

CIFA INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

25 July 2023, 1730-1800 GMT

Minutes – Committee Meeting (via Zoom)

Present: Leonora O'Brien (Chair), Caroline Pathy-Barker (Secretary), Niamh Carty, Michael D'Aprix,

Apologies: Daria Adamson, Ian Travers, Jamie Quartermaine (Treasurer), Alice Hobson, Scott Chaussée

Minutes: Leonora O'Brien

1. Approval of minutes

n/a

2. Advisory Council Meeting re. Chartership

The Advisory Council Meeting discussed Chartership and its implications, and requested that discussions be brought back to SIGs. Niamh and Michael reported back to the IPSIG committee and much of this IPSIG committee meeting explored Chartership, particularly in an international context. This is summarised below.

The Board is seeking to progress Chartership again, with the aspiration that it is a way forward for professional parity, better pay and conditions. Some concerns remain from volunteers and academics regarding relevance, and from those perceiving it as potentially restricting practice or lowering the standing of the MCIfA grade. CIfA is seeking a more inclusive approach, potentially aligned along defined areas of competence; but perhaps also keeping a general category. This could be a useful tool to ratify experience, qualification and probity for clients and the public.

The title of 'Chartered Archaeologist' would be legally protected to regulate the profession. The standards for chartered titles in the UK are set between the professional bodies and relevant UK government departments. It would move CIfA beyond private professional self-regulation to being a professional regulatory body with authority delegated from the state by law.

It is unclear whether Chartered status would be recognised by other countries. There are existing international professional registration agreements for CIfA Membership with, for example, RPA and IAI; equivalences and criteria may need to be revised to cater for Chartership.

CIfA will need to consider the difficulties encountered in the recognition of chartership beyond the UK in the EU following Brexit, which is affecting chartered workers other sectors e.g. architecture, accountancy. As non-EU citizens, UK professionals have lost the benefit of mutual recognition of professional qualifications regulations, although some of these issues are beginning to be resolved.

Archaeology is a regulated profession in several EU countries. Many other countries outside the EU have closed lists of state-approved archaeologists based on exams, interviews, references, experience, knowledge, academic qualifications, standing, training and publication records. If Chartered Archaeologists seek mutual recognition as regulated professionals, host countries may reject any blanket approval. A frequent issue is that host

country qualification criteria may require 4 years or more of relevant post-secondary education, while in the UK there is no such educational constraint to practice.

Heritage laws may impose the employment of state-approved archaeologists on developer-funded or research projects. In some circumstances, state-approved archaeologists may be establishment or political appointments, or those with the peer support, academic and/or government connections to obtain a license/state approval. There may also be non-negotiable requirements regarding nationality, residence, language, professional experience and level of relevant qualifications.

The advisory [ClfA specialist competencies matrices](#), including the International Practice matrix, involve demonstrating knowledge, autonomy, coping with complexity and perception of professional context. These, along with the main matrix for technical and ethical competence, would need to be updated to include Chartership. Presumably all eligible archaeologists would be able to apply for Chartership, regardless of where they live and work.

3. Joint SIG Group

Met last week, attended by Niamh and Michael. Very useful in terms of sharing common issues and solutions, communications, cross-cutting topics. There are plans to develop shared space to share documents and advice re. what to expect and require of committees.

4. Tea break talk

Alice and Leo to do a tea break talk on archaeology and international financial institutions' standards and guidance, depending on availability of slots.

Action: *Leo to contact ClfA to confirm date.*

5. Autumn AGM

Date TBC – advertise and further explore themes arising in a paper/discussion session before the AGM.

6. IPSIG Group Newsletter

IPSIG e-shot newsletter to include the summarised survey results prepared by Niamh, committee bios and call for engagement/concerns/topics for open meetings and.

Aim to issue to ClfA Autumn 2023 for circulation to IPSIG members

7. ClfA Deutschland

ClfA Deutschland's [Annual Conference in Frankfurt on 20 May](#) was on the theme of International Archaeology: Working Abroad and International Collaboration. The IPSIG committee were not able to attend or present in person. Leo provided ClfA Deutschland with a remote presentation on ethnography, consultation and local community participation. IPSIG thanks Michaela Schauer (ClfA Deutschland President) and Katharina Möller (ClfA Deutschland Group Coordinator) and looks forward to future collaboration.

8. ClfA Conference 2023

IPSIG led a session on International cultural heritage: applying professional standards and skills in a range of challenging environments at ClfA's Annual Conference, Nottingham, Thursday 20 April. The session was well attended. We are grateful to the speakers and audience for great papers and a lively discussion. Sessions were recorded and can be viewed online.

- [Welcome and introduction to the International Practice Group session](#) - Leo O'Brien, AECOM
- [The challenge of establishing a 'level playing field' for professional standards – the delivery of global standards supported by local guidance](#) - Jen Parker Wooding; Peter Hinton, ClfA

- [Coordinating guidelines on the use of lidar across Europe for the European Archaeological Council](#), Rebecca Bennett, PTS Consultancy
- [Monitoring of the management of cultural heritage impacts and mitigation processes implemented on the Dar es Salaam to Makutupora Railway, Tanzania](#), Ruth Humphreys (Senior Consultant, Arup), with contributions from Daniel Lyaniva (TSGR Social Safeguard Manager, Tanzania Railways Corporation) and Maisory Chacha (Yapı Merkezi İnşaat ve Sanayi A.Ş., Social Lead TSGR Lot 2)
- [Initiative for Sustainable Development in Africa: developing guidance on intangible cultural heritage and local indigenous and descendant communities](#), Gerald Wait, GWHeritage Archaeology and Anthropology
- Discussion, Chaired by IPSIG committee members Niamh Carty (Mott Macdonald); Scott Chaussée (Wessex Archaeology); Mike D'Aprix (UCL); Alice Hobson (WSP); Leonora O'Brien (AECOM); Caroline Pathy-Barker (East-West Consulting Group)

Leo presented a paper in the session on Archaeological ethics for the modern world reviewing the Code of Conduct, [Recognising cultural diversity in a global code of professional ethics](#). This was also the topic of an article in The Archaeologist 119 (Summer 2023), [Cross cultural values and ethical practice: reflections on ClfA's Code of Conduct in the context of international work](#).

9. Review of EBRD Guidance Notes

Leo contributed to a review of European Bank for Reconstruction & Development PR8 Guidance Notes on behalf of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists International Practice Group. Inputs are being coordinated with ClfA's Policy & Advocacy Manager, Rob Lennox.

10. Review of ClfA Code of Conduct

IPSIG sent through comments on the revision of the ClfA Code of Conduct in Feb 2023. ClfA Code of conduct review group has been collating responses and redrafting the Code of Conduct.

11. AOB

N/A

12. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 18 Oct 2023 1730-1800