

Once again, I present your IASA Journal. This is an important issue (aren't they all?) because we have a carefully considered paper on current thinking in relation to our Cataloguing Committee. Some of you will remember that Chris Clark and Ingrid Finnane held a special meeting of the Committee at the Athens conference in 2009. They put it to the members that the Committee had passed its sell-by date in the digital era as cataloguing has become a more integral part of the digital workflow, and as technical infrastructures become available to link data. It was suggested that the Cataloguing Committee become the Organising Knowledge Task Force. The Committee meeting at the 2010 conference in Philadelphia proposed that new concepts and principles should be introduced to the IASA membership at large so that knowledge could be disseminated and work within our various institutions could take shape coherently. Guy Maréchal and Simon Rooks volunteered to take on this task. Their joint paper, 'Organising Knowledge: OK! What our catalogues and metadata have to do with the semantic web and linked data', serves the purpose well, I believe.

And as we ruminate over organising knowledge, Tim Bathgate has us consider how we are, or are not, organised, as a group of individuals and institutions, as a professional entity. Do we consider ourselves sound and audiovisual archiving professionals or are we still working within an emerging profession? This is the sort of paper that allows us to take stock of where we have come from and where we are going to — essential to do periodically for any discipline as it helps determine how we come to do what we do and thus establish gaps in training and knowledge exchange that could strengthen our position and attract increased support (and funding).

Most IASA members will know of the work the Technical Committee is doing to produce 'Guidelines on the Production and Preservation of Digital Video Objects' (TC-06). This is work in progress but as the experts set their minds to the puzzle I have tried, over the past couple of journal issues, to introduce thinking relating to video digitisation. In this issue I've included a paper by one of the experts, Carl Fleischhauer, on the work in this area of the Federal Agencies Digitisation Guidelines Initiative.

Other papers, no less important, but perhaps not time bound as the others are, give interesting insights into projects, methods and histories of a range of technical and content considerations that form part of the work of IASA.

Once again, I'd like to thank all the authors for keeping to deadlines and turning around my queries and demands so quickly and efficiently. We have a conference coming up in September in Frankfurt. I'd like to invite speakers who would like to have their papers considered for publication to seek me out during that week.

Yours truly,
Janet Topp Fargion
Editor IASA

As the current IASA Executive Board approaches the final few months of our term all of us are still thinking, planning, and working towards the future of the organisation. Although IASA was established, and maintains its existence, in support of the retention of historic and legacy sound and audiovisual content, this material finds its purpose in the value placed on it by the present and the future. Likewise, IASA measures its relevance not only because of what we've done but in what we see needs to be done and what we do about it.

The membership of IASA has, over the years encouraged us all to amplify our aspirations and to accept greater responsibilities in the many projects that are underway in the world of sound and audiovisual collections. Our members are the ones who carry the aspirations to fruition, and who forge the relationships on behalf of IASA. These bigger responsibilities and aspirations bring an added burden on IASA, even when members other than the Board do the work.

One of the more significant things undertaken by this Board is the one we are leaving to the end of our term: the newly revised constitution. Undertaking the endeavour near the end of its tenure is not only appropriate, it is beneficial, as the issue has been on the minds of the Board since the beginning of this term, and the combined experience of the current Board amount to many years of service and combined wisdom, all of which has fed into this review. The biggest imperative to change IASA's constitution has been the greater things we aspire to, and the bigger responsibilities we are grasping. Our involvement with the larger community in joint projects and endeavours requires us to have an unambiguous legal existence; and as yet IASA does not have that. The registration of the organisation as a legal entity will legally protect the incoming Board and all subsequent Boards, and will make it easier for us to work with funding partners.

It is exciting to have to be working in this field at a time of such change and challenges, and with so many of us working at the cutting edge IASA has a powerful voice through its members. It's well known that the IASA membership doesn't just belong, they participate and our lively conferences are testament to that. However, though there are many achieving and doing important tasks in the broader field of sound and audiovisual archiving, we always need more to step up to fill the role of running the organisation. The organisation will not prosper without the team who keep it going. Even if you have not been able to accept nomination for a position on the Executive Board I encourage you to find ways to support the new Executive Board, who will be taking office after our conference in Frankfurt. The more you do to help IASA run smoothly, the more IASA can do for its members. Ask any of our board on how you can help.

Our 2011 conference in Frankfurt this September is shaping up to be a great event. The organisational work of "Digital Sense and Nonsense: Digital Decision Making in Sound and Audiovisual Collections" is well underway, the preliminary program is available and registration is open. Don't miss what is bound to be one of our important conferences. All conference information can be found on the conference website at <http://www.iasa-conference.com>. Of particular importance this year will be the work being undertaken by the Organising Knowledge Task Force. You will remember that the Cataloguing Committee, after many years of fruitful and productive work, came to the decision that it had reached the end of its useful work. However, it was clear to all that the task of information management was vital to the ongoing work of IASA members. This work resists simple categorisation, and questions, needs and expertise in metadata and information management is coming from many parts of the IASA community and across its sections and committees. I hope that many of you will participate in this important work.

All IASA members will soon be receiving a draft of the proposed new constitution to be discussed formally at the 2011 conference. It's the chance for members to add their voice to the future direction of IASA, and one more excellent reason to be in Frankfurt in the first week in September.

Finally, it is with great pleasure that we announce the 2012 IASA annual conference is to be held in India in October 2012. So, while organising to be in Frankfurt this year, remember its time to be planning for next year and so let *From Deutschland to Delhi: IASA, India 2012* be the slogan for the year.

I look forward to seeing you all in Frankfurt in September.

Yours truly,
Kevin Bradley
President IASA