**Minutes - AIMA Executive Committee**

**New Delhi, India. Sunday 25 November-Monday 26 November 2018; Tours through 30 November**

Meeting convened 16:00 on 25 November at Hotel Ashok. **Attendees** (quorum present): Surajit Sarkar (host, faculty member in the Centre for Community Knowledge, Ambedkar University Delhi, Kashmere Gate campus, India and research assistant, Kumar Unnayan); Ollie Douglas, Great Britain, President & Presiding; Merli Sild, Estonia (Piret Hion); Pete Watkins, USA (Mary Watkins); Isabel Hughes, Great Britain; Kerry-Leigh Burchill, Canada; Pierre Del Porto, France; Debra A. Reid, USA. Meeting reconvened 10:31 on 26 November at the INTACH Office, Lodi Estate, New Delhi, India, with additional participants via Google Hang-Out: Claus Kropp, Germany; Cozette Griffin-Kremer, France, Barbara Sosič, Slovenia.

AIMA Exec Com members met with staff of national cultural agencies, faculty, students, and residents concerned about cultural heritage, including INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, a government-funded NGO, Lodi Estate, New Delhi); the National Museum of Agriculture, Pusa, New Delhi; Ambedkar University Delhi, both the Karampura and the Kashmere Gate campuses, Delhi; crop and dairy farms in Ghummanhera Village; the National Rail Museum, the Handicraft Museum, and sites in Lodi Garden. **AIMA accomplished four goals**: 1) conducted the annual board meeting; 2) met with institutions, individuals, and groups working with agricultural heritage and interested in participating in networks supporting agricultural museums and living agricultural traditions; 3) discussed online archive of Indian agricultural traditions and comparable projects in Europe and North America; 4) discussed initiative to establish community-managed rural and agricultural museums (in formative stages involving AUD-INTACH). AIMA meeting participants also learned about grievances of Indian farmers and public protests at Ram Lila Maidan, Delhi (near Parliament) that began Thursday 29 Nov. and continued Friday 30 Nov.

**AIMA Business: CIMA 18 Estonia 2017**: Sild/Hion completed and printed 65 copies of CIMA 18 proceedings; a low-resolution PDF is available at the AIMA website: <https://agriculturalmuseums.org>. It includes the list of participants and a summary of the General Assembly minutes. Unanimous approval of **2017 General Assembly Summary/Minutes** (as published in the CIMA 18 Proceedings). Del Porto requested a French translation of the summary of these minutes for submission to French officials. COMPA is the official address for AIMA. Two volumes of each CIMA proceedings should be deposited in the COMPA archive upon publication. **Reports:** President Douglas thanked members for consistent communication between meetings, Burchill for pursuing electronic communication and facilitating it, Hughes for the member survey, Sarkar for hosting the 2018 Exec Com meeting, Sosič for hosting 2019 Exec Com meeting, and Del Porto for managing PayPal dues. Executive Secretary Burchill recognized attendees, both AIMA executive committee members around the table, and INTACH hosts. She discussed AIMA’s **Digital Archive Policy**, maintaining AIMA Archive on shared Google Drive which Exec Com members can access. A high-resolution file of CIMA publications should be uploaded. Teleconference meetings every couple of months continue. Member renewal request will go out soon. Will retain communication via potential AIMA members and expanding participation of nations, i.e., India delegates. Treasurer Del Porto reported membership of 49 in 2018: 39 individual; 10 institutional. Compared to 68 in 2017. Of 49 members, 17 French speaking. Reported on discussion of relocating COMPA out of Chartres to the countryside. Financial report: 5100 Euros in bank with bills paid. Second Vice-President and Web Master Reid reported that she, Kropp and Griffin-Kremer have discussed AIMA and social media including the Newsletter, Twitter (AIMA needs a Facebook account). Reid updated the AIMA Webpage to better convey working groups as resources. Douglas announced the 2018 AIMA Exec Com meeting: #DelhiAIMA2018, and reported on new branding for AIMA (logo, webpage look, pop-up banner, business card, e-letterhead, etc.) effective with CIMA 19 – Reading, England, 2020. Vice President Hughes reported on the **AIMA membership survey**. Total of 28 responses from a mailing list of 80 plus. Of 28, 8 were French respondents (many requesting French translations). Most respondents were long-time members. AIMA offers a professional development opportunity that should be promoted more, starting with CIMA 19. This requires new branding and promotion materials. Hughes indicated that she could reissue the survey, or tailor a new survey to non-members. Expanding networks included potential of electronic distribution of AIMA publications and best practices via existing networks [ALHFAM, AFMA, the Rural Museum Network in Great Britain, EXARC (*Tools & Tillage*)]. Tables of contents of all CIMA publications are on the AIMA website, but they are not key-word searchable. Kropp indicated three options: 1) all open access for CIMA publications, newsletters, etc., 2) membership only access for keystone “best practice” documents, and 3) Exec Com access for management documents and institutional archives not for public consumption (currently on a Google Drive folder). Burchill and Watson summarized ALHFAM “ASK” database with 27,000 ALHFAM publications documenting 40 years of professional thought, plus the *Midwest Open Air Museum Magazine*. AIMA could pay ALHFAM to add AIMA materials to this (Douglas will discuss with Watson). **Final report on CIMA 18 Estonia 2017** Sild and Hion reported attendance of 28 members; 10 non-members plus 2 students; income: 9220 Euros plus post-conference tour income for total of 13,420 Euros. Expenses 54,907 Euros. Loss 40,487 Euros. Plenary (attended by 70 persons); whole conference subcontracted to Publicon at cost of 33,327 Euros. **Exec Com 2019** meeting confirmed by Sosič for July 8-11, Ljubljana, Slovenia. The Exec Com will meet July 8-9 and participate in study tours on July 10-11. AIMA President/Secretary will confirm with an official letter. Sild/Hion asked for a discussion of working groups during the Slovenia Exec Com meeting. **Future CIMA in Reading, U.K** (likely during late June/early July). Douglas and Hughes are committed to reducing costs. Douglas presented a power point about the 1976 CIMA 4 at Reading, and now, 43 years later, AIMA remains important to interpreting a complicated past in a fractured present. Douglas encourages us to move beyond AIMA protocol and consider range of global challenges and how our institutions can help address those. The call for papers will have no “theme” but will encourage artistic practice, and the agenda be collaborative, and for AIMA to emerge with more collaboration (ALHFAM and other international partners). Programs will feature networking opportunities and an evening of pop-up talks, demonstrations, etc. (based on MERL’s evening events for adults to learn) which can draw in an audience beyond AIMA (to engage hands-on practitioners and others who normally engage with the public). To reduce costs, AIMA will encourage attendees to find their own lodging and either walk or commute to the meeting. Excursions: not full and formal excursions with outside service; instead, visits to University of Reading sites (Dept of Agriculture; Experimental farm), University of Oxford, and London sites, National Trust properties, and perhaps Chiltern Open Air Museum. Call for Papers deadline for approval at next AIMA e-conversation. Reading co-vice chancellor for international engagement interested in increasing student body, and the possibility of engaging students in the CIMA conference might encourage young people to think of Reading as a university to attend; also, the ways that U of Reading academics could partner with AIMA institutions to undertake research projects (including public history projects) to build international partnerships. NOTE that this co-vice chancellor supported the AIMA Exec Com in 2015, and the student exchange (Reading sent a student to Germany, but no student ever went to Reading). Del Porto requested a session about how the Lottery Fund supports museums. Douglas indicated that a meeting during the congress, led by the Rural Museum Network (British), be convened to discuss funding streams within and beyond the UK, including Lottery Funding. Del Porto also asked about social media as a topic, and Douglas indicated that the topic is in the call for papers. Call for papers seeks workshops, etc. on creative practice, films, and other public-facing projects, as well as traditional papers. The vetting process will involve coordinating single-author submissions into a cohesive conference program. Deadline for feedback on Call for Papers: December 24. Burchill shared Griffin Kremer’s hope of identifying themes for Reading. These could include a discussion around Reid’s *Interpreting Agriculture in Museums and Historic Sites* (and Douglas’ review of that for Folk Life).

**Business from the Floor** - Reid reported recent communications from Roeland Paardekooper re. *Tools & Tillage* and the launch of the AIMA-EXARC partnership to increase access to landmark international agricultural publications. Paardekooper indicated that Leiden University (his home town library) has a full set of *Tools & Tillage* (27 issues, about 1,800 pages and 137 articles, minus a few book reviews et cetera. The copyright holder for all issues is " Tools and Tillage," so in that sense, an agreement with Grith Lerche is vital. Reid will contact her to request written permission to scan the publication and make it open access (after scanning with a book scanner). Burchill shared Griffin-Kremer called for a membership recruitment sub-committee. Moved by Burchill, seconded by Douglas. All in favor: Unanimous. Watson proposed a formal resolution of thanks to Sild for her commitment of time, dedication, and resources to hosting the conference. Unanimous support.

**Next AIMA e-conversation**: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 or Thursday, January 17, 2019 (Burchill will prepare a Google poll to select the best date).

Adjourned 13:35 (1:35 pm). Photograph of AIMA attendees with INTACH staff at INTACH headquarters.