

AICA International Board, 25 March 2017

President's report

This report covers the period between our last Congress in Havana, Cuba (held between October 11 and October 16, 2016) and the forthcoming Board meeting of March 25.

The Congress in Havana was a historic event, attracting significant participation of AICA members from around the world. Once again, I would like to thank our colleagues from AICA Cuba, President David Mateo in particular, for turning the XLIX AICA Congress into a true success. Our most recent Newsletter, designed handsomely by our Web Assistant Alma Saladin, provides you with an extensive coverage of that event.

The end of 2016 and the beginning of the new year were devoted in large part to our membership renewals campaign, conducted according to the new guidelines for the timetable of payments adopted last year. The campaign has already been very successful, and I thank Secretary-General Marjorie Allthorpe-Guyton, Treasurer Mathilde Roman and Paris Office Assistant Nathalie Rousselle for running it in an exemplary fashion.

I congratulate newly elected and re-elected Presidents of National sections: Adriana Almada in Paraguay, Lisbeth Bonde in Denmark, Cèlia del Diego Thomas, in Spain – Catalonia, Attila Horányi in Hungary, Nina Getashvili and Andrei Erofeev in Russia, Danièle Perrier in Germany, and Kim Yisoon in South Korea.

As you have been informed in our last Newsletter, the Lth [50th] AICA Congress will be held in Paris between November 13 and November 18, 2017. Thanks to

the active involvement in our preparations for that important event of the President of AICA France, Raphael Cuir, we have already secured the support from the French Ministry of Culture. We are profoundly grateful to Raphael for this accomplishment. Currently, we are seeking the support of UNESCO and other institutions in France and elsewhere. We are also working on the program, the scope of which will largely depend on the financing we will be able to secure. Due to the special nature of this year's event—our 50th Congress—its main theme will be the past, the present, and the future of our association and its impact on the current art world, with the emphasis on the paradigmatic shifts in our programs and the seminal figures in history of AICA. We are also planning to address the subject of how recent migrants have been reshaping contemporary art and art criticism around the world; and to organize a series of visits to art centers, museums and galleries in Paris and its surrounding municipalities. There is still a lot of work to be done, but I am optimistic about our abilities to turn another AICA Congress into a memorable experience.

In mid-November, we will elect a new President. I very much look forward to “passing the torch” to another person, who, I am certain, will bring new ideas and energy to our association.

Paris, March 7, 2017