

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PRESERVATION  
AND THE RESTORATION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY

ST1/6

Rome, November 1978

STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMITTEE

Paris, 29 November 1978

A POSSIBLE SCHEME FOR TRAINING

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Rome, Via di San Michele 13

Preliminary Draft Paper

The objective of this committee is to establish international standards by which national training programmes may be evaluated in order to ensure approximately equivalent grades of conservation in their various fields of work.

National programmes can cover several related fields. Candidates must be culturally prepared and sensitive to the messages contained in an object. The initial modules should include the ethics of conservation documentation inspection and presentation together with causes of decay of materials. Subject material would be presented in three main groups with subdivisions. Early training should be wide ranging to enable the student to find his own best specialisation.

- |           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| SURFACES: | { | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Easel painting      Polychrome sculpture</li> <li>b. Mural painting</li> <li>c. Paper archives      Books      Manuscripts</li> </ul> |
| INORGANIC | { | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. Stone      Ceramics      Glass</li> <li>e. Archaeological objects, including metals</li> </ul>  |
| ORGANIC   | { | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>f. Ethnographic objects</li> <li>g. Textiles</li> </ul>  |

It would be for each national school to decide the levels at which it aimed in each of the three main groups and subdivisions. For example:

- |            |                                       |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Elementary | all main groups                       |
| Middle     | in surfaces                           |
| Advanced   | in easel painting and mural painting. |

Academic conservator/restorers should have the first years work in common with art historians. Technicians might well start as conservation craftsmen.

All programmes in the ICCROM Training Index should give the hours and percentage time allocated to practical/art historical: scientific and other theoretical work. It is essential that candidates for courses should be culturally prepared, sensitive, and love historical objects for their own sakes. Practical conservator technicians should have the possibility of mid-career academic modules of training in order to raise their grade and become conservator/restorers.

Practical work should initially be widely based with the candidate working under expert conservator/restorers in a series of subjects so that he can understand the problems and sub ethics of each major group of materials.

Having obtained a broad grounding at the elementary level he can safely specialise in one group of his choice to become a conservator/restorer.

Two training programmes are outlined below, as well as a brief description of higher level conservator/restorers.

| PROGRAMME A  | PROGRAMME B  |
|--|--|
| <p>Secondary schooling to age of 16, including art history and science and one language.</p>   | <p>Secondary schooling to age of 16 including art history and science and at least one language.</p>   |
| <p>TRAINEE TECHNICIAN</p>  | <p>Higher Education</p>  |
| <p>Six years internship under a skilled conservator/restorer with at least 12 months theoretical training in modules from 2 weeks to 3 months duration at an accredited national centre. Qualification at minimum age of 22 of</p> | <p>(One year practical work in conservation as trainee).<br/>University first degree (3-4 years) in art history, museology, chemistry, physics, biology or architecture to become</p>                      |
| <p>CONSERVATOR/RESTORER TECHNICIAN.</p>  | <p>TRAINEE RESTORER</p>  |
| <p>One year academic study in conservation science. Plus 4 years of responsible conservation work as technician including 4 months theoretical study to become a</p>   | <p>Total of six years practical work, one of which should be taken BEFORE academic studies OR of four years practical and a second degree (2 years) in one of the conservation disciplines to become a</p> |
| <p><u>CONSERVATOR/RESTORER</u></p>   | <p><u>CONSERVATOR/RESTORER</u></p>   |
| <p>at a minimum age of 27 years.</p>   | <p>at a minimum age of 27 years.</p>   |

Here Programme A and B blend.

CHIEF CONSERVATOR/RESTORER (P3/P4) Minimum age 35 years.

A conservator/restorer who has done outstanding practical work which has been published or reported to ICOM or IIC conferences may become a Chief Conservator/Restorer. He should be able to instruct and lecture and have a broad understanding of the whole spectrum of conservation as well as being a specialist in his own field.

CONSULTANT CONSERVATOR/RESTORER (P5/D1) Minimum age 40 years.

Should be of international credibility and have wide experience and be capable of heading UNESCO missions.