

CIFA INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

8 May 2024, 1730-1830

Minutes – Committee Meeting (via Teams)

Present: Cara Burton (CifA Member Engagement Coordinator), Niamh Carty, Michael D'Aprix, Max DuBois Jones, Bill Finlayson, Richard Hughes, Ruth Humphreys, Leonora O'Brien (Chair), Katie Rees-Gill, Caroline Pathy-Barker (Secretary)

Apologies: Alice Hobson, Anna Nicola, Charles Le Quesne

Minutes: Caroline Pathy-Barker (Secretary) and Niamh Carty

1. Welcome

Minutes of last meeting amended and approved for issue.

2. CifA IPSIG website

Has been updated with:

- new committee members, co-options and advisors
- link to CifA specialist competence matrix (IP)
- recent committee meeting minutes

Action: January AGM and March IPSIG committee meeting minutes to be uploaded (Caro to send to Lianne Birney)

3. Tea break talk

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

Action: Postponed to July 2024+ as no tea break talks in run-up to CifA conference. Alice to coordinate with CifA for a date

4. Joint workshop between Research & Impact Group (RIG), Heritage Crime and International Practice SIGs

- Colin Forrestal (RIG Secretary), Evelyne Godfrey (RIG Chair), Aisling Nash (Heritage Crime Group Secretary) and Paul Jeffrey (Heritage Crime Group Chair) are keen to collaborate with IPSIG on a workshop – Colin is preparing CifA Events Proposal forms.
- Leo attended the CifA conference in April and talked with Paul Jeffrey from Heritage Crime SIG who is keen to collaborate but has not heard any more from the Research and Impact SIG (Colin Forrestal & Evelyne Godfrey). Leo explained that some of the IPSIG members will have some experience of heritage crime/looting/poor governance in various places, but that most of our group have no expertise in e.g. provenance studies and forensic research. He was interested in the international practical experience bit and their group may be in touch at some point to tap into this. So this potential collaboration rumbles on with no outcome yet.

Action: Await further updates from Research and Crime groups

5. Budget

Niamh has submitted budget to March 2025 including costs for in person meetings up to £800. Approved on 8 March. There is a separate budget for training, events and workshops.

6. CifA Knowledge Hub

CifA Knowledge Hub is proving a useful online space to share experience between committees esp. on cross-cutting topics e.g. on mentoring new starters and graduates: <https://khub.net/group/cifa-group-committees-hub>

7. Future activities

Activities for 2024 – 2025 were discussed.

A number of ideas were discussed at the March committee meeting, including:

- Series of talks led by invited experts from a range of international organisations
- Presentation from UK Government and/or BC (not HE/HS/Cadw etc.?) related to archaeology overseas
- Archaeological participation in Climate Change agendas (COP29/30)

Action: Bill, Max and Richard (and others, if interested) to meet separately to discuss.

- Webinar(s) with similar professional organisations e.g. Archaeological Association of Nigeria to compare experiences and approaches to tangible and intangible heritage and foster mutual knowledge exchange.

Action: Charles (and others, if interested) to meet separately to discuss.

- **Further topics for talks were discussed, including:**

What is happening/sharing internationally – all things to do with Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence applied to archaeology (generally Digital), which was proposed by Richard.

It was agreed that it would be useful to explore what is happening in this field in the U.K. and examine how it is being utilised abroad. It was also decided that it be useful to find out what discussions ClfA/ other professional organisations (e.g. Council of Europe) are having about guidelines/ best practice in this field.

Action: Niamh to pose a question on the ClfA Knowledge Hub to other SIGs, to see if anyone else is contemplating similar talks and if collaboration may be preferable.

Bill has a potential speaker for a lunchtime talk – he said Stephanie Grant, Director of the Cultural Protection Fund says she'd be happy to give a lunchtime talk in September, but not in the week of 23rd, if that can be avoided.

Action: Bill to liaise with Stephanie and ClfA re: a date.

- **Expedition workshops**

Action: Katie, Bill, Leo, Max, Mike and Niamh to meet separately to discuss.

Action: Richard to liaise with Royal Geographical Society re: training.

8. AOB

- Could all elected committee members – and advisers – please email Leo a quick pen portrait about you and your professional interests, 75-100 words max + 1 photo of you, you at work, evocative heritage, a thing/place that makes your heart sing. Please include relevant hashtags, bitly/hyperlinks etc.
- It was decided that the in-person meeting would be held in London in September 2024 – to discuss and date at next meeting. Richard has offered to explore exhibitions etc. happening in London then, to see if we could do the meeting and an exhibition and invite the IPSIG membership along.

9. Date of next meeting: Via Teams, Wednesday 3 July 2024 1730-1830