

Minutes of the ICOS General Assembly Barcelona, 8th September 2011, 6:30 pm



Present board members:

Sheila Embleton (SE, chair), Adrian Koopman (AK), Dieter Kremer (DK), Katharina Leibring (KL), André Lapierre (ALa), Carole Hough (CH), Julia Kuhn (JK), Antti Leino (ALe), Barbara Czopek-Kopciuch (BCK), Terhi Ainiala (TA), Elwys De Stefani (ED, secretary).

1. Welcome (S. Embleton)

The ICOS President called the General Assembly to order at 6.45 pm.

2. Confirmation of the agenda

The agenda as previously circulated was confirmed.

3. Approval of the minutes of the previous General Assembly (Toronto 2008)

The minutes of the ICOS General Assembly held in Toronto, 21 August 2008 were accepted as a correct record.

4. Business arising from the minutes

There was none.

5. President's report (S. Embleton)

The President expressed her gratitude for having had the privilege to lead the activities of ICOS for the past three years. She presented the members of the outgoing Board and thanked them for the time they devoted to ICOS. She expressed special gratitude to the Treasurer (KL) and the Secretary (ED), as well as to the members responsible for the ICOS Working Groups (JK, BCK).

The President gave an overview over the Board's activities in the past three years, recalling the meetings of the Board held in Toronto (2008), Amsterdam (2009), Glasgow (2010) and via Skype (2011), and commenting on the letters of support that she wrote to prevent institutions, research projects, etc. from being deprived of financial resources. The President then recalled the two flagship operations of ICOS, i.e. the journal ONOMA and the triennial Congress. She thanked the organisers of the Barcelona Congress and expressed a recommendation for the future Board,

inviting it to seek a closer collaboration with Congress bidders, Congress organisers and with ONOMA's editor-in-chief.

6. Secretary's report (*E. De Stefani*)

The Secretary thanked SE for her work as ICOS President and expressed his gratitude for the privilege of having been able to serve ICOS as a Secretary.

The loss of the following members of ICOS since the previous ICOS Congress (Toronto 2008) was announced and a moment of silence was observed in their memory:

- Jan Agertz
- Philip Dance
- Margaret Gelling
- Domingos Azevedo Moreira
- Martina Pitz
- Ewa Rzetelska-Feleszko
- László Vincze

The Secretary reported that four issues of the ICOS Newsletter had been circulated since the last Congress (Nos. 17-20). Edited versions of these (i.e. without the financial reports) can be downloaded from the ICOS website. The Secretary then invited the membership to send the Secretary all relevant information that could be of interest for other members (book announcements, call for papers, research projects, etc.), so that it can be circulated in the Newsletters. He also reminded the members to inform ICOS about any changes to their postal or e-mail addresses, since a few of the addresses currently registered in the ICOS files do not seem to function any more.

The Secretary presented the new ICOS Flyer that will be distributed at conferences and workshops on onomastics in order to inform interested people about the existence and the activities of ICOS.

He then presented a brief history of ICOS that has been published on the ICOS website and that outlines the growth of ICOS from its beginnings to the present day.

The Secretary concluded by explaining why he did not stand for election for a second term: he took over the editorship of ONOMA and wished to focus his energies on that task (see item 11).

7. Treasurer's report (*K. Leibring*)

The Treasurer thanked her predecessor, Karina van Dalen-Oskam, for the help she offered her in the phase of transition, which has been complex, since the Treasury had to be moved from Belgium to Sweden.

This report is a summary of what has been presented to the Board and in the Newsletters as an economic report for each year.

Economic overview

PAID ITEM (Euros)	2008	2009	2010
Bank costs	149,71	176,99	198,47
Credit card costs	599,62	467,9	1110,4
ICOS organizational costs	838,41	1391,1	221,91
Printing of ONOMA	1706,5	2208,4	6885,8
ICOS 23, students & print	2827	698,65	0
Other (FS Nicolaisen)	0	0	1800
TOTAL	6121,2	4943,1	10217

RECEIVED ITEM (Euros)			
Interest	249,09	228,61	201,44
Membership fees	4830	1925,4	3472,9
Donations	25	41,45	145
Sold ONOMA copies	855	5175	4634,4
Organizational costs in return 0		0	100
TOTAL	5959,1	7370,4	8553,7

ICOS still enjoys a healthy economy. The large costs are related to the printing of ONOMA, and, as we still are lagging behind schedule, some extra money for printing must be devoted during the next year.

There were several problems and obstacles to tackle when the Treasurer's office moved from the Netherlands to Sweden, not least when trying to get a credit card payment option to work. These problems are all solved now, but the change of country has meant that the costs for banking, credit card payment facilities etc. have been higher during this period than before. The Board feels it is important that members should be given different ways of doing the payment so these costs are unavoidable, especially as banks are getting more suspicious about handling cash payments.

ICOS has also devoted money for student support at the Toronto congress, and for some costs related to the production of the proceedings.

ICOS has its seat in Uppsala, Sweden, and is registered as an "idealistic organization", which in taxation terms means that we must, during a moving five-year-period spend at least 80% of our earnings. To avoid taxation during 2010 (we were in risk of that because of some earlier years when no ONOMA issues were being printed and the large return for earlier sold copies in 2009), the Board took the decision to sponsor the recently printed volume of articles by Bill Nicolaisen, one of the grand old men of ICOS fame.

The ICOS income consists of membership fees, donations, and profit from Peeters' selling of ONOMA issues to people and institutions not members of ICOS. The income from membership fees varies – they are always highest during Congress years when many people join and some pay for years in advance. The low figure in 2009 is partly due to the change of credit card payment provider from which no money reached us during that year.

Because of the lagging-behind of ONOMA issues, and the high price that Peeters charges non-members (75 Euros), we have given people the opportunity to become members in retrospect when an issue is finally being produced. This makes the exact

number of members hard to count over the years. The day before the Barcelona Congress began, ICOS had 202 paid-up members, as compared to the number of 197 just before Toronto in 2008. The number immediately after the Congress was 222.

Status of the ICOS bank accounts at the end of 2010

As Sweden is outside the Euro zone, we must keep accounts both in SEK and in Euros. We have also kept some accounts in the Netherlands, in the case of the new Treasurer being from the Euro zone. At the audit's suggestion, I will now suggest to the coming Treasurer that these accounts will be closed down.

Two Dutch bank accounts normal / earning and one Swedish account, Euros

normal Dutch	598,15 €
normal Swedish	37.731,72 €
Dutch earning	3.266,34 €
Total	41.596,21 €

Two Swedish bank accounts, normal and earning in SEK

Swedish SEK	3.321,88 SEK
Swedish earning	5.020,25 SEK
Total	8.342,13 SEK

Here is shown the status of the bank assets at the end of 2010. As Sweden is outside the Euro zone, we must keep accounts both in SEK and in Euros. We have also kept some accounts in the Netherlands, in the case of the new Treasurer being from the Euro zone. At the audit's suggestion, I will now suggest to the coming Treasurer that these accounts will be closed down.

Prognosis for 2011

Prognosis	2011 to pay	to receive
Membership dues		3500
Onoma	3200	3820
Donations		100
Bank/cr. card costs	1200	
Support students	1000	
Other	900	0
Total	6300	7420

In the prognosis for 2011 I have estimated the printing of Onoma 2009 to cost ca 3200 Euros – we have already received 3820 Euros from Peeters for sales in 2010. Bank and credit card costs are estimated at 1200 Euros and the Board has decided to devote 1000 Euros to support student members travelling to Barcelona. The “other” cost is related to the printing of the ICOS leaflet and the cost of web-hotel etc. The five-year taxation cycle is shown here, and we are now out of the taxation risk.

Year	Paid	received
2007	8 690	8 775,39
2008	6 121	5 959,09
2009	4 943,27	7 370,42
2010	10 216,00	8 553,00
2011	6 300,00	7 420,00

Total	36 270	38 077,9
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80% of received in 2011 would be 30462

Uppsala September 10, 2011-12-13

Katharina Leibring, outgoing Treasurer of ICOS

8. Webmaster's report (A. Leino)

The Assistant Secretary and Web Officer reported as follows:

The new web site, using a Finnish hosting service, has been in place since January 2009. Except for a technical delay in transferring control of the *icosweb.net* domain name, the transition from the old site to the new one was relatively painless and the costs of the web site have been significantly under budget; at the moment, the yearly cost of running the site is 74,40 €.

While the site works reasonably well and is kept up to date, the Internet as a social and cultural environment is changing. Because of this, during the next three-year period it will likely be necessary to expand from a static web site to more modern social media. Foremost options would include a Facebook page for ICOS, a LinkedIn group for onomasticians and possibly using Twitter to distribute conference announcements and other news.

The General Assembly supported the proposal to set up an ICOS Facebook page and LinkedIn group.

9. Report of the Bibliographical Database Group (B. Czopek-Kopciuch)

The President of the Bibliographical Database Group reported as follows:

At present the ICOS Bibliography Group consists of 13 people from different European countries. Lately Dr. Els Kloek joined the Group taking over the administrator's responsibility from Karina van Dalen-Oskam.

The Bibliography Group collaborates with BNTL of Huygens Instituut, which hosts IBOS. It offers an open way to submit titles (and other information) in the data management system. Hence, anyone interested in submitting titles will be given access (after registration).

Today the database counts the following number of entries: 76 books, 37 journals or series, 8 special issues of a journal, 0 websites, 1 cd/dvd, 54 book articles, 194 journal articles, 0 website articles, 3 reviews. All entries were checked and the colleagues who submitted the entries were informed about mistakes.

As it will take some time before the bibliographical database is a good source of onomastic titles, we have prepared a list of websites where one can find onomastics bibliographies, mostly national ones. All the links will enter the database this month. If anyone knows useful links, please inform the secretary of the Database Group.

During the Barcelona Congress the group had a meeting. A time table for checking the entries was established. Each member of the group will be responsible for the entries during a month.

Since the Bibliography is helpful for all onomasticians, the whole membership was solicited to feed the database with the most relevant, recent publications. All that has

to be done is to write an e-mail to the secretary Doreen Gerritzen of the Bibliography Group (doreen.gerritzen@meertens.knaw.nl), who will give you access to the database. Making an entry is easy, a "help" button on the website provides more information and examples. So please – help us...

10. Report of the Terminology Group (J. Kuhn)

The President of the Terminology Group reported as follows:

Bericht über die Arbeit der ICOS Terminologie Gruppe (2008-1011):

Primäres Ziel der ICOS Terminologie Gruppe war in den vergangenen Jahren die Erarbeitung der Liste onomastischer Basis-Termini auf den drei offiziellen Sprachen von ICOS: dem Französischen, dem Englischen und dem Deutschen. In den vergangenen drei Jahren, seit dem ICOS Kongress in Toronto, ist es uns gelungen, diese drei Listen zu finalisieren und fertig zu stellen. Es wurden hierfür zwei persönliche Treffen der Mitglieder der Terminologiegruppe, im Dezember 2009 in Wien (Österreich) und April 2011 in Uppsala (Schweden), organisiert sowie eine Telefonkonferenz im August 2011 abgehalten.

Die Listen konnten nun abgeschlossen und online gestellt werden. Sie sind im Netz unter <http://www.icosweb.net/index.php/terminology.html> abrufbar. Wir laden nachdrücklich ein, diese Listen zu verwenden, da sie nicht nur die in der Onomastik gängigen Definitionen enthalten, sondern auch klare Anhaltspunkte für die korrekte Verwendung von Termini besonders vor dem Hintergrund bestehender Polysemien bedingt durch die Verwendung der Termini in anderen Wissenschaftsbereichen liefern.

Die weiteren, zukünftigen Arbeitsschritte der Terminologie Gruppe bestehen nun in der Ausarbeitung der Basisterminologien für weitere Sprachen (wie etwa Ungarisch) sowie die Erarbeitung der Fachterminologien spezifischer Bereiche der Onomastik (wie Anthroponomastik, Literarische Onomastik u.ä.) und Mitwirkung von Muttersprachlern der neuen Sprachen bzw. von Experten der jeweiligen Spezialbereiche der Onomastik.

11. Report on Onoma (E. De Stefani)

Doreen Gerritzen resigned from her position of editor-in-chief of ONOMA in January 2011 after having been in that function for nine years. As a consequence, the ICOS Board of Directors appointed Elwys De Stefani as the new editor-in-chief of ONOMA (see Newsletter 20). The report was thus given by the new editor-in-chief, who thanked Doreen Gerritzen for her work.

The transition of the editorial responsibility was organised as follows: Doreen Gerritzen will be responsible until the publication of issue 46 (2011), Elwys De Stefani will be in charge of ONOMA from issue 47 (2012) onwards.

Since the last General Assembly three issues of ONOMA have been published:

- 41 (2006): *Name Theory*, ed. R. Coates
 - 42 (2007): *Urban Toponymy*, ed. S. Nyström
 - 43 (2008): *Commercial Names*, eds. A. Zilg, A. Bergien, L. Kremer
- Issue 44 (2009) on *African Onomastics*, edited by A. Koopman has been published before the end of 2011.

It was pointed out that the publication delay of three years that ONOMA had in 2008 was reduced by one year in the course of the period 2008-2011.

The upcoming issues will be on the following topics:

- 45 (2010): *History of Onomastics*, eds. M. G. Arcamone, M. Pitz†
- 46 (2011): *Names and Minorities*, ed. D. Brozović / *Onomastic and Linguistic Landscapes*, ed. G. Puzey
- 47 (2012): *Contact and Interference Phenomena in Onomastics*, eds. W. Haubrichs, M. Pfister
- 48 (2013): *Names and Law*, eds. K. Leibring, A. Teutsch
- 49 (2014): *Names and Religion*, ed. P. Vikstand

A new policy had been initiated under the guidance of Doreen Gerritzen: Starting with issue 47 ONOMA will consist of a thematic and a non-thematic part. Guidelines for the submission of publication proposals will be made available online soon.

12. Elections of the new ICOS Board (2011-2014)

The President explained the election modalities. After presentations from the candidates, a paper ballot was held, and the following persons were declared elected to serve in the roles indicated:

President: Carole Hough (105 votes)
Vice-President: Richard Coates (103 votes)
Vice-President: Milan Harvalík (103 votes)
Secretary: Guy Puzey (108 votes)
Assistant Secretary and Web-Officer: Antti Leino (105 votes)
Treasurer: Staffan Nyström (109 votes).

As a result of the vote, Staffan Nyström was elected Treasurer to be in charge of economic matters and transactions concerning ICOS business until the next General Assembly in 2014. He will have full authority to use the ICOS bank accounts and the right to sign documents on behalf of ICOS, including postal documents.

Non-executive members:

- Terhi Ainiala (100 votes)
- Lidia Becker (92 votes)
- Barbara Czopek-Kopciuch (84 votes)
- Ian Clark (83 votes)
- Kaisa Rautio Helander (79 votes)
- Laura Kostanksi (68 votes)

The following candidates were not elected:

- Artur Gałkowski (61 votes)
- Carol Léonard (47 votes)

Total valid votes: 116

13. Elections of the Congress venue 2014

Two bids were presented: Valéria Tóth presented a bid for Debrecen (Hungary) and Carole Hough presented a bid for Glasgow (Scotland).

A paper ballot was held, as a result of which Glasgow was declared to host the 25th ICOS Congress in 2014:

Votes for Glasgow: 79

Votes for Debrecen: 37

Total valid votes: 116

14. Any other business

Pierre-Henri Billy (PHB) asked for an explanation about the ICOS-Newsletter not being in French and German any more and claimed it was unconstitutional. The President replied that the Board had considered this matter during the Amsterdam meeting (2009) and decided unanimously that the Newsletter was henceforth circulated in English only. This decision was circulated to the membership in Newsletter 17 (2009) and no objections were addressed to the ICOS Board until PHB's request. The reason for this policy is that publishing the Newsletter only in English saved a massive amount of time for the volunteer secretary and that the overwhelming majority of people knew English well enough to read it. The President also pointed out that the language policy was not mentioned in the ICOS statutes. The President suggested that the new Board might review that decision if the majority of the membership wished to have Newsletters in three languages.

Closing of the General Assembly: 8 September 2011 at 20:30 pm.

Elwys De Stefani
Outgoing Secretary
28 September 2011

Sheila Embleton
Outgoing President
28 September 2011