

EXARC Prospect 2011

To be presented at the AGM, March 12th, 2011

For the EXARC Board, although many of its members will stay on after the AGM, it is hard to make detailed plans which will partly need to be shaped by other Board members, to be elected. However, we feel we need to offer some stability and it is easier to change a plan, than to make an entire plan from scratch.

Board

We think and hope that we have brought EXARC in stable waters: the charter, the bylaws, Now more time can be spent on what EXARC is really about: our members, archaeological open air museums and experimental archaeology.

EU

We expect to be on good terms with the different "EU groups" in our middle. Each of them will make its own contribution to EXARC and EXARC in its turn will continue to develop the legacy of these projects. It is too early to say what exactly will come out of OpenArch, but the atmosphere is good. Both Grundtvig partnerships are running well and develop some interesting things, albeit for the time being only in small circles.

EXARC intends to look further, to try to get funding to keep EXARC running – not just the EXARC Desk in the Netherlands, but wider than that.

ICOM

EXARC's future lies both within and outside Europe. We feel our first big chance lies in Northern America. We will take important steps both in Europe, in North America. Also, between our own membership we need to raise the ICOM profile and explain why it is useful to be part of that family: not only for free visits, but for a wealth in expertise.

The travels for international purposes are going to lean more and more heavy on the EXARC budget.

Coming EXARC Meetings

There will be a meeting of OpenArch & Zeitgeist in Borger (NL) in October 2011. If the accommodation lasts, possibly some more EXARC members could join.

March 2012, OpenArch will probably convene in Archeon (NL) which might be a good occasion for EXARC to have its AGM.

PR & Communication

Vision

The Board agrees that EXARC needs a good PR – but a plan still has to be made. We for example have a good journal, but we sell too few. We contact many possible new members, but only few actually make the step.

The website

For 2011, especially the Calendar and the presentation of members on our website need to be done new. The idea is to start using a CMS, where members will be responsible for their own information. It could be possible as part of a makeover, during which the newly established Grundtvig's and OpenArch websites are combined with EXARC's and Roeland Paardekooper's private initiative. All parties will contribute to this, but it will be one cloud of information with different 'entries' depending on the target group. Also, EXARC will be the one giving lasting value to this by keeping all information on line.

The EXARC Journal

EXARC loses big time money on our Journal while our stocks grow. Giving away a large number is OK, but postage to send off these 'free copies' is too expensive. Even with help of OpenArch for the Journal, we only postpone a sure death. There are plenty of articles available, but we have to find a way to sell more or spend less money on publishing. One way could be electronic paid publishing side by side with a paper version.