

CORPUS VITREARUM (CV) Association internationale sans but lucratif / international nonprofit association

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Minutes of the General Assembly held in Erfurt, Thursday, 18 July 2024

Representatives of 11 member countries attended the General Assembly, which was chaired by Prof. Tim Ayers, President of the International Board.

1.Report of the President of the International Board, Prof. Tim Ayers

The President invited the assembly to observe a minute's silence in honour of colleagues who had passed away since the last international colloquium: Michael Kauffmann (CV Great Britain, d. 2023), Corine Schleif (CV United Stated of America, d. 2023) and Joan Vila-Grau (CV Spain and Catalonia, d. 2023).

The President then reported on recent achievements. In the last four years, CV has published a full catalogue in the series of the United States, a summary catalogue for Great Britain, and two new volumes in the 1800-1945 series of the Polish committee. The President noted steady progress of research in both the medieval and the modern periods, and that the number of published volumes now exceeded 150. He also noted reflection on the CV's own history, in the recent colloquium on the life and scholarship of Louis Grodecki, *Louis Grodecki et le vitrail*, held in Paris in 2019, as well as the publication online of its proceedings.

The President then reported on grants awarded by the Union Académique International, in response to our biennial report in 2023. Six national committees had submitted requests, and all of the applications had been successful; overall the CV was awarded over E10,000.

Since the colloquium in Barcelona (July 2022) the board has met seven times online, sometimes attended also by guests: Sarah Pittroff of the Digital Unit, and Ivo Rauch and Claudine Loisel, as outgoing and incoming presidents of the conservation committee. The Board has also been in contact with colleagues from a number of countries that may apply to join the CV in future: Argentina, Chile, Ireland and Ukraine. The board warmly welcomed their interest.

The major item addressed by the board over the last four years has been the establishment of an international association for the Corpus Vitrearum. Statutes for an Association International Sans But Lucratif (AISBL) have been drawn up under Belgian law. The president thanked Belgian colleagues Yvette Vanden Bemden, and Madeleine Manderyck for securing an address for the Corpus at the Académie royale des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique, Brussels. [The Corpus Vitrearum acquired legal personality, in accordance with article 2:6, §3 of the Companies and Associations Code, by Royal Decree on 12 August 2024.] The statutes will be available on the international website, first in French, and then in English and German versions, the three languages of the CV.

The president reported on future changes to the way the CV operates, as a result. First, CV will need to submit a statement of financial account annually. This must be approved formally by a general assembly, which will therefore require an annual online meeting in the spring. Second, it will be necessary to reconcile the new Statutes with the old Guidelines. It was proposed that a working party should be formed, including two members of the International Board (Tim Ayers and Dobrosława Horzela), two other persons, and a representative of the conservation committee. There were no objections. Isabelle Lecocq, Claudine Loisel and Hartmut Scholz have volunteered to join the working party.

2. Report of the Secretary of the International Board, Dr Dobrosława Horzela

The Secretary provided information on the current status of the CV website. She presented a detailed report on the actions taken in response to a recent phishing attack, as well as information on changes and updates to the website. She encouraged participation in the development of the Archive section and informed the assembly about the planned introduction of a section on the Digital Unit, as well as the need for further changes resulting from the change in the formal status of the CV as an AISBL.

3. Report of the Treasurer of the International Board, Dr Karine Boulanger

The Treasurer presented an account for the period 2022–24. The Treasurer also reported on the problems associated with the closing of the CV bank account by UBS and the action taken to secure CV funds. The financial report was approved unanimously. It is attached to this report.

4. Information on the activities of the International Scientific Committee for the Conservation of Stained Glass

Claudine Loisel introduced the Board of the Committee elected in 2023: President: Dr Claudine Loisel (FR) Vice President: Dr Sophie Wolf (CH) Secretary: Prof. Sarah Brown (UK) Members of the Board: Keith Barley (UK), Sarah Jarron (UK), Aletta Rambaut (BE), Dr Ivo Rauch (DE)

Dr Ivo Rauch presented the activities of the committee to ensure the continuing possibility of using lead in stained glass conservation, in connection with proposed legislation at the EU Parliament. Work on the stained glass conservation glossary was also presented, as well as activity to help preserve stained glass in Ukraine, and the committee's presentation at the ICOMOS conference in Australia (2023).

A new website is actually in construction. After an interruption, the ISCCSG glossary project will be restarted with two sections: Technical glossary and Weathering glossary.

5. Digital Unit

Dr Sarah Pittroff, Coordinator of the Digital Unit, submitted a report. The following colleagues had been involved in the unit, 2022-24: Drew Anderson (USA), Karine Boulanger (France), Renée Burnam (Italy), Grzegorz Eliasiewicz (Poland), Matthias Knorr (Portugal), Isabelle Lecocq (Belgium), Sarah Pittroff (Germany), Armanda Rodrigues (Portugal), Joseph Spooner (Great Britain), Jonatan Jalle Steller (Germany), Marcia Vilarigues (Portugal), Christina Wais (Austria), Karin von Wartburg (Switzerland). The DU had met 14 times (online) since its establishment in July 2022. During the meetings, cross-CV data comparison had been developed, including file formats, metadata sets, and authority files. Recommendations for the Digital Resources of the Corpus Vitrearum International had been published in 2024 (https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10829494). Problems relating to the digital resources of the CV had been presented by Isabelle Lecocq and Jonatan Jalle Steller at the Digital Humanities Benelux 2024 Conference (https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11506469).

Finally, a Digital Unit Charter had been developed for approval by the General Assembly. After presentation of the report, a vote was taken. By a show of hands, the charter was unanimously approved.

6. Elections

Ex-President Hartmut Scholz ran the election of officers. The International Board had received no new nominations for the positions of President and Secretary. For these, Tim Ayers and Dobrosława Horzela were standing for a second term. For the positions of Vice President and Treasurer, 8 nominations had been received. Of these, 5 had declined to stand. The list of candidates who put themselves forward for election was therefore as follows:

Standing for a second term President: Tim Ayers (Great Britain) Secretary: Dobrosława Horzela (Poland)

Standing for a first term Vice President: Antoni Vila Delclos (Spain and Catalonia) Treasurer: Jean-François Luneau (France), Daniel Parello (Germany)

Members of the general assembly voted by a show of hands on the candidatures for President, Vice President and Secretary. In each case, the vote was unanimous. An election for Treasurer was held by secret ballot. Twenty-two votes were cast. Ten votes were cast for Jean-François Luneau, and twelve for Daniel Parello. There were no invalid votes. Daniel Parello was therefore elected Treasurer.

The Corpus Vitrearum International Board for 2024-28 is therefore: President: Tim Ayers (Great Britain) Vice President: Antoni Vila Delclos (Spain and Catalonia) Treasurer: Daniel Parello (Germany) Secretary: Dobrosława Horzela (Poland)

7. Thanks

The President and General Assembly warmly thanked the outgoing board members, Ellen Shortell and Karine Boulanger, and the colloqium organizers: Ivo Rauch, Uwe Gast and Maria Deiters and Falko Bornschein, Leonard K , Gabriele Biehle.

8. Invitation to the next colloquium

Wojciech Bałus, the President of CV Poland invited members to the 32nd Colloquium of the Corpus Vitrearum in Kraków, planned for 2026, on the theme of 'History and Methods of Stained Glass Research'.

Jobres Tame back

Dobrosława Horzela, Secretary Kraków, 25.07.2024