

ISAP Annual General Meeting 2013

Friday 31 May 2013, Austrian Academy of Science, Vienna, Austria

Minutes

In Attendance

Kate Armstrong, Andrei Asandulesei, Anthony Beck, Andrey Belinskiy, Meriç Berge, Matthew Berry, Daniel Boddice, James Bonsall, Pascal Brengel, Hannah Brown, Yoon Jung Choi, Marcello Ciminale, Dave Cowley, Carmen Cuenca-Garcia, Michel Dabas, Jörg Fassbinder, Robert Fry, Chris Gaffney (chair), Ekhine Garcia, Heather Gimson, Sebastien Gondet, Tomasz Herbich, Paul Johnson, Hiroyuki Kamei, Roman Krivánek, Roland Linck, Neil Linford, Paul Linford, Klaus Löcker, Felix Marcu, Cornelius Meyer, Krzysztof Misiewicz, Kourosh Mohammadkhani, Erich Nau, Yasushi Nishimura, Joep Orbons, Ron Organ, Nikos Papadopoulos, Andrew Payne, Salvatore Piro, Finnegan Pope-Carter, Axel Posluschny, Gaetano Ranieri, Michael Rogers, Roger Sala Bartrolí, Apostolos Sarris, Armin Schmidt, Joakim Schultzen, Mark Schurr, Sirri Seren, Thomas Sparrow, Arne Stamnes, Alain Tabbagh, Julien Thiesson, Immo Trinks, Lieven Verdonck, Jeroen Verhegge, Andreas Viberg, Benno Zickgraf.

(57 out of 212 paid members (as of 9 June 13) = 27%, hence the quorum of 10% was reached)

1. *Apologies* Actions

Apologies were received from Christophe Benech and noted.

2. *Minutes of the Previous Meeting (4 December 2012)*

The minutes had been made available on the web and were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Matters arising

Armin Schmidt had contacted Peter Morris who was extremely pleased having received the 2012 Poster Prize.

The management committee felt that instead of awarding a generic fieldwork grant as suggested at the 2012 AGM it would be better to instigate a project grant that has as one of its aims the advancement of archaeological prospection in research, practice or public understanding. A single submission date per year would concentrate the available funds. ISAP would reserve the right not to make an award if the applications were not deemed to have sufficient merit. The Management Committee was tasked to draw up guidelines and measures of 'merit'.

ManCo

It was suggested to provide funding for ISAP members (students and young professionals) to attend also other 'relevant' conferences. The Management Committee was tasked to provide a briefing for further discussion.

ManCo

3. *Financial Statement*

The Financial Statement was presented as summarised below. The Society had a positive balance of accounts of approximately £14,489 in March 2013, out of which £3,072 are to be paid for this conference's awards (16 bursaries and four poster awards). This expenditure is more than this year's income but there are sufficient funds to cover this shortfall. Chris Leech reported that advertising incomes are positive, but with room for improvements. However, there was a slight decline in membership payments and members were encouraged to pay their membership fees.

ISAP is keen to promote regional conferences and meetings and may be able to

assist with bursaries. A short statement to the Management Committee is all that is needed for events that seek ISAP support.

ISAP financial summary 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013		
	Sterling	Euros
Opening bank balance:		
Sterling	£10,682.30	
Euros		€1,280.92
Receipts:		
Subscriptions	£2,078.20	€457.89
Donations		
Bank interest	£3.16	
Advertising	£590.00	
Other		
Total receipts	£2,671.36	€457.89
Payments:		
Student Bursaries and Prizes	£90.00	
Bank Charges	£99.58	
Web hosting	£149.28	
Total payments	£338.86	
Net surplus/deficit	£2,332.50	€457.89
Closing bank balances	£13,014.80	€1,738.81

4. *Annual Report of the Management Committee*

Prizes and Studentships

For this meeting 16 Students and Young Professionals bursaries were awarded. The recipients were Matthew Berry, Pascal Brengel, Rebecca Cannell, Yoon Jung Choi, Carmen Cuenca-Garcia, Ekhine Garcia, Chrys Harris, Alice James, Melda Kucukdemirci, Kourosh Mohammadkhani, Mariangela Noviello, Michal Pisz, Finnegan Pope-Carter, Joakim Schultzén, Jeroen Verhegge and Andreas Viberg.

In addition, it was planned to award two poster prizes for this conference. However due to the high quality of posters presented, four prizes were eventually awarded. The recipients (first authors) were K. Dirix, R. Krivanek, R. Linck and J. Panisova. With Commendations for J. Bonsall, C. Cuenca-Garcia, P. Milo and M. Rus [NB: these awards were announced after the AGM].

Honorary Members

all

Two Honorary Members had recently died (John Weymouth and Arnold Aspinall) and their obituaries were included in ISAPNews. The membership was encouraged to send nominations for new Honorary Members with a brief supporting statement to the Management Committee.

Collaborations

Discussions were held with the Aerial Archaeology Research Group (AARG) to foster closer link. The ISAP Management Committee and the AARG General Committee are currently exploring whether mutual access to ISAPNews and AARG News can be arranged for members of both societies.

In addition, discussions were held with Archaeo Landscapes Europe ('ArcLand') to foster collaboration and link to the ArcLand network. ISAP is not in a position to make financial contributions to ArcLands or its successor but is keen to support it in other ways.

Roger Sala recently attended a UNESCO meeting and was surprised to find little awareness of archaeological geophysics. He put Dr. Nuria Sanz, General

Coordinator of the UNESCO World Heritage Thematic Programme HEADS, in contact with ISAP.

Chris Gaffney explained that ISAP would always endeavour to respond to and interact with other organisations which approached ISAP with clear requirements or questions.

Guidelines

Members of ISAP are authoring guidelines on archaeological geophysics for the European Archaeological Council, a European consortium of managers of national archaeological heritage management agencies. These guidelines are based on the English Heritage guidelines but adjusted for pan-European use. Siri Seren suggested to expand this from archaeological geophysics to archaeological prospection and was informed that further guidelines to cover additional fields are indeed planned.

11th International Conferences on Archaeological Prospection

The 2015 conference will be hosted by the University of Warsaw and is planned for September 2015. Applications are invited for hosting the 12th conference in 2017, which requires the completion of a brief form.

5. *Election of the Management Committee*

Only a single nomination was received for each position of the Management Committee, apart for the position of Editor for which Hannah Brown and Rob Fry were nominated. Wolfgang Neubauer suggested that the two candidates for the position of Editor were to carry out the role jointly and this was accepted by the membership. The other positions were also accepted by the membership. Chris Gaffney very strongly encouraged members to step forward before the next election (September 2015, Warsaw) and make themselves available for the Management Committee.

The Management Committee now consist of:

- Chairman: Armin Schmidt
- Vice Chairman: Christophe Benech
- Honorary Secretary: Chris Gaffney
- Conference Secretary: Tomasz Herbich
- Conference Vice Secretary: Wolfgang Neubauer
- Editor: Hannah Brown and Rob Fry.

Chris Leech was co-opted by the Management Committee as Treasurer.

6. *Next AGM*

The next AGM is planned for the NSGG day meeting that will take place in London in December 2014. It was suggested to make this a two-day event, possibly by linking it with a Forensic Geosciences Day as in previous years. The exact date and time of the AGM will be circulated to the membership by email.

7. *Any Other Business*

Finnegan Pope-Carter suggested making used of Social Networks, especially of Twitter. This might also allow better interaction with the commercial sector. Chris Gaffney reminded members that there is already an email list that could be used, even with smartphones in the field. A dedicated ISAP Twitter account was not considered necessary as it would require somebody to actively feed it with Tweets. Kayt Armstrong suggested to agree on, and publicise, a hashtag for the next conference so that people could easily interact pre-, during and post-

conference (e.g. #AP2015, or #ArchP2015).

Kayt Armstrong suggested holding a special session on commercial archaeological geophysics during the next conference in Warsaw. Wolfgang Neubauer suggested that this could instead be done in the form of workshops, for example a Mala 3D GPR workshop. Chris Gaffney commented that survey companies would need to see a clear relevance in order to attend the conference. Ant Beck highlighted that engagement with the commercial sector is important since it will lead to new uptake of research outcomes by users. Heather Gimson expressed that commercial archaeological geophysicists had only few other options for keeping up to date with new developments and that some support structure within ISAP would therefore be useful. The Management Committee will discuss this matter. [NB: Heather Gimson subsequently suggested that the Management Committee should aim to have a representative from student and young professionals and one from the commercial sector amongst them]

ManCo

Minutes by Armin Schmidt 18 June 2013