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Introducing the ICOM-CC Fund and its new Board

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The background of the cover is a photograph of a traditional Japanese temple, likely the Kinkaku-ji (Golden Pavilion) in Kyoto, Japan. The temple is a three-story building with a dark roof and golden walls, situated on a small island in a pond. The surrounding area is lush with green trees and mountains in the distance. The water in the pond is calm, reflecting the temple and the sky. In the foreground, there are some reeds and a large rock.

On Board

News and Reports from the Directory Board
Volume 17, July 2019

ICOM-CC
ICOM
International Council
of Museums – Committee
for Conservation

- Update from the Chair
- Activities at the ICOM General Conference, Kyoto
- Working Group Updates
- The Fire at the National Museum, Brazil
- Introducing ICOM-CC Fund and its new Board

Picture front page Cover
Nora Kennedy

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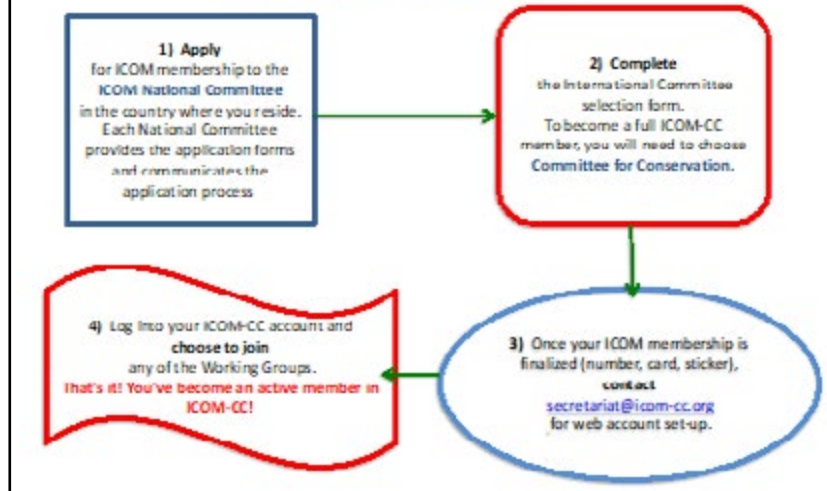
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A quick reminder on how to become an ICOM-CC member.

Don't forget to join one or more Working Groups on step #4

ICOM-CC International Council of Museums - Committee for Conservation

How to become an ICOM-CC Member



Introducing the ICOM-CC Fund and its new Board

Sanneke Stigter, Chair, ICOM-CC Fund

The ICOM-CC Fund has a new Board as of May 1st 2019. The fund was established in 2003 for charitable purposes aimed at promoting ICOM-CC and its activities. The aim of the foundation is to raise funds to finance projects in the best interest of ICOM-CC. This includes providing the infrastructure for an international platform with an expanded website for both professional and public information. We are happy to take on our positions and to pursue the fund's mission and are looking forward to support ICOM-CC in the best possible way. We aim to develop new strategies for fund raising and better visibility to promote the ICOM-CC Fund both within the conservation community and the public at large.

The new board members are Sanneke Stigter (Chair), Annelies van Loon (Secretary) and Louise Wijnberg (Treasurer), each of whom have been ICOM-CC members since many years and active in various Working Groups. Each of them have been successful in raising funds for research projects, are on the board of different committees, and active in the conservation community.

Sanneke Stigter, PhD, is Assistant Professor of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage at the University of Amsterdam directing the Contemporary Art specialization since 2007, after having been the Head Conservator of Contemporary Art and Modern Sculpture at the Kröller-Müller Museum. She focuses on conservation theory, oral history and artist participation, in conceptual art and museum practice. She takes over from Vinod Daniel, Head Conservator of the Australian Museum, Sydney.

Louise Wijnberg, PhD, directs her own company Art & Conservation working for different national and international institutions, museums and universities as advisor, lecturer and teacher. She was Senior Paintings Conservator at the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam for 32 years, where she specialised in modern and contemporary paintings. She is taking over from Paul van Duin, Head of Furniture Conservation at the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam.

Annelies van Loon, PhD, is Paintings Research Scientist at the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam. She specialized in the materials analysis and ageing and deterioration processes, with a special focus on the formation of metal soaps. Currently she develops and applies non-invasive imaging techniques to study Old Master Paintings at the Rijksmuseum. She takes over from Thea van Oosten, formerly Senior Scientist at Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands, who served one term.

We would like to invite you to promote the ICOM-CC Fund. One of the ways to help the Fund support ICOM-CC activities is through the ICOM-CC Friend scheme. The aim of ICOM-CC Friends or Student Friends is to allow a prospective ICOM-CC member to immediately participate in ICOM-CC activities while waiting for ICOM membership to be approved through the specific ICOM National Committee. In addition, the ICOM-CC Fund welcomes your donations and bequests to support our goals. Find the [ICOM-CC Fund](#) on the ICOM-CC website under ‘About’ and spread the word!



Figure 38. ICOM-CC Fund Board change in April 2019. From left to right: Thea van Oosten (former secretary), Louise Wijnberg, Annelies van Loon, Sanneke Stigter and Paul van Duin (former treasurer). © ICOM-CC Fund.

The European Union Ban on Nitrogen

Kristiane Strætkevørn

REGULATION (EU) No 528/2012 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 22 May 2012

Over recent months, ICOM-CC has been involved with the ICOM Headquarters and International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) to formulate a statement to forward to the European Union commission on the so-called ‘**Nitrogen Ban**’ – a European Union regulation becoming increasingly problematic for European museums and heritage organisations using nitrogen for Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for the preservation of monuments and museum objects. A significant advantage of IPM is that potentially hazardous chemicals can be avoided in the treatment of pest infected collections and monuments. The processes leading up to this ban and the reasoning behind it do not seem to have sufficiently considered how nitrogen is applied in the cultural heritage sector, its advantages, and the drawbacks of this regulation. It is difficult and very costly for smaller institutions and museums to meet the very strict demands and restrictions in the EU regulation. There are very few suppliers on the market, so one consequence of the regulation is that the ban leads to a monopoly in the field of eliminating insect infestation. Thus, at the beginning of March, a [statement](#) was forwarded to the EU Directorate for Health and Food Safety, urging that nitrogen be taken off the list of banned biocidal products. The first response from the EU Directorate for Health and Food Safety was that it is up to the EU member states to change the already approved legislation. I quote: “*Member States may request from the Commission a derogation under Article 55(3) of the Biocidal Products Regulation to authorise a biocidal product using a non-approved biocidal active substance if the Member State considers that the active substance is essential for the protection of cultural heritage and that no appropriate alternatives are available*”.

ICOM/ICOM-CC and ICOMOS will encourage their members in countries subject to EU regulations to ensure that their national authorities are aware of the problems with the nitrogen ban, and that they support an exemption from the regulation for the protection of cultural heritage. We have already received messages of such support from member states and we hope that these efforts will be fruitful. The use of nitrogen for the preservation of monuments and museum objects was further discussed in a meeting of the Competent Authorities on Biocidal Products, that took place 16-17 May 2019. The organisations behind the statement (ICOM/ICOM-CC and ICOMOS) were invited to attend this meeting and ICOM/ICOM-CC sent a long term ICOM-CC member, Michael Højlund Rasmussen from Denmark to Brussels to explain the concerns of the cultural heritage sector. We will do our best to provide updates about the progress on this matter.