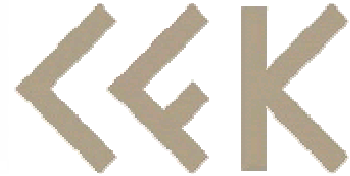




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**‘Towards Digital Folkloristics: Research Perspectives, Archival Praxis, Ethical Challenges’ Riga 14–15 September, 2016**

**Meeting of the SIEF Working Group on Archives (WGoA), September 16th 2016  
Venue: The Archives of Latvian Folklore (ILFA, UL). Floor 4, Room 515.**

**Chair: Lauri Harvilahti; other Board members present: Maryna Chernyavska, Ave Goršič; minutes: Ave Goršič. Members and expected new members present: 18.**

**1. Meeting begins at 9.20 am Riga time.**

**2. Agenda**

**1) ICA; SeedMoney Project, collaboration with NBTA**

Maryna gives infos on the International Council on Archives: in Zagreb the WG voted to be a part of the ICA. Lauri approached the ICA with a proposal to create a section for tradition archives, and that wish was not supported. Instead, we were invited to join the ICA Section on University and Research Institution Archives (SUV). There was communication with the SUV section, Maryna was nominated by the WGoA to represent it on the SUV Bureau. In January this year, SUV officially accepted tradition archives as a part of their group. In September in Seoul, the SUV confirmed formally Maryna’s position on the Bureau. The first outcome of the WGoA and SUV collaboration is the proposed conference of SUV in Riga in 2017 with a theme on folklore and traditional culture archives. CfP will be sent out in the beginning of October, and the WGoA will inform everybody. SUV is also working on a project proposal related to the ICA Africa initiative.

Lauri: there is discussion about themes for ICA Riga 2017 conference, members of the committee confirmed that the new archival standards are part of the next conference, e.g. problems of digital age, social media, archiving, maintaining databases, etc.

Maryna: are there members of ICA here, except Lauri and Maryna? We need larger involvement. Also, institutional members are important.

Lauri: members get access to ICA documents. Our role in ICA – they do not know about the main functions, e.g. active collecting of folklore materials, rules of description. Our contribution is very important. Developing the standards. Our voice needs to be heard.

Lauri: there is collaboration with Network of Nordic-Baltic Tradition Archives, interim meetings are held with the WGoA. We are grateful to our colleagues in Riga, there is something to report to SIEF in March. We are lucky that we have funding for organizing.

**2) Next SIEF in Göttingen, presented panels, as far as we know**

Lauri: so far we know two panels. Lauri and Sanita Reinsone proposed a panel called ‘Dwelling in the virtual space. Digital approaches and archival practices.’ Susanne Österlund-Pöttsch and Pauliina Latvala proposed the second known panel.

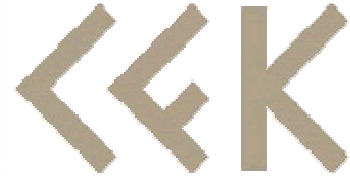
Susanne: this topic was raised in Zagreb, Pauliina is in the WG on Historical Approaches in Cultural Analysis. The joint panel proposal is called “Dwelling in the Cultural Archives. Traces, Experiences and Meanings”.

Lauri: In Zagreb we had 4 panels. At least two now. About “Dwelling in digital sphere” – the theme is similar to present TDF conference (crowdsourcing, databases, digital platforms). CfP for Göttingen opens on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, we hope for positive response from SIEF.

**3) Election of new Board members during SIEF meeting in Göttingen**



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Lauri: Present board has been for 4 years next year, time to think about new members, this will be decided during the conference.

Ave and Maryna are continuing, Lauri is resigning, we will ask Kelly and Theo.

#### **4) Evaluation of the WG on Archives next year (four year period ending)**

Ave: WGoA reaches 4 years next year. The WG board will present a report to the SIEF board.

#### **5) Mapping Archives for the WG homepage under SIEF, current stage**

Ave and Audun Kjus are explaining the meaning behind the initiative in-depth (<http://www.siefhome.org/wg/arch/archives.shtml>).

Lauri: this is important for international evaluation; it can be used as a reference.

Ave is explaining issues with membership, mailing list, ideas behind being visible. WG members and others present agree with the official launch of Mapping Archives initiative and Lauri will bring this plea to the SIEF board.

Prompting from the question of Prof. Yoko Kumanoya, it was stressed that we also need archives from other regions in the world to appear on the map and in introduction, such as Asia, Africa or South America. The board encourages those present to further spread the word.

### **3. Other issues and feedback**

SIEF Newsletter will have overview of TDF conference.

Lauri: we are open to other issues, feedback.

Mari Sarv: reputation of archive-based folkloristics is low in international folkloristics, can we create a new high? Other people have to understand the value of archives and digital archives. The direction of WG is now more inwards, how can we collaborate, it should be more external visibility. We need to explain what it creates for research.

Lauri: we can use social media, articles, and books. We are open to proposals.

Mari: we should have a group within WG building this further.

Maryna: joining the ICA had the same goal.

Mari: archival folklore is becoming out of date.

Lauri: there is "Visions and Traditions" book coming out shortly.

Jonas Engman: we need to crack this, why folklorists and ethnologists don't return to tradition archives? In Swedish context, the scholarly society does not notice us. We need long-term dialogue with the academia as partners working with scholars.

Audun: we need to turn folklorists to collectors again. With digital age, we can make collecting portals. Creating folklore collections has become difficult.

Lauri: there have been ideas for large-scale collections: "A Day in the World". In the 1990s some countries had project to write about your day. In the new digital age, we can make it global, "A Day on Earth", and what is produced will be available online. That takes organizing.

Maryna: most folklorists within the academia are eager to collect, but they do not always understand the importance of organizing their collections and preserving them long term.

**For information:** the next WGoA meeting takes place in Göttingen.

### **4. Meeting closes at 10.10.**