on this topic. While it was agreed that the price that had been negotiated was very good (£45 for **all** members), it was agreed that the Management Committee should enter into discussions with Wileys to see how we could accommodate students and members from developing countries (or other countries where the increased cost of subscriptions would be detrimental to ISAP membership numbers). Should a compromise be reached with Wiley then the membership will be informed via the email forum.

#### 6. Relationship with other Organisations (eg IFA)

It was clear on the email forum during the last few months that there was concern over the intentions of the UK based Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) regarding geophysical survey in the UK. Some ISAP members had reported that IFA were intending to create a Special Interest Group (SIG) on 'geophysics' and, furthermore, they appear to want to restrict the contractual use of archaeological geophysics in the UK to Registered Archaeological Organisations (RAO). While there is much to be gained from a SIG open to all, there is considerable concern over the latter, especially the professional fees to be paid and the selection criteria to be imposed. The discussion over this topic was long and detailed. The main outcomes of the debate were:

- The meeting was unhappy that IFA had not contacted ISAP to discuss this matter directly.
- Great concern was voiced over the potential anti-competitive nature of RAOs lists, especially concerning international groups and those UK groups who for whatever reason do not wish to buy into this scheme.
- It was feared that novel techniques or methods may be stifled in this approach.
- While ISAP is not a professional body, within its constitution we are compelled to broaden the use of prospection techniques within archaeology. With this in mind the meeting agreed that the Man.Com. should talk with IFA to promote the interests of all ISAP members who may wish to work within the UK.

## **7. Next AGM**

The next ISAP AGM will be held in London during December 2008 and will be linked to the EIGG meeting on Recent Work in Archaeological Geophysics.

## **8. Any other Business**

8.1 A short discussion was held regarding the poster / oral presentations at the ISAP conference. It was suggested that some of the posters could be made into excellent Newsletter contributions, or even hosted on the ISAP website as a pdf file. It was reported that the next issue of *Archaeological Prospection* contains papers from the Rome 2005 conference and that a special issue may be possible from Nitra. Additionally, there was a full discussion on the merits of publishing in such journal that is listed in the Citation Index (ISI) and it was made clear that submissions to *Archaeological Prospection* were vital and referencing articles from it would increase its Impact Factor.

**Meeting Closed 16.51hrs**