### UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

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Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda

Reports of the liaison officers and international organizations

Report of the Liaison Officer, International Council of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS)\*

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# 1. The International Council of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS)

## (http://www.icosweb.net/)

The *International Council of Onomastic Sciences* (ICOS) is the international organization for all scholars who have a special interest in the study of names (place-names, personal names, and proper names of all other kinds). The aim of ICOS is the advancement, representation and coordination of name research on an international level and in an interdisciplinary context. Every scholar who is actively engaged in scholarly name research may become a member of the ICOS. The official languages of ICOS are French, German and English.

The annual membership subscription is 20 Euros which implies reduced fee at the ICOS congresses. The congresses, which normally are held every three years, are organized on behalf of ICOS by one of its members. The General Assembly of ICOS, including the election of officers, is usually held in conjunction with the congresses. Ms. Carole Hough (Scotland) was elected president in 2011.

Members receive the journal *ONOMA*, the official publication of the association. It contains topical research reports as well as basic theoretical articles concerning all areas of scholarly name research, including names standardization. Since vol. 34 (1999), each issue is thematic with a guest editor for each volume. In 2011 the longstanding editor-in-chief Ms. Doreen Gerritzen (The Netherlands) was succeeded by Mr. Elwys De Stefani (Switzerland), and the currently acting editor-in-chief is Mr. Antti Leino (Finland).

#### Recent volumes:

Onoma 44 (2009) 'African Onomastics' (ed. by Adrian Koopman)

Onoma 45 (2010) 'History and Significance of Onomastics in Diachrony and Synchrony'

(ed. by Maria Giovanna Arcamone and Martina Pitz †)

Onoma 46 (2011) 'Names and Minorities' (ed. by Dunja Brozović-Rončević) /

'Toponomastics and Linguistic Landscapes' (ed. by Guy Puzey)

Upcoming volumes:

Onoma 47 (2012) 'Contact and Interference Phenomena in Onomastics' (ed. by

Wolfgang Haubrichs and Max Pfister)

Onoma 48 (2013) 'Names and Law' (ed. by Katharina Leibring and Andreas Teutsch)

Onoma 49 (2014) 'Names and Religion' (ed. by Per Vikstrand)

### 2. Newsletters

The ICOS Board issues newsletters regularly with information of interest to the members. Links to the most recent newsletters are available on the home page of ICOS.

## 3. Congresses

Proceedings of the 24<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Onomastic Sciences (Barcelona, 2011)

The editorial board for the Proceedings of the 24<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Onomastic Sciences has received more than 300 papers. The proceedings are expected to be completed in 2014 and published in an electronic format.

*The* 25<sup>th</sup> *International Congress of Onomastic Sciences will be held at the University of Glasgow on* 25-29 August 2014.

The theme of ICOS 2014 is Names and their Environment.

Keynote speakers are Richard Coates, University of the West of England and Peder Gammeltoft, University of Copenhagen.

The organizers have accepted 225 submissions (6 posters and 219 papers) from 45 different countries.

For all further information on the Congress, please see the website, or contact Carole Hough: carole.hough@glasgow.ac.uk

# 4. Terminology Group of ICOS

ICOS has established a working group on onomastic terminology and this group cooperates with the UNGEGN WG on Toponymic Terminology.