
ICOM Publications Advisory Group

Background

The strategic plan (Objective 1, action 6) calls for the constitution of a Publications Advisory Group to assist the Secretariat's Publications Unit ensure that its publications reflect latest and scholarly thinking in the field, that they are of the rigour reflective of ICOM's international prestige, and that they undergo an evaluation process to guarantee improved quality. Furthermore, this Group will participate with the Secretariat in the drafting of a Publications Policy that will guide the Secretariat's decisions and actions in relation to this area of activity.

ICOM's President and the Executive Council will identify and propose experts to participate in this Advisory Group, along with the Secretariat's Publications Unit, the latter consisting of the Secretary General, the Editor, the Communications Officer and the Webmaster.

The proposed mandate, composition and working procedures for the publications advisory group are described below.

Mandate

1. to approve a publications policy
2. to develop guidelines for ICOM publications with the Publications Unit
3. to set up a procedure for professional evaluation/peer review of ICOM Secretariat/ Committees publications
4. to advise on general publications issues
5. to solicit and identify themes for publications by ICOM Committees
6. to advise on themes and contributors for ICOM news
7. to advise on reprints of ICOM publications
8. to assist in the creation of new partnerships for co-editions and distribution
9. to determine the future structure of the Advisory Group (working group, standing committee, etc.)

Composition

The members selected should provide a wide geographical representation of ICOM

The Advisory Group should be composed of no more than 5 members, aside from the Secretary General, Editor, Communications Officer, and Webmaster.

Total members in publications advisory group: 9

Publications Advisory Group cont.d

Desired profile of members

The selected members should have

- multilingual abilities (English essential),
- extraordinary monolingual ability (in any of the three official ICOM languages),
- experience in at least one of the following:
 - editing,
 - print production,
 - electronic publishing
 - publication distribution

- members should possess a clear understanding of the ICOM membership, of the organization and of the museum/cultural heritage profession and issues.
- at least 1 member should have native language proficiency in Spanish (and bilingual in English or French).
- the members should be complementary in terms of their background and expertise.

Working procedures

All business will be conducted primarily electronically by e-mail, supported by occasional (skype) teleconferencing.

The advisory group will meet physically once a year during the advisory council session to review activities of the previous year and to report to the statutory bodies of ICOM

Business will be conducted in English, unless all members are at least bilingual in English and in French, in which case either language would be used