2013 Annual Session of the Union Académique Internationale
(International Academic Union)

Report by ACLS Delegate Madeline H. Caviness

The 87th General Assembly of the Union Académique Internationale (UAI) was held in Germany on May 12-17, 2013 at the invitation of the Academy of Sciences and Literature, Mainz, and the Union of German Academies. As a transition from an annual to a biennial rhythm, this was the first General Assembly in 16 months. On the eve of opening session, the delegates and observers attending the assembly were welcomed to the spacious modern building that houses the Mainz Academy, by the president of the Union of Academies, Günter Stock. As usual, the board and the nominating committee met that afternoon to prepare for the meetings. At the formal opening the next day they were greeted by Reiner Anderi, Vice-President of the Mainz Academy, and Janusz Koslowski, president of the Union Académique Internationale. The deputy secretary-general, Jean-Luc de Paepe, gave a thorough and informative report on the activities of the UAI since January 2012; he continues to serve in an honorary capacity since his retirement. The ongoing project of the UAI that was chosen to be highlighted was the ancient Scythian-Sarmatan world; Professors Ivantchik, Parzinger, Yablonsky, Polin, Daragan and Schlitz presented new findings.

During the week the delegates were also welcomed by the secretary of state of the Federal State of Rhineland-Palatinate, Walter Schumacher, and by the mayor of Mainz at a reception in the modern town hall. Members of the Mainz Academy presented their work: Gernot Wilhelm, vice-president of the Academy, on Hittite studies, Thorsten Schrade, director of the academy’s Department of Electronic Development, spoke on the digital academy; Andreas Speer, director of the Thomas Institute in Cologne, reviewed the state of Averroes studies in light of one of the oldest projects of the UAI, editions of the Arabic translations of Aristotle, which he is resurrecting. At the end of their stay the delegates were given an excellent tour of the ancient city center of Mainz, and an excursion down the Rhine Valley to visit Hildegard of Bingen’s reconstructed abbey of Eibingen at Rüdesheim, the Abbey of Eberbach, and other sites. Overall, the venue was extremely stimulating, for the intellectual energy of the German academies, for the ease of communication with colleagues outside the meeting rooms, and for the many museums and cultural centers in the city.

In 2013 there were 56 delegates representing 45 of the eighty-five national academies or other scholarly institutions (with headquarters in sixty-six countries), that were full, associate or corresponding members of the Union at the opening of the assembly. One or more delegates represented academic organizations in the following countries: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Croatia, The Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, the International Academy of the History of Sciences, Israel, Italy, Japan, The Republic of Korea, Latvia, The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Holy See (Vatican City State), Montenegro, Niger, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, The Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America; among them were three new delegates. Three more delegates were added when the academies of the Ivory Coast, Mongolia, and New Zealand were accepted as members of the UAI at the opening assembly; there was also an observer from Laos.
The secretariat received apologies for absence from the academies of Denmark, Georgia, India, Tunisia, and Vietnam and from the Academy of Sciences of the Islamic World. Several other members were not represented: Chile, Ghana, Iran, Ireland, Macedonia (FYROM), Mali, Mexico, Moldavia, Morocco, The Netherlands, Niger, and South Africa. The Academy of Amsterdam has unfortunately withdrawn. The International Council of Philosophy and Humanistic Studies (Conseil International de la Philosophie et des Sciences Humaines (ICPHS/CIPSH) was represented by the treasurer, Jean‐Luc de Paepe, and the secretary general, Maurice Aymard, sent a full report (see below). As in recent years, the general secretary of the UAI nominated François de Callataï as his representative. The language of the meetings is normally French, but English is increasingly used, notably by the newer members from Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe. A few reports are in German.

Madeline H. Caviness, Mary Richardson Professor Emeritus of Tufts University, was the delegate from the ACLS. As a former president, Caviness attended the board meeting, served on the Committee on Internal Affairs, and with Agostino Paravicini of Switzerland, she co‐chaired the lengthy sessions that considered the five‐year reviews of 14 projects and composed eight of the reports; she also presided over Section 6, the History of Art and presented the annual reports of the Corpus Vitrearum (Corpus of stained glass before 1700), and the Corpus de la peinture monumentale byzantine, and served on a commission to revise the mission statement of the UAI.

In order to save time in Mainz, she communicated with the five committee members who considered the Royal Society of New Zealand for membership and completed the report in advance of the assembly.

Outside experts provided anonymous critiques for the thorough five‐year (hereafter six‐year) evaluations and the findings of the commission are summarized here; all reported recent publications: The Corpus Des Manuscrits Littéraires Coptes, begun in 1970, has been completed by Tito Orlandi; all the extant manuscripts have been transcribed and scanned and are available online by subscription. The Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae – Thesaurus Cultus et Rituum Antiquorum is now complete in 8 volumes, but an index in English will be added; The Dictionnaire du latin médiéval is proceeding in several countries, but the British Academy and Sweden have completed their dictionaries and the former will become available online without subscription in a year or so. The Corpus vasorum antiquorum continues to publish many new catalogues but funding is no longer available to continue the digitization of older publications that was begun at the Beazley archive in Oxford with a grant from the Getty Foundation, so new sources are being sought. There was no report from the USA. In the Monumenta Paleographica medii aevi series all the Latin documents from Poland up to 1210 have been published and many volumes are in progress in other countries. A colloquium in Rome brought together the participants in the Tabula Imperii Romani and new partnerships were established with Albania, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Romania; a new subsidiary series, Studia archaeologica, will be introduced. The Documents historiques inedits concernant le Japon, begun in 1922 by the Academy of Japan, continues to make good progress toward scanning documents, especially in foreign collections (currently China and Russia), and also digitizing the existing microfilms in order to publish them online; it was suggested that neighbouring academies – China, Korea and Vietnam – might collaborate on a larger project concerning the use of the Chinese language and writing, and the academy in Beijing will consider this (an Institute in Shanghai is engaged in such a project). The Corpus Philosophorum Medii Aevi has added volumes in the series on Latin translations of Aristotle and Averroes, and work continues on an edition of Avicena’a Physica.
The *Ecole de médecine de Salerne* has maintained its quality and significance despite recent cuts in funding; The *Epistolae Pontificum Romanorum* is making steady progress thanks to a renewed team of scholarly contributors financed by the Academy of Göttingen, and to a network of international collaborators. The *Corpus Humanisticarum Praefationum*, originally a project of the Amsterdam Academy, will pass under the direct patronage of the UAI. The *Corpus Inscriptionum Iranicarum*, the *Compendium Auctorum Latinorum Medii Aevi*, the *Textes alchimiques*, the *Papyrus archives*, and the *Comparative History of Literatures of European Languages* are all productive and received favorable reports.

Annual reports were approved for 43 other projects (note that when a five-year was not completed in time for the last assembly, an annual report was requested in addition, but these are combined above). Not all can be mentioned here though almost all are active and productive. The *Corpus des Troubadours* has one new published volume, while others are being added online on a very well-designed site (http://trobadors.iec.cat). The *Clavis Monumentorum Litterarum Bohemiae* is producing an edition of a nineteenth-century dictionary of Bohemian authors up to 1800, and collaborating with the National Library in Prague on a catalogue of incunabula. The *Norse Icelandic Scaldic Poetry of the Scandinavian Middle Ages* was highly praised for its data base and publications available free through https://www.abdn.ac.uk/skaldic/db.php. The *Compendium Auctorum Latinorum Medii Aevi* (CALMA), an alphabetic resource for all Latin authors 500-1500CE, has reached Gu (http://www.sismelfirenze.it/index.php/it/ricerca/itemlist/category/24--compendium, auctorum--calma). The *Corpus Fontium Manichaeorum* announced two new publications, with assistance from the Australian Research Council (2013-2015). The European teams for the *Corpus Antiquitatem americansium* are publishing catalogues of Pre-Columbian objects in Cracow and in Barcelona, while the *Muralismo Mexicano 1920-1940* has appeared in three volumes. The *Fontes Historiae Africanae* announced several publications, from Belgium, Britain, Mali, and Slovakia. *China and the Mediterranean World* has an active international board and several publications in progress. Six volumes were added to the *Complete Works of Voltaire*. The *Index de l'Art Juif* has a new lease of life, with several publications on synagogues in eastern Europe, and progress on manuscript catalogues. A volume of sample translations, an editorial guide, and a lexicon have been published to initiate the *English translation of the Annals of the Joseon Dynasty of Korea*, a new project that is expected to extend 22 years.

Many scholars and research centers in the United States are mentioned in the reports: The large *Corpus Vitrearum* volume on stained glass in the Philadelphia Museum of Art by Renée Burnham was subsidized by the Kress Foundation and private sources, Virginia C. Raguin has a published article in the papers from the Colloquium in Vienna (Österreichisches Zeitschrift für Kunst und Denkmalpflege 2012). The US committee, chaired by Elizabeth C. Pastan, consists of Marilyn M. Beaven, Renee Burnam, Madeline H. Caviness, Michael W. Cothren, Anne F. Harris, Timothy B. Husband, Alyce A. Jordan, Ellen Konowitz, Meredith P. Lillich, Linda M. Papanicolaou, Tricia Pongracz, Raguin, Corine Schlief, Mary B. Shepard, Ellen Shortell, Evelyn Staudinger, Nancy Thompson and Helen J. Zakin; Drew Anderson, Jane Bassett, Brian Considine, Stephen P. Koob, Lisa Pilosi, Hannelore Roemich, and Mark Wypyski are on the conservation committee, and Pilosi (The Metropolitan Museum of Art) is also secretary of the International Committee for the Conservation of Stained Glass. Margaret R. Higonnet (University of Connecticut, Storrs) is president of the committee for the *Histoire compare des littératures de langues européennes*, and Marcel Cornis-Pope (Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA) is vice-president. Ehsan Yarshatar (Columbia University) directs the *Encyclopaedia Iranica* and serves on the committee for
the *Corpus Inscriptionum Iranicarum*. John B. Duncan (University of California, Los Angeles), Sun Joo Kim (Harvard University), Eugene Y. Park (University of Pennsylvania), and Edward J. Shultz (University of Hawaii at Manoa) are on the editorial board for the *English Translation of the Annals of the Joseon Dynasty of Korea*. Kari Ellen Gade (Indiana University Bloomington) is on the board of the *Scaldic Poetry* project, which has received funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Alain Bresson (University of Chicago) is on the editorial board of the *Monde Scytho-Sarmarte* and Paul LeClerc (Columbia University and the Europe Global Center, Paris) on that of the *Complete Works of Voltaire*. The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, New York, are partners in the *Thesaurus Cultus et Rituum Antiquorum* project. Scholars in the United States with research programs that overlap with any of the current projects of the UAI may find it worthwhile to contact the director, directly or through the secretariat in Brussels. Information and links for projects, publications, and members can be found on the web site for the UAI that is managed by the Académie royale de Belgique: http://www.uai-iua.org. In April Jean-Luc de Paepe will attend the ACLS meeting in Philadelphia and any participants interested in contributing to UAI projects might arrange a meeting with him (depaep@easynet.be).

Following Aymard’s report on the CIPSH, the board of the UAI had a lengthy discussion of its plight: despite what had seemed to be a promising meeting between its president, Adama Samessekou, and the secretary general, UNESCO has now cut off all funding from CIPSH; under its new policies it no longer supports research or publishing in the humanities, nor publishes any journals of its own. *Diogène / Diogenes* however is thriving and continues to receive payments from its publishers (Presses Universitaires de France and Sage) which is used to support the editors, but the member organizations can no longer expect any subsidies for their own journals. The secretary general has not convened an assembly or board meeting since 2010 in Nagoya and is already a year late in calling for elections. It is still hoped that CIPSH can sponsor a major international meeting in the future to promote the humanities and take stock of their actual state worldwide. As a co-founder, with UNESCO, it is time for the UAI to take an active role in deliberations concerning the reorganization of CIPSH.

The financial base of the UAI remains stable, and the board proposed a revised dues schedule that was voted in by the assembly. The level of funding assigned to on-going projects is beginning to show the positive effects of raising the dues, beginning in 2014, and renouncing an annual assembly. As also expected, more requests than last year were made for funding for the biennium 2014 and 2015, but a total of €93,300 will provide on average more than the €38,500 allocated then; €53,300 is committed for 2014 and €36,250 for 2015. Because of the long interval between assemblies, a small sum (€4,000) was set aside by the board for emergency needs in the interim. Funding during the biennium was approved for nineteen projects: A total of €29,000 is committed for two publications of the UAI from which the sales show a return (*Novum Glossarium/ALMA* €11,500 and *Corpus Philosophorum Medii Aevi* €3,000 per year). Other grants accorded for the biennium are for: *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum* (CVA): Austria €3,000; *Dictionary of Medieval Latin*: Czech Republic €5,000; *TIR/FOR*: Spain €2,000; *Corpus Vitrearum Medii Aevi*: Belgium €5,000, Poland €5,000; *Corpus antiquitatum americanensium*: Spain €4,000; *Fontes Historiae Africanae*: Belgium €2,000, Slovakia €4,000; *Corpus Inscriptionum Iranicarum* €2,000; *Œuvres complètes de Voltaire*: Great Britain €3,000; *Corpus des Papyrus Philosophiques Grecs et Latins*: Italy €4,000; *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum*: Turkey €2,500; *Index de l’Art Juif*: €2,500; *Monumenta Palæographica Medii Aevi*: €1,700; *Sources narratives pour l’histoire du Rio de la
Plata et du Chili: €1,000; Monde Scytho-Sarmate et Civilisation Greco-romaine: Russia €4,000; Compendium Auctorum Latinorum Medii Aevi (CALM): Italy €2,000; Dictionnaire Espagnol des Termes Littéraires Internationaux: €2,000; L’Ecole de Médecine de Salerne: €1,000; Inscriptions Grecques et Latines: Portugal €5,000, Italy €4,000. The Board has approached two funding agencies with a view to finding supplementary sources, the Fondation européenne de la Science (FES) and the Conseil européen de la Recherche (CER). All project directors are urged to seek their own funding, and to consider electronic publication.

In the opening assembly of the UAI, the nominating committee presented the requisite number of candidates for the election of six new officers, and the results of the election held in the closing session were: President: Øivind Andersen (Norway); Vice-Presidents: Masanori Aoyagi (Japan) and Josep Guitart i Duran (Catalonia); new board members: Jean-Pierre Mahé (France), Sam Lieu (Australia), and Elzbieta Witkowska-Zaremba (Poland), who join Jiri Benes (Czech Republic), Askold Ivantchik (Russia) and Isenbike Togan (Turkey). All elected now will serve for four years. A new nominating committee was voted in under the new chairmanship of Remesel Rodriguez (Spain), with members from Argentina, Estonia, Finland, and the United Kingdom. Some changes in the statutes were approved: To adjust to biennial assemblies board members will serve terms of four years non-renewable; each country will be assigned four votes, regardless how many members it has, and associate members have two each. Honorary [former] presidents have the right to participate in deliberations of the board and of the standing committee, in a consultative role. An inevitable consequence of the move to biennial general assemblies is that there will be more work for the board in the interim, and it will have to make some decisions without full consultation with member academies unless electronic voting is introduced.

At the close of the session plans were announced for future meetings: The standing committee has already met in Bucharest in September 2013, and a board meeting took place in February 2014 in Paris. The 88th General Assembly of the UAI will be held in Brussels, May 25-29 2015; a venue is being sought for 2017; in 2019, the centennial of the UAI, the 90th assembly will be hosted by its co-founder, the Institut de France in Paris.