

ISAP Annual General Meeting 2025

Friday 19th September 2025, on-site and online

Minutes

Members in Attendance

Kayt Armstrong, Andrei Asandulesei, Graeme Attwood, Sarah Baeumler, Lukasz Banaszek (OL), Christophe Benech, Hannah Brown, Joris Coolen, Michel Dabas, Stine Detjens, Eileen Ernenwein, Joerg Fassbinder, Chris Gaffney, Leigh Garst, Roberto Grassi, Sandra Hahn, Ellinor Hedberg, Mikko Heikkinen, Tomasz Herbich, Alois Hinterleitner, Martina Hulmanova, Doris Jetzinger, Paul Johnson, Stephen Kay (OL), Roman Krivanek, Melda Kucukdemirci, Mike Langton, Roland Linck, Neil Linford, Kris Lockyear, Klaus Loecker, Jeremy Menzer, Peter Milo, Joep Orbons, Natalie Pickartz, Michal Pisz, Finnegan Pope-Carter, Benny Rieger, Anne Roseveare, Martin Roseveare, Robert Ryndziewicz, Apostolos Sarris, Marion Scheiblecker, Armin Schmidt, Volkmar Schmidt, Agnes Schneider, Adrian Serbanescu, Andreas Stele, Guglielmo Strapazzon, Julia Strassberger, Joanna Szarkowska, Michal Szedzielorz, Markus Tarasconi, Tomas Tencer, Julien Thiesson, Gregory Tsokas, Michal Vagner, Lieven Verdonck, Jeroen Verhegge, Quentin Vitale, William Wadsworth, Dennis Wilken, Piotr Wroniecki, Ilyas Yanbukhtin, Azamat Zakirov.

OL = Online

Of the 65 members in attendance 64 had paid their membership fee in 2024 or 2025; the total number of paid members in the last completed year (2024) was 295; hence the attendance of paid members was 22% and the quorum of 10% was reached.

Also in attendance were:

Katrina Cristina, Khaldoun Rajab and Anna Maria Rebernova.

The meeting was held on-site at the conference venue of ICAP2025, at the University of Ghent, Belgium, and slides and an audio stream were made available to all members via Microsoft Teams, hosted by the University of Ghent as a 'Townhall Meeting'; the Q&A stream of this online meeting was monitored by Eileen Ernenwein and conveyed to the meeting. The meeting was chaired by Natalie Pickartz, notes and minutes were taken by Armin Schmidt. The meeting started at 16:00 local time (GMT+2) and lasted for approximately one hour.

	<u>Action</u>
1. <i>Apologies</i>	<u>Action</u>
Apologies were received from Dave Cowley and Erica Utsi.	
2. <i>Minutes of the previous meeting (3rd December 2024)</i>	<u>Action</u>
The minutes were made available on the ISAP website. No objections were raised; hence they are deemed accepted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.	
3. <i>Matters arising from the previous meeting.</i>	<u>Action</u>
The Management Committee (ManCom) was asked to consider whether to set up a BlueSky Social Media account. This was approved and such account has been created.	
4. <i>Financial Summary (Armin Schmidt)</i>	<u>Action</u>
An overview was presented showing that the Society's finances remain healthy. Overall, a small spend-down of 52 GBP of the savings (between 1 April 2024 and 5 September 2025) occurred, mostly in support of grants and bursaries. The goal of	

'spending down' the balance is therefore being achieved. However, there is limited room for larger additional expenditures.

4. *Annual Report of the Management Committee*

SAGA WITHIN ISAP (ARMIN SCHMIDT)

The COST Action "The Soil Science & Archaeo-geophysics Alliance" (led by Carmen Cuenca-Garcia) was funded until April 2023 and after discussion within ManCom it was agreed that some results and resources shall be made available through ISAP. The topic of soils in archaeological prospection is important and shall be kept alive. ManCom is exploring the possibility to host the SAGA Database on the ISAP server, which would have resource implications. Hence the importance/utility of this database to ISAP members has to be explored. Members are asked to complete the respective questionnaire before 30 Sept 2025

(<https://forms.gle/vhdkciVRD5ofq84FA>). AS is asked to post the correct link to the SAGA Database to the ISAP-all email list. AS

REVISION OF EAC GUIDELINES (ARMIN SCHMIDT)

The European Archaeological Council (EAC) encouraged the authors of the 'Guidelines for the use of Geophysics in Archaeology: Questions to Ask and Points to Consider' to update these. Six of the previous authors, all ISAP members, have agreed to revise the EAC guidelines; they will ask for additional contributors for specific topics. ISAP will assist the authors with a view to eventually endorse the revised Guidelines. Initially, ISAP will undertake a User Survey to collect input from the community. This will consist of two phases: in Phase 1 a small number of interviews will be undertaken to design a detailed questionnaire form; in Phase 2 this questionnaire will be widely distributed and its results presented to the Guidelines' authors. Members who are interested to be interviewed as part of Phase 1 should contact the Chair (chair@archprospection.org).

ManCom had invited a presentation by Ken Hamilton on the revised marine geophysics guidelines from Historic England to minimise duplications between these two guidelines.

It was pointed out that other guidelines are also being updated (CIIfA Standards and Guidance, NFDI4Objects metadata and data formats, ADS Guide to Good Practice: Geophysical Data in Archaeology).

4b MERCHANTISE (MARION SCHEIBLECKER)

Merchandise is still available from <https://www.archprospection.org/merchandise> . Since the anniversary logo is no longer available all items have been updated. Some older products are no longer available, others have been added. There are currently 427 products available. A part of the sale price goes to supporting the ISAP Fund. Up to January 2025, 18 items were sold, with EUR 38 for ISAP, up to May 2025 a further EUR 25 were received by ISAP. Bestsellers are shirts and mugs.

Between September 17-21 2025 a discount of 20% applies to all purchases.

ISAPNEWS (HANNAH BROWN)

Issue 75 has recently been published. All relevant articles now have DOIs. AARG has encountered serious Copyright/Data Protection issues with previously submitted articles, mainly related to background images (e.g. Google/Bing; old maps). ISAP will develop a procedure so that authors have to indemnify ISAP by confirming to have followed the required rules and regulations.

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4a ISAP FUND (PAUL JOHNSON)

Abstracts of all funded projects are available on the website. The 2025 funding round had a budget of £3000. A Major Grant was awarded to Liam Wadsworth (£2000), a Minor Grant to Michal Szedzielorz (£494) and the remained held over for the next funding round. The next calls are planned for 15 March 2026 (Major Grant) and 15 April 2026 (Minor Grant).

It was enquired whether the level of funding should be raised and ManCom was asked to consult its members accordingly, providing information on the impact that this would have on the membership fee. In addition, previous grantees shall be consulted about their views on this subject.

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It was confirmed that Minor Grants can be applied for retrospectively (i.e. shortly after the work was done) and the reporting requirements are minimal. For Major Grants, already existing reports/publications may be submitted as the final report.

ICAP BURSARIES (PAUL JOHNSON)

Giuseppe Guarino, Martina Hulmanová, Lisa Klein, Klara Sauter, Julia Strassberger and Liam Wadsworth, each received EUR 120 for their attendance at ICAP2025.

5. *Questions to the Membership*

PROPOSED CLARIFICATION ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ISAP AND ICAP (PAUL JONSON)

The previously circulated draft text shall be included in the 'Supplement to the Constitution', specifying that the conference mentioned in the ISAP constitution is the 'International Conference on Archaeological Prospection (ICAP)'. Further details about the relationship between ISAP and ICAP were provided in the draft text.

Vote: for - majority; against - none; abstain - none. The inclusion of the draft text into the supplement has hence been approved.

Elections of Officers to the Management Committee

Nominations were received for the elected members of ManCom for the next term (1st October 2025 to Sept 2027). Only one nomination was received for each post and the election hence took place as one block:

- Chair: Natalie Pickartz
- Vice-Chair: Stephen Kay
- Honorary Secretary: Armin Schmidt
- Conference Secretary: Peter Milo
- Conference Vice-Secretary: Jeroen Verhegge
- Editor: Hannah Brown

Vote: for – majority; against – none; abstain – none. The nominated officers were hence elected.

Co-opted members who have already agreed to serve are

- ISAP Fund Secretary: Paul Johnson
- Treasurer: Paul Linford
- Auditor: Rob Vernon

The latter was thanked for his continued service for the last 22 years.

Thanks were also extended to the departing members; Vice Conference Secretary: Wolfgang Rabbel, Co-Editor Michal Pisz [his name was missing from the slide]; Ordinary Members: Eileen Ernenwein, Martin Roseveare, Marion Scheiblecker, Tom Sparrow, Joanna Szarkowska, Ben Urmston.

A call for members to serve as Co-opted Ordinary Members will be sent to the ISAP-all email list in October.

5. ***Future events***

18TH ICAP 2029

Proposals to host ICAP2029 should be submitted before 20th December 2025; an application form can be requested from the Chair (chair@archprospection.org).

17TH ICAP 2027: BRNO, CZECH REPUBLIC (PETER MILO)

This will most likely take place in September 2027 at the Department of Archaeology and Museology, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic. Direct flights to Brno are available from London; direct train and bus connections exist from airports in Vienna (recommended connection), Prague and Bratislava. Many direct train connections also exist e.g. from Berlin, Warszawa, Budapest. The Faculty of Arts in the University has modern facilities and Brno is a vibrant city.

It is planned to hold the 2029 ISAP AGM at the end of ICAP2029.

6. ***Any Other Business***

ORGANISATION OF CONFERENCE SESSIONS AT ICAP2025

Due to the large number of participants at ICAP2025 several submitted oral papers had to be converted to posters, resulting in a very large poster session (ca. 100 posters). The conference organisers enquired whether future conferences should still be organised with a single track of oral presentation. The discussion of attendants confirmed that this is highly desirable. Several suggestions for possible future changes were made: several poster sessions; hang posters in the coffee area; have sessions with shorter oral presentations (e.g. 6 min); just one day with parallel streams and panel discussions; be more selective which topics are accepted; every person has only one presentation.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH AARG

The AARG Chair (Łukasz Banaszek) thanked ISAP ManCom for the good collaboration. The MoU between the two societies is working well, e.g. by AARG members applying to the ISAP Fund, and joint activities at the EAA. ISAP members were invited to the next AARG meeting in Pilsen, in autumn 2026.

Next AGM

The 2026 AGM will possibly be an online-only event again. Details will be circulated on the ISAP-all email list.

Appendix: Financial Statement 2025: to 5 September 2025

ISAP financial summary 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025			ISAP financial summary 1 April 2025 to 05 September 2025		
Opening bank balance:	£15,196.75	€984.92	Opening bank balance:	£16,892.74	€2,153.41
Receipts:			Receipts:		
Conversion of € to £	£0.00		Conversion of € to £	£0.00	
Subscriptions	£3,001.51	€1,183.42	Subscriptions	£139.93	€82.39
Donations	£18.44	€0.00	Donations	£10.00	€0.00
Bank interest	£166.38		Bank interest	£77.66	€0.00
Advertising (ISAP News)	£677.00	€0.00	Advertising (ISAP News)	£100.00	€0.00
EAC Guidelines purchases	£0.00	€0.00	EAC Guidelines purchases	£4.58	€0.00
ISAP 20 yr merchandise	£0.00	€63.52	ISAP merchandise	£0.00	€0.00
Total receipts	£3,863.33	€1,246.94	Total receipts	£332.17	€82.39
Payments:			Payments:		
Conversion of € to £		€0.00	Conversion of € to £		€0.00
Bursaries & prizes	£0.00	€0.00	Bursaries & prizes	£0.00	€0.00
ISAP Fund grants	£1,991.39	€0.00	ISAP Fund grants	£2,872.00	€0.00
Officer EAA travel expenses	£42.00	€0.00	Officer EAA travel expenses	£0.00	€0.00
Web hosting/DOI fees	£31.96		ISAP Promotions	£0.00	€290.37
Bank charges	£101.99	€78.45	Web hosting/DOI fees	£18.86	€0.00
Total payments	£2,167.34	€78.45	Bank charges	£12.67	€5.97
Net surplus/deficit	£1,695.99	€1,168.49	Total payments	£2,903.53	€296.34
Closing bank balances	£16,892.74	€2,153.41	Net surplus/deficit	-£2,571.36	-€213.95
Total Surplus GBP	£2,703.31		Closing bank balances	£14,321.38	
Total Balance GBP	£18,749.13			-£2,755.80	
				£15,993.33	