CIDOC Board elections 2023-25

Board Member candidates’ supporting statements

Adele Barbato
Proposed by: Stephen Stead
Seconded by: Maija Ekosaari

Adele Barbato is the Collections Information Manager at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco in California, USA. She has more than 16 years of experience working in collections database management, vocabulary management, metadata standards and schema development, and in the conversion and implementation of new database ecosystems. She was the first person to launch and build a collections information program for several institutions, including the Fine Arts Museums of SF, as well as the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, and the Bolinas Museum.

Her professional and academic interests include change and project management, and decolonizing data, schema, and workflows.

Adele was a founding board member of the Bay Area Registrars and Collections Specialists group (BARCS), Chair of the Boston Area Collections Coalition (BACC), member of the Functional Working Group for CollectionSpace, and has been an instructor and lecturer for both the Tufts University and Harvard University Extension Museum Studies programs.

Adele holds M.A. degrees in Museum Studies and World History from Harvard University Extension and Northeastern Universities, and a B.A. in Anthropology from Monmouth University.

Paula Casajus
Proposed by: Trilce Navarrete
Seconded by: Alexandre Matos

Since 2020 I have been working with them at the DOMINO group, preparing the survey about documentation in iberoamerican museums, and participating monthly in online meetings.

I am an art historian and since 2008 I am the head of the Documentation and Registration Area of the National Museum of Fine Arts (MNBA), Argentina. The MNBA, founded at the end of the 19th century, has a large art collection (very valuable in Iberoamérica) made up of a large number of works by European authors.

In this way I would like to serve CIDOC to advance professionalization of documentation in museums. I expect to contribute to providing greater voice to the iberoamerican museums community by representing them as an Ordinary Member of the Board of CIDOC, and promoting greater adoption of CIDOC standards and best practices.
Frank von Hagel  
Proposed by: Monika Hagedorn-Saupe  
Seconded by: Gordon McKenna

I have been working in various museums since about 1997, mainly with a focus on museum documentation. In addition, I have been involved in a wide range of projects for the online presentation of museum objects. These involved much specialised applications as well as the networking of cultural objects from all areas of cultural heritage on a national and international level.

I have been working at the Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz since 2003 and at the Institut für Museumsforschung, Berlin, Germany since 2005. Among other things, I am responsible for the areas of museum documentation, standardisation and authority files. Here, the focus of my work is on interdisciplinary exchange with other cultural fields, but also on making cultural data available as freely and openly as possible for science, research and society. In my view, the use of new cooperative, interdisciplinary and participatory forms of mediation, cooperation and research with all social groups are important future tasks.

I am the spokesperson for the Documentation Section of the German Museums Association and am involved in various working groups and functions in the development of the German Digital Library and Europeana. For several years, I have been a guest lecturer on digital collection management at the FU-Berlin.

I have been a member of CIDOC since 2000 and a member of the CIDOC LIDO Working Group since its inception, as well as a regular participant in other working groups such as the Information Centres Working Group. During this time, I have participated in many CIDOC conferences and a number of intermediate meetings of the working groups. Our working groups: - Digital Strategy Development; - Intangible Cultural Heritage; - Exhibition and Performance Documentation; - CRM-SIG; - LIDO; - but also the work in the SPECTRUM context and the terminology and thesaurus work should also continue to be strengthened and expanded.

As an Ordinary Member of the CIDOC Board, I would like to work for the further expansion of our visibility in social media and in the GLAM community. Expanding international collaborations and with other ICOM committees as well as the CIDOC-Working Groups is close to my heart, as is promoting open access and collaboration with research and society.

I actively would like to continue to support this work, and I would like to contribute the relevant results of my work - also from other committees - to the work for ICOM and CIDOC.

Wesam Mohamed  
Proposed by: Monika Hagedorn-Saupe  
Seconded by: Trilce Navarrete

While ICOM is a multicultural organization, we have to confess that there are several places in the world where ICOM’s presence is less visible. My main objective is to establish communications and to reinforce collaboration with museums in less represented countries
as well as to connect big museums with small ones worldwide aiming to create more inclusive and impactful opportunities.

After several years of professional experience in museums and cultural heritage I made the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural objects my greater concern. Not only because the humanity is losing great heritage resources but also because people lose their lives in some countries for the sake of trafficking. Documentation is a key factor in protecting cultural heritage. Therefore, CIDOC can share the responsibility by getting more involved, supportive, and stand strongly against illicit trafficking of cultural objects.

I consider ICOM a great platform for opportunities. I'm highly interested in capacity building and I have been leading several teams developing and implementing capacity building programmes for museums and heritage institutions.

With many years of active participation in CIDOC programs, and among other concerns, the above-mentioned points will be my special focus if elected to the Board of CIDOC (2023 – 2025).

Mika Nyman
Proposed by: Manvi Seth
Seconded by: Kadri Nigulas

I am an IT professional specializing in cultural heritage since 2005. During this period I have participated in the work of CIDOC CRM SIG (member), Co-reference WG (chair), Intangible Cultural Heritage WG (co-founder). As a part of the CRM SIG I participated in the work to harmonize CIDOC and IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) standards. In 2010 representatives of CIDOC, IFLA, and ICA (International Council of Archives) met in Helsinki to investigate the possibility to create a joint conceptual model for Archives, Libraries, and Museums. This meeting was followed in ICA by a process to create a conceptual model for archives. ICA has completed this process. I hope to be able to contribute to the initiation of a new process to pursue the original aim of the Helsinki meeting: the creation of a joint conceptual model for Archives, Libraries, and Museums. As a part of this process I participated in development work with the National Archives of Finland. This familiarized me with the Continuum Model of archival theory. I have applied and extended this model in the context of museums, modelling the way ancient history and even myths extend to modern digital services mediated by Cultural Heritage institutions, and how these Deep Stories influence the building of cultural and personal identities. My special interest is to develop thematic digital services for Cultural Heritage based on this model. One technology in this work is AI-based Handwritten Text Recognition that is used in Finnish archives on an industrial scale. As a part of this work I'm also studying how Linked Data relate to natural languages. I analyse the grammars of Hindi/Urdu, Persian, and Arabic to see how the grammars of these languages manifest language-independent conceptual distinctions. Since August 2021 I have been in contact with the National Museum of Afghanistan and tried to find international support for its role in raising awareness internationally of Afghanistan's diverse heritage and support the museum in taking steps towards an inclusive society.
Goran Zlodi
Proposed by: Martina Krug
Seconded by: Trilce Navarrete

Considering both my experience as a university associate professor and my practical experience in the digital transformation of museum sector in Croatia, I believe that I can contribute to CIDOC as a board member through activities related to the following:

● As we share a common cultural heritage and frequently the same users, cooperation within the GLAM sector is important in identifying and developing common approaches and methodologies to achieve interoperability within the broader heritage sector. The same applies to the field of digital humanities.

● One common area that I see as a priority is subject analysis and indexing in the contemporary context of complementary approaches to information acquisition by professionals, citizens and machines (AI) in a linked open data environment and the application of the FAIR principles of open science.

● Different participatory approaches (from crowdsourcing to citizen science) are especially important and can help all stakeholders (museums, citizens, academia) in the activities of acquiring, researching, preserving and communicating tangible and intangible heritage. Moreover, by applying participatory methodologies, museums and academia will gain more societal relevance.