

# International Council of Onomastic Sciences



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## XXIV INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ONOMASTIC SCIENCES

Barcelona, 5th- 9th September 2011

*"Names in daily life"*

FIRST CIRCULAR

<http://barcelona.onomastica.cat/>



The International Council  
of Onomastic Sciences



Generalitat  
de Catalunya



UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA



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## 0. PRESENTATION

The *International Council of Onomastic Sciences* (ICOS) is the international organization for anybody who has a special interest in the study of names (place-names, personal names, and proper names of all kinds). The aim of the Council is the advancement, representation and co-ordination of name-research on an international level and in an interdisciplinary context. The first ICOS Congress was held in Paris in 1938 and in 1947 it began to be held at regular, three-year intervals in different cities of the world and with the collaboration of prestigious universities.

Following the decision taken at the General Assembly of the International Council of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS), held in August 2008 in Toronto (Canada), the **24th International Congress of Onomastic Sciences** will be held in **Barcelona**, at the University of Barcelona, from **5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> of September, 2011**.

The conference is organized under the auspices of ICOS, the Catalan Government (*Generalitat*) and the University of Barcelona, and has the overall theme of reference

### *Names in daily life*

In Catalonia, onomastic studies enjoy a long tradition, their origins being traced back to the figure of Josep Balari i Jovany, professor at the University of Barcelona, in the last decades of the nineteenth century. Balari established contacts with European and American pioneers in the field and helped plant the first seeds of the research to be undertaken in the Catalan cultural and linguistic setting. Following Balari, the science of onomastics, promoted from within the *Institut d'Estudis Catalans* and the University of Barcelona, has since produced outstanding results and has attracted eminent scholars, among whom we find the likes of Francesc de Borja Moll, Antoni Maria Badia i Margarit, Enric Moreu-Rey and Joan Coromines.

In the past three decades, coinciding with the general recovery of the Catalan language, onomastics has acquired an increasingly important role. This role has been manifest in academia, in the standardisation (or *normalisation*) of the language, in its growing use in public records, databases, cartography and on signs, and in its expanding institutional projection. In this process the work of the *Comissió de Toponímia de Catalunya* (Committee on Place Names of Catalonia), the Office of Onomastics of the *Institut d'Estudis Catalans* and the *Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya* (Cartographic Institute of Catalonia) has been instrumental.

Barcelona, the host for this conference, has consolidated its position over the last thirty years as a pole of reference in Catalonia, and as a leader among the cities of the Iberian Peninsula, Europe and the Mediterranean. The transition to democracy ushered in a period of ambitious urban renovation and rehabilitation throughout the city. The impetus of the 1992 Olympic Games and later initiatives have forged a city that combines tradition and modern design - the Barcelona of today, from its historic city quarters to its stylish new seafront, and the unique urban plan of the Eixample district - a landmark in town planning not only in Europe but throughout the world.

The 24th ICOS congress represents an opportunity to strengthen the projection of the city, the country and its institutions in the international academic field. It can achieve this from within the framework of the study of proper names: a science that while focusing on the study of names has a marked multilingual and interdisciplinary vocation. At the same time this can be accomplished in the context of the Catalan language, one that has enjoyed the support of leading figures in science and which can boast a long-standing tradition of support in its defence and dissemination from its institutions and civil society.

## 1. ORGANIZATION: COMMITTEES

### **HONORARY COMMITTEE**

*Honorary President:* Josep-Lluís Carod Rovira

*Executive President:* Josep Moran

### **Promoting Institutions**

*Generalitat de Catalunya:* Bernat Joan

*Universitat de Barcelona:* Carles Carreras

*International Council of Onomastic Sciences:* Sheila Embleton

### **Organizing Institutions**

*Institut d'Estudis Catalans:* Salvador Giner

*Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya:* Jaume Miranda

*Societat d'Onomàstica:* Josep M. Albaigès

### **SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

*Coordinator:* Joan Tort (Universitat de Barcelona)

*Assistant:* Esperança Piquer (Barcelona)

#### *Section Presidents:*

Julia Kuhn (Friedrich Schiller-Universität Jena)

Olga Molchanova (Uniwersytet Szczeciński, Polska)

Silvio Brendler (Hamburg)

Elwys De Stefani (Universität Bern)

Jean Germain (Université Catholique de Louvain)

María Dolores Gordón (Universidad de Sevilla)

Emili Casanova (Universitat de València)

Peter Jordan (Universität Wien)

Donatella Bremer (Università di Pisa)

Jaume Miranda (Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya, Barcelona)

Joan Anton Rabella (Institut d'Estudis Catalans, Oficina d'Onomàstica, Barcelona)

Albert Turull (Universitat de Lleida)

### **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

*Coordinator:* Francesc Vilaró

*Comissió de Toponímia de Catalunya*

Joan Anton Rabella

Elvira Riera

Isabel Ticó

#### *International Council of Onomastic Sciences*

Sheila Embleton, Elwys De Stefani

*Universitat de Barcelona*

José Enrique Gargallo

Joan Tort

*Universitat de València*

Emili Casanova

Vicent M. Rosselló

*Societat d'Onomàstica*

Josep M. Albaigès

## 2. SCIENTIFIC STRUCTURE

This international conference will serve as a platform and forum for the presentation and interdisciplinary and intercultural discussion and debate of all theoretical and practical questions concerning Onomastics - understood as the general science of names. The conference platform seeks to foster and promote the exchange of ideas between specialists from different language areas of the world and between specialists in different fields of knowledge and research. Its aim is to achieve this mission not in a neutral way but with a clearly defined objective: the defence and promotion of the science of Onomastics, at this the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, as a rich form of dialogue and intercommunication at the service of all branches of science.

In this framework, the conference organizers start from the premise that in a world characterised by increasing specialization and by the exponential growth of information and the velocity with which this information is disseminated, it is essential to find suitable channels for vehicular exchanges and effective communication in a field as broad and as versatile as that formed by names. Furthermore, these channels, far from being limited in their use to a circle of specialists and academics, should also be at the service of other users, managers and stakeholders as they exchange data and information. It is for this reason that we wish to emphasize the need for ICOS to take a lead in influencing the dissemination and exchange of knowledge on a truly global stage: highlighting cultures around the world, their specific features and problems both in the past and today and which are all too often ignored or only partially appreciated in European Onomastic studies.

We therefore welcome communications or specific papers (individual, collective or institutional) that can best achieve the goals and purposes outlined above. The organizers invite all interested parties to forward their proposals associated with the overall theme of names in everyday life and in the specific context of one of the twelve sections stated below that serve as the conference's guiding principles:

1. Terminology
2. Onomastic Theory
3. Onomastics and Linguistics
4. Names in Society
5. Anthroponomastics
6. Toponomastics
7. Onomastics and History
8. Onomastics and Geography
9. Onomastics and Culture
10. Cartography and Toponymy: New Platforms for Information Management
11. Onomastics and Standardization Processes
12. Catalan Onomastics

### **3. SCIENTIFIC SECTIONS**

#### **SECTION 1. TERMINOLOGY**

*President: Julia Kuhn / Advisers: Isolde Hausner, Mats Wahlberg*

Terminological rigour is often taken as a measure of how far a science has progressed. A strict application of terms is a necessary tool in all scientific communication.

Papers presenting overall terminological questions, the situation within various branches of onomastics (place-names, personal names and other types of names) or in a certain country are welcome. The work in this section should focus on problems concerning ambiguous and inconsistent use of onomastic terms, the need for new terms or deletion of old terms, etc., rather than on contributions with a mere describing purpose. Concrete terminological problems in connection with classification and structural analysis of different types of names are also important to discuss.

Terminological discrepancies between different languages and countries sometimes make the international communication between onomasticians difficult. ICOS wants to take up the challenge to work on the elaboration of a list of basic onomastic terms for international use. The ICOS Terminology Group is therefore currently engaged in creating such a list in the three official languages of ICOS, English, French and German. Papers focusing on problems related to mutual understanding of onomastic terms on an international level are especially welcome as a means of promoting the work within this group and opening a broad discussion for all interested ICOS members.

Subtopics:

1. Overall terminological questions
2. Terminological problems within various branches of onomastics
3. Terminological problems in connection with classification and structural analysis of different types of names
4. Terminological discrepancies between different languages and countries. The need for an international list of onomastic terms

#### **SECTION 2. ONOMASTIC THEORY**

*President: Olga Molchanova / Advisers: Richard Coates, Sarah Leroy*

In this section we invite papers based on the investigation of both Indo-European and non-Indo-European languages with special emphasis on the philosophical and linguistic nature of names; semiotic approaches to names from the perspective of particular signs they represent: icons (with onomatopoeic words in their composition), indices, symbols, etc.; grammatical attributes of names: participation of different categories in building up names, e.g. correlation between nominal and verbal forms in languages of different families; syntactic characteristics, with a special emphasis on phrases and clauses used in proper naming; cognitive onymic studies (with reference to space cognition and culturally salient effects reflected in names); the theory of the relation between naming and the study of prehistory (the theory should help in the interpretation of place-names in indigenous languages, to build up evidence based on scientific tools rather than random unrelated facts); special linguistic markers of namehood (phonotactics, onymic semantics, forms of double possession in some languages, topographic terms as place-name markers); the types of meanings that names can hold; the pragmatics of names; statistical evaluation of namehood; nameability (i.e. the study of the range of things which cultures allow to be named); methods of research in onomastics; and relations between different branches of onomastics.

We encourage the submission of papers on any of these aspects of naming as they are expressed in individual languages, provided that the main purpose of the papers is the exploration of general or theoretical ideas.

### **SECTION 3. ONOMASTICS AND LINGUISTICS**

*President: Silvio Brendler / Advisers: Artur Galkowski, Willy Van Langendonck*

Although the realm of onomastics may be thought of as going beyond the borders of linguistics, onomastics is a linguistic discipline at heart. The place of linguistics in onomastics as well as of onomastics in linguistics, and the relationship between onomastics and linguistics are major themes of this section. As linguistics has undergone momentous change in recent decades, it will be worth observing its effect on onomastics. In addition, the section will focus on the description of proper names (hereafter referred to as *names*) in various grammatical models, the description of names at different linguistic interfaces, the search for onymic markers, and neuro- and psycholinguistic findings concerning names.

Papers dealing with non-Indo-European languages and applying methodology from non-Western traditions are particularly welcome.

Subtopics:

1. History of the relationship between onomastics and linguistics
2. Recent trends in linguistic onomastics
3. Systemic onomastics (as distinct from the description of onymic systems in section 2), especially grammar of names
4. Pragmatics of names (names in actual use)
5. Areal onomastics (geography of names)
6. Chronology and stratigraphy of names
7. Comparative, contrastive and typological onomastics
8. Names in language contact
9. Psycho-onomastics
10. Neuro-onomastics
11. Classification/categorization of names
12. History of names, principles of name-specific etymology
13. Statistical onomastics
14. Lexicography of names

### **SECTION 4. NAMES IN SOCIETY**

*President: Elwys De Stefani / Advisers: Nicolas Pepin, Terhi Ainiola*

This section is interested in the contextualized analysis of proper names, as they are used by the members of a community in their everyday conduct. The underlying idea is that names are not just static, linguistic "labels" that speakers may choose to assign to single referents: rather, recent research based on "real usage" of names in spoken or written language has shown that names are highly malleable language units. This is true not only with regard to their formal aspects (e.g. name variants), but also as concerns their conceptual side (e.g. when are particular language units treated as "names"?) as well as their referential properties (reference to an object is not "given", but has to be "established" by speakers). Papers presenting findings based on corpora of spoken (spontaneous talk, interviews, etc.) or written language and dealing with issues such as social identity, social action, naming practices, referential practices, etc. are welcome.



#### Subtopics:

1. Names as resources for the accomplishment of socially relevant actions
2. The use of anthroponyms and other forms of address in conversation
3. The use of toponyms and spatial descriptions by social actors
4. Contextualized analyses of name variants
5. Discursive approaches to the analysis of naming procedures
6. Names as expedients for stereotypization and discrimination practices
7. Anonymization and pseudonymization procedures
8. Names in professional settings

We invite proposals in any related area including, but not limited to, socio-onomastics, interactional onomastics, pragmatics of names, conversation analysis, discourse analysis, critical discourse analysis, etc. There are no limitations as regards the name categories to be discussed in this section. Papers on any kind of names that appear to be relevant for the study of "names in society" are welcome (e.g. anthroponyms, toponyms, ethnonyms, commercial names, pet names, etc.).

### **SECTION 5. ANTHROPONOMASTICS**

*President: Jean Germain / Advisers: Damaris Nübling, Nobuhle Ndimandi Hlongwa*

In this section, you are invited to present and to discuss new research on personal names. The range of topics should be as broad as possible, including diachronic as well as synchronic perspectives and questions. Possible topics are the traditional "Western" personal name systems. Special emphasis will be put on Extra-European cultures: Africa, South America, North America, Australia, Asia, etc. The focus is laid on different naming practices: When are humans named by which sort of name(s)? Are they already named directly after (or even before) birth or only during their life? Does the name change from time to time? If it does, when precisely does it take place and on which social, cultural or biological occasions? Is the person's sex of special interest, and how is it marked? Are there unisex name cultures? Into which periods can a human's life be divided in order to be perceived as a new identity? In Western cultures, a human gets a new name when (s)he is married or when (s)he enters a monastery. Do even unborn children get names? as in Japan? dead persons? We wish to get a knowledge exchange of ethnology / (cultural) anthropology as until now both disciplines have studied names separately, without noticing the other. Thus, not only official names, but also research on unofficial names (nicknames, pseudonyms in the internet, passwords which are given by the bearers themselves, nicknames in the entertainment industry) shall be presented in this section.

#### Subtopics:

1. Diachronic and synchronic studies on personal names
2. Naming practices in different cultures
3. Names of periods of life
4. Personal names and sex/gender
5. Surnames/clan names (e.g. in the African context)
6. (in)official names
7. Anthroponyms of toponymic origin
8. Anthroponyms and toponyms: genetic processes of independence and interrelation

### **SECTION 6. TOPONOMASTICS**

*President: María Dolores Gordón / Advisers: Thomas F. Schneider, Wolf Ahrens*

The Toponomastics section welcomes contributions on all general and theoretical questions concerning the study of place names, the methodology of toponomastics research, and questions

involving contact between toponymy and other areas of linguistics: toponymy and historical linguistics, toponymy and synchronic linguistics (and within these topics, studies on specific aspects of place names, toponymy and morphology, toponymy and phonetics, toponymy and semantics, toponymy and lexicology, toponymy and dialectology, toponymy and sociolinguistics, toponymy and language contact and interference, etc.).

The section is open to contributions regarding ongoing toponymic research projects (projects regarding collections of data or projects involving analysis and interpretation of toponyms).

Especially welcome are contributions that focus on the innovative studies of place names and those that centre on aspects that have been insufficiently treated up to now.

Subtopics:

1. Toponomastic theory
2. Methodology of toponomastics research
3. Projects regarding the collection of data and projects involving analysis and interpretation of place names.
4. Toponomastics and Linguistics; in this subsection would fall contributions on:
  - Toponymy and language history, for example linguistic layers in toponymy, toponymy and migration movements, etc.
  - Toponymy, dialectology and linguistic geography, isoglosses, dialect influences, etc.
  - Toponymy, language contact and linguistic interference
  - Semantic fields and referential types of toponyms: Oronyms, hydronyms, phytonyms, zoonyms, etc.
  - Toponymy and morphology: the study of specific morphological features (diminutives, augmentatives, collectives, etc.)
  - Toponymy, lexicology and semantics (historical and synchronic)
  - Toponymy and lexicography: Place name dictionaries, the occurrence of proper names in other types of dictionaries
  - Toponymy and historical phonetics
5. Names for inhabitants of towns and countries: Origin, geographical spread, sociolinguistic aspects, etc.
6. Toponyms of anthroponymic origin
7. Toponyms and anthroponyms: genetic processes of independence and interrelation

## **SECTION 7. ONOMASTICS AND HISTORY**

*President: Emili Casanova / Advisers: Pierre Henri Billy, Steffen Patzold*

The section deals with the historic dimension of names. The interest of the knowledge gained does not exclusively centre on the history of the relevant language. On the contrary, the centre of the topic has to be the general historical importance of names. The historic meaning and the efficacy of names will be studied, in particular in fields which are being intensively discussed today in historical studies, such as the following:

- Names are indicators of identity. They can express membership of human communities of all kinds. What relation exists between names and identities, and what are the consequences of this relationship for historical change?
- Names have become, over the course of history, a topic in politics and law. How have politics and law intervened in the allocation of names, to what restrictions have these interventions been subject, what contradictions did they give rise to, and what historical changes arose as a result of them?
- History also studies change in ideas, perceptions and human interpretations and their impact on human decisions and actions. Names rest on hypotheses about the social world and

reflect these hypotheses. To what extent can names serve as sources for the historical study of human ideas, perceptions and interpretations?

- Personal names are capable of relating certain individuals and groups with others. What dialogue is possible between historic prosopography and Onomastics? What light can onomastics shed on the way historical change affects persons, both as individuals and as groups?
- Place-names have referents: name-dating by etymology does not inevitably produce the same results as place-dating by Archaeology. Archaeologists use Toponymy as a means to access the past, linguists as a means to report the past. What relations can exist between both sciences?
- Place-names offer a reading of the historic landscape and cartographical presentation of toponymic data allows us to understand it better. What relations exist between History, Geography and historical Toponymy?

## **SECTION 8. ONOMASTICS AND GEOGRAPHY**

*President: Peter Jordan /Advisers: Yaives Ferland, Choo Sungjae*

A research activity is the more geographical the more it is related to space and the more it integrates the human as well as the natural sphere. This is also relevant when it comes to judge whether a certain onomastic research has geographical aspects. Naming is anyway a human activity and performed by social/cultural groups. So it depends on the relation of names to space and nature and on the importance a certain research activity attributes to these relations, whether this research on names has geographical aspects or can be classified as geographical.

This is most obvious with place names, which are already by definition related to space. But research into place names may also be done on a more (or even purely) linguistic level. Only if other space-related aspects are additionally involved, does research on place names become unmistakably geographical.

This is certainly the case when place names are observed as expressions and carriers of space-related and group identity (presuming that any kind of group has a specific location in space), when it comes to discussions on the relation between place name and feature and the motives for place naming, but also when topics refer to other typical fields of geographical research like administrative-territorial systems or transportation. Maps as reduced and generalized abstractions of complex spatial reality as well as the most specific geographical means of communication and the role of place names on them are certainly also most geographical objects of names research.

Subtopics:

1. Functions of place names on maps
2. Place names and space -related identity (patterns, processes, representations)
3. Place names and group identity (especially of linguistic minorities, regional and local language groups, bilingual areas)
4. Place name/feature relation with transboundary features
5. Motives for place naming
6. Place naming in administration
7. Use of place names in transportation (roads, railways, air transport)
8. Exonyms as indicators of spatial (cultural, political, economic) relations
9. Polysemic generics of geographical features

## **SECTION 9. ONOMASTICS AND CULTURE**

*President: Donatella Bremer / Advisers: Grant Smith, Anne-Dietlind Krüger*

The globalized world of today contains a treasury of names from all languages that should be seen as a shrine of cultural features being passed on to future generations.

This section will attempt to analyze the multidimensional aspects of proper names as artistic and cultural artefacts. New approaches to areas not yet well examined are especially desired. The following topics are suggested to provide guidance and inspiration:

1. Theory and Methods
2. Names and literature, theatre, cinema, and video
3. Names and music
4. Names and the visual arts (painting, sculpture, architecture, design)
5. Names and popular culture
6. Names and translation.

This section covers a wide range of basic theoretical issues, from those related to specific literary analyses, to those related to applied issues, such as the use of names in translation. With these goals in mind, studies of cultural groups that have received little scholarly attention until now are especially welcome.

## **SECTION 10. CARTOGRAPHY AND TOPONYMY: NEW PLATFORMS FOR INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

*President: Jaume Miranda / Advisers: Antti Leino, Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu*

This section welcomes contributions that examine, in the broadest sense, the interrelation between maps, place names and the use of new technologies and information management as applied to geographical toponymy. In addition, papers should also aim to address the new range of technologies that manipulate information for toponymy and cartography in the emerging world of geoinformation.

Here the challenge is provided by the exponential growth of information, control and management of databases, while experts and society need guidelines, models and patterns for the exchange and dissemination of data. Today, the challenges presented by global information are inseparable from the idea that underlies the map and the cartographic language support and which is essential for the efficient management and use of this information. In addition to the specific techniques required to manipulate this information, many questions are being raised for specialists and users alike on multiple scales.

Within this general framework, we welcome contributions that examine the following issues:

1. Toponymic databases
2. Digital gazetteers and inventories
3. From quantity to quality: updating the hierarchy and standardization of data
4. Geoinformation vs. experts in toponymy
5. Anthroponymic data bases

In the specific field of toponymy and cartography:

6. New platforms for access to information
7. New models: SDIs (Spatial Data Infrastructure)
8. Exchange of information and interaction toponymy
9. Platforms and formats of communication (sending and receiving) information toponymy

## 10. Cooperative approaches related to the web

### SECTION 11. ONOMASTICS AND PROCESSES OF STANDARDIZATION

*President: Joan Anton Rabella / Advisers: André Lapierre, Mikel Gorrotxategui*

The content of this section covers essentially three topics: legislation about onomastics, standardization of anthroponymy and standardization of toponymy.

The part dedicated to *Legislation* contains legislation-related papers that apply to anthroponymy and toponymy in different countries, including the description of the specific legal frameworks as well as a comparison between different legal systems. Concerning toponymy, in addition to papers on indigenous toponymy and its corresponding legal framework, this section also includes papers on the United Nations activities and recommendations for national standardization in order to achieve international standardization.

The second part, *Anthroponymy*, includes papers on processes of standardization or normalization applied to anthroponymy—including both given names and family names (surnames). It takes into consideration those studies which concern current legal possibilities to normalize, translate or change given names and family names according to a legal framework. In addition, it includes papers related to the standardization from a historical point of view that apply to names of historical figures.

The part dedicated to *Toponymy* is composed of two main areas: the standardization concerning indigenous toponymy (which includes general and official toponymic gazetteers, urban gazetteers, guidelines for using toponyms as means of communication, etc.) and the standardization regarding the exogenous toponymy (including complex topics such as the use of toponyms in areas with contact languages or the existence of different systems for adapting or romanizing non-Latin toponyms).

Subtopics:

1. Legislation on anthroponymy (given names, family names, name changes)
2. Legislation on toponymy (local or national toponymy, international toponymy)
3. Standardization of historical anthroponymy
4. Standardization of current anthroponymy
5. Standardization of local or national toponymy: toponymic gazetteers, street names, standardization for means of communication
6. Standardization of exonyms: areas with contact languages, normalization and / or romanization (transcription and transliteration), practices of means of communication
7. The role of world forums in the standardisation of anthroponyms and toponyms (in particular, the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, UNGEGN)

### SECTION 12. CATALAN ONOMASTICS

*President: Albert Turull / Advisors: Enric Ribes, Joan Miralles, Vicenç M. Rosselló*

Catalan Onomastics, which began as an autonomous discipline in the late nineteenth century, has established itself as an interdisciplinary meeting point. In its development a key role has been played by a number of eminent linguists (with Joan Coromines at their head), as well as by several generations of historians and geographers among other disciplines. Thus, the study of names is thriving in the country's faculties of philology as well as in those of history and geography. Likewise, the study of names prospers within Catalonia's public administration (mapping and language policies), its official academies and, significantly, among a large number of local scholars, amateur and professional, within the Society of Onomastics founded in 1980. With the inclusion of this section dedicated to Catalan Onomastics, ICOS wishes to mark the centennial of this discipline in

Catalonia and to support its work in this field. We therefore welcome contributions in the following areas:

1. The linguistic and cultural strata of Catalan onomastics
2. Evolution and specific features of Catalan anthroponymy
3. Toponymy and anthroponymy related to Catalonia's cultural and institutional history
4. The proper name as a document for the history of the Catalan language
5. Catalan toponyms and its geographical environment (natural and human)
6. Catalan toponymy
7. Applied toponymy: cartography and cultural diffusion

#### 4. ORGANIZATION AND PROGRAMME

##### a. Time table

	Monday, 5th	Tuesday, 6th	Wednesday, 7th	Thursday, 8th	Friday, 9th
8	Registration				
9	Opening session	4 X 8 sessions	Toponymic excursion and academic visit	4 X 8 sessions	4 X 8 sessions
10	Academic session	Break		Break	2 X 8 sessions
11	Break				
12	3 x 8 sessions	4 X 8 sessions		4 X 8 sessions	Academic session
13	Lunch			Lunch	
14	3 x 8 sessions	3 x 8 sessions		3 x 8 sessions	3 x 8 sessions
15	Break			Break	
16	3 x 8 sessions	Roundtable		Roundtable	Closing session
17				ICOS General Meeting	
18					
19		Homage/Dinner			
20					

##### b. Academic sessions

The proposed themes are as follows (the speakers have been confirmed in both cases; the titles are provisional):

Academic Session 1: *Xavier Terrado* (University of Lleida): "Contributions from Catalan Onomastics to Contemporary Science."

Academic Session 2: *Helen Kerfoot* (Natural Resources Canada; Group of Experts on Geographical Names of the UN): "Place Names and administration: a perspective from the experience of the last decades."

##### c. Special sessions

Two roundtables have been planned, to be held on September 6 and 8, with the following themes:

1. "Methodology of database analysis and onomastic corpus of information". *Chair: Miquel Parella (Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya)*

2. "Onomastics and media". *Chair: José Enrique Gargallo (Universitat de Barcelona)*

#### **d. Parallel activities**

**ICOS General Assembly:** The General Assembly of ICOS is scheduled on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> September, in the afternoon.

**Excursions:** On Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September, all activity is focused on the excursions program.

**Special session and official dinner:** On Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> September, in the afternoon at the headquarters of the Institut d'Estudis Catalans, the organization will offer a tribute to a figure in Catalan language and Onomastics, Dr. Antoni Maria Badia i Margarit. The event will close with a dinner for all participants of the Congress in the court of that institution.

### **5. OTHER INFORMATION**

#### **a. Official Languages**

The official conference languages are Catalan, Spanish, English, German, French and Occitan.

Papers will be presented in any of these languages. The specific language (or languages) used in each section will depend, in practice, on the languages used by most participants.

In the development of the congress, the organization shall ensure that, where possible, the sections are multilingual.

The organization plans to offer simultaneous interpretation services for opening and closing events, as well as plenary lectures.

#### **b. Travel and accommodation**

The organisation will not be responsible for booking lodging or travel for anyone attending the Congress. The ICOS Barcelona web page will offer a selection of hotels of all categories located close to the official Congress venue: <http://barcelona.onomastica.cat/>

The web page of the Barcelona City Council (<http://www.barcelonaturisme.com/>) provides comprehensive information on hotels, restaurants and places of interest in the city (in Catalan, Spanish, English and French).

### **6. ABSTRACT SUBMISSION**

Those interested in submitting a paper to the conference should send an abstract in a Word document with a maximum of 2,000 characters, to the following address:

[info@barcelona.onomastica.cat](mailto:info@barcelona.onomastica.cat)

*Download Abstract File:* <http://barcelona.onomastica.cat/en/circulars/>

**The deadline for abstract submission is December 15th, 2010.**

The abstract will be formulated in the same language as the paper. It has to describe the essential aspects of developing content and its scientific objectives. As a principle, it should allow a proper assessment by the evaluators on the proposed contents.

The author should indicate the **name of the section** they consider their paper belongs to. Nevertheless, the Scientific Committee may assign it to a different section should this be necessary.

**Acceptance of abstracts and the subsequent invitation to authors to present the paper at the Congress will be done following the second circular in February 2011.**



## **7. PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND FINAL TEXTS**

The **oral presentation** will highlight in particular the original aspects of the contribution, so that such issues are an incentive for debate and discussion.

**25 minutes** will be assigned to each presentation (20 minutes for the talk and 5 minutes for subsequent discussion).

The **written version** of the paper should be sent to the organization (info@barcelona.onomastica.cat) after the conclusion of the conference, for possible inclusion in the proceedings. The deadline for the receipt of the written version of the paper will be October 31, 2011.

In the second circular the authors will be given instructions on the formal characteristics of the text. It is expected that the publication will be in digital format.

For organisational reasons, the local committee may establish that a certain number of communications will be presented in poster format. Regardless of the format, however, all communications accepted and presented will be included in the final publication under equal conditions.

## **8. ANNEX (ABSTRACT)**

**Abstract**

<b>Title:</b>
<b>Name:</b>
<b>Section:</b>
<b>Thematic scope:</b>
<b>Objectives:</b>
<b>Documentation:</b>
<b>Methodology:</b>
<b>New findings:</b>
<b>Basic keywords of the abstract:</b>
<b>Abstract:</b>
<b>Definitive section:</b>

<http://barcelona.onomastica.cat>  
info@barcelona.onomastica.cat

## **2. Minutes of the Meeting of the ICOS Board of Directors Glasgow (Scotland), 2-3 July 2010**

### **Present:**

Sheila Embleton (SE, chair), Adrian Koopman (AK), Katharina Leibring (KL), Terhi Ainiala (TA), Kaisa Rautio Helander (KRH), Carole Hough (CH), Julia Kuhn (JK), Elwys De Stefani (ED, secretary).

### **Absent (excused):**

Dieter Kremer (DK), Antti Leino (ALe), Barbara Czopek-Kopciuch (BCK), André Lapierre (ALa)

The chair Sheila Embleton called the meeting to order on Friday, 2 July 2010 at 11:15 am.

### **1. Welcome**

The chair welcomed all members of the Board and thanked CH for hosting us in Glasgow and for organizing the meeting.

### **2. Approval of the agenda**

The agenda as previously circulated was slightly modified (additional points 4 “Report on the ‘Trends in Toponymy’ Conference” and 5 “General situation of Onomastics and research projects”) and then approved.

### **3. Approval of the previous minutes (Amsterdam, 10-11 June 2009)**

The minutes of the Board meeting in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 10-11 June 2009, were accepted as a correct record.

### **4. Report on the Trends in Toponymy Conference (C. Hough)**

CH reported that the Conference was a success, that it was very well attended (80 persons from different countries) and that high quality papers were given. It is planned to publish at least one volume of Proceedings. The Board was delighted to hear that ED volunteered to organize the edition of the next conference (*Trends in Toponymy 5*) in Bern in 2012.

### **5. General situation of Onomastics and research projects**

As the only international scientific organization engaged in the study of proper names, ICOS should be able to act in favour of other onomastic organizations. The Board accepted that the President may write letters of support in order to sustain other onomastic research projects and organizations that have to face cutbacks in their financial resources.

#### **5.1. Closure of the Northern Ireland Place Name Project (C. Hough)**

It was reported that the Queen’s University of Belfast has decided to close the research project on Northern Ireland Place Names. The President of the English Place Name Society is intending to write to the Principal of the University of Belfast, asking that the Archive constituted by the Project throughout the years will continue to be maintained and made accessible to academic researchers.

CH asked ICOS to write a letter of support for the Northern Ireland Place Name Project in order to make ICOS visible as an International Organization on Name Studies that supports scientific research. It was accepted that the President of ICOS will write a letter of support (This has been done in the meantime, and a reply received indicating that although two

colleagues had retired, the project had not been closed and was seeking external grant funding, and in particular the archives/database would remain accessible).

## **5.2. Closure of the Washington State Geographical Name Board (*S. Embleton*)**

The Washington State Geographical Name Board has been closed by the Government according to a report on ANS-L. It was decided that SE will check the situation and think about intervening in some way in the name of ICOS. (SE wrote to the appropriate people in the Washington State government, but no reply has yet been received.)

## **5.3. University of Leipzig (*S. Embleton*)**

Asked by DK, SE wrote a letter in 2008 in favour of the Leipzig Department of Onomastics. It seems that currently there is again a problematic situation for Onomastics in Leipzig.

## **6. President's report (*S. Embleton*)**

The president pointed out the two main topics of the meeting: the upcoming Barcelona Congress (point 13) and the situation of Onoma (point 12).

### **6.1. Meeting modalities for the ICOS Board (absences, videoconferencing)**

SE raised the question whether the Board should continue to meet face-to-face or whether there is the possibility of having other meeting modalities (skype, videoconferencing).

Face-to-face meetings are expensive – because the ICOS officers have to come up with their own money for the travel and accommodation costs. One consequence of this is that people do not attend the meetings for financial reasons. Moreover, people may not stand for election to the Board for precisely the same reason.

If travel costs were to be paid by ICOS, then the membership fee would have to be raised drastically. This might have the undesirable consequence that ICOS will have fewer members.

The cost of videoconferencing being trivial compared to personal presence, it is likely that more people might be involved in this way – provided that all members of the Board are familiar with and have access to the necessary technological equipment. One solution would be to renounce videoconferencing in favour of teleconferencing (skype), which requires less sophisticated technological equipment. Moreover, it was recommended that the face-to-face meetings of the Board be organized in conjunction with onomastic conferences, so that members who attend/present have a better possibility of receiving travel funding.

In order to make a first experiment with teleconferencing, the next meeting of the Board will take place via skype (see point 15).

### **6.2. Nomination and election procedures for the new ICOS Board**

The next General Assembly will take place in Barcelona, during the ICOS conference (September 2011). The new Board of Directors will be elected on that occasion. Among the current members of the Board, four persons will have to step down (according to the ICOS statutes which limit service in whatever capacity on the Board to two terms). The officers who will have to quit the Board are SE, AK, KL and JK.

The election procedure for the new Board has been defined as follows:

- A call to stand for election will be sent out by the end of **February 2011**.
- Persons running for election as well as ICOS members wanting to participate in the General Assembly have to be paid-up members by **March 31, 2011**. Any paid-up member can stand for election to all positions of the Board.
- The deadline for nomination will be **end of May 2011**.

- The names of the persons running for election will be published in the Newsletter preceding the Congress (about **July 2011**). Moreover, the names of the nominees and their statements (also related to their experience in running organizations, working groups etc.) will be published on the website.

As a general rule, **candidates have to be supported by two paid-up members**. ICOS particularly encourages nomination of a) non-European members, in particular members from the Southern Hemisphere and b) persons who are willing to participate in the existing ICOS working groups.

## **7. Secretary's report (*E. De Stefani*)**

The Secretary reported as follows:

Since the last meeting (Amsterdam) there have been the following changes in membership:

- 12 new members have joined ICOS
- ICOS mourns the loss of two members: Jan Agertz, Martina Pitz.

### **7.1. Newsletters**

Since the last meeting, two Newsletters have been issued and put on the ICOS website (#17, August 2009 and #18, January 2010). Newsletter #19 is planned for August 2010 and will include the minutes of the present meeting.

### **7.2. Bidding procedure for future Congresses**

On June 29, 2009 the President and the Secretary of ICOS have published a document with guidelines for Congress bidders that can be downloaded from the ICOS website.

In the future, a revision might be needed if some of the problems that ICOS is currently experiencing with the organizers of the upcoming Congress are to be avoided (see point 13).

### **7.3. ICOS historiography**

The response to the Secretary's suggestion to gather information about the history of ICOS was rather feeble: Mats Wahlberg sent in minutes of previous Board meetings; BCK started looking for the Proceedings of the first Congresses; ED gathered some photographs and notes from the organizers of the ICOS Congress that was held in Bern in 1975. KL has authored an article about the history of ICOS (in Swedish), whose main points will shortly be made accessible in English for the members of ICOS. Moreover, KL reminded the Board that a complete set of ICOS congress proceedings is kept at the SOFI library in Uppsala.

### **7.4. Institutional affiliation**

As agreed during the Amsterdam meeting "*Institutional Affiliation* would essentially consist in an exchange of logos and homepage-links of the participating institutional partners" (point 6.2. in the Amsterdam minutes). Unfortunately, it has not been possible to intensify the "institutional" ties between ICOS and other onomastic organizations because of the problems that the ICOS Board encountered with the updates of the ICOS website (see point 9).

### **7.5. ICOS flyer**

A first draft of a trilingual flyer to be distributed at onomastic conferences etc. has been developed (by the President, the former Secretary, and the current Secretary) and discussed by the Board. It was agreed that ED would discuss with graphic designers the possibilities of achieving a more attractive design of the flyer.

## **8. Treasurer's report (K. Leibring)**

The Treasurer's report is not available in the online version of the Newsletter.

## **9. Webmaster's report (A. Leino)**

AL submitted the following written report to the Board:

### **9.1. Current status**

The web site has been up and running throughout the year without significant technical problems. There has been a steady stream of around 700 unique visitors each month during the academic year and around 500 in the summer, not including robots that index the web for services such as Google.

There have been two scheduled breaks in the service, lasting for a few hours, because of maintenance work at the web hotel; another break is coming up roughly this week, as there are some security issues with the current version of the content management software that require an upgrade. Later this year there will be at least one break in the service, again likely a few hours but possibly a couple of days, as the content management software is approaching a major version change.

The main issues with the web site are non-technical. No clear routines for updates exist – that is, people do not habitually send news items to the ICOS webmaster, and I don't have a proper process for actively searching for such information, or admittedly even making sure that what little I get does not get trampled by my non-ICOS workload. Because of this, news do not get to the site as often or quickly as would be desired.

There are currently e-mail addresses for the regular contact points – president / secretary / treasurer / webmaster @icosweb.net. Mailing lists for the Board or general membership can be created, but this might not be desirable. Publicly advertised addresses tend to attract spam, and as either list would have relatively little legitimate traffic the signal-to-noise ratio would likely be low.

### **9.1. Suggestions for next year**

Ultimately the big question is, what do we want to achieve with the ICOS presence on the net? Traditional web sites are by their nature static, with updates relatively rarely, and this is also how the ICOS site has been. It is good for background information about onomastics, ICOS, and other related matters; but for information about upcoming events and similar it is not the best choice – although it can be developed a little further from what it is now, for instance by adding an RSS feed to the news section.

Possible ways to add to the web site would be to include a calendar of onomastic conferences, symposia and other events, or a blog about onomastic issues. Both these need work, and neither can be done by the webmaster alone. A calendar needs support from organisers of onomastic events, and a blog needs people who commit themselves to writing short entries on interesting issues every once in a while. Coordinating either of these, and providing the necessary technical support, would of course be the webmaster's responsibility.

Considering the nature of ICOS, it might be good to view the web site as a repository for general information and a contact point, but augment it with other web services better suited for enabling onomasticians to keep in touch with each other. Social media are becoming an increasingly important part of everyday life, both within and outside academia, and it might be time for ICOS to have a presence in the major services, such as LinkedIn and Facebook. In any case, it would be useful to create workflows and processes so that new information was available both via the current web site and any new channels.

After discussion of the webmaster's report, the ICOS Board expressed its concern about the work that is being done by the webmaster with regard to the updates of the website. The update process (putting the Newsletter online etc.) is taking far too much time. It is for this reason that the above mentioned "suggestions for next year" have to wait until the basic information is regularly updated. The Board discussed two solutions that can lead to a better maintenance of the ICOS website:

- TA would discuss workload issues with AL.
- ICOS could employ a student to do the updates and maintenance of the website.

Additionally, SE will contact the editor-in-chief of the *Rivista Italiana di Onomastica* (Enzo Caffarelli) and ask him to send us regularly a list of onomastic events.

## **10. Report of the Bibliographical Database Group (*B. Czopek-Kopciuch*)**

BCK submitted the following written report to the Board:

The IBOS Group was constituted. In cooperation with Doreen Gerritzen I have written to the members of the group asking them if they would cooperate. The colleagues have accepted to take part in the Bibliographical Database Group:

Maria Giovanna Arcamone (Italy)  
Dunja Brozović-Rončević (Croatia)  
Leendert Brouwer (The Netherlands)  
Richard Coates (UK)  
Barbara Czopek-Kopciuch – President (Poland)  
Doreen Gerritzen – Secretary (The Netherlands)  
Milan Harvalík (Czech Republic)  
Katharina Leibring (Sweden)  
Peeter Päll (Estonia)  
Yaroslav Redkva (Ukraine)  
Tóth Valéria (Hungary)  
Karina van Dalen-Oskam (The Netherlands)

I have informed all members about their new tasks: each member of the Group has to find collaborators in their countries to update the Bibliographical Database. Moreover, each member will have to check regularly (once a week or once every two weeks) whether the data are correct.

I have personally checked the existing entries and asked the members of the Board to do the same and to indicate which languages they can take care of. As I am responsible for the Polish part of the Bibliography, I have found a few younger colleagues to make entries to the database.

In its discussion of the report, the Board recalled that all the members of the Bibliography Group should be paid-up members. Moreover, as a member of the Group, KL expressed some doubts about the use and function of the database in today's information landscape, and about the willingness (and time) of scholars to submit items. The needs of the scientific community have changed and developed considerably since the structure was first drawn up. Therefore, the aim and scope of the Group and the database need to be discussed.

Hence, the Board ratified the submitted list of persons as members of the Bibliography Group, but strongly recommended to discuss the mission of the group, taking into account the changes in the scientific landscape. Moreover, the group has to make sure that in the next period the Chair of the IBOS group will still be a member of the ICOS Board.

## **11. Report of the Terminology Group (*J. Kuhn*)**

JK reported as follows:

The following persons constitute the Terminology Group:

Arcamone, Maria Giovanna  
Bergmann, Hubert  
Bremer, Donatella  
Billy, Pierre-Henri  
Brozović-Rončević, Dunja  
Caffarelli, Enzo  
Coates, Richard  
Gerritzen, Doreen  
Hausner, Isolde  
Harvalík, Milan  
Kadmon, Naftali  
Koopman, Adrian  
Kremer, Dieter  
Kuhn, Julia  
Nyström, Staffan  
Wahlberg, Mats

A meeting of the Terminology Group was held on December 12, 2009 in Vienna (Austria) at the *Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften* about the work of the Terminology Group. The meeting was organized by Isolde Hausner, Milan Harvalik and JK. The meeting was opened by papers given by Staffan Nyström and Dunja Brozović-Rončević. Subsequently, the existing ICOS list was discussed in smaller working groups, leading to an updated version of the list. Moreover, one of the main goals of the meeting has been to compare and comment on the ICOS terminology list and the UNGEGN list.

The next meeting of the ICOS Terminology group will take place in Uppsala (Sweden), on October 28-29, 2010, and will also be attended by people from UNGEGN. The meeting will be organized by Mats Wahlberg.

The work that the Terminology Group has been doing will also be visible during the next ICOS Congress (Barcelona 2011) where JK, Isolde Hausner and Mats Wahlberg constitute the scientific committee for the section 1 on terminology.

The ICOS Board ratified the list of persons mentioned above as members of the Terminology Group. It also recommended including members working in the field of economy, names in literature as well as French scholars. The ICOS Board encouraged the working group to proceed in their work, so that the terminology list can be ready and put online as soon as possible.

The Board also recalled that all the members of the Terminology Group should be paid-up members. Moreover, given that JK will have to quit the Board at the next General Assembly (according to ICOS statutes), the Board recommended that some form of continuity will be guaranteed when the next Chair of the group is being elected.

## **12. Onoma – Chief editor's report (D. Gerritzen)**

Doreen Gerritzen submitted the following written report to the Board:

**Onoma 41** (2006) about name theory (guest editor Richard Coates)

Most articles are ready for publication, a few articles still need some editorial attention. The Introduction still has to be written, abstracts have to be translated; layout will be done by Peeters. Final version expected to be ready within a few months.

[**Onoma 42** (2007) is printed and distributed]

**Onoma 43** (2008) about commercial names (Antje Zilg, Angelika Bergien and Ludger Kremer)

Ready for printing, a dvd is on its way to Peeters.

**Onoma 44** (2009) about African onomastics (Adrian Koopman)

Most articles are ready for publication, one contribution is still at the EB, one needs an update, another one is expected. Foreword and Introduction still have to be written; abstracts have to be translated; layout will be done by Peeters.

**Onoma 45** (2010) about the history of onomastics (Maria Giovanna Arcamone and Martina Pitz†)

Of course the death of Martina has its influence on this project but Maria Giovanna will continue as planned. After the Call for Papers 37 proposals were received, 17 were accepted by both guest editors. Deadline for submission is the 31st of August 2010. One article has been received already.

**Onoma 46** (2011) about names and minorities (Dunja Brozović Rončević)

So far 11 contributions are promised, but the guest editor expects a few more. Deadline for submission is the 30th of September 2010.

Soon we will be able to inform you about the themes and guest editors for Onoma 47-49.

Doreen Gerritzen, 22<sup>th</sup> June 2010

### **12. 1. Short note about the future policy of Onoma**

The Editorial Board of Onoma had a discussion about the long term policy of Onoma (through email). We reconsidered our present system of theme issues. Then we discussed a way to avoid delay in future. The delay and also the worries about possible delay in future also influenced the discussion on the future policy of Onoma.



Our main question was: Should Onoma remain a journal with theme issues only? We considered various options: every theme issue is open to other contributions as well; every 'even' volume is a general issue, every 'odd' volume is a theme issue; Onoma should stop with theme issues and start an active policy to present the most relevant onomastic research worldwide.

The general feeling is that both theme and general issues have their advantages and disadvantages, so we are looking for the "middle of the road" approach. Having them in alternate years has the problem that it takes too long before a general article is published. To publish two issues per year is not realistic since we have troubles of getting out one a year. Having a general issue every year and irregular thematic issues is a bit problematic from the financial and organisational perspective.

From a pragmatic point of view we choose the 'section' option. Starting from Onoma 47 we will have two sections in every issue, one with a theme and one without this restriction. Besides good quality the articles should have an international perspective.

To avoid delay in future we accepted a production process with a strict time table. If the guest editor is not able to work according to the time table, the editor in chief takes over. If the editor in chief is not able to guide the process a member of the Editorial Board takes over.

Doreen Gerritzen  
June 2010

In the discussion of the Board, the following points were mentioned:

The ICOS Board expressed its confidence regarding the new format of Onoma (half thematic issue/half regular, open papers). However, SE raised the question about the editorial responsibilities of such "half thematic/half regular" issues: if the guest editor is responsible for the thematic part, who is in charge of the papers appearing in the non-thematic part? The process of reviewing and editing such issues has to be clarified, with respect to the reviewing process for papers of Onoma that has been defined during the last meeting of the Board (Amsterdam Minutes, point 10). Moreover, the Board suggested circulating some form of call for the issues 47-49.

KRH raised the question about the possibility of selling Onoma at congresses etc. According to KL, the editor (Peeters) owns the exclusive right to sell them. Therefore, ICOS should try to invite Peeters to Conferences. The possibility of purchasing online some issues of Onoma is provided by Peeters, but some members of the Board were not aware of the online version of Onoma and its related charges (and different options provided for accessing the online issues). The ICOS Board expressed the feeling that there is sometimes an information gap between the editor (Peeters), the editor-in-chief and the Board. In order to avoid this information gap, it might be useful for the editor-in-chief to take part in future Board meetings.

### **13. ICOS Congress 2011 – Report of the ICOS representative (*D. Kremer*)**

The ICOS representative (DK) in the scientific committee of the upcoming ICOS congress submitted a report of which we reproduce here the main points:

As the official representative of ICOS in the scientific committee I have put a lot of energy and time in the organization of the Congress. However, the decision process among the Barcelona organizers has often been complex. On the one hand the role of ICOS is not perceived correctly by the Barcelona organizers – this may be due to the fact that there are no clear guidelines as to how ICOS "supervises" the organization of its Congresses. On the other hand there has been a significant delay in the practical organization of the event.

The entire scientific committee (including the section Presidents) has met in Barcelona on May 28, 2010 and discussed the contents of each section. Unfortunately, the minutes of that meeting only partially account for all the discussions that took place.

The responsibilities of the local organizing committee and ICOS are not clear: this has led to some practical problems and personal tensions among the different parties involved.

A lengthy and detailed discussion took place among the present members of the Board; the main points of the discussion are rendered in what follows:

ED informed the Board about the meeting of the Scientific Committee that was held in Barcelona on May 28, 2010. The main discussion was about the thematic definition of the different scientific sessions that were set up. Moreover, during the meeting the number of plenary sessions and round tables were discussed and the abstract submission procedure was briefly described.

The members of the Board are concerned about the following questions and await a statement from the Barcelona organizers:

- It should be made sure that the Barcelona Congress is recognizably an ICOS Congress. In particular, the Board expects that ICOS is given a more prominent place on the Congress website and the circulars.
- The ICOS Board expects a reassurance that all three ICOS languages (English, French, German) are used in the official communication.
- According to the decision of the Board taken during the last meeting (Amsterdam minutes, point 12), the Barcelona organizers are expected to provide a poster session and the possibility of submitting thematic panels. This expectation is shared by all members of ICOS (not only the Board of Directors) for the following reasons (among others): poster sessions are an excellent opportunity for young researchers (PhD students etc.) to present a work in progress, while thematic panels allow a penetrating analysis of specific onomastic problems and enhance the discussion among scholars working on similar issues. Moreover, both poster sessions and thematic panels belong currently to the minimal standard of international congresses in the humanities.
- A transparent statement about how many abstracts each author can submit is also needed: it might be worthwhile thinking of one paper as a main author plus one paper as a second author (plus maybe one paper as a main author within a thematic panel, whether or not organized by that author).
- The registration for students comprises also the participation in the banquet. SE will encourage the Barcelona organizers to provide also a reduced student fee that does not include the Congress dinner.

SE informed the Board that the agreement between ICOS and the Barcelona organizers has not yet been signed. (It was signed in July, after the Glasgow meeting.) The impression that arose was that ICOS does not seem to have the ability to influence the Barcelona organizers sufficiently and that suggestions and requests are not implemented in a timely fashion. This is mainly due to the fact that ICOS has never officially defined (i.e. in a written document) the tasks and the responsibilities of both the ICOS Board and the local Congress organizers. With regard to future Congresses, the ICOS Board should define more clearly the information, the assurances etc. that ICOS expects from Congress bidders. Moreover, the ICOS Board strongly suggested that the roles of the different actors in the scientific committee be defined.

The experiences that the Board is currently having with the Barcelona organizers led the members of the Board to point out some aspects that future Boards will have to discuss with Congress bidders:

- The language issue should be discussed again by the board. Who decides what languages can be used? Until now, provided English, French and German are used (ICOS' official languages), it has been left up to the organizers whether or not more languages (and which ones) will be used. There is a feeling that this time it has been too many, and not languages of wider scholarly communication, which risks that papers will be given with no international audience.

- In order to intensify the collaboration within the ICOS Board and the local organization committee, it is strongly recommended that one person of the organizing committee should be co-opted to the Board for the three years starting with the assignment of the ICOS Board to organize a Congress and with the actual realization of the Congress (time span between two General Assemblies).
- It is strongly recommended that bidders should already indicate in their bids who is going to be in the committee.

Following the meeting of the ICOS Board of directors, DK officially resigned from his function as an ICOS representative in Barcelona. SE and ED have thus taken over this task as co-representatives of ICOS. He also resigned as leader of Section 3, in which role he has been replaced by Silvio Brendler, and Willy van Langendonck has joined the section as the third member.

#### **14. Conference announcements**

The following conferences have been announced:

- First International Conference on Indigenous Names, 3-8 September 2010, Guovdageaidnu-Kautokeino (Norway)
- NORNA-symposium "Binamn. Uppkomst, bildning, terminologi och bruk", 29 September - 1 October 2010, Älvkarleby (Sweden)
- International Conference "Grammar of Proper Names – A Typological Perspective", 7-8 October 2010, Regensburg (Germany)
- XVI Convegno Internazionale di Onomastica e Letteratura, 7-9 October 2010, Enna (Italy)
- I Jornada d'Onomàstica de la Societat d'Onomàstica catalana, 16 October 2010, Lloret de Mar (Spain)
- Scottish Place Name Society, 13 November 2010, Bridge of Allan (Scotland)
- The American Name Society Meeting, 6-9 January, 2011, Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania)
- Society for Name Studies in Britain and Ireland, Annual Study Conference, 15-18 April 2011, Canterbury (England)
- Canadian Society for the Study of Names, 28-29 May 2001, Fredericton, New Brunswick (Canada)
- 25. Namenkundliches Symposium, 10-12 June 2011, Kals (Austria)
- NORNA-symposium, 10-12 November 2011, Helsinki (Finland)
- Trends in Toponymy 5, June/July 2012, Bern (Switzerland)
- Names in Economy, June 2012, Turku (Finland)

#### **15. Next meeting of the Board**

The next meeting will be organized via skype on Tuesday, 7 June 2011, at the following times:

13h00 UK

14h00 Central Europe

15h00 Finland, South Africa

08h00 Toronto

The expected duration of the meeting will be of about 1.5 hours

#### **16. Any other business**

SE informed the Board that the ICOS proceedings of the Toronto Congress are now all on the website and that papers written by two authors are mounted twice (which makes it easier to retrieve them). Please refer to the Internet site:

<http://pi.library.yorku.ca/dspace/handle/10315/2901>

KL informed the Board that the last volume of the Uppsala proceedings will be published by the end of this year.

ED contacted Maria Giovanna Arcamone in order to be informed about the current state of publication of the Proceedings of the Pisa conference (2005): Volumes 1 to 3 have already been published, volume 4 is currently in press and volume 5 should be published at the very beginning of the next year. Maria Giovanna Arcamone is preparing an order form together with the editor: it will be circulated to all members of ICOS when ready.

Closing of the meeting: 3 July 2010 at 11:20 am.

Elwys De Stefani  
Secretary  
7 September 2010