

Annual General Meeting EXARC 2017

Held at the Faculty of Archaeology, Universiteit Leiden, the Netherlands.
21 March 2017

Present Members & volunteers (45): Marianne Talma (DE), Wiel van der Mark (NL), Luc Eekhout (NL), Neil Peterson (CA), Tim Messner (US), Marco Romeo Pitone (IT), Matilde Siebrecht-Sebire (NL), Caroline Jeffra (NL), Malgorzata Grupa (PL), Annemarie Pothaar (NL), Patrick Reeuwijk (NL), Annelou van Gijn (NL), Claus Kropp (DE), Erika Drews (DE), Luca Bartoni (IT), Björn M. Buttler Jakobsen (SE), Lasse van den Dikkenberg (NL), Christopher Bussutil (MT), Triona Sørensen (DK), Thit Birk Petersen (DK), Daniël Postma (NL), Yuri Godino (IT), Natalya Solodenko (IL), Rüdiger Schwarz (DE), Sonja Guber (DE), Andreas Thiedmann (DE), Jonathan Thornton (US), Robert Thornton (ZA), Jaap Hogendoorn (NL), Andreja Kudelić (HR), Leena Lehtinen (FI), Maria Ocaña Subrana (CAT), Albert Pratresarra-Sara (CAT), Nathalie Pil (BE), Tena Karavidović (HR), Aidan O'Sullivan (IE), Maura Stefani (IT), Javier Baena (ES), Milica Tapavički-Ilić (RS), Martin Schmidt (DE), Bill Schindler (US), Magdalena Zielińska (NL), Roeland Paardekooper (NL), Linda Hurcombe (UK), Artūrs Tompsons (LV).

Non-members (11): Annalisa Costa (IT), Martin Rodevad Dael (DK), Sebastiaan Pelsmaeker (NL), Nadine Vukking (NL), Silvester Ladanyi (AT), Georges Verly (BE), Jamie Paxton (US), Dawid Grupa (PL), Sandy Bardsley (US), Veerle van Kersen (BE), Brendan O'Neil (IE).

Opening

Bill Schindler, EXARC Chair, opens the Annual General Meeting at 17:10h.

- It is established that the AGM is able to take decisions.
- It is verified that the meeting was called early enough.
- It is verified that the agenda for the meeting is agreed.

Annual and financial reports of the previous year

The reports were presented by Magdalena Zielińska & Roeland Paardekooper.

2016 we got about 25 new members but also lost about 22. Our social media go well, and our website reaches more people in the US.

As for the Journal, we expanded our group of editors and reviewers drastically (from 11 to 31).

We also did a crowd funding and an auction, selling our own books as well as products donated by members. We then started work on the website, mainly cleaning up, splitting the information and moving to a cheaper server. All is ready now for the real work: a new website.

EXARC had a small conference in March 2016 in Leiden, including our AGM. We were also present in Milan (IT) (ICOM), in Vilnius (LT) (EAA) and we co-organised the EXARC/REARC conference in November in the USA.

We applied for an EU grant but recently heard we missed it by two points. We may use the ideas of the proposal as leading for the coming few years: migration of people and artefacts (including educational programs and experiments), food workshops on creating a new look for archaeological open-air museums and finally: support for members, students & universities.

The 2016 finances may be summarised as follows. We hardly dipped into our reserves because we saved on costs and generated more income. We are still

waiting for the last bit of money from OpenArch. EXARC has an official financial report made by our accountant ABAB. The AGM has no questions.

Auditors' Report on the previous year's finances

Luc Eekhout & Artūrs Tomsons (Auditors 2016) give the following declaration: "We have audited the provisional financial report 2016 with:

- The statement of revenue and expenditure,
- The balance sheet and
- The notes to the financial statement.

We examined the documents with regard to plausibility and correctness. We also made samples of individual billings. In our opinion the accounting 2016 of EXARC is correct and we propose to accept it."

Following on this, the Board 2016 is dismissed following Article 6.4 of the Charter. Maura Stefani was thanked as she was leaving the Board.

Appointing new Board members

Bill gives an overview of who is in the EXARC Board serving how many years. After a short presentation of the candidates, the following people were unanimously elected: Aidan O'Sullivan & Annemarie Pothaar.

Appointing new Auditors

Elected as auditors were Luc Eekhout and Caroline Jeffra. Bill thanked Artūrs Tomsons for three years of auditing.

Presentation of the plan for the forthcoming year

Roeland Paardekooper explains the plans for 2017 and 2018. The plans for 2017 are as follows. We will continue publishing the EXARC Journal, both online and in hard copy. We also made some new PR material and continue to do so. Much time will be invested in making the new website; not only will we update the technique, we also intend to improve the networking capacities of the website, making it easier to find members. The Journal will be shown more prominently, as well as the events of EXARC members (this year we have over 100 events online), we will better embed social media, upgrade the venues and see if we can include online club admin software.

Conference wise, EXARC will be in Leiden (EAC10 in April). We also co-organise a session at the International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, USA, a delegation will join the Times & Epochs festival in Moscow, Russia in June and we will be present at the EAA in Maastricht (NL) in September.

As for the EXARC plan we started last year, we hope to submit requests for funding later this year and intend to anyway start with twinning members in 2019.

Adoption of a budget for the forthcoming year and setting the annual contribution

The budget was presented by Magdalena Zielińska. The presented budget for 2017 and 2018 is conservative. Our long term budget shows our reserves will start growing again from 2019 onward.

In general, costs of managing EXARC are rising because everything gets more expensive. Also, we now have more individual members (who pay less) than institutional members. Just the costs for the EXARC Journal are more than 40 EUR per member. Many members are actually sponsored by richer members. The Board therefore suggests a membership fee raise. The suggestion is as follows:

	2017	2018	2017	2018
	Category 1	Category 1	Category 2	Category 2
Institutional Members	€ 125	€ 150	€ 50	€ 60
Individual Members (Europe)	€ 60	€ 70	€ 35	€ 40
Individual Members (Non-Europe)	€ 40	€ 50*	€ 40	€ 40
Student Members	€ 35	€ 40	€ 35	€ 40

* The Board also suggests slowly merging the categories 'individual membership' Europe & Non-Europe so by 2022 they are both the same.

The 2018 budget was approved by the AGM. Also the fee raise of the annual contribution was unanimously approved.

Mixed matters the members bring to the table

- Tim Messner: do you have to be a member to present at a conference? The answer is no, because if we would do that, many people would just join EXARC for one year.
- Linda Hurcombe: We like to start planning EAC 2021 soon with the EXARC secretariat.
- Marianne Talma: can EXARC do peer review of its Journal? Answer: we have a group of 15 reviewers, but don't want to be on the citation index. We are in between and comfortable about that.
- Georges Verly: we organise an experimental archaeology conference in Belgium, can we team up? Answer: Yes please.
- Bill Schindler: the REARC conference in the US in the fall went well, a good cooperation between EXARC and REARC. We are looking to repeat that 2018.
 - Jonathan Thornton: is there a possibility of merging REARC & EXARC?
 - Bill Schindler: we're working on it.
- Björn Jakobsen: EXARC is an affiliated organisation to ICOM; are we still on probation status? Answer: ICOM changed its rules about affiliated organisations, so it has become much easier for EXARC.
- Luc Eekhout: ICOM will be in Kyoto 2019. Lasting value of traditions is the theme, ICOM-NL would like to cooperate again with EXARC!
- Björn Jakobsen: In Sweden, archaeological open-air museums and ethnographic open-air museums are part of one single organisation, called Frii. Another interesting detail: the AEOM (Association of European Open-Air Museums) has both a Swedish Chair and Vice Chair. We should do more linking between archaeological open-air museums and ethnographic open-air museums.
- Annemarie Pothaar: Pothaar & Jakobsen are both member of the IMTAL-EUROPE Board. There are plans for a meeting in Roskilde where possibly EXARC could join.

Closing

Bill Schindler thanks the secretariat and the EXARC members and closes the meeting at 18:20h.