



**Minutes of the Section of Professional Associations General Assembly  
held in Brussels, Belgium, 22 November 2013  
(To be approved at Girona in October 2014)**

**Present:** Fred van Kan, Koninklijke Vereniging van Archivarissen in Nederland; Bernhard Post, Verband Deutscher Archivarinnen und Archivare; Vilde Ronge, Norwegian Society of Records Managers and Archivists; Kenth Sjoblom, Society of Finnish Archivists; Cristina Bianchi, Association des Archivistes Suisses; Gregor Trinkaus-Randall, Society of American Archivists & Academy of Certified Archivists; Claude Roberto, Association des Archivistes du Québec; Michal Henkin, Israeli Archives and Information Association; John Chambers, Archives and Records Association, UK & Ireland; Scott Goodine, Association of Canadian Archivists; Jean-Philippe Legois, Association des Archivistes Français; Joan Soler Jiménez, Associació d'Arxivers-Gestors de Documents de Catalunya; Emilie Gagnet Leumas, Association of Catholic Diocesan Archivists; Sarah Tyacke, FIDA (Observer); Didier Grange, Association des Archivistes Suisses (Observer); Joan Boadas i Raset, Associacio d'Arxivers de Catalunya (Observer).

***The President, Fred van Kan, took the Chair.***

**1. Adoption of the agenda**

**2. Adoption of the Minutes of the 2012 General Assembly Meeting in Brisbane, Australia**

The minutes were approved.

**3. SPA Steering Committee membership**

Jean-Philippe Legois is now representing the Association des Archivistes Français, Michal Henkin is now representing the Israeli Archives and Information Association, and José Arturo Yañez is now representing the Mexican Association. Approved.

**4. SPA 2012/2013 Annual Report**

The President, Fred van Kan, presented the Annual Report which will be made available on the ICA website. Approved.

## 5. Presentations

- Sarah Tyacke made a presentation on FIDA; this organization helps archivists in low resourced countries develop projects. In 2013 FIDA received 23 applications; the fund is able to fund only 5 to 6 projects per year. The organization wants to raise more funding to offer better services and asked SPA for help in getting more money. All funding goes to projects (nothing is spent on administration).
- Didier Grange would like to create an observatory on archival associations. He is also looking for funding to publish his book on the history of archival associations in English. In a few months, he will publish the Spanish edition of this book.

## 6. SPA projects

- **Directory of Associations**

A list has been compiled by Bernhard Post and will be available on the ICA website. It will require ongoing update.

- **Human Rights**

Trudy Peterson made her report available on the ICA website.

- **Advocacy**

Joan reported his government (Catalonia) approved the Universal Declaration on Archives in June. This sets a precedent because it is the first government in the world to approve this Declaration. Jean-Philippe mentioned that the European petition on preserving personal information received more than 51,000 signatures throughout Europe and made people aware of the importance of archives. There is now time because no decision will take place until 2015 after the European elections and the creation of a new Commission. Gregor Trinkaus-Randall presented the SAA advocacy program. Claude Roberto, on behalf of the AAQ, and Scott Goodine, on behalf of the ACA, confirmed that Canadian archivists received much media exposure due to the political uproar affecting archives and were in a stronger position than in 2012; the federal Code of Ethics for archivists has been revised.

## 7. Reports from members

- Finland: The association has a new website in Finnish and Swedish. The annual conference was on archival legislation which is being revised.
- Switzerland: The Federal law on the Protection of Cultural Property was revised and the government announced that the country would serve as a “safe haven for temporary warehousing of cultural property seriously threatened abroad”. A new working group on access and communication has been created.
- UK and Ireland: The merger of the two associations continues to be successful. An archival scanning project was developed and supported by 109 archival repositories.
- Germany: There is still no plan to recreate the Cologne archives.
- Catalonia: The association includes 800 members for a population of 7 million; its new website is more interactive than before.

- Israel: The association developed educational workshops and is trying to reach universities. It translated the *Manual of Records Management* written by Cristina Bianchi into Hebrew.
- U.S.A.: The 2013 annual conference took place in New Orleans and the 2014 conference will be held in Washington, DC. The American Catholic Churches, the Council of State Archivists, and the National Association of Government Archivists and Records Administrators will meet with the SAA.
- France: The Forum of Angers was a major success and will be repeated every three years. The Association is planning a *Tour de France* to discuss the future of archival associations.
- Quebec: The association is giving moral support to the community of Malian archivists and offered its expertise and willingness to participate in a collective and vital effort to safeguard Malian heritage.
- Canada: The archival community is planning to hold an interactive Canadian Archives Summit (live webcast) in January 2014 to provide the Canadian archival community and those interested in its future with an opportunity to re-envision strategically the future of Canadian heritage.
- Netherlands: The merger of the association of archivists KVAN and the association of archival institutions BRAIN as proposed by the board of KVAN was rejected by the KVAN assembly.

#### **8. Next General Assembly and announcement on Girona, Spain**

The 2nd ICA Annual Conference will be held in from October 13 to October 15, 2014 in Girona. The SPA 2014 General Assembly will take place during this event. The event in Girona will include also the 9th European Conference on Archives and the 13th Image and Research Seminar meeting. The theme of the event is: Archives and Cultural Industries.

#### **9. Adjournment**