

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CONSERVATION - PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS GROUP

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MINUTES  
AIC PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS GROUP

Monday, August 20, 1979  
9:30 a.m., Rm. 325 Old College  
University of Delaware

PRESENT: Gary E. Albright, David E. Kolody, Jose Orraca, Mary Kay Porter,  
James Reilly, Siegfried Rempel, Henry Wilhelm, and Chris Young

The first meeting of the AIC Photographic Materials Group was for the purpose of organization, the first business being the Articles of Organization.

1. After much discussion, members agreed that they should be known as the American Institute for Conservation - Photographic Materials Group. It was found not objectionable to become a member of AIC.
2. Henry Wilhelm brought up the subject of reversibility as stated in the Code of Ethics. Siegfried Rempel felt the whole section on reversibility should be deleted. Jose Orraca thought it was a good safeguard even though the terminology was carried over from other areas of conservation. Rempel said reversibility to him meant that the "security of an artifact is insured to the greatest degree." It was suggested that we look at the Code of Ethics as a group and come up with a statement of how this relates to the conservation of photographs. It was agreed that Siegfried Rempel would undertake to draw up a draft of this topic for the Group to look at. Jose Orraca brought the discussion to a close by suggesting that it continue after the draft had been submitted. There was no objection to the Bylaws as such.
3. The aims of the Group were accepted as in the draft of the Articles with the exception of III-D which was changed to "To develop closer ties between our field and other disciplines."
4. A count of the time period each person has been a member of AIC showed that Reilly was an Associate for 8 months; Rempel, Associate for 3 or 4 years; Young, Associate for 6 months; Albright, Associate for 3 years; Wilhelm was not a member; Kolody was an institutional member; Porter, Associate for 3 years; and Jose Orraca, Fellow.
5. III-C brought about much discussion regarding the present RIT Newsletter. Rempel, as well as other members, felt that we should make an attempt to help the RIT Newsletter by placing information in it. The Newsletter would serve a broad spectrum of people--people who we as a group would have little contact with. Henry Wilhelm and others believed that such involvement would not

serve the best interest of our organization. Chris Young stated that for educational purposes, the RIT Newsletter should be helped as much as possible. Jose Orraca pointed out that we had two divergent opinions--both valid. One was to help the RIT Newsletter since it was serving an educational purpose, and the other to watch out for ourselves since such involvement could be compromising to the Group. He felt that it was not our place to criticize or promote the work of other organizations interested in the conservation of photographs. Rempel believed that we have an obligation to make criticisms and to guide the Newsletter in the proper direction. Reilly felt that there was a natural bridge between this Group and the RIT Newsletter. The money and mechanisms are there for the publication and distribution of information.

It was felt that there were two levels of information: one for the general public and museum field, and the other for knowledgeable conservators and scientists. Rempel commented upon the Paper Conservator, stating that it publishes articles on basic conservation techniques which over a period of time will serve as reference material to build the expertise within the community. He suggested that such a format might prove beneficial in a journal of our own. As a tentative title, The Journal of Conservation of Photographs, was agreed upon. The purpose would be to serve as an organ to share ideas within the Group and the conservation profession. It would be addressed to conservators in general--persons who would, hopefully, have a knowledge of photography upon which to build. Great interest was expressed in a scholarly publication and it was hoped that one would be published when the demand for it arose.

6. Porter suggested adding to the Articles as III-E "To disseminate responsible information on the care of photographs" and it was agreed upon.

7. Under Membership, item IV-A was changed to read, "Membership is limited to individuals whose major field of interest in conservation is photography, or to scientists or research assistants who are interested in the conservation of photographs."

8. To IV-B was added the sentence, "Members are bound by the AIC Code of Ethics and Bylaws."

9. The last sentence in IV-D was deleted.

10. An addition, IV-C, is to read "Violations of the Code of Ethics by a member shall be referred to the parent organization after a two-thirds vote of the membership."

11. The topic of annual meetings brought up the question as to whether they should be held concurrent with the AIC Convention due to possible problems of attendance. A suggestion was presented to have the Group be in charge of a time period when members would give papers and acquaint other AIC members with the Group. It was agreed that the words "or alternate" would be added to the Articles to make it read, "Additional or alternate meetings will be called by the chairman on the basis of interest and need."

12. The section on Dues was considered appropriate.

13. Qualifications for Officers should state, "Officers must have been members of AIC for no less than two years. Five years from the implementation of the Articles of Organization, officers at that time must be Fellows of AIC."

14. Section VII-B was approved, and VII-C was added as "Nominations are open to the membership. Officers shall be elected by a simple majority of those members voting."

15. Section VIII-C was moved to become Section VII-D.

16. Section IX and X were approved as they appear.

17. Section XI was added to read: "Charter members of this Group are: Gary E. Albright, David E. Kolody, Jose Orraca, Mary Kay Porter, James Reilly, Siegfried Rempel, Henry Wilhelm, and Chris Young.

18. After a short break in the meeting, an election of officers took place. Henry Wilhelm nominated and Rempel seconded the nomination of Jose Orraca for chairman and all approved.

Henry Wilhelm nominated Mary Kay Porter as secretary-treasurer and Chris Young nominated Gary Albright. Porter declined her nomination. Rempel seconded Albright and all approved.

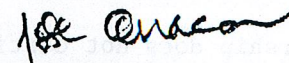
19. After the election of officers, the chairman asked for a motion that the chairman be empowered to present the Articles of Organization to the AIC Board. Young made the motion and it was seconded by Albright and approved.

20. A vote was taken on writing a letter to the RIT Newsletter and found Porter - against; Kolody - too political; Wilhelm - against; Albright - yes; Young - yes; Rempel - yes; Reilly - yes; Orraca - no. The matter was held for further discussion after lunch.

21. After lunch the matter of the RIT Newsletter was again approached. It was agreed that the Group should not become involved at this time in the Newsletters; however, individuals would not be discouraged. It was decided to invite Herbert Phillips, the Newsletter publisher, to apply for membership in the organization. As such, he would be in a position to illicit from individuals within the Group their personal response or opinion of the Newsletter.

22. A list of possible members was compiled.

Respectfully submitted,



Jose Orraca  
Chairman

AIC Photographic Materials Group

## ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION

- I. This body shall be known as the American Institute for Conservation - Photographic Materials Group (AIC-PMG).
- II. It is a subsidiary of the American Institute for Conservation, and it is therefore bound to its constitution, bylaws, ethics, and such resolutions as shall be approved by the Convention at a future date.
- III. The aims of the Group are:
  - A. To encourage the sharing of ideas and information between its members
  - B. To promote the development of sound conservation practices
  - C. To promote the publication of scholarly articles on photographic conservation and related fields
  - D. To develop closer ties between our field and other disciplines
  - E. To disseminate responsible information on the care of photographs
- IV. Membership
  - A. Membership is limited to individuals whose major field of interest in conservation is photography, or to scientists or research assistants who are interested in the conservation of photographs.
  - B. Membership in the Group is contingent on membership (Associate or Fellow) in AIC. Members are bound by the the code of ethics and bylaws.
  - C. Violation of the code of ethics by a member shall be referred to the parent organization after a two-thirds vote of the membership.
  - D. Membership is upon approval by a simple majority of the Group.
  - E. Membership does not certify a conservator of photographs and should not be considered an endorsement of their work.
- V. Annual Meetings

Annual meetings shall be held concurrent with the AIC Convention but at such a time as they do not interfere with the previously scheduled convention meetings. Additional or alternate meetings will be called by the chairman on the basis of interest and need.

VI. Dues

The Group shall collect dues as it deems necessary. The amount of such dues, however, shall be approved by a simple majority of the Group at a regularly scheduled meeting.

VII. Election of Officers

Officers of the Group shall consist of a chairman and a secretary-treasurer.

A. Qualifications

Officers must have been members of AIC for no less than two years. Five years from the implementation of the Articles of Organization, officers at that time must be Fellows of AIC.

B. Officers shall be elected for a period of two years. They may not serve consecutive terms.

C. Nominations are open to the membership. Officers shall be elected by a single majority of those members voting.

D. The Group may at a later date institute additional offices as they become necessary.

VIII. Duties of Officers

A. The chairman shall:

1. preside over the meetings
2. serve as a liaison between the Group and AIC
3. keep the Group informed as to related meetings and useful information

B. The secretary-treasurer shall:

1. assist chairman
2. keep minutes
3. maintain correspondence
4. collect dues when applicable

IX. Amendments

Amendments to the Articles of Organization shall be by a 2.3 majority at the annual business meeting. Proposed changes or additions shall be sent to the membership no later than 14 days before the annual meeting for their consideration.

X. Implementation

A. Upon approval of these articles, the chairman will submit them to the AIC Board for approval.

B. Terms of officers and implementation of these articles take effect upon approval of the AIC Board.

XI. Charter members of the Group are:

Gary E. Albright  
David E. Kolody  
Jose Orraca  
Mary K. Porter  
James Reilly  
Seigfried Rempel  
Henry Wilhelm  
Chris Young