Message from the President

Dear Colleagues,

This newsletter will be available on the ICA website www.icacommission.org under the menu item Letter from the President.

At our General Assembly during the ICA Congress in Aachen, Germany in September 2019, the new ICA Board was elected. The outgoing President, Michael Taroudakis, became Past President for a three-year term, and he continues as a Co-Organizer of International Year of Sound (IYS) 2020. The outgoing Past President, Marion Burgess, continues as a Co-Organizer of IYS 2020. Both Michael and Marion have provided strong leadership during their many years of service on the Board. We greatly appreciate their contributions together with those of all other former board members during the past three years.

Board Meetings

The ICA Board meets once per year and conducts business between meetings via email. The 2019 Board Meeting was held during the Congress in Aachen, and the key decisions were reported to the membership at the General Assembly later in the week.

One major decision was to hold the 2025 Congress in New Orleans. This Congress will be hosted by the Acoustical Society of America in the second quarter of that year. Mark Hamilton will be the General Chair, with Michael Haberman and Preston Wilson serving as the Technical Co-Chairs.

The 2020 Board Meeting will be held in Prague in mid-July at ICSV27. If any Member Society wishes to have anything discussed at this meeting, please contact the General Secretary well in advance of the Board Meeting.

ICA General Assembly

The ICA General Assembly also convened during the Congress in Aachen. There were 33 Member Societies and 5 International Affiliates represented. During the General Assembly the President of ICA reported on all of the ICA activities during the previous three-year period, as well as ongoing and future initiatives. The three-year budget of the ICA was presented and approved by the General Assembly. Revisions of the ICA Statutes and By-laws were also discussed and approved.

The majority of the changes in the Statutes and By-laws are associated with registration of the ICA under Spanish Law, an action that was taken following the positive experience of the European Acoustics Association (EAA) after becoming registered under Spanish Law. The official ICA address is now that of the Sociedad Espanola de Acustica (SEA). English continues to be the official language of the ICA. As a non-profit organization under the Spanish registration, the ICA will not have a VAT requirement.

Under the new Statutes, to be in compliance with Spanish Law, the ICA General Assembly will henceforth be held annually, no longer just every three years. This does not significantly
affect ICA procedures, because the most important decisions, such as the elections of Board members and approval of the budget, will continue to be made every third year. All other business will be carried out by the ICA Board as it has in the past, with email communication to the Member Societies when appropriate.

The primary meetings of the General Assembly will coincide with the triennial ICA Congresses, as in Aachen this past September. These primary meetings will be when the elections are held and the three-year budgets are approved. The secondary meetings of the General Assembly will be held in the “off years” between the Congresses, such as the next meeting of the General Assembly in Prague this coming July.

Election of the new Board Members followed the general discussions. The minutes of both the ICA Board Meeting and the ICA General Assembly held in Aachen can be found in the ICA webpage related to governance: http://www.icacommission.org/minutes.html

Mark Hamilton
ICA President

International Year of Sound

31 January 2020 is a special day for all acousticians as it will be the launch of the International Year of Sound 2020 (IYS 2020) in the Grand Amphitheatre of La Sorbonne in Paris.

The concept of an IYS commenced in the board meetings from around 2010 and was formally approved at the time of the General Assembly in Buenos Aires in 2016. The intent to have a UNESCO approved IYS via the physical sciences sector, continued to be challenged by bureaucracy. About the same time, working through the communications sector at UNESCO, La Semaine du Son (LSdS) had achieved a UNESCO approved resolution on “The Importance of Sound in Today’s World: Promoting Best Practices”. So, with the support of the ICA board, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with LSdS to have an IYS 2020 as a promotion of best practices. The year of 2020 is fortuitous as representing a new decade and being just one year after our ICA congress in Aachen which provided the opportunity for planning. The organisation of the IYS 2020 involves a combination of centrally funded events such as the opening on 31 January, the production of a short film on the importance of sound in our life (sponsored by I-INCE) an international student competition (sponsored by Head Genuit Foundation) and events organized and funded by ICA Members and by La Semaine du Son. The motto for the IYS 2020 is “Importance of Sound for Society and the World”. The events will be focused on outreach and education to highlight all the aspects of acoustics.

The years of 2018 and 2019 have been very busy for the key team of Michael Taroudakis and Marion Burgess as co-organizers, Mike Stinson as the web site manager and Jean-Dominique Polack who is an important liaison with LSdS and has been crucial for the arrangements for the opening of IYS 2020 in La Sorbonne, Paris. All this would not have been achieved without the ongoing support of Christian Hugonnet, President of La Semaine du Son and the ICA Board. The Liaison and steering committees have met a number of times in the lead up to 2020 and have the essential role to mobilize organizations to host events that are in accord with the intent of the IYS 2020 – namely involving education, outreach and involvement with those that are outside our usual groups.

The events listing on the webpage continues to grow with a wide range of activities. Some of the listings for conferences and meetings are temporary placeholders while the organizers finalize the arrangement for their IYS 2020 activities. As the year progresses we are confident that there will be a wide range of activities celebrating the intent of the IYS 2020 throughout the entire world. As well as events, the web site is providing a location for consolidating resources and we know of more that are in planning for production during the year.
The opening ceremony of the IYS 2020 will be held in the Grand Amphitheatre of La Sorbonne starting at 19:00. The program of the event can be found in the IYS 2020 website (http://sound2020.org/event/opening-ceremony/). People interested to attend the Opening are required, for security reasons, to register on-line through the link to be found in the same page.

We are particularly grateful to the founding sponsors who provided the seed funding needed to start this initiative: ICA, ASA, I-INCE, IIAV, EAA. The IUPAP and IUTAM have supported the concept of the IYS 2020. The sponsorship of I-INCE, Head Genuit Foundation have provided the necessary support for two key centrally organized activities of the film and the student competition and Acoustics First Corporation, CESVA and Sorbonne University sponsorship has been valuable to support the opening event. The webpage provides a link for other sponsors seeking to support the IYS 2020.

So to all member societies we ask that you use the initiative of the IYS 2020 to host outreach events and/or develop resources, post them onto the webpage so we have a record of the world wide efforts during the International Year of Sound 2020 and as a member society of the ICA show your support for the IYS 2020 by including the IYS 2020 logo on your society website.

www.sound2020.org

Marion Burgess, Michael Taroudakis, and Jean-Dominique Polack
Co-convenors IYS 2020

The 23rd International Congress on Acoustics - ICA 2019 took place in Aachen from September 9 to 13, 2019. It included the “4th EAA Euroregio” congress. With a total of 1,700 participants from 57 countries, including 590 students, the conference was a success. 1,300 conference contributions in 147 structured sessions were presented as oral and poster presentations.

The conference started on September 9th with a brief opening ceremony by the Conference Chairs (Prof. Michael Vorländer and Prof. Janina Fels), framed by music by Lily Dahab and her band.

During the opening ceremony the ICA Early Career Award was presented to Prof. Jérémie Voix, President of the Canadian Acoustical Society and a special award for his long term contributions to ICA was also presented to Antonio Perez-Lopez, President of the Spanish Acoustical Society and outgoing treasurer of the ICA.
Five excellent plenary lectures were presented by renowned scientists:

- Marion Burgess (Sydney, Australia): "Sound and noise around us"
- Shrikanth Narayanan (Los Angeles, USA): "Sounds of the human vocal instrument"
- Christopher Wiebusch & Tim Otto Roth (Aachen / Cologne): "Astroparticle Immersive Synthesizer³ or how cosmic 'ghost particles' inspire a novel concept of spatialization of sound"
- Jérémie Voix (Montreal, Canada, winner of the ICA Early Career Award): "The ear at the age of IoT"
- Maria Heckl (Keele, England): "Thermoacoustic instabilities - physical mechanisms and mathematical modeling"

In addition to the extensive scientific program, there were various additional events, for example the activities of the EAA Young Acousticians Network, YAN, and many other groups of young researchers. Furthermore, there was a workshop on the subject of science communication with invited experts, a contact fair with industry representatives on the subject of career paths for young academics and professionals in acoustics, as well as the "5-minute Research Story Competition", which was won by Mathieu Gaborit (KTH Stockholm) with a contribution to modeling of layered absorbers based on the very entertaining example of Tiramisu.

The social program of the conference included an organ concert in the UNESCO world heritage Aachen cathedral as well as a social evening in the Museum of Modern Art "Ludwig Forum", in which the international Jam Session set musical accents. Likewise were various excursions for participants well received (to the Institute of Technical Acoustics, RWTH Aachen University, to HEAD acoustics GmbH and the Institute of Automotive Engineering of RWTH Aachen University).

The conference was accompanied by an exhibition with representatives from industry and research with a total of 58 booths. The booth personnel reported an unexpectedly high level of interest from the international public.

Before the ICA congress, from 6th to 8th of September, the EAA Summer School for young acousticians took place in Leuven, Belgium, with 114 participants. It was organized by Monika Rychtarikova and Armin Kohlrausch. The introductory course "Approaching Acoustics" was offered for undergraduate students. The four advanced "Hot Topics" courses were "Computational modeling in physiological and psychological acoustics", "Smart city sound", "Acoustic metamaterials and sonic crystals", and "Acoustic imaging (laser, beamforming, time reversal, photoacoustics)".

The Satellite Symposia (EAA Spatial Audio Signal Processing Symposium in Paris, International Symposium on Room Acoustics in Amsterdam, International Symposium on Musical Acoustics in Detmold) were well received by the participants, so that the month of September 2019 had many varied international events related to acoustics.

For all 4 photos of ICA 2019 Aachen: © Sabine Schmidt, das design plus, Aachen, Copyright DEGA e. V.
ICA 2022 Gyeongju, Korea

The 24th International Congress Acoustics, ICA 2022, will be held in Gyeongju from October 24 to 28, 2022:
http://www.gyeongju.go.kr/open_content/eng/index.do

Gyeongju is a city located in the southeastern part of the Korean Peninsula, which had been the capital of the Silla Dynasty for a thousand years during AD 1-9c. The venue of ICA2022, Gyeongju Hwabaek Convention Center (HICO, http://www.crowncity.kr/hico/en/main/main.do) was built specifically for international meetings and conventions. During ICA 2022, all participants will have exclusive use of all HICO facilities to themselves.

The Acoustical Society of Korea (ASK, http://en.ask.or.kr/) is ready and eager to host ICA 2022, which will be the first ICA congress in Korea. Over the years, ASK has contributed to the development of acoustic education and research, and the economy in Korea, by emphasizing the importance of sound in various industrial fields. It also has participated actively in the ICA, and had hosted international conferences like Inter-Noise 2003 and ICSLP 2004. ASK will be honored to help promote the global advancement of acoustics by hosting a successful ICA 2022.

The participant will be able to enjoy a unique Korean culture as well as ICA 2022. Koreans have a well-known love of music, from K-pop to Western classical music to reinterpretations of traditional Korean music. It follows then that Koreans are highly sensitive to the quality of sound, not only in musical instruments but also in everyday products and environment. As the cradle of the country’s religion, philosophy, arts and of course, music, Gyeongju can offer visitors an insight into the development of acoustics in Korea. Furthermore, the entire city is an open-air museum full of ancient constructions and relics, including four UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Bulguksa Temple, Seokguram Grotto, Yangdong Traditional Village, and the Gyeongju Historic Areas. In short, the unique and authentic glimpse of Gyeongju City into Korean culture makes it the ideal backdrop for ICA 2022.

For the preparation of ICA2022, the organizing committee is now active: Prof. Jeong-Guon Ih (Mechanical Eng.) is the General Chair, Prof. Chan-Hoon Hann (Architectural Eng.) and Han-Seok Ko (Communication Eng.) are the Co-Technical Chairs, and Prof. Sung-Hwan Shin (Automotive Eng.) is the Secretary General.

Jeong-Guon Ih
General Chair of ICA 2022
Registration of the ICA

Following a long process, which is well known to our Members and International Affiliates, and in accordance with the ICA Board decision taken during the Boston meeting (June 2017) the International Commission for Acoustics is now registered under the Spanish Law. More specifically, it is now included in the “Spanish National Register of Associations: Section 1st – National Number 618394”. The confirmation of registration was received by the Spanish Ministry for Home Affairs and the official starting date is 3rd October 2019. The official registration of the ICA has become necessary following the new requirements for all the International Scientific Societies which have to declare a formal address for their office and obtain regular tax status.

The Registered Office of the Commission has now been established in Madrid, Calle Serrano 144, postal code E-28006, Spain, which is also the registered Office of the Spanish Acoustical Society –SEA.

We are grateful to the Spanish Acoustical Society for accepting to host the headquarters of the ICA, and to the former Treasurer of the ICA and President of the Spanish Acoustical Society Antonio Perez Lopez, who undertook all the necessary, yet difficult and time consuming activities for the official registration of the ICA.

The new Statutes have been approved during the ICA Board meeting held in Crete (May 2018). The new Internal Regulations have been approved during the ICA Board meeting and General Assembly held in Aachen (September 2019). A few additional notes on the new statutes are mentioned in the President’s message in this Newsletter.

Both the new Statutes and the Internal Regulations of our Commission can be found in our web-site (https://www.icacommission.org/statutes.html) and (https://www.icacommission.org/internal_regs.html).

News from IUPAP

Past President Michael Taroudakis attended the last Meeting of the Chairs of the Commissions associated with the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP). ICA has historical links with the IUPAP as we started our function as a subcommittee of IUPAP. Now ICA is an affiliated commission to IUPAP. The meeting was held in London 1-3 October 2019 and was hosted by the Institute of Physics.

During the meeting Michael Taroudakis presented the concept of the International Year of Sound 2020 (IYS 2020). The presentation was well appreciated by the IUPAP Commission Chairs and they decided with enthusiasm to give the endorsement of IUPAP to the International Year of Sound. The President of IUPAP will attend the IYS 2020 opening ceremony in Paris.

IUPAP was also involved in the International Year of Periodic Table (2019), and will try to get the approval of UNESCO and the United Nations for an official International Year of Basic Sciences in 2022. It seems that the chances for getting the approval are high as they have already got the agreement from several countries that will support the proposal in UNESCO. Same Year (2022) marks the centenary of IUPAP and several activities are under planning status. The main event will be a Centennial Symposium to be held, possibly in CERN, in the fall of 2022 and will also be associated with the International Year of Basic Sciences.

The next IUPAP C&CC meeting and the General Assembly will be held in Beijing in the period 8-14 October 2020. Dates to be confirmed.
Symposium Sponsorship

The ICA allocates up to EUR 5,000 annually for sponsorship of specialty symposia in acoustics. In conjunction with the Acoustical Society of America (ASA), the ICA accepts the applications for allocation of up to USD 2,000 for specialty symposia that comply with the conditions for the special ASA support.

There were eight applications for 2020 funding from the ICA/ASA Specialty Symposia sponsorship program. These applications were evaluated by a committee comprised of the ICA Executive Committee and the ASA Committee on International Research and Education (CIRE), and the funding allocations were approved by the ICA Board.

The symposia receiving funding are:

- Annual Physics Symposium APS 2020 - International Year of Sound (India)
- 24th Conference on Acoustic and Biomedical Engineering (Poland)
- Baltic-Nordic Acoustic Meeting 2020 (Norway)
- 36th Symposium on HYDROACOUSTICS 2020 (Poland)
- Current trends on ocean sound and impacts on marine biodiversity (Portugal)
- ICUA2020 International Conference on Underwater Acoustics (UK)
- 67th Open Seminar on Acoustics (Poland)

The World Health Organization, in collaboration with the International Telecommunications Union, organizes the annual Make Listening Safe stakeholders meeting on the 18 and 19 February 2020 at the WHO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

The main objectives of the meeting are to:

- Share the progress made in different areas of work such as online approaches for raising awareness among different target audiences; a media brief on safe listening, and the Be Healthy, Be Mobile mHealth tool for safe listening
- Share progress and discuss the development of a regulatory framework for control of recreational sound exposure in entertainment venues.

Dates:

- 18 February 2020: Overview and updates on Make Listening Safe initiative and all its actions
- In addition, 17 February 2020 will be dedicated to the WHO-ITU Standard for safe listening devices (ITU-T H.870 guidelines).

Online registration is possible through the following link:
ICA Membership

The following list comprises the national acoustical societies which are full members of the ICA.

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Observers

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If you know of any grouping that you think should be included, please let us know the contact details and we will follow up.

In addition, the following are the International Affiliates to ICA:

- European Acoustics Association (EAA)
- IberoAmerican Federation of Acoustics (FIA)
- International Institute of Noise Control Engineering (I-INCE)
- International Institute of Acoustics and Vibration (IIAV)
- Western Pacific Acoustics Commission (WESPAC)
- International Congress on Ultrasonics (ICU)
- International Commission on Biological Effects of Noise (ICBEN)
- Audio Engineering Society (AES)

The next ICA Board meeting and ICA General Assembly will be held in Prague (Czech Republic) during the International Congress on Sound and Vibration (ICSV27) to be held there in July. The exact dates will be announced very soon.