

# Flash

## What's new ?



Constitution Revision	03
Vienna Congress	04
ICA Programme Reorientation	06
Human Rights Actions	08
ARMA and GSU Initiatives	09
Educators' Forums	10
SARBICA and SPA Statements	11

# 04  
JULY  
2004  
7002

## VIENNA: OPEN SOCIETY, OPEN BORDERS . . . OPEN CONGRESS

ICA will hold its 15th quadrennial International Congress on Archives in Vienna, 23-29 August 2004. While there will be the usual gala opening ceremony and evening social events, there will also be the unusual, something different. This congress will be an open congress.

The Congress Programme Committee decided that the quadrennial meeting of archivists from around the globe should be more reflective of the variety of archival work as well as achievements by archivists. Congress attendees are all engaged in the challenges of preserving the record within their own political traditions and cultures. The committee hopes the congress will mirror the myriad activities and ideas that are at the base of archival work world-wide.

The response to the call for papers and presentations has been overwhelming. As a result the congress will host more than 200 sessions on a great range of topics. The challenge to all who attend will be to choose among the many excellent options. It will be important to read the programme carefully, to note the various thematic threads that have been identified as a way to cluster sessions around specific topics. Reading the programme will provide a sense of the extraordinary diversity and complexity in ways archives are addressing technology, service, preservation, documentation, historical study and more.

Most important, though, is to come to Vienna. Attend the congress. Join the discussion. Inform the world about what you are doing.

**Francis X. Blouin**

For the Programme Committee, 15th International Congress on Archives

[www.wien2004.ica.org](http://www.wien2004.ica.org)

### Contacts

COMING NEXT IN  
DECEMBER 2004!  
AFTER VIENNA  
CONGRESS

## IN BRIEF

**REVISION OF ISO 15489** — The international standard for records management, ISO 15489, is being revised according to ISO practice. A survey of views on and experiences with the standard was undertaken in June 2004. For more information: [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)

**AUDIOVISUAL ARCHIVING: PHILOSOPHY AND PRINCIPLES** — The new and expanded edition of this study, which includes recent developments in the field such as digitization, has been published online by UNESCO and will be translated into French and Spanish at a later date. For more information: [www.ccaaa.org](http://www.ccaaa.org)

**IRAQI CULTURAL HERITAGE** — ICA Secretary General Joan van Albada participated at the first meeting of the International Coordination Committee for the Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of Iraq (ICC) at UNESCO in Paris on 24-25 May 2004. For recommendations and other information, see: [www.unesco.org/iraq](http://www.unesco.org/iraq)

**ALA LAUNCHES WEBSITE** — ICA's regional branch for Latin America, the Asociación Latinoamericana de Archivos, has a new website at: [www.ala.or.cr](http://www.ala.or.cr)

### People

ICA welcomes new national archivists in Barbados — **Maria ROACH**, Luxembourg — **Josée KIRPS**, and Thailand — **Somsuda LEYAVANIJJA**. For contact information, see "membership directory" at: [www.ica.org](http://www.ica.org)

**SARBICA**, the Southeast Asia Regional Branch of ICA, has elected a new President, **Duong VAN KHAM** (Vietnam), and Vice President, **Haji Matassim BIN HAJI JIBAH** (Brunei). For more information: [www.ica.org/sarbica](http://www.ica.org/sarbica)

The ICA Secretariat is looking for people to fill two positions in Paris: **Programme Officer and Communications and Publications Officer**. For more information, see: [www.ica.org](http://www.ica.org) or contact: [vanalbada@ica.org](mailto:vanalbada@ica.org)

### In Memoriam

**CHRISTIE OLEHI NIGERIA**  
Janus Editorial Board (1997–2000),  
Comma Editorial Committee (2000–2004)

**KINGA PERZYNSKA USA**  
Secretary,  
Section for Archives of Churches and Religious Denominations (2000–2004)

## ICA AGENDA

### Meetings

8-9 JULY 2004  
**Bureau of the ICA Executive Committee**  
Paris, France  
Contact: ICA Secretariat,  
[ica@ica.org](mailto:ica@ica.org)

23-24 JULY 2004  
**International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS)**  
Turin, Italy  
Contact: Cristina MENEGAZZI,  
[menegazzi@icom.museum](mailto:menegazzi@icom.museum)

### Conferences

7-8 OCTOBER 2004  
**European Regional Branch of ICA (EURBICA)**  
European Conference on DTDs, EAD and EAC  
Paris, France  
Contact: Maryline WASIKOWSKI,  
[maryline.wasikowski@culture.gouv.fr](mailto:maryline.wasikowski@culture.gouv.fr)

24-25 NOVEMBER 2004  
**Seminar of the Arab Regional Branch of ICA (ARBICA)**  
"Archival Education and Training in the Information Society: Needs and Challenges"  
Beirut, Lebanon  
Contact: Hassana MEHEIDIN,  
[hmeheidn@ul.edu.lb](mailto:hmeheidn@ul.edu.lb)

23-29 AUGUST 2004  
**15th International Congress on Archives**  
Theme: "Archives, Memory and Knowledge"  
Vienna, Austria  
Contact: [wien2004@ica.org](mailto:wien2004@ica.org)  
Internet: [www.wien2004.ica.org](http://www.wien2004.ica.org)

### The International Council on Archives (ICA)

is dedicated to the advancement of archives through international collaboration. Archives, by providing evidence of human activities and transactions, underlie the rights of individuals and states, and are fundamental to democracy and good governance. In pursuing the advancement of archives, ICA works for the protection and enhancement of the memory of the world.

### Flash

communicates news on ICA activities and highlights current issues in archives. It is the complement to the in-depth professional reflection, reports and debate in *COMMA*.

**Flash** is published three times a year as a membership benefit by ICA. Contents may be reproduced and translated in part or in whole, provided that credit is given. Information in this issue of *Flash* was current at the closing date for production, 1 July 2004.

### Flash is looking for contributions!

If you have a newsflash for the archives world, send it to ICA. The closing date for the next issue is 1 November 2004.

### ICA

60 RUE DES FRANCS-BOURGEOIS,  
75003 PARIS, FRANCE.

T : + 33 1 40 27 6306  
F : + 33 1 42 72 2065  
E : [ica@ica.org](mailto:ica@ica.org)  
W : [www.ica.org](http://www.ica.org)

ISSN 1728-533X

ICA THANKS ALL WHO PROVIDED CONTRIBUTIONS, TRANSLATIONS AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS : JOAN VAN ALBADA  
COORDINATOR : EVELYN WAREHAM  
EDITOR : ICA SECRETARIAT  
DESIGN : THÉRÈSE TROIKA, FRANCE  
PRINTER : WAANDERS, THE NETHERLANDS

# Changes to ICA Constitution to be Voted on in Vienna

« Nothing is permanent but change »

Heraclitus

is the result of an open exchange in recent years between ICA's members and has since garnered the full support of both ICA's Executive and Constitution committees.

ICA's members will cast their votes for changes to the constitution at the General Assembly in Vienna, on 27-28 August 2004. The proposed revision, which is available for review online at [www.ica.org](http://www.ica.org),

## Why does ICA need to revise its constitution?

The world in which ICA operates is changing and ICA must adapt in order to give members what they need and want. The proposed changes would help ICA to focus on and achieve the priorities identified by members. The changes also would increase participation by non-national members. In addition, they would clarify ICA's legal position in France, where the headquarters is established.

## What are the changes?

Six main changes are proposed.

- 1 Elections (by ballot) for key positions, including the President, would be introduced.
- 2 ICA sections would get increased representation on the Executive Committee.
- 3 The relationship between the Executive Committee and the Secretary General, and the roles of the key officials, would be clarified.
- 4 CITRA and other ICA bodies would be more closely involved in the ICA programme.
- 5 The International Archival Development Fund (FIDA) would be reorganised with independent trustees and a wider role.
- 6 The four-year cycle in which ICA currently develops its programme would be shortened to two years or less (to enhance effectiveness and delivery of ICA products and services).

## Why are we discussing the constitution, when members want to see new ICA products and programmes?

Members want the best programmes and products. By revising the constitution, ICA would be more adept at providing them. The new constitution would bring branches, sections and committees closer together to work on new products. Shortening the cycle for the professional programme would mean that these products get to members more quickly.

## Why is the post of President of CITRA being dropped?

In order to ensure that ICA programmes are coordinated and consistent, and that they link to the Congress and the CITRA meetings, the President of ICA will, in future, also be President of CITRA (the International Conference of the Round Table on Archives). As there is a lot of work involved in preparing CITRA, the new constitution also allows the president to delegate some of this responsibility to one of the Vice Presidents.

## What changes were made to the constitution in 2000?

The changes to the constitution approved at the Seville Congress in 2000 strengthened the Executive Committee; provided greater representation to the Branches; placed responsibility for delivering the professional programme with the Secretary General and Commission for Programme Management (CPM); and established a Commission for Programme Evaluation (CEP) which is responsible for evaluating the professional programme and other ICA activities. These changes made ICA a more robust organisation. As a result, the Executive Committee has continued to encourage feedback from the membership. Correspondence from members and forums at various international meetings clearly indicated that additional change would be needed to continue the organisation's evolution.

## If approved, when would the changes to the constitution become effective?

If the Vienna General Assembly approves the new constitution, most of the changes would be effective immediately. With regard to elections, this would take time to organise. The goal would be to hold them by March 2005.

**George MacKenzie,**  
Constitution Committee



# Congress Around the World

Not everyone can be in Vienna this August for the Congress. If you're staying home, why not organise an event in your own country?

The 15th International Congress on Archives in Vienna, 23-29 August, will provide multiple streams of concurrent sessions around the theme of "Archives, Memory and Knowledge" and will feature speakers with diverse professional expertise. With nearly 2,000 attendees from around the world, it will no doubt trigger many discussions. But not every archivist will be in Vienna.

Due to limitations such as time, language or resources, many colleagues can not participate in person. In an effort to compensate for this, the Austrian State Archives and ICA would like to connect those present in Vienna with the valuable insights of colleagues who will be unable attend, via an "extended congress" around the world.

What does this entail and how will it work? The Austrian State Archives and ICA have developed a website for the congress that will include documents, photos, posters, flyers, videos and sound-bites from presentations and other conference activities. The idea is simple: from anywhere in the world you can participate in the congress by downloading contributions and papers directly via the website.

In turn, ICA encourages those of you with a strong interest in international archival affairs, but who will not be able to come to Vienna, to **organise an event, large or small, in your country at the same time as the Congress**. This can take various forms, for example, a meeting of experts on a given topic, or a friendly gathering of staff at an archival institution or of association members, or the organizing of an "Archives Day." ICA will advertise your event as part of the extended congress, and will welcome and incorporate your statements and presentations, thus making them available to archivists worldwide via the website.

Everyone can benefit through your virtual input and, at the same time, you can experience the professional momentum that this Congress will generate.

Contact: **Thorsten HARMS**,  
ICA Congress Officer [wien2004@ica.org](mailto:wien2004@ica.org)

Congress Website:  
[www.wien2004.ica.org](http://www.wien2004.ica.org)



## Argentina Celebrates Archives Day during the Vienna Congress

The ICA General Assembly and the official closing ceremony in Vienna on **28 August 2004** coincide with "El Día del Archivero" the national day of archivists in Argentina!

The giant Ferris wheel, built in 1897, which dominates Vienna's Prater amusement park, is known around the world through the film *The Third Man* (1949).



## BUSINESS ARCHIVES SYMPOSIA TO BE HELD AT VIENNA CONGRESS

The ICA Section on Business and Labour Archives (ICA/SBL) is holding two linked business archives symposia during the ICA Congress in Vienna on Wednesday 25 August under the “Archives and Society – Services to Society” section of the professional programme. The first will be held from 11:45–13:00 and the second from 14:30–15:45, in Room L (no simultaneous translation).

The symposia will commence with Jørgen Fink (Danish Business Archive) presenting the section’s main report to the 2004 ICA Congress. Entitled “Business Archives in International Comparison,” the report provides an overview of the current state of business archives, highlighting the fundamental problems affecting this type of private record. It includes national overviews and comments and examples of the globalisation of business archives, as well as a comparison between national legislation on private records and the practice as it affects business archives. Guidelines for good archival practice in international mergers and acquisitions will be discussed.

There will then be three papers by experts in their field:

- Karl Peter Ellerbrock (Stiftung Westfälisches Wirtschaftsarchiv, Germany) on “Business Archives in Germany”
- Torkel Thime (National Archives, Norway) on “Multi-national Corporation Subsidiaries in Norway”
- Magne Rege (National Archives, Norway) on “The Ekofisk Oil Well Documentation Project: Cooperation between ConocoPhillips, Norway and the National Archives, the National Library and the National Oil Museum” in Norway in documenting and preserving oil production documentation from North Sea activities.

**Lesley Richmond** Secretary, ICA/SBL  
[L.Richmond@archives.gla.ac.uk](mailto:L.Richmond@archives.gla.ac.uk)  
[www.ica.org/sbl](http://www.ica.org/sbl)



## 15TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ARCHIVES, VIENNA (AUSTRIA), 27-28 AUGUST 2004 Draft Agenda

### 1st SESSION: 27 August 2004

#### Opening

1. Assessment of the Quorum
2. Opening Address by the President of the International Council on Archives
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Approval of the Minutes of the 2000 Session

#### Programme

5. Review of the Activities of ICA 2000-2004
6. Establishment and Reintegration of Branches and Sections
7. ICA Strategic Priorities and Programme post 2004
8. Discussion of Resolutions and Recommendations

#### Administration

9. Approval of the Financial Report 2000-2004
10. Approval of the Scale of Dues 2005-2008
11. Approval of the Budget for 2005

### 2nd SESSION: 28 August 2004

#### Governance

12. Constitution Revision
  - 12.1 Vote of Draft Constitution 2004
  - 12.2 Transition
13. Dates and Places for Delegates/Annual Meetings and CITRAs for 2005, 2006 and 2007
14. Date, Place and Theme of the 16th International Congress on Archives
15. Elections of Honorary Members
16. Adoption of Resolutions and Recommendations
17. Other Business

#### Closure

18. Closure of the 15th Session of the General Assembly

## AUSTRIAN ARCHIVES OPEN DOORS DURING CONGRESS

Complementing the Congress sessions and social events are a number of “professional visits” to archives in Vienna. Behind-the-scenes tours are scheduled for the following:

- Austrian State Archives (all five divisions)
- Vienna City and State Archives
- Archives of Documentation of the Austrian Resistance
- Historical Archives of Austrian Broadcasting / Television
- Phonogram Archives of the Austrian Academy of Sciences

In addition, tours of other archival institutions and libraries are being planned.

Detailed information about how to participate in these tours will be posted on the Congress website at [www.wien2004.ica.org](http://www.wien2004.ica.org).

# From Priorities to Projects: Strategic Reorientation of ICA's Programme

Changes are underway in the organisation of ICA's programme of activities and projects, as a result of feedback from members over the past year. These changes are the third dimension of the overall strategic reorientation of ICA, and go hand-in-hand with the revision of the constitution and the shift to an "open congress." New strategic priorities and a different structure for programme coordination will be introduced at the Vienna Congress

## Why should we have another look at ICA's strategic priorities?

The overall aim is to make sure that ICA serves its members' needs and delivers results. The Executive Committee wants to be sure that ICA focuses its efforts and limited resources on the areas of most importance to members. The priorities that members identified in a recent survey (see **Flash 2**) have been articulated in a proposed new strategic plan, which will be voted by the General Assembly in Vienna. The plan outlines four strategic priorities for ICA's current programme:

- 1 ICA should be a respected and broadly recognised representative for archival institutions and archivists internationally.
- 2 Archival institutions should be positioned to exercise leadership in effectively addressing changing concepts and technologies for managing information and knowledge.
- 3 Archival institutions should be well-prepared to fulfil responsibility for the preservation and public accessibility of the cultural heritage of peoples worldwide.
- 4 Archives and records management professionals in all countries should be well prepared and competent to carry out their responsibilities.

## And why change the programme structure?

To ensure that concrete results are achieved. The four priorities will define and structure the professional programme. Each priority will be entrusted to a **coordinating committee**, responsible for coordinating, prioritising, and overseeing activities and projects within its area of responsibility. The overall coordination of the programme will be in the hands of the **Programme Commission**, composed of a national archivist as chair, a secretary, four national archivists (each chairing a coordinating committee), and four portfolio holders. In brief, the four coordinating committees will be responsible for: **1.** Advocacy and Promotion of Archives; **2.** Electronic Records and Automation; **3.** Preservation and Disaster Protection; **4.** Professional Education and Training.

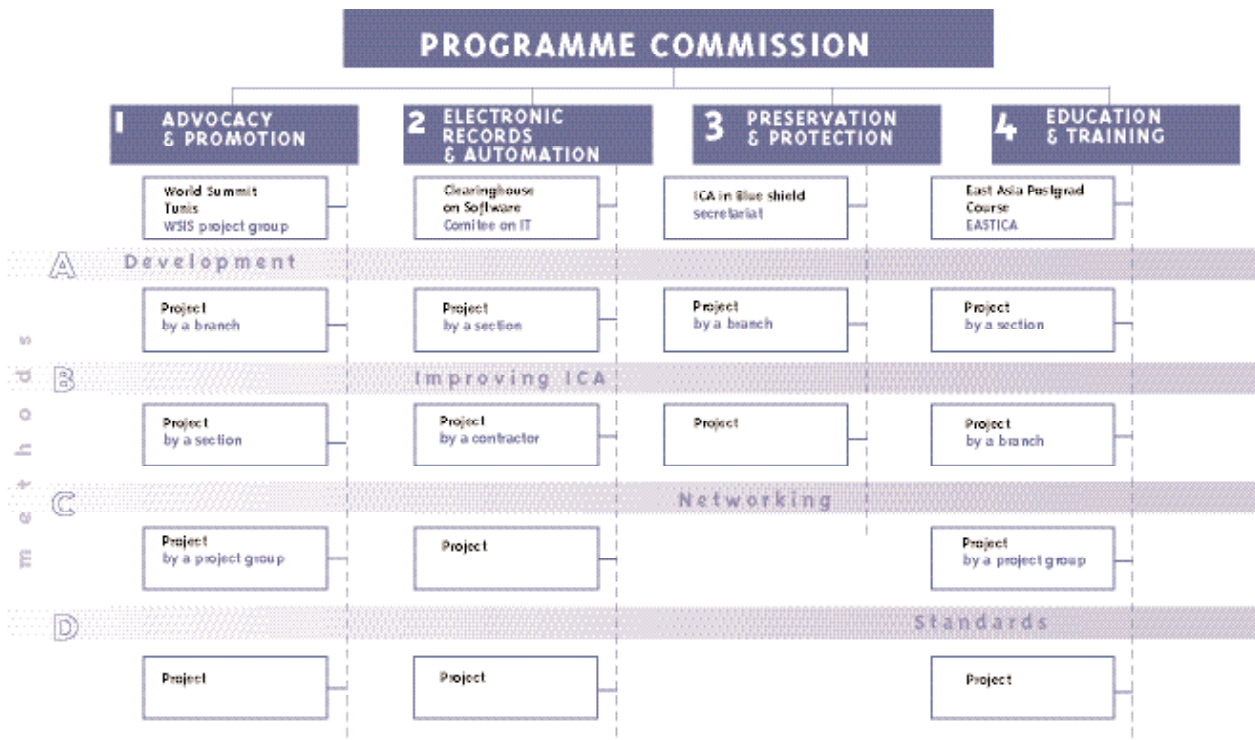
## What about the other areas identified in the survey of members?

These are going to be picked up throughout ICA's programme, as strategic methods to achieve results. Individual portfolio holders, who are members of the programme commission, will be responsible for promoting:

- A. Capacity development and cooperation between countries;
- B. Improvements to ICA as an association serving its members;
- C. Networking between archives and records professionals; and
- D. Professional standards and best practices.

## Enabling involvement and cooperation

Experience over time has shown a discrepancy between allocating responsibility for a particular area to global committees on the one hand, and the reality of regional branches, sections, partner organisations and ICA members conducting activities in the same professional fields on the other hand. Recent experiences with ICA's websites demonstrate that publicising activities or results can lead to interaction between parties who previously were unknown to each other. The new "open congress" will create an important change and will provide the momentum for greater shared or coordinated activities.



### Focus on projects and results

In order to facilitate better planning and encourage timely delivery of effective results, the focus will be on projects that support priorities, rather than on organisational structures. Each coordinating committee will be responsible for guiding projects within its priority area.

### Who will undertake projects?

Projects can be developed and carried out by regional branches, sections, project groups and/or ICA members, or contracted to individual experts, as best suits the desired outcome. All are welcome to become involved in, and indeed propose, projects that support ICA's priorities. In deciding which projects to take forward, those making proposals and the coordinating committees should ask: Which results would most effectively meet ICA members' needs in the four priority areas? How would they most effectively be developed? Managed? Communicated and promoted? Who would benefit from their results? How long would they take to carry out? Who would be interested to be involved? How much would they cost and how might these costs be supported?

ICA invites regional branches, sections, committees and members to propose projects for ICA's future programme, which would support the four priority areas.

### What will happen to existing ICA committees and programmes?

All who are interested to contribute actively to ICA's objectives are welcome in the new structure. Projects that are already underway will be continued—there will be a period of transition to allow existing groups to finish work already started. A number of core responsibilities will be consolidated with direct support from the Secretariat: CITRA and congress, communications and publications and maintenance of standards. Current committee members are welcome to propose projects to be included in the new programme.

Contacts:

**Olafur Asgeirsson**,  
for ICA Programme Management  
Commission:

[olafura@archives.is](mailto:olafura@archives.is)

**Joan van Albada**,

ICA Secretary General:

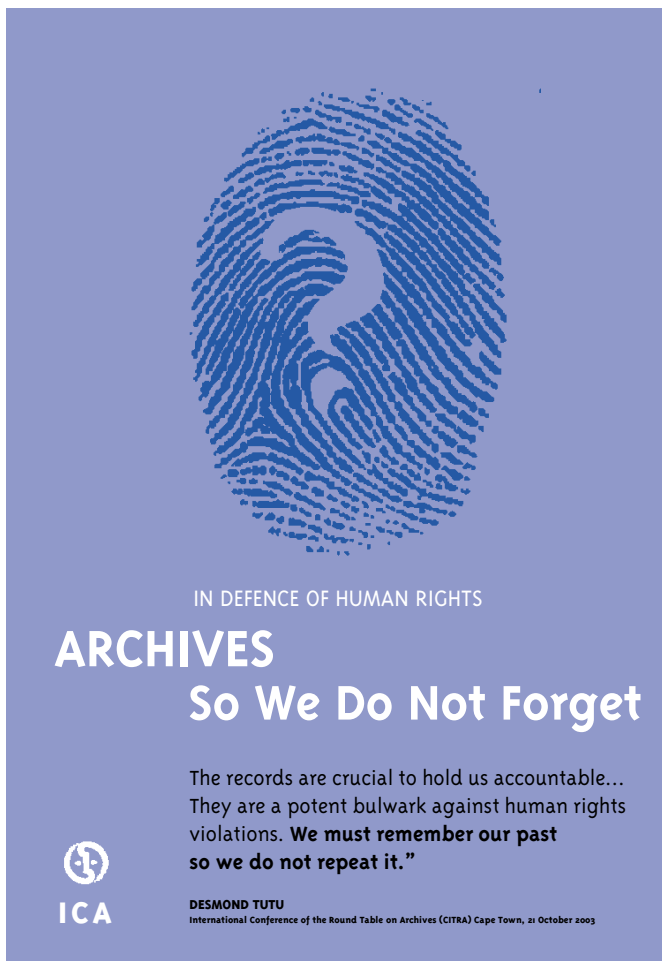
[vanalbada@ica.org](mailto:vanalbada@ica.org)

**Evelyn Wareham**,

ICA Programme Officer:

[wareham@ica.org](mailto:wareham@ica.org)

**For more information:** [www.ica.org](http://www.ica.org)



## Guide to Disposition of Truth Commission Records Coming Soon

Records of Truth Commissions, a vital support for human rights in former repressive regimes, are the subject of a new good practice guide for archival appraisal.

Truth commissions, one of the unique democratic institutions to emerge at the end of the 20th century, are commissions of inquiry, temporary bodies established either by a government or by a civil society institution to look at and report on a past pattern of abuses by a repressive regime. They usually are established during or immediately after a transition from authoritarian to more democratic rule. Over 20 national truth commissions have been established since 1980, most in the past decade.

After surveying the disposition of commission records in twenty countries, Trudy Huskamp Peterson, former archivist of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, has written a guide to the disposition of truth commission records. While acknowledging that each commission is unique and there can be no single pattern for handling the records after a commission ceases to exist, the guide suggests that there are certain questions that every commission must answer when it decides what to do with its materials. The guide provides a list and discussion of these questions; the practice of other commissions, so far as known; and best practices from archives around the world. The guide also provides an overview of the questions designed for commission administrators, while the discussions and technical supplements are designed for archivists and records professionals.

### Final Acts: A Guide to Preserving the Records of Truth Commissions

will soon be available on the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars website at: <http://wwics.si.edu/>

## ICA Participates at World Forum on Human Rights

A major world forum on human rights took place in France from 16 to 19 May 2004, organised by the City of Nantes at the initiative of and with support of UNESCO. It brought together over 1000 participants from more than 60 countries to discuss three main themes in relation to human rights: terrorism, discrimination and poverty.

ICA presented a stand at the forum, run by the ICA Working Group on Archives and Human Rights (ICA/HRG) with colleagues from the Municipal Archives of Nantes. This provided information on ICA, as well as publications related to the forum's themes, and overviews of the various projects resulting from the resolutions of CITRA 2003 in Cape Town, coordinated by the HRG.

A first prototype of the virtual exhibition "Nobody We Know: Archives, so

we do not forget them" was also displayed. This exhibition will develop as a series, with new partners gradually adding information, themes and approaches. The first instalment, which was presented at the forum, comprised some twenty images from the Argentine organization Memoria Abierta, illustrating the use of records and archives in defence of victims of human rights violations.

In view of the striking lack of knowledge and awareness of the relevance and importance of records and archives, it is recommended that ICA systematically try to be present at similar events in the future, together with local archivists.

**Perrine Canavaggio:**  
[canavaggio@ica.org](mailto:canavaggio@ica.org)  
**Armelle Le Goff:**  
[armelle.le-goff@culture.gouv.fr](mailto:armelle.le-goff@culture.gouv.fr)

For more information:  
**Working Group on Archives and Human Rights (ICA/HRG):**  
[www.ica.org/hrg](http://www.ica.org/hrg)



## ARMA Links International Communities

ARMA recently introduced a programme that aims to give further records and archives professionals an opportunity to join ARMA's networks

Managing records and information is a global issue. Electronic records in particular present significant challenges for organisations of all types and sizes, governments included. One of the most effective resources available to professionals worldwide is their colleagues. The challenge comes in building the network. For this reason, ARMA International, a USA-based professional association for records and information management, has initiated the Linking International Communities (LINC) program.

LINC is intended to connect archival and records and information management professionals from outside

North America with their colleagues in ARMA. Through LINC, professionals outside North America have an opportunity to partner with one of ARMA's 130-plus chapters or regions. They are offered an opportunity to have an ARMA chapter or region sponsor a one-year membership in ARMA in exchange for publishing articles about records and information management in their country.

"One of the major reasons [my] international contingent joined ARMA International is to have a connection to records and information management-related issues around the world," explained David Mukembo of Uganda, who has developed a partnership with an ARMA chapter in California. Individuals interested in applying for the LINC program must be an archival or records or information management professional residing outside the United States or Canada. They also must be proficient in English and have access to e-mail for communications.

Contact:  
**Peter Hermann,**  
[phermann@arma.org](mailto:phermann@arma.org)

For more information:  
[www.arma.org/linc](http://www.arma.org/linc)

More information will also be available at ARMA stand in the exhibition hall at the Vienna Congress, 23–29 August, along with resources on managing electronic records, emergency management, and risk management.

## Cooperative Project Connects Haiti Archives with Genealogical Society of Utah



Credit : Genealogical Society of Utah

The Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU) continues to develop cooperative copying projects with institutions in various countries in order to ensure the preservation and accessibility of archives, as is shown by the example of Haiti.

At the National Archives in Haiti, four employees take turns operating the two microfilm cameras. Since September 2003, they have been preserving valuable historical information by filming a significant portion of Haiti's vital records.

Before the joint filming agreement with the GSU, the National Archives completed an exhaustive inventory project. The records to be microfilmed were identified, and the nucleus of the project quickly took shape. It was determined that for the project to be successful, both the National Archives and the GSU would need to contribute expertise, equipment, raw materials and manpower. With the common objective of preserving historical records and making them available to the public for research, a filming agreement was signed in July 2002.

In conjunction with ICA, the GSU continues its long-standing offer of micrographics training. As part of the agreement with the National Archives of Haiti, the GSU refurbished camera

equipment, loaned micrographic equipment and provided training and advice for Archives employees. The project is now proceeding under the direction of the National Archives staff. Exposed, undeveloped films are shipped to Salt Lake City for processing and quality inspection. Film masters are stored in the Granite Mountain Records Vaults and a donor copy is shipped back to the National Archives.

With the phenomenal interest in genealogy and family history, an additional benefit of this cooperative agreement will be in making Haiti's vital records more readily accessible to researchers. Not only will the microfilmed records be available at the National Archives, but also through the GSU's worldwide library system.

Contact: **Wayne J. Metcalf,**  
[MetcalfWJ@GenSocietyofUtah.org](mailto:MetcalfWJ@GenSocietyofUtah.org)  
For more information:  
[www.gensocietyofutah.org](http://www.gensocietyofutah.org)

## ARCHIVAL EDUCATORS JOIN FORCES THROUGH REGIONAL CONFERENCES



Asia-Pacific regional conference participants, Beijing, April 2004

One often hears members regret that some ICA programmes are not sufficiently “global” and do not touch enough regions and countries. But what can be done about this? ICA’s Section for Education and Training (ICA/SAE), which has 120 members in 39 countries, has organised a series of regional conferences for educators, in partnership with local institutions, writes section chair **Karen Anderson**.

The priority of the ICA/SAE Steering Committee for the 2000–2004 programme was to improve communication between section members and support them in their work as educators and trainers. The Steering Committee decided that one of the best ways to do this would be to organise regional conferences that would fit with local education timetables and be more accessible to those for whom long-distance travel is very expensive. Above all, they would foster and strengthen regional professional networks while addressing common interests and problems.

Small teams were formed in several different countries with responsibility for organising and, in some cases, hosting conferences. Each team did a superb job arranging venues and sponsorship, recruiting enthusiastic local support as well as speakers, advertising, managing resources, and much more. For logistical reasons, it was essential to have on the team one person from the location where the conference was to be held, and also important to have a couple of Steering Committee members for support. Much of the planning and decision-making was done via email.

The net result was that many people with an interest in archival education made new international contacts through six very successful events—in **Germany** (June 2001), **Australia** (Perth and Sydney, August 2002), **Sweden** (August 2003), **Argentina** (September 2003) and **China** (April 2004).

At all the events we discovered that we all had much more in common than we expected. Many archival educators work as part of a small group of colleagues in a large university where environmental issues are very similar. Many are conscious of the need to develop partnerships for research, but also welcome the opportunity to share cur-

riculum planning issues and teaching strategies. Conferences provide a great opportunity to discuss education and training needs with members of the profession and key employers too. These conferences were not exclusive to educators; we also invited representatives from countries where no formal archival education courses exist to see what could be done to assist them.

**The SAE Steering Committee would like to hear from anyone interested in organising a conference for educators and trainers in their region in 2005–2008.** Proposals have already been received for a European Conference in Amsterdam in 2005 (in conjunction with I-CHORA 2) and a possible Asia-Pacific Conference in Japan in 2006. SAE is keen to work with archival educators and trainers in any region to help them meet and share ideas.

**Karen Anderson**, ICA/SAE Chair  
[k.anderson@ecu.edu.au](mailto:k.anderson@ecu.edu.au)  
[www.ica.org/sae](http://www.ica.org/sae)

### Asia-Pacific Conference 2004

The Asia-Pacific Conference on Archival Education (APCAE) was held in Beijing and was organised by Renmin University’s Archives College, under the mandate of ICA’s Section for Education and Training (ICA/SAE). Seventy experts and specialists from nine countries, including Australia, China, East Timor, Germany, Great Britain, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines and the USA, participated. There were excellent presentations, lively discussion, and an open and warm atmosphere.

“The 21st century is a period in which archival work needs to be innovative and develop rapidly,” said Feng Huiling, Renmin University Archives School Dean, at the opening of the conference. “The most significant element for archival progress is the education and training of archivists.”

Conference delegates agreed on a “Proposal for Enhancing Communication and Cooperation on Archival Education in the Asia-Pacific Region.” The proposal was issued in English, Japanese, and Chinese. Delegates also expressed their intent to organize future APCAЕ meetings in different countries or regions in the Asia-Pacific area.

**WANG Jian**, ICA/SAE Steering Committee Member [wj@acruc.net](mailto:wj@acruc.net)

**Conference presentations and photos:** <http://www.acruc.net/apcae/index.html>

## Freeze on Recruitment a Time Bomb to Italian Archives

The following statement was issued by the Steering Committee of the ICA Section of Records Management and Archival Professional Associations (ICA/SPA), following its meeting in Paris on 18–23 March 2004.

« In 2003 the Italian Archival Administration in the Ministry of Culture faced severe budget cuts that threatened the operation of archives throughout Italy. Finances are still in peril. However, there is another serious problem looming for the profession.

Since 1984 there has been no recruitment of professional archivists in the State sector. This time bomb will lead to a total lack of professional archivists when the current generation faces retirement in 12 to 15 years time. There is no sign that successive governments have taken any action to address this problem.

We recommend a policy of active recruitment during the next 10 years in order to rectify this appalling situation. This continuing crisis is undermining the morale of Italian archivists. Professional archivists in the State sector are a necessity not a luxury.»

ICA/SPA has sent this statement to the Italian government. Previous campaigns in support of Italian archivists have made a difference. Professional colleagues are encouraged to write or fax letters in support of this statement and send them to the Italian Minister of Culture:

**M. Giuliano Urbani,**  
Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali  
Via del Collegio Romano, 27  
00186 Roma.

Head of ministerial staff: **M. Raffaele Squitieri**  
Fax. +39 06 6783328,  
e-mail [seggab@beniculturali.it](mailto:seggab@beniculturali.it)

**Contacts:**  
**Margaret TURNER,**  
ICA/SPA Chair  
[turnermargaret@hotmail.com](mailto:turnermargaret@hotmail.com)

**Kathryn DAN,** ICA/SPA Secretary  
[kathryn.dan@adm.monash.edu.au](mailto:kathryn.dan@adm.monash.edu.au)

For more information: [www.ica.org/spa](http://www.ica.org/spa)

## SARBICA Issues Recommendations for Electronic Records in Hanoi

Electronic records' management and preservation were the focus of recent discussions in Hanoi by ICA's Southeast Asian Regional Branch (SARBICA).

Under the approval of the Vietnamese Government and Ministry of Home Affairs, the State Records and Archives Department of Vietnam and the Southeast Asian Regional Branch International Council on Archives (SARBICA) jointly organized SARBICA's 14th General Conference and Seminar on "Appraisal and Preservation of Electronic Records: Policies and Practices" in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 3-7 May 2004.

Seminar participants were from countries throughout Southeast Asia, and speakers hailed from Canada, China, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam and the USA. Scientific papers were presented by Luciana Duranti (British Columbia University, Canada), Jim Suderman (Ontario Archives, Canada), and William Underwood (Georgia Technology Research Institute, USA). At the end of the seminar, participants agreed on five recommendations that SARBICA member countries should pursue. Among others, they highlighted the need for records managers and archivists **to re-examine the fundamental principles of archival science in the management of electronic records, particularly in the areas of authenticity, integrity, and reliability of records over time and space.**

The 14th General Conference, SARBICA's governance meeting, was held at the State Records and Archives Department, Vietnam. With Cambodia newly aboard, SARBICA membership has increased to nine countries. During the meeting SARBICA members assessed program results and discussed matters pertaining to ICA, such as the revisions to the ICA constitution and International Archival Development Fund (FIDA) grants. In addition, they elected a new Executive Board for 2004–2006. The president is Duong Van Kham, director general of the State Records and Archives Department of Vietnam. The vice president is Haji Matassim Bin Haji Jibah, director of the Brunei Museum and Archives. SARBICA will hold its next Executive Board meeting in Kuala Lumpur in 2005 and its 15th General Conference in Brunei Darussalam.

SARBICA Secretariat  
For more information: [www.ica.org/sarbica](http://www.ica.org/sarbica)



SPA Steering  
Committee  
and ICA  
Secretariat  
colleagues,  
Paris, March  
2004



# Menu

## ARCHIVES SALON

### *“Love in the Archives”*

A whimsical recitation of love and longing  
found in Nordic and Chinese collections

**24 August, 11.45-13.00**

### *“Archives and Archival Issues of Central Europe”*

What’s “central” about  
Central Europe’s archives?

**24 August, 16.15-17.30**

### *“Archives and Human Rights”*

Explore the power of archives  
to further human rights

**25 August, 11.45-13.00**

### *“Archives and Archival Issues of France”*

Parlez-vous provenance?  
Celebrate the archival heritage of France

**25 August, 16.15-17.30**

### *“Archives and Indigenous Peoples”*

How do indigenous peoples  
view archives?

**26 August, 11.45-13.00**

### *“Archives and Archival Issues of Russia”*

Russian archives: “A riddle, wrapped  
in a mystery, inside an enigma”?

**26 August, 16.15-17.30**

## Enjoy a Taste of *Comma* in Vienna at the Archives Salon!

The 15th International Congress on Archives in Vienna will feature an Archives Salon in the exhibition hall from 24-26 August 2004. Hosted by the ICA Editorial Board of *Comma*, the Salon is the venue for an informal program and spontaneous discussion relating to topics covered in the latest issues of the journal. Participants will include editors, authors, readers, and all other conference attendees who would like to experience the ambience of a Viennese literary café.

Each session will consist of a brief presentation or dramatic reading, followed by questions, answers, discussion, and debate. No advanced reading is required! Come and participate, or simply come and listen. The salon will be centrally located within the exhibition hall. Comfortable chairs and aromatic coffee will set the mood. Professional literature will be on hand for those who simply prefer to relax and read.

I hope you’ll be tempted by our menu of offerings. *Comma*, coffee, and you—come meet us in Vienna!

**Nancy Bartlett**  
Editor, *Comma*  
[nbart@umich.edu](mailto:nbart@umich.edu)