



**MINUTES OF THE ICOS BOARD MEETING
HELD ONLINE, VIA SLACK, ON 16 NOVEMBER 2018**

BOARD MEMBERS: Paula Sjöblom (PS, chair), Alina Bugheșiu (AB, secretary), Emilia Aldrin (EA), Urszula Bijak (UB), Alice Crook (AC), Artur Gałkowski (AG), Lasse Hämäläinen (LH), Nobuhle Hlongwa (NH), Adrian Koopman (AK), Alexandra Petrulevich (AP), Valéria Tóth (VT).

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF *ONOMA*: Unni-Päivä Leino (UPL).

APOLOGIES: Evgeny Shokhenmayer (ES).

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The meeting was called to order on Friday, 16 November 2018, at 14:06 EET (12:06 GMT). ES was unable to attend.

2. CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted without the addition of new items to the plan of discussions originally disseminated via e-mail by PS before the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (SLACK, 22 MAY 2018)

The minutes of the meeting held online, via Slack, on 22 May 2018 were approved during the current meeting. They will be published on the ICOS website.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Two aspects were noted under this point on the agenda:

- 1) AP and the ICOS PR Group drew up the ICOS Public Relations Plan and Policy 2018–2020. The document was sent to ICOS members together with the minutes of the previous Board meeting.
- 2) AK withdrew from the project regarding newspaper clippings.

5. MATTERS OF CURRENT INTEREST (SECRETARY'S REPORT)

Since the last meeting of the Board, the Secretary's activity concerned two main points:

- 1) Informing ICOS members as regards the personal data policy (known as the General Data Protection Regulation, or GDPR) adopted by the EU and the revision of membership data conducted by ICOS in this context. Some of the replies to the survey launched by ICOS (particularly by EA, as Treasurer and head of the GDPR group) were submitted via e-mail to the Secretary. There have been members who wished to end their ICOS membership, either for personal reasons or because ICOS does no longer meet their research interests. Nevertheless, the organisation has also registered new members. The members of the Board agreed that ICOS

should try to find out from our members what their research interests, expectations, and requests are, to try to prevent withdrawals from the organisation.

- 2) Distributing the minutes of the previous Board meeting (held online, via Slack, on 22 May 2018) and disseminating news about the latest scientific events, books and journals on onomastics. On this occasion, positive feedback was received in relation to the activity of ICOS and the various ways in which the Board is working to take the society forward.

6. MATTERS OF CURRENT INTEREST (PRESIDENT'S REPORT)

The President's report included three points:

- 1) The situation of *Onoma* (discussed under item 9 on the agenda of the current meeting);
- 2) The organisation of a face-to-face meeting of the Board of ICOS in South Africa. Although the entire Board supported this action, the meeting was difficult to arrange due to many reasons, the most important of which was funding. AK was thanked for all his support in this respect. The members of the Board concurred to try again to hold a meeting outside Europe at some later point.
- 3) The candidates for the organizing institution(s) of the 2023 Congress of ICOS. The President kindly asked the members of the Board to disseminate the information about the possibility to apply for this position, as it would be good to have at least two candidates from which the General Assembly could choose. So far, only Switzerland, through the University of Bern, has written to express its interest. During the meeting, it was agreed to set the date for the bids to the end of February 2020.

7. FINANCIAL SITUATION (TREASURER'S REPORT)

EA made a preliminary overview of ICOS accounts. At the time of the meeting, ICOS had 159 paying members, which resulted in incomes of approx. 3000 EUR. However, there will probably be a rather big change in expected outcomes for 2018 of which ICOS should take notice. ICOS has not yet received any of the printing costs budgeted for 2018. This means that ICOS will not spend the amount required by the Swedish tax agency and risks receiving a penalty (like in the previous couple of years). So far, ICOS has not had any tax penalties, but the decision for 2018 will come in December.

UPL mentioned she would contact Peeters and ask them to send the bill for vol. 49 of *Onoma* to help with the calculations of the outcomes.

8. THE PRESENT STATE OF *ONOMA* (EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S REPORT)

UPL summarised the results of the meeting of the Editorial Board of *Onoma* (07 November 2018):

- 1) *Onoma* 49 was almost in print. Volume 50 was undergoing editing, whereas 51 was stalled in mid-review. The volume on *Asian Onomastics* was close to ready as well.
- 2) The negotiations with Taylor & Francis were problematic, as ICOS did not receive any data from Peeters.
- 3) There was an increasing pressure towards open access, and ICOS needs to take this into account.
- 4) UPL announced that she would like to resign in the following months.

With respect to points 1 and 2 above, the Board of ICOS decided that a new call-for-papers for a non-themed volume of *Onoma* should be sent only after some of the volumes that are in print or undergoing editing are actually published. At the same time, the dissemination of the call-for-papers would not be carried out until a new Editor-in-Chief is appointed.

Another aspect that the Board agreed upon was to establish a regular calendar (for paper submissions, peer reviews etc.) once the publication of the volumes is on track. While *Onoma* will favour non-themed issues, thematic volumes will also be published. At the same time, attempts will be made to have the journal indexed by the most important international scientific data bases (such as SCOPUS and ISI Web of Science).

9. THE FUTURE OF *ONOMA* (REPORT OF UPL, THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF *ONOMA*, AND RICHARD COATES, THE CHAIR OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE JOURNAL)

As already mentioned under item 8, negotiations with Taylor & Francis did not have the positive outcome expected, because Peeters did not provide the necessary statistical and financial data that ICOS required. In this context, several options were noted:

- 1) Continuing to work with Peeters, in the hope that this would make them more responsive;
- 2) Send Taylor & Francis whatever data ICOS holds and see if these are enough;
- 3) Looking for another publisher.

For the time being, it was decided to continue working with Peeters, and try to get a transparent, written contract. ICOS will also try to negotiate with Peeters to make *Onoma* an open-access publication at least for ICOS members. If we cannot reach an agreement with Peeters, another publisher will be sought.

As regards the new editor-in-chief, it was decided that Richard Coates, the Chair of the Editorial Board, would be delegated to search for candidates for this position and make the choice with the help of the Editorial Board. He will forward the proposals to the Board of ICOS, and the final decision will be made during the following meeting of the Board of ICOS.

10. ICOS SUMMER SCHOOL (REPORT BY LH, POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE)

According to LH, the ICOS Summer School will take place from 26 to 30 August 2019 in Helsinki, Finland. The official invitation letter was sent to all ICOS members and shared on all ICOS social media accounts at the end of August 2018. Call for applications is open until 14 December 2018. So far, 6 applications have been received. In addition to that, at least 6 more students have shown interest but have not applied yet. A reminder about the closing call will be sent in late November or early December 2018. If there are still few applications when the call has closed, the deadline can be extended to January 2019.

The total costs of arranging the course – including classroom rent, lecture fees for teachers as well as lunches and coffee breaks for students and teachers – have been estimated to about 4,400 euros. The University of Helsinki will cover some of these costs. The exact share of the expenses has not been decided yet, as the negotiations are unfinished. However, the share of ICOS will be no more than 2,000–3,000 euros.

11. ICOS PERSONAL DATA POLICY (REPORT BY EA, THE HEAD OF THE GDPR GROUP)

EA mentioned that the draft of the personal data policy of ICOS was written by EA, AB and ES following the growing international need for this kind of document. It refers to the current situation of ICOS. If ICOS decides to create a log-in service for members on the ICOS webpage, parts of the document will need to be rewritten. The GDPR group suggested that the policy be discussed by the General Assembly and that it should remain a continuous item on the agenda of General Assembly/Board meetings to ensure that it is updated when needed. For the time being, it was agreed that the policy will be uploaded on the ICOS webpage to be in agreement with EU regulations.

12. ONLINE MEMBERSHIP VIA WEBSITE

Online membership will allow potential members 1) to register as such via the ICOS website, 2) to pay the membership fee via the website, and 3) to log in to separate pages for ICOS members only. It would solve many problematic questions concerning, e.g., communications, membership payments and up-to-date contact details. The question about online membership is closely connected to the personal data policy (see item 11 above).

EA shared the news about the possibility of moving the ICOS webpage to from Drupal to Wordpress, which would facilitate the creation of a members' log-in service and the addition of a link to Paypal for the payment of the ICOS membership fee. It was decided that the members of the Board would try to find someone to help with this process. It is one of the financial priorities of ICOS, as it is a necessary investment for the future.

13. ISSUES OF THE TERMINOLOGY GROUP (REPORT BY AG, THE HEAD OF THE GROUP)

AG mentioned the highlights of the activity of the Terminology Group since the last meeting of the Board:

- 1) In August–September 2018, AG contacted many onomasticians all over the world, including some of the members of the Board of ICOS (AK, PS, ES) on issues regarding onomastic terminology and works on this topic in individual countries and specific language areas. A lot of data has been collected and it is being processed by AG and the Terminology Group. For instance, AG highlighted the intention to work with Enzo Caffarelli (the Editor-in-Chief of *Rivista Italiana di Onomastica*) on a dictionary of Italian onomastic terminology, which will perhaps include the translation of some of the terms into English. This work starts from a glossary published by Enzo Caffarelli and Caterina Cagliardi (*Terminologia onomastica. Archivio per il Vocabolario Storico Italiano* (AVSI), I, 2018, 11–55, http://www.avsi.unical.it/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/AVSI-1-2018_provv.pdf), which is worth developing.
- 2) In November–December 2018, AG will be Visiting Scholar at the Slovak Academy of Sciences and participate as Polish correspondent in the project “Slovak Onomastic Terminology”, a part of a larger enterprise, “Terminological Corpus of the Slovak Language”. While there, AG will work on translating into English an interview of Prof. Rudolf Šrámek (Brno, Czech Republic) about the activity and history of the ICOS Terminology Group and about terminology issues in general.
- 3) AG has also discussed terminological matters and the cooperation of ICOS with North American onomasticians. The latter encourage having more direct collaboration with the American Name Society (ANS) and the Canadian Society for the Study of Names (CSSN), for example, by having an officer from each of the two societies acting as representatives to ICOS. This would probably help develop a stronger relationship between ICOS and North American onomasticians, in the context of the reduced participation of the latter in international conferences and ICOS congresses, due to the cost of travel and reduced support for research in the humanities, in general, and onomastics, in particular.

It was decided that the Board will discuss possibilities to solve the problems caused by long distances during the first face-to-face meeting in 2019.

14. NEXT MEETING

The Board members agreed to have the following face-to-face meeting in Uppsala, Sweden, in June 2019, during the Sixth International Conference *Names in the Economy* (NITE6, 3–5 June 2019). Until then, at least another online meeting will be held for various current matters.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nothing was mentioned under this item.

16. CLOSING

PS thanked the members for the fruitful discussions and closed the meeting at 17:27 EET (15:27 GMT).

Alina Bugheșiu
(May 2019)