

IFACCA Report No. 11

February 2009

We are delighted to bring greetings for the New Year to all members of IFACCA's worldwide network with this report on our activities over the last 15 months. It has been a busy period with several mini-summits and regional meetings held, a range of research reports published and new partnerships developed. The next few months will be even busier with the staging of the World Summit and our third General Assembly in Johannesburg in September. This year's events will provide a great opportunity to meet the many new members who have joined the Federation since the last Summit in 2006. This month we also welcome a new staff member, Karilyn Brown, and the ideas and skills she brings to IFACCA. With our research in recent months covering both the impact of the global financial crisis on the arts and the arts and ecological sustainability, IFACCA's role in enabling international sharing of arts policy information is more important than ever. In March we will mark the secretariat's 8th anniversary and the number of items on our website (news, events, publications, jobs) will reach a landmark 10,000. I thank you all for your continuing support for IFACCA and look forward to meeting you all in September.

Sarah Gardner, Executive Director

4th World Summit Joburg September 09

Block out your diary for the week of 22-25 September for IFACCA's next World Summit on Arts and Culture to be hosted by the National Arts Council of South Africa in Johannesburg. Invitations will be sent to all IFACCA members in the next few weeks and the program and related events will be announced in coming months. The General Assembly (GA) will be on 22 September.

The Summit is being staged with the support of the South African Department of Arts and Culture, the Gauteng Provincial Government Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation and the City of Johannesburg: Directorate of Arts, Culture and Heritage and the Johannesburg Tourism Company.

In 2008 the National Arts Council appointed Rosie Katz as the Summit coordinator to work with a Steering committee and IFACCA to ensure another successful event. We will keep you abreast of World Summit developments via ACORNS and, very soon, the summit website www.artsummit.org.

Mini-summits bringing members together

In February 2008 IFACCA and the Australia Council co-hosted a mini-summit on the funding of major performing arts companies. The meeting was attended by 30 delegates from 16 countries. The meeting was

organised to coincide with the Adelaide Festival of Arts, the Adelaide Performing Arts Market and the IFACCA board meeting. A report on the event was provided to delegates and a D'art report on the topic will be released in the next few weeks.

The second IFACCA mini-summit on New Media Arts was hosted by the Asia Europe Foundation in Singapore in July 2008 with 54 participants from 26 countries. The meeting resulted in the publication of *The Singapore Agenda*, which will be also released soon.

Unfortunately, the postponement of the Momentum09 conference in Auckland, New Zealand, will delay the mini-summit on disability and arts policy to be co-hosted by Creative New Zealand. Details of the new date will be circulated later in 2009.

European members' meetings

The second gathering of the European members of IFACCA was held in Glasgow on 19-20 November to coincide with the Creative Clusters conference and IFACCA board meeting. Delegates from eight countries attended the meeting, hosted by the Scottish Arts Council, to discuss issues of common concern and the potential for exchanging information and developing closer working relationships. The first European meeting was held in Athens,

Greece in November 2007. The next will be hosted by the Danish Arts Agency in Copenhagen in May this year.

Asian Chapter meeting

The sixth meeting of IFACCA's Asian Chapter took place in July 2008, in Seoul, South Korea, hosted by Arts Council Korea. Attended by 21 delegates and 25 observers, the meeting discussed the development of a handbook on arts funding policies in Asia and exchanged case studies on arts advocacy in different countries. Delegates provided feedback on various IFACCA projects including a paper by Chris Madden on models of government funding of the arts.

Recent board meetings

Two board meetings were held during 2008: the first on 2-3 March in Adelaide, Australia, following the Major Performing Arts mini-summit and the second in Edinburgh, Scotland, on 21-22 November 2008, following the European members' meeting. The second board meeting of 2007 was held in Athens, Greece, and the next meeting will be on 12-13 March in Santiago de Chile. We are grateful for the support of the national Ministries of Culture in hosting the meetings. Suggestions for board agenda items are always welcome and copies of minutes are available to members on request.

New IFACCA board members

Alan Davey, Chief Executive of Arts Council England, was appointed in September to serve on the IFACCA board until the next elections. Gus Casely Hayford and Georgia Iliopoulou both left the IFACCA board in 2008 as they had resigned their positions with Arts Council England and the Hellenic Culture Organisation, respectively. Other board members will serve until the GA.

Board elections and General Assembly

Next month IFACCA members will receive information about the next GA to be held on Tuesday 22 September 2009. The GA agenda will include the board elections and a vote on a proposal to amend the constitution to include the role of regional chapters. As the GA only occurs every three years, it is an important opportunity for members to meet and we encourage you all to attend.

New website continues to develop

We continue to refine IFACCA's website and its many new features – topics and themes page, directory, information exchange, photo library etc – launched in January 2008. For example, we recently created links between the names of CEOs of arts funding agencies (in the directory) and their profiles in ConnectCP. So, if your profile is not yet on ConnectCP, please submit it soon.

Through a partnership with ERICarts, Germany, the directory now links to the 42 national profiles provided in the Compendium on Cultural Policies and Trends in Europe, www.culturalpolicies.net.

Good practice guides 'beta' version

We are about to launch a trial version of a database of 'good practice guides' to provide easy access to publications about:

- management of arts funding agencies
- management of grants programs
- strategic activities for arts agencies and
- information for arts organisations.

Once it is on our website, we will be seeking your feedback and input to the database which we hope will benefit all our members.

ACORNS improvements

For over a year now, we have been creating the ACORNS newsletter 'in-house', which has streamlined the process enormously and enabled us to add news items daily. All your suggestions for news, events and jobs, etc should be sent to news@ifacca.org. Or if you wish to register a new subscriber, go to www.ifacca.org/accounts/register/.

ConnectCP gaining profile and partners

Almost 650 experts from over 90 countries are now listed on www.connectcp.org, the who's who of cultural policy, and the site is receiving over 140,000 searches per month.

IFACCA's partnership with the Organisation of IberoAmerican States (OEI), which was recently renewed for another year, will enable the website to be presented in Portuguese and for a greater range of researchers from Latin America to be added to the database. With the OEI's support in 2008, we were able to launch the Spanish language version of ConnectCP. We already have 125 profiles in Spanish and are continually adding more. At the close of 2008 we secured a new contract with the

Canada Council to support ConnectCP Canada. We continue to seek other partners for ConnectCP.

Summary of our research for members

We are proud to have published recently an eight-page Summary of IFACCA's 24 research reports published between 2002 and 2008. A copy is included with the mailing of this report. Later this year we will compile the next hard-copy compilation of research reports for 2007-2009 and distribute it to members following the Summit.

Since October 2007 we have initiated five research questions:

- Support for new media arts
- Arts and ecological sustainability
- Grant assessment timeframes
- Intangible cultural heritage
- Global financial downturn: impacts on the arts

and we have released six reports:

- Models of support for older artists
- National visual arts and craft sector associations
- Arts and artists in Europe: New Challenges
- Ethics in cultural policy
- Grant assessment timeframes
- Arts and ecological sustainability

Partnerships and grants

Through a partnership with the UCLA Centre for Civil Society, IFACCA national members and affiliates (government agencies), as well as many ConnectCP experts from developing countries, received a free copy of the latest book in The Cultures and Globalization Series entitled *The Cultural Economy*, edited by Helmut Anheier and Yudhishtir Raj Isar.

We were honoured to receive a small grant from the Salzburg Global Seminar (SGS) to do research on arts advocacy campaigns, and this is still underway. We have been pleased to continue assisting SGS to promote their culture-related events.

In 2008 we received our third Export Market Development Grant from Austrade which helped defray some of the costs of our international promotional activities.

International meetings

Sarah Gardner represented the Federation at numerous meetings in June and July 2008 including a UNESCO Civil Society Exchange Session in Paris and the IETM (Informal European Theatre Meeting) gathering in Dublin. Ms Gardner also attended a British Council Australia seminar on cultural diversity in Melbourne, Australia.

In November 2008 she attended the first 'African Dialogue' in Cape Town, South Africa. Hosted by the National Arts Council, the meeting brought together arts support networks and pan-African networks from ten African countries.

IFACCA's Latin American coordinator, Santiago Jara, made presentations at the First International Seminar on Arts and Education and the VI Intermediate Meeting of Mercosur Cultural, both in Chile.

Our European liaison and ConnectCP coordinator, Diane Dodd, attended several meetings including the ICCPR in Turkey, the International Network on Cultural Policy's Ministerial Meeting in Seville, and the 2nd and 3rd International Workshops for Foundations and Culture Networks in Turin and Lisbon.

Cultural policy seminar

The Australian Institute of Music once again invited Sarah Gardner and Chris Madden to present a two-day seminar on cultural policy as part of their Master of Arts Management course. The seminar was held twice in 2008 and will be presented again in November.

Audit reports for 2007 and 2008

The audited financial statement for 2007 is available on request to all national members. The 2008 audit will be completed shortly.

Staff changes at the IFACCA secretariat

The IFACCA secretariat was sad to lose its research analyst, Chris Madden, who left in September to take on new challenges in arts policy. Chris, who had been with the secretariat for seven years since 2001, its first year of operation, was, amongst his other achievements, responsible for producing our wide range of research reports. Fortunately, he is working part-time at the Australia Council (close-by) and is also

undertaking some consulting work for us.

After a reorganisation of duties and advertising for a replacement in 2008, a new General Manager position was created and Karilyn Brown has been appointed to the position. Karilyn's distinguished career has included 20 years with the Australia Council for the Arts, most recently as Executive Director responsible for national and international audience and market development. Her career highlights have included management of Australia's participation in the Venice Biennale, the Australian Indigenous Art Commission at the musée du quai Branly in Paris, and a number of major, long term arts and cultural strategic development programs in Europe, the US and Japan. She was also the Program Manager for the 1997-2000 Olympic Arts Festivals program with the Sydney Organising Committee for the Olympic Games, and Manager, Cultural Policy at the City of Sydney. Through her range of positions, Karilyn has built an international network of contacts both with government agencies, arts organisations and artists.

Karilyn will bring a wealth of strategic management skills to IFACCA's secretariat as we mark our eight-year anniversary next month and continue to expand our membership and range of partnerships and activities, particularly those that support artistic development. Her experience, knowledge and networks will bring great strength and focus to our current team comprising Natasha Eves and Louise Godley, based in Sydney, and Santiago Jara in Bogotá and Diane Dodd in Barcelona. We will continue the D'Art program and research activities by appointing researchers as required to tackle specific policy questions.

Membership increasing

Since our last progress report we have welcomed as national members:

- Swedish Arts Council
 - Malta Council for Culture
 - Portuguese Ministry of Culture
 - Tanzania National Arts Council
 - Armenian Ministry of Culture
- and as new affiliate members
- Arts Queensland (Australia)
 - National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (USA) (reciprocal member)
 - Alberta Foundation for the Arts (Canada)
 - Seoul Foundation for Arts and Culture (Korea)
 - Seychelles Heritage Foundation

Membership fees – due for payment

The fees for 2009 have been kept the same as they were in 2008 when we made a smooth transition to using the 2007-2009 UN scale. In fact, IFACCA's fees *have never been increased* since we set them in 2001. Some changes have occurred due to shifts in the UN scale and exchange rates, but we have managed to grow the organisation by constantly increasing membership numbers and developing partnerships with other organisations. Your support is vital to us and we would appreciate prompt payment of invoices for membership fees.

Become a member of IFACCA - savings!

If your ministry of culture or national arts council is not yet a member of the Federation (www.ifacca.org/memberships/current_members.html) then now is a great time to join! If you join in 2009 and pay the full annual fee you will be entitled to discounts on registration for the 4th World Summit on Arts and Culture. Please contact Sarah Gardner or visit www.ifacca.org for more information.

**We hope you have found this report interesting.
We welcome any feedback and thank you for your ongoing support.**