



**MINUTES OF THE ICOS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(KRAKÓW, 2021)
HELD ONLINE, VIA ZOOM, ON 25 AUGUST 2021**

BOARD MEMBERS: Paula Sjöblom (PS, Chair), Alina Bugheșiu (AB, Secretary), Emilia Aldrin (EA), Urszula Bijak (UB), Alice Crook (AC), Artur Gałkowski (AG), Nobuhle Hlongwa (NH), Lasse Hämäläinen (LH), Adrian Koopman (AK), Alexandra Petrulevich (AP), Katalin Reszegi (KR), Eugen Schochenmaier (ES).

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF *ONOMA*: Oliviu Felecan (OF).

ICOS MEMBERS PRESENT: 77.

1. WELCOME: STATING THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS PRESENT

The chair called the meeting to order on Wednesday, 25 August 2021, at 15:00 CEST (14:00 GMT). She invited the participants in the General Assembly to pay their respects with a moment of silence to the following members of ICOS who had passed away since the last Congress: Thorsten Andersson, Barbara Czopek-Kopciuch, Aleksandra Cieślíkowa, Ankica Čilaš Šimpraga, Gerhard Koß, Edwin D. Lawson.

PS then presented the role of the General Assembly according to the ICOS Statutes and pointed out that, since more than 20% of the personal members were present (77), the meeting could begin.

2. CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda, chair of the meeting (PS) and notetaker (AB) were approved unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (DEBRECEN 2017)

Carole Hough pointed out a typographical correction that needed to be made in the draft of the minutes, on p. 7. The error would be removed and the minutes uploaded on the website.

As no other comments arose, the minutes of the previous General Assembly were approved.

4. MATTERS ARISING

During the Board meeting in Helsinki on 21 February 2018, the Board of ICOS agreed on the election of two reviewers outside the Board to speed up the approval of the minutes of the General Assembly (for instance, in case there occurred any changes in the position of the Treasurer). Carole Hough and Milan Harvalík were nominated in this respect. They were approved unanimously.

At the same time, the members agreed on the candidates who would confirm the votes counted in the election via Zoom: UB and AB, as they were both in Kraków during the meeting of the General Assembly.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

PS explained that the reason behind the extension of the term of the ICOS Board of Directors elected on the occasion of the 26th ICOS in Debrecen was the Covid-19 pandemic, which led to the one-year postponement of the 27th ICOS in Kraków. Thus, during the Board meeting held in May 2020, it was decided that the new Board of Directors would be elected in August 2021, when the General Assembly would be convened for the ICOS Congress.

The Board of Directors of ICOS reunited 12 times in face-to-face or online meetings: 1 September 2017 (Debrecen), 21 February 2018 (Helsinki + Skype), 22 May 2018 (Slack), 16 November 2018 (Slack), 15 January 2019 (Slack), 5–6 June 2019 (Uppsala + Skype), 3 December 2019 (Slack), 14 April 2020 (Slack), 25 May 2020 (Slack), 9 April 2021 (Slack), 18 June 2021 (Zoom), 22 August 2021 (Kraków + Zoom).

The following changes to the Board of Directors occurred in the past four years:

- KR replaced Valéria Tóth as non-executive member, after Professor Tóth announced her withdrawal from the Board at the Board meeting in June 2019;
- AP replaced EA as Treasurer of ICOS (and, therefore, as authorised signatory of ICOS as well), after EA announced she would no longer be able to continue to fulfil this role during the prolonged term of the Board of ICOS. The appointment of AP was approved during the meeting on 25 May 2020, and referred to the period between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021.

Certain changes were also recorded in the management of *Onoma*, the journal of ICOS:

- Unni Leino, the Editor-in-Chief, asked to step aside. After negotiating with the Editorial Board, the Board of Directors decided to nominate OF as the new Editor-in-Chief, AB as the Editorial Secretary, and ES as the Web Officer. Their appointment became effective on 15 January 2019;
- Richard Coates resigned from the position of Chair of the Editorial Board of *Onoma*, but accepted to continue as a regular member of the Editorial Board. Following the Editorial Board's proposal, Mats Wahlberg was nominated and approved as the new Chair in the Board meeting on 18 June 2021.

During the past four years, the ICOS Board has managed to achieve the most important goals that were stated in its *Strategy for 2018–2021*:

- getting *Onoma* back on track;
- organising the first postgraduate Summer School of ICOS;
- launching a new website with a new membership payment tool and members' registration section, in agreement with the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (EU 2016/679);
- increasing the visibility of ICOS on its social media channels;
- developing the projects of the ICOS Terminology Group;
- balancing the finances of ICOS with the Swedish tax rules by carrying out several investments (funding a part of the publication costs of the proceedings of the 26th ICOS in Debrecen as five volumes of the peer-reviewed and open-access journal *Onomastica Uralica* in 2018; setting up the new website of ICOS and the online payment module; publishing *Onoma* and launching a new website for the journal; covering a part of the costs involved by the first postgraduate Summer School of ICOS in 2019).

A PR Group was founded at the beginning of the term, whose responsibility was to plan and carry out actions that would increase the visibility and credibility of ICOS, in particular, and onomastics, in general. The initial structure of the group was: AP as the Chair, and AB, AC, ES, and Lidia Becker as members. Since AP was chosen in May 2020 to occupy the position of ICOS Treasurer for 2020–2021, AC was elected as the new Chair of the PR Group for the rest of the term.

PS underlined that increasing the international visibility and credibility of ICOS has been a constant concern of the outgoing Board of Directors, and encouraged the new Board to contemplate how to network and cooperate with onomastic societies and institutes around the world, to develop closer dialogue and activities that could lead to the organisation of the ICOS Congress outside Europe. Although such bids have not been received in a long time, perhaps the experience of working virtually would make a venture of this kind achievable.

Last but not least, PS expressed her gratitude to the whole Board of Directors for the good collaboration, to the editors of *Onoma* and the Editorial Board for solving the long-lasting problems of the publication. She particularly thanked Professor Richard Coates, who has been working hard for ICOS and *Onoma* for so many years.

6. SECRETARY'S REPORT

During her second term as Secretary of ICOS, AB reported that various informative materials have been sent to ICOS members via email: four newsletters, several messages providing general information or including conference/book announcements and calls-for-papers. The newsletters were trilingual, namely in all the three working languages of ICOS – English, French, German. The final approved minutes of the Board meetings, taken in English, have been consistently uploaded on the website and can be accessed by all the members interested in learning more about the administrative matters of the organisation.

AB mentioned that since the last Congress, four organisations/institutes have become affiliated with ICOS:

- Onomastika Elkartea (Sociedad Vasca de Onomástica / Société Basque d'Onomastique: <https://onomastika.org/> – the Basque Society of Onomastics) in 2018;
- the Greek Onomastic Society / Association Onomastique Grecque (<https://onomatologiki.wordpress.com/>) in 2019;
- the International Institute of Jewish Genealogy (IIJG, www.iiig.org) and the Centre of Onomastics in Baia Mare, Romania (<https://onomasticafelecan.ro/index.html>) in 2021. AB thanked the members of ICOS who mediated the establishment of the aforementioned connections.

At the same time, AB expressed her gratitude to those ICOS members (within or outside the ICOS Board of Directors) who had most generously offered their help with the French and German editions of the Newsletter (Pierre-Henri Billy, ES, Christian Zschieschang), to the Board members for their wonderful collaboration and support, and to all the ICOS members who contributed to the Newsletters or simply provided feedback. She encouraged ICOS members to continue submitting to the Secretary any information (conference/book announcements, calls-for-papers, news about the funding of onomastic research projects) they wished to include in the Newsletter or wanted to disseminate within the ICOS community via other media as well (Twitter, Facebook, the ICOS website).

AB concluded her report by thanking the outgoing President of ICOS, PS, on behalf of the Board of Directors, for the energy, enthusiasm, dedication, perseverance, and cordiality with which she had chaired ICOS during the past term.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

EA and AP declared that the finances of ICOS are overall in a good state. On 12 August 2021, the total assets of ICOS were 65 517 EUR.

The following overview of ICOS incomes and expenses between 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2020 was presented (all amounts are in EUR):

	2017	2018	2019	2020
INCOMES:				
ONOMA ¹	491	0	0	2313
Membership fees ²	4585	3323	3220	3853
Donations	55	92	90	70
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	5131	3415	3310	6236

	2017	2018	2019	2020
EXPENSES:				
Bank costs ³	164	152	34	54
Credit card costs ⁴	534	473	470	273
ICOS organisational costs ⁵	90	300	534	0
Major webpage upgrade ⁶	0	0	700	0
ONOMA ⁷	0	0	1403	1276
Student support ⁸	1011	0	3413	0
Support of congress proceedings ⁹	0	3000	0	0
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	1799	3925	6554	1603
	2017	2018	2019	2020
RESULT:	3332	-510	-3244	4633

¹ Incomes from sold copies of *Onoma*.

² The number of paying members increases during congress years to around 200 persons. In 2017 the 26th ICOS congress was organised in Debrecen, Hungary.

³ Standard fees paid to Nordea Bank for handling the accounts of ICOS.

⁴ Fees paid to DIBS for the possibility to charge VISA/MC cards through a digital terminal 2017–2020 and from 2020 to Stripe for the possibility to charge credit cards via the ICOS webpage.

⁵ Regular costs for hosting the ICOS homepage, as well as certain one-time costs (in relation to Board meetings in 2018 and 2019).

⁶ Cost for hiring an expert to transfer the ICOS webpage into a Wordpress-multisite, installing a membership registration module, a web payment module and making updates. The establishment of the payment module as the new primary method of membership payment has decreased bank costs and credit card costs. It has also facilitated the treasurer's work significantly.

⁷ Costs for printing and distributing *Onoma*, as well as for hosting the *Onoma* webpage. From 2019 *Onoma* was published and distributed directly by ICOS.

⁸ Following a decision by the ICOS Board, students attending the Congress in Debrecen 2017 received a bursary of 40 euros each. The organisation of an ICOS Summer School in Helsinki, Finland in 2019 was also financially supported.

⁹ Following a decision by the ICOS Board, the fast and efficient publication of proceedings from the Congress in Debrecen 2017 received financial support.

The results show that the total assets of ICOS have increased slightly over the period 2017–2020, with some yearly variations.

Status of ICOS bank accounts by 31 December each year

ICOS has at its disposal two different accounts: one savings account (in the Swedish currency, SEK) and one account for everyday money coming in and going out. The everyday account has one part in the Swedish currency (SEK) and one part in euro (EUR), a so-called “euro pocket”. The table below shows the status of the accounts (all amounts transferred to EUR) at 31 December 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020.

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Account in SEK (> EUR)	1079	993	525	534
Account in EUR (Euro pocket)	20979	20506	17724	22276
Savings account (> EUR)	38826	37067	39084	39084
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	60884	58566	57333	61894

Swedish tax rules

According to Swedish tax rules an organisation like ICOS must spend 80% of its incomes over a “rolling” five-year period in order to avoid paying taxes. ICOS has not succeeded in doing so for some time now, which is the reason why a number of investments were made during this period and especially during 2018 and 2019 in order to avoid penalties from the Swedish Tax Agency. However (as evident from the table below), these investments have not been quite sufficient. During the latest five-year period (2016–2020), ICOS spent only 59% of the total incomes during that period despite making a number of investments during 2018 and 2019. So far, the tax authorities have done nothing to alert ICOS, but the organisation cannot continue saving so much of its incomes. Therefore, the incoming Board was advised to make a plan for further investments on a par with expected incomes.

5-year period	ICOS must spend	ICOS actually spent
2010–2014	80%	76%
2011–2015	80%	74%
2012–2016	80%	44%
2013–2017	80%	42%
2014–2018	80%	44%
2015–2019	80%	62%
2016–2020	80%	59%

The ICOS finances have been examined and found in order by two auditors: Leila Mattfolk and Väinö Syrjälä, Sweden, who are also ICOS members. However, the outgoing Board invited members of the organisation outside Sweden to help with the auditing of ICOS finances in the coming years.

Carole Hough asked whether it was clear how much ICOS finances would suffer if the Swedish tax authorities did apply the corresponding penalties. EA noted that although the amount was not clearly stated, ICOS needed to be aware that the Swedish authorities had been exceedingly kind so far, as they had seen that ICOS had been doing all it could to observe the regulations.

Keith Briggs suggesting putting money in short-term investments, in buying shares and/or spending it on developing the students’ network, matters which everyone agreed should be thoroughly discussed by the new Board of Directors.

8. REPORT ON *ONOMA*

OF confirmed that, after two years and a half, the publication of *Onoma* was back on track. For this achievement, OF thanked the Editorial Board of *Onoma*, the Board of Directors of ICOS, and the external reviewers for their support.

Since OF took up the position of Editor-in-Chief of the journal in 2019, the following volumes have been published:

- vol. 50/2015, non-themed, in April 2019;
- vol. 51/2016, *Asian Onomastics* (guest-editors: Sungjae Choo, Peter Kang, Multamia R. M. T.

Lauder), in August 2019;

- vol. 52/2017, non-themed, in August 2019;

- vol. 53/2018, *Literary Onomastics* (guest-editors: Richard Coates, Martyna Katarzyna Gibka), in February 2020;

- vol. 54/2019, *Young Scholars of Onomastics* (guest-editor: Lasse Hämäläinen), in May 2020;

- vol. 55/2020, *Personal Names and Cultural Reconstructions* (guest-editors: Lasse Hämäläinen, Jaakko Raunamaa, Johanna Virkkula), in July 2021.

Three volumes are in preparation:

- vol. 56/2021, *Dynamics of the Anthroponymic System* (guest-editor: Anna Choleva-Dimitrova). The editorial team aims at publishing this volume by the end of the year 2021;

- vol. 57/2022, *West Slavic Onomastics* (guest-editors: Urszula Bijak, Milan Harvalík, Iveta Valentová);

- vol. 58/2023, *Place Names as Cultural Heritage* (guest-editor: Peter Jordan).

All the themed volumes published or in preparation include non-themed articles, book reviews, and/or notes (brief terminological analyses, obituaries, etc.).

OF presented some statistical data illustrating the number of texts published in *Onoma* over the last six volumes (vols. 50–55), as well as the number of papers received for peer review, the types of manuscripts submitted for publication (articles, introductory chapters, reviews, notes), the distribution of articles according to volume themes, onomastic field approached, language of writing, authors' country of institutional affiliation.

Now that the publication of the journal is up to date, the activity of the Editorial Board of *Onoma* will focus on two directions:

- indexing the journal in prestigious international data bases (Web of Science, Scopus, ERIH Plus, Ebsco, etc.), which was impossible as long as the publication was delayed;

- updating the website, an ongoing concern.

9. REPORT OF THE TERMINOLOGY GROUP

AG noted that two main tasks have been carried out by the Terminology Group:

1) Expanding the ICOS List of key onomastic terms with new terms (forms and definitions);

2) Preparing the ICOS List of key onomastic terms in other languages, thereby reaching beyond the three official languages of ICOS (English, French, German).

The results of the first task are yet to be made public, as they have not been completed. As for the second task, AG reported that lists of equivalents of ICOS key onomastic terms have been prepared in 17 languages (Belorussian, Bulgarian, Catalan, Croatian, Czech, Estonian, Finnish, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuania, Macedonian, Polish, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Ukrainian), and two other lists (in Romanian and Swedish) would be added in the near future. Tables with the existing data can be found on the ICOS website (<https://icosweb.net/publications/onomastic-terminology/>). For all the above-mentioned lists, the English version of the ICOS key onomastic terms was the reference point. This endeavour helps create a data base which is important for the unification of onomastic terminologies on the level of individual languages and on the international level.

The lists were prepared by onomasticians within or outside the Terminology Group. The final versions were drafted with the help of onomastic commissions in the corresponding countries (e.g., the Slovak Onomastic Commission, Polish Onomastic Commission, Ukrainian Onomastic Commission, etc.) or confirmed by other experts from onomastic research centres (e.g., within the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences). For certain lists, reference to already known publications is also indicated (e.g., the publication presented in Debrecen during the 27th ICOS Congress by Hungarian onomasticians: *Hungarian and International Onomastic Terminology*, <http://real.mtak.hu/60273/>).

AG mentioned that it was important to highlight the activities of individual members of the Terminology Group. During the last term, they presented the results and discussions of their research into onomastic terminology in the pages of papers published in various journals (e.g., *Onoma*, *Rivista Italiana di Onomastica* *RION* [*Osservatorio terminologico*], *Voprosy onomastiki*, *Folia onomastica Croatica*, *Onomastica Uralica*) and books, as well as at conferences, symposia, scientific meetings of specialist committees and other bodies (also on their websites).

During the next term, the Terminology Group aims not only at providing the ICOS list of key onomastic terms in other languages (e.g., Chinese), but also at expanding the aforementioned list. This is a complex process, because each entry (i.e., the term and its corresponding definition) has to be approved separately. At the same time, members of the Terminology Group are carrying out quite advanced work on the development of lists of onomastic terms (in Slovak and Polish, for instance) as a part of scientific projects funded by national and international research programmes. Other languages may be included in these projects. The results of the work of the Polish-Slovak team, with the participation of Czech, English, Italian, French, etc. colleagues, will be published on a freely accessible Internet portal, which will host the systematically prepared interactive data base (ONOMTERM). AG advanced the idea that the ICOS website could host the data base. However, a proposal to this effect will be presented to the new ICOS Board of Directors by the Terminology Group. The relationship between the ONOMTERM project and the work of the Terminology Group is evident and will be one of mutual support and recognition. The plan and aims of ONOMTERM were presented at the meeting of the Terminology Group on 25 August 2021 by the authors of the project, Iveta Valentová and Milan Harvalík, from the Slovak Academy of Sciences, with professional IT support.

10. REPORT OF THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL DATABASE GROUP

After presenting a brief history of IBOS, ES mentioned that since the work of the group had moved to Zotero, 280 bibliographical entries had been added. However, after discussions during the meeting of IBOS, several measures were adopted that would revitalise the group:

- setting up an open profile for ICOS (and perhaps for *Onoma*) on Google Scholar;
- elaborating the systematic analysis of the bibliographical data recorded (thematic, region-based, language-based, diachronic/synchronic, comparative, etc.);
- publishing literature reviews to facilitate the access to scientific works on onomastics;
- using the experience of the Terminology Group in the creation of data bases as a model for the development of a similar project by IBOS.

11. WEBMASTER'S REPORT

ES presented an overview of the three main media channels by means of which ICOS communicates with its members: the ICOS website (and the website of *Onoma*, the journal of ICOS), the ICOS Facebook page, and its Twitter Channel.

With respect to the ICOS website (<https://icosweb.net>), ES stated that 152 news items had been posted since September 2017, namely about 3 items a month. In August 2021, before the 27th Congress, there were 244 members registered on the website of ICOS (48 expired accounts, and 28 accounts whose activation is required). ES took the opportunity to thank Victor Aldrin for his assistance with the web page of ICOS.

Also worth noting is the website of *Onoma*, launched in 2019. In the period February 2019–August 2021, 6 volumes of the journal (50–55) were published online (i.e., 64 articles). During the Congress, the web page had more than 25.000 views.

ES pointed out that the ICOS social media also recorded a large increase in posts put up on Facebook and Twitter, and in followers on both accounts since the Debrecen Congress (about 260 new followers

on Facebook, leading to 502 followers in total, and more than 200 new followers on Twitter, reaching 304 followers in total).

Many of the posts discuss important onomastic news and events, not just those related to ICOS. Thus, ICOS social media provide valuable information to a much larger audience and, hopefully, the organisation will gain new members because of that. According to ES, the followers of ICOS on Facebook could be described by the following graph:



As regards the ICOS Twitter Channel, ES mentioned that 2.876 tweets had been posted since August 2014. From 300 likes in October 2017, the number of likes reached 6.295 in August 2021 (more than 6.000 likes have been recorded in 4 years).

12. REPORT OF THE PR GROUP

In 2018, the ICOS Board created the ICOS PR Group. The aim of this group is to develop strategies to improve the overall visibility of ICOS and, ultimately, of name-studies.

Members of the 2018–2021 group were AP, AC, AB, ES, and Lidia Becker. Until August 2020, the group was chaired by AP, and thereafter by AC. It was advised that, as this group had done by appointing ES, the ICOS Web Officer should be a member of all future iterations of the ICOS PR Group, given the importance of the website and social media channels in the group's work.

The primary output of the 2018–2021 group has been the ICOS Public Relations Plan and Policy document, which is passed onto the next Board. The document lays out the following:

- Description of ICOS current channels (for example, our website, Facebook page, and Twitter account), including guidelines for password security and the type of content available on each channel;
- Short-term goals, including regular updates on each platform;
- Long-term goals, such as increasing the number of ICOS members and increasing public interest in names;
- Short- and long-term strategies, such as suggestions for social media campaigns, competitions, and the proposed creation of a YouTube account;
- Description of ICOS primary and secondary target audiences.

The proposed budget for the period 2018–2021 was 130 EUR/year, including the upkeep of the ICOS website. On behalf of the PR Group, AC suggested a range of activities that would require greater financial input, but this was left to future Boards to decide.

13. POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

LH mentioned the two aspects on which the activity of the Postgraduate Representative was focused:

1) Developing the ICOS Student Network (also called the *Young Scholars Network*) and arranging activities for it. The ICOS Student Network is a group for students and early career researchers within the field of onomastics. According to LH, its objective is to facilitate young scholars' affiliation with the international onomastic community.

The ICOS Student Network has two major channels for informing its members: a mailing list and a Facebook group. In June 2021, there were 42 people in the mailing list and 40 members in the Facebook group. These numbers were greatly increased thanks to the ICOS Summer School. However, some scholars on the lists might be inactive with their research or not consider themselves as young scholars anymore. Therefore, one of the first duties of the incoming Postgraduate Representative would be to update the list.

2) Organising the first ICOS Summer School, between 26 and 30 August 2019, in Helsinki, Finland. The theme of the course was *Methods of Onomastics*. The responsible teachers were Terhi Ainiala (University of Helsinki) and PS (University of Turku), and LH as the course coordinator was in charge of all the practical issues. There were 21 young onomasticians from 15 different countries participating in the course (all the young researchers who expressed their wish to participate in the event were accepted). The course program included lectures about the course theme given by the responsible teachers and visiting lecturers, a 3 Minute Thesis workshop, excursions to onomastically important locations in Helsinki, and a text workshop which later resulted in *Onoma* volume 54 with the theme *Young Scholars of Onomastics*. A more comprehensive review of the Summer School can be read in the [introduction article](#) of the volume.

Several recommendations were made:

1) During the Covid-19 pandemic, academic scholars have got more accustomed to remote interaction. Therefore, it is worth considering whether the Student Network could arrange regular online meetings in the future, perhaps as early as 2022. They could be lectures or workshops but also informal meetings with less scholarly content.

2) Live events still have an important role in helping young onomasticians to get acquainted with each other. The ICOS Summer School proved to be a successful concept and got very positive feedback from the participants. Therefore, LH strongly recommended that the next PR considered organising another Summer School during the term 2021–2024. LH would be happy to help the PR with planning. The preparation of the Summer School might require some financial support from ICOS, but this is an important investment for the future of the organisation.

3) The ICOS website could host a page for the Student Network with a short description and contact information. LH mentioned that the Student Network also planned to create a document where the members could introduce themselves and their research shortly, but it has not been carried out yet. Some mentoring schemes in collaboration with more experienced scholars have also been discussed, but no detailed plans have been made.

Before moving on to point 14 on the agenda, Carole Hough, Milan Harvalík, and the Chair of the General Assembly drew attention to the fact that the election of non-executive members of the ICOS Board of Directors as Chairs of the specialised groups of the organisation was not recorded in the Statutes. This measure was adopted during the meeting of the ICOS Board of Directors on 11 December 2013 (see the minutes of the meeting, p. 9, item 17. *Elections to ICOS Board (2014–2017)*, <https://icosweb.net/wp/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/2013-12-Skype-minutes.pdf>). It was decided that this change should be incorporated in the Statutes (a question for the new Board to solve).

14. CHANGE TO THE ICOS STATUTES

The Board of Directors proposed changing the statutes of ICOS to turn one of the non-executive positions into an executive member, a Vice-Treasurer with individual signatory right. This change is

deemed necessary since the duties of the Treasurer have recently been significantly expanded due to ICOS becoming the publisher of *Onoma* and selling the journal internationally to many customers. The changes were drafted by AP as follows:

Article 8.1

The General Assembly discusses and directs the general policy of the organisation according to the aims described in article 3. The General Assembly elects, through secret ballot, both the ex officio and five at-large members of the Board of Directors.

Article 9 Board of Directors

The organisation is administered by a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors consists of the President, two Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Vice-Treasurer and the Assistant Secretary and five at-large members.

Article 9.1

The President, the two Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Vice-Treasurer and the Assistant Secretary will ex officio constitute the Executive Committee of the organisation. The Treasurer and the Vice-Treasurer have individual signatory right.

As no objections were raised, the change of the Statutes was approved.

15. ELECTIONS OF THE NEW ICOS BOARD (2021–2024)

The President explained the method of online voting. Although several people had left the Zoom meeting since the beginning of the General Assembly, the election could still begin, as the personal voters still amounted to more than 20% of the personal members of ICOS (201 paid-up members on 23 August 2021). After presentations from the candidates, an online ballot was held. The members attending the General Assembly could choose between “Yes”, “No”, or “Abstain”. The ballot count resulting from Zoom was acknowledged by UB and AB (present on site in Kraków) and confirmed the following candidates elected in the corresponding positions:

Name and country	Position	Votes in favour
Katalin Reszegi (Hungary)	President	68
Yolanda Guillermina López Franco (Mexico)	Vice-President	68
Peter Jordan (Austria)	Vice-President	70
Vladislav Alpatov (Russia)	Secretary	71
Alexandra Petrulevich (Sweden)	Treasurer	72
Daniel Solling (Sweden)	Vice-Treasurer	71
Eugen Schochenmaier (Germany)	Assistant Secretary and Web Officer	72
Brittnee Leysen (UK)	Non-Executive Officer (Postgraduate Representative)	64
Fatemeh Akbari (Austria)	Non-Executive Officer	55
Artur Gałkowski (Poland)	Non-Executive Officer	60
Lasse Hämäläinen (Finland)	Non-Executive Officer	64
Márcia Sipavicius Seide (Brazil)	Non-Executive Officer	58

As a result of the vote, the following members were duly elected in charge of economic matters and transactions concerning ICOS business until the next General Assembly in 2024:

- Alexandra Petrulevich – Treasurer;
- Daniel Solling – Vice-Treasurer.

Alexandra Petrulevich and Daniel Solling will each have full authority to use the ICOS bank accounts and the individual right to sign documents on behalf of ICOS, including postal documents.

16. PRESENTATION OF THE 2024 CONGRESS VENUE (HELSINKI)

The only bid received for the 2024 ICOS Congress was presented by Terhi Ainiala (University of Helsinki), as the Chair of the organising committee. The theme of the Congress is *Sustainability of names, naming and onomastics*.

The Congress proceedings will be published only in open-access electronic form. All the articles will be peer-reviewed anonymously. From the audience, Carole Hough pointed out that this is a departure from traditional practice. Terhi Ainiala assured the General Assembly that authors will be given more detailed instructions in due time.

No objections were made by the participants in the General Assembly. Thus, PS declared that the bid to organise the 28th ICOS in Helsinki was approved.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

As there were no matters falling under this item, PS thanked everyone for participating in the General Assembly. PS closed the meeting at 18:26 CEST (17:26 GMT) on Wednesday, 25 August 2021.

Alina Bugheşiu
Secretary of ICOS
(25 August 2021)

Paula Sjöblom
President of ICOS

Reviewers of the Minutes

Carole Hough

Milan Harvalík