

Meeting date	27 June 2019
Agenda item	AGM
Subject	2019/20 Annual Plan & Programme
Author	Tonya Nelson
	<p>Governance Review A governance review has been commissioned and is being conducted by Julie Coles. Coles has interviewed the Executive Committee as part of her work and facilitated an away with the Committee in February 2019. The final report is expected over the summer period and a sub-committee comprised of Jim Broughton, Christian Baars and Tonya Nelson will be taking forward recommendations and proposing any significant governance changes for the membership’s approval at the next AGM. With a refreshed governance framework, ICOM UK will be poised to develop a new long-term strategy.</p> <p>Membership We will continue to boost student numbers by approaching museum studies course leaders and providing discounts to events. We will also continue to increase the diversity of our membership. We created a category of specially priced tickets for the 2019 Working Internationally Conference for Museum Detox and Museum Disability Network members in order stimulate interest in membership. All tickets in the category were sold and we have been approached by a number of these attendees about membership. Increasing institutional membership remains a challenge but will were successful in gaining a few new members including the Barbican Art Gallery and Barbican International Enterprises (both part of the Barbican Centre), the Wellcome Collection, and Guildhall Art Gallery & London’s Roman Amphitheatre. Communicating the value to institutions will continue to be a priority.</p> <p>Stakeholder Engagement <i>ICOM Secretariat</i> This year, ICOM UK will focus its attention on supporting the Secretariat in delivering the 25th General Conference in Kyoto (1-7 September 2019). Four members of the Executive Committee will be attending (Tonya Nelson, Dana Andrew, Catherine McDermott and Arran Rees) and grants have been given to four members to attend.</p> <p>The conference theme is <i>Museums as Cultural Hubs: The Future of Tradition</i>. In response to the Savoyy-Saar report and a number of high-profile restitution claims, ICOM Secretariat has increased its work in the area of restitution and decolonisation and proposed to collaborate with ICOM UK on</p>

designing and developing sessions on these issues. Two 90-minute sessions called *Decolonization and Restitution: Moving Towards a More Holistic Perspective and Relational Approach* will bring together representatives from ICOM Australia, ICOM Brazil, ICOM Canada, ICOM India, ICOM USA ICOM France, ICOM Germany, ICOM Namibia, ICOM Senegal, and ICOM Netherlands for discussion about how these issues can be addressed by building mutually beneficial, long-term relationships between museums in colonising and formerly colonised countries. The aim is for these sessions is develop a collaborative approach to addressing these issues and understand better how ICOM Secretariat can support such work.

Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)

We will continue to meet with DCMS regularly, with a particular focus on supporting planning around Brexit. In the future, ICOM will build relationships with govt bodies in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Arts Council England (ACE)

ICOM has re-engaged with ACE (post-unsuccessful SSO bid) to deliver, in partnership with British Council, a roundtable on restitution and decolonisation at the 2019 Working Internationally conference. The roundtable allowed ACE and British Council to canvas museum representatives on their needs around restitution and decolonisation. As a result, ACE has convened a small working group, that will include ICOM UK, to help update restitution guidance. ACE will also partner with ICOM UK to deliver a roundtable on decolonisation at the 2019 Museums Association conference. As ACE completes its review of its museums and cultural property teams and develops its new 10-year strategy, we will pursue opportunities to work with ACE either as funded sector support organisation, service provider, and/or programme partner.

British Council

Our British Council grant for this year increased to £45,000, with additional funding for travel bursary administration and to deliver a roundtable on decolonisation. The increase in funding for travel bursary administration resulted from an evaluation conducted last year, which found that the travel grant schemes have enabled a wide range of museum professionals from the UK to develop their international working practice. The schemes have inspired participants and had a positive impact on the recipient's professional development and their organisation's attitude toward, and practice of, international working. Additionally, following the visits relationships between the recipients and the international host museums have continued, and in some case led to more exchange visits between the museums.

Helen Thomas, ICOM UK Committee member, resigned from British Council this year. It is unclear whether and when British Council will replace her role, presenting a significant risk to ICOM UK. Hence, the focus this year will be build new relationships within British Council and understand whether there are opportunities for ICOM UK to expand its role to deliver more services to the organisation in lieu of a dedicate museums post.

Museums Association

For a number of years, we have had ambitions to work more closely with the Museums Association (MA). This year we met with members of the MA leadership team and have started to outline how our organisations could leverage each other's strengths. One of the issues that arose from the restitution roundtable was that museums need help in developing long-term relationships with collections' source communities. A proposal we are considering is to work together to map collections across the UK and linked them to their source communities internationally and to leverage the ICOM network to create collaborations and exchanges with museums in those source communities. This work will require extra staff resource and, thus, ICOM UK and MA will seek funding from the ICOM secretariat and/or other sources to get this work off the ground.

National Museum Directors' Council (NMDC)

We will continue to work with NMDC in delivering the annual *Working Internationally Conference*. It has been proposed that we conduct an overall review of the conference to understand whether its needs to be repositioned to meet new needs of the sector.

Advocacy

Under the leadership of new Executive Committee member Christian Baars, ICOM UK increased its advocacy around sustainability and conservation issues. We will continue this work by developing mechanisms for alerting members to issues and creating mechanisms for voicing support or opposition to policies and actions that impact cultural heritage and museums.

Conferences and Events

Working Internationally Conference

Our major event for the year will be the *Working Internationally Conference*. We have decided that in order to increase attendance at AGMs and to reduce administrative expenses, the next conference will include the AGM. We have not settled on a date, but it is likely that the next conference and AGM will occur in April 2020. We are considering locations outside London at the moment.

Museums Association Conference

We are planning to hold a roundtable on decolonising museums at the Museums Association conference (3-5 October). This will allow us to capitalise on the learning we gain from international colleagues at our session at the Triennial Conference in Kyoto in September. We also hope to organise an informal evening event for members to gather and network.

Projects

SARAT

ICOM UK will continue to support British Council Cultural Protection Fund (CPF) Project *Safeguarding Archaeological Assets in Turkey (SARAT)*. After a delayed start, due to political issues that impeded our Turkish partners from providing onsite in person courses for museum professionals, the online

	<p>training programme launched early in 2019. The first cohort of students have completed the course and on-going demand is high, with over 1,500 people registering waiting to take the course. Carol Scott has been contracted to conduct the evaluation and ICOM UK has helped with the recruitment of a community outreach advisor who will put together workshops to help heritage professionals to engage communities in preventing heritage sites.</p> <p>Communications/Marketing New ICOM Committee member Arran Rees has taken over the communications role from Edmund Connolly (who now acts as our Blue Shield representative). We will continue to boost of social media presences and diverse the type of content presented in ICOM news. We will also start to plan a website redesign.</p>
--	--