

APOYOnline

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Association for Heritage Preservation of the Americas: 25 Years Building Communication Bridges in the Americas

APOYOnline is a non-profit organization that promotes communication, exchange and professional development in the field of heritage preservation in Portuguese and Spanish speaking countries throughout the Americas. This association of volunteers effectively has built interactive bridges between Latin American and North American colleagues, starting 25 years ago. Our goal is to disseminate the conservation philosophy, and to share the challenges, practices, and experiences of people dedicated to preserve and conserve their common cultural heritage.

Numerous institutions have supported and fostered the activities to fulfill our mission to its current strength: The Smithsonian's SCMCRE, ICCROM, The Getty Grant Program through the FAIC, CCI, The Vitae Foundation, The Antorchas Foundation, CNCR, Gaylord, Metal Edge, Museum Services Corporation, and University Products.



2011 – 2015:

- In 2011, The Risk Management Manual by Robert Waller, Protect Heritage Corp., was translated into Spanish and Portuguese by APOYO volunteers and has been used in workshops throughout Latin America.
- In 2012 until now, the Website APOYOnline.org is expanding online and into social media as Facebook and Twitter to improve outreach and disseminates current information on events, publications and pertinent links worldwide.
- APOYOnline volunteers organized in 2015, a Professional Development Workshop during the AIC Meeting with funding from the Getty Grant Program and support of the FAIC.

After 25 years of hard work of countless dedicated individuals, who continue to believe in its mission, APOYOnline has succeeded in creating and strengthening a communication and information bridge among conservation professionals of the American Hemisphere.

"I joined APOYO in its second year, out of curiosity. Ever since I've been in awe of what its dedicated first leaders, particularly Amparo R. de Torres, have achieved all along. And let's not forget the generous contributions from organizations, large and small, that enabled APOYO to produce a paper newsletter, etc.. Today I'm equally impressed by how hard younger members and new leaders, particularly Beatriz Haspo, are working to keep this LatinoAmericano-friendly conservation networking system alive and adapting to technological changes.

Over the past quarter century I have noticed an increased North-South direction of the flow of collegial conservation communications in the Western Hemisphere, in addition to the perhaps more traditional (?) East-West direction. If my observation is correct, this enhanced pole-to-pole connectivity may be due in part to the existence of APOYOnline. Let's talk about this!"

Jean D. Portell, United States of America



2006 – 2010:

- In 2009 to respond to the need of continuously strengthening the network, the APOYO group reorganized and incorporated as a non-profit organization. This was accomplished with the help of volunteers.
- In 2010 the website was updated and modernized. The new URL is: <http://www.APOYOnline.org>.

"Desde hace 15 años consulto sus publicaciones y las uso como referencia en la toma de decisiones. En la universidad como estudiante, a través de la revisión de textos publicados en APOYO..." Mis participaciones en encuentros del AIC, con un póster la primera vez y como ponente de una presentación en mesas de discusión la segunda, han sido dos de las experiencias más enriquecedoras en mi vida profesional, porque me permitieron conocer algunos de mis colegas latinoamericanos y de EE.UU., los trabajos que se están adelantando en ámbitos públicos y privados, así como los retos de la formación para mejorar el conocimiento. Es un ámbito excepcional de actualización y networking.

Adriana Perez Cure, Colombia

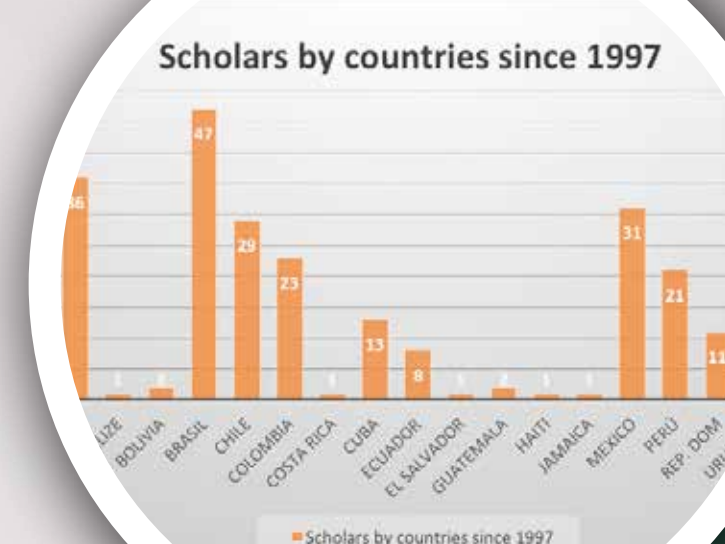


2001 – 2005:

- In 2001, the last Directory of Individuals and Institutions working for the conservation and preservation of the cultural patrimony of the Americas was published as a cooperative project between ICCROM, the Smithsonian and APOYO.
- In 2001, CD-ROM Exhibition Conservation Guidelines by Toby Raphael, NPS, was translated into a Spanish by APOYO Volunteers.
- 2001 to 2003, APOYO obtained funding to establish awards for Latin American institution from four manufacturers and distributors of conservation products: Gaylord, Metal Edge, Museum Services Corporation, and University Products.

"En el año 2002 tuve la oportunidad de asistir como becario al 30mo. Encuentro Anual del AIC, donde participé en varios talleres. Apenas tenía dos años de haber ingresado al mundo de la conservación, esto, gracias a mi mentora, Hilda Abreu. A raíz del Congreso y ese contacto con profesionales de diversos lugares, escuchar sus experiencias y ver sus trabajos, me di cuenta que ser conservador requería unos conocimientos especializados. Si bien es cierto que la experiencia contribuye en gran medida a la adquisición de éstos, también se requiere una formación multidisciplinaria amplia y rigurosa, para su correcto ejercicio. Ese mismo año regresé a la universidad e hice la Licenciatura en Historia del Arte. Una vez la finalicé, viajé a España para hacer un máster en Conservación y Restauración de Bienes Culturales."

Ruahidy Lombert, Republica Dominicana



1995 – 2000:

- In 1995, the first "Directory of Individuals and Institutions working for the conservation and preservation of the cultural patrimony of the Americas" was published. In 1996 and 1998 was updated and re-printed. These directories were published as a cooperative project between ICCROM, the Smithsonian and APOYO.
- Starting in 1997, with funding from the Getty Grant Program and support of the Foundation of the AIC, Scholarships for Latin American and Caribbean professionals to attend the annual AIC meeting have been offered. Today, over 253 professionals have been present at the AIC Annual Meetings.
- In 1999, APOYO volunteers developed the first website (<http://imaginario.org.ar/apoyo/index.htm>) hosted by Imaginario, sponsored by the Instituto Provincial de la Cultura in Mendoza, Argentina.
- In 1999, the CCI chart "Framework for the Preservation of Museum Collections" was translated by APOYO volunteers into Spanish and distributed to more than 4,500 Latin-American professionals. The CCI and the Smithsonian (SCMRE) supported the publication and distribution of this chart.

"Como um americano Scholar Latina, tive a oportunidade de interagir com colegas de diferentes países e especialidades. As sessões de reuniões AIC permitiu contato com diversas áreas de conservação e de uma visão interdisciplinar dos problemas. Desde que eu sou responsável pelo desenvolvimento de pesquisas na área de gestão da conservação em uma instituição que realiza diferentes tipos de patrimônio (arquitetura, arqueologia, arquivos, bibliotecas e coleções museológicas), esta experiência foi muito importante. No Brasil, a eventos científicos com essa amplitude não são comuns."

Carla Maria Teixeira Coelho, Brazil



1989 – 1994:

- In 1989, a group of Latin American and North American conservation professionals met to discuss and identify needs of colleagues in Latin America, and to propose ways of supporting their professional activities. A questionnaire was sent to over 150 people, obtaining an 85% response. The overwhelming majority identified their main obstacle as the lack of timely information on conservation activities and news in Spanish and Portuguese. In response, a database of names was compiled through word of mouth, with the objective of creating a network.
- In 1990, a newsletter in Spanish – APOYO – was produced and mailed to fill the gap of news and information and to connect people. During 13 years one or two issues per year were distributed with the support of the Smithsonian's SCMRE. Today, the newsletter archive is available online at the APOYOnline web page.
- In 1994, ICCROM offered the support of their Office of Database Management to merge APOYO's database of over 1,500 names with an ICCROM's database. For 14 years until 2008, the resulting database was maintained and updated by ICCROM. This network has continued to grow and currently includes over 4,500 conservation and preservation professionals.

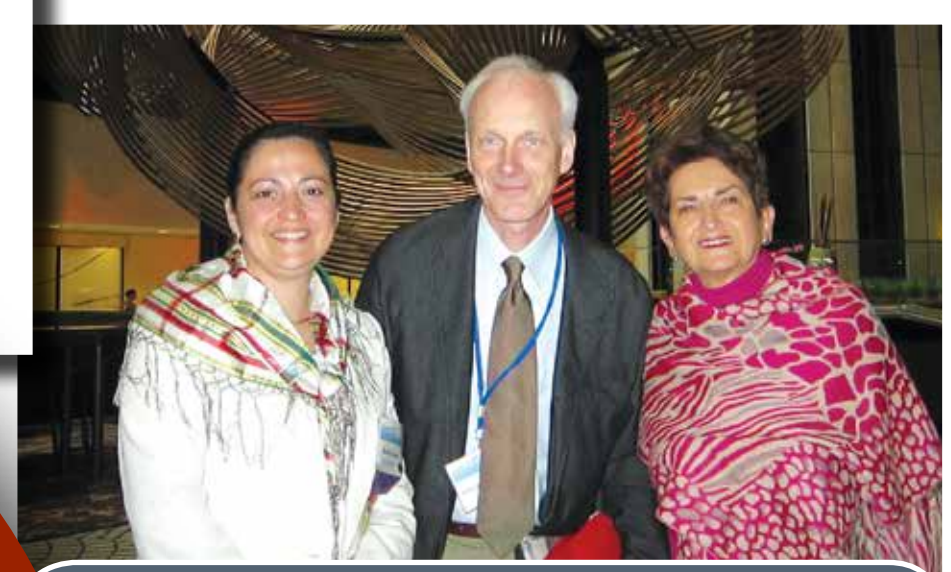
"Recuerdo que el trabajo voluntario que realicé junto a Amparo cuando estuve en 1999 en Washington, DC, fue muy interesante, ya que entre otras cosas me llevó a leer artículos en inglés de gran interés que traduje al español. Así mismo el haber estado en contacto con ella, me sensibilizó sobre la necesidad de tantas personas en Latinoamérica que trabajaban con colecciones, pero no tenían acceso a la información que les permitiera realizar de mejor manera su trabajo; ya que en esa época internet no se había masificado aún y por la ausencia de publicaciones traducidas en español..."

María Soledad Correa, Chile

1989-2014



2014 Beatriz Haspo, Amparo Rueda and Ann Seibert in San Francisco



2014 B. Haspo, Antoine Wilmering and A. Rueda in San Francisco



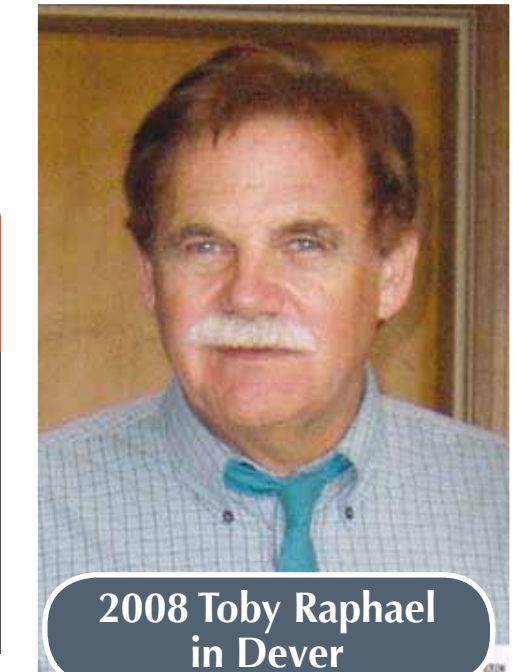
2000 A. Rueda and A. Seibert in DC



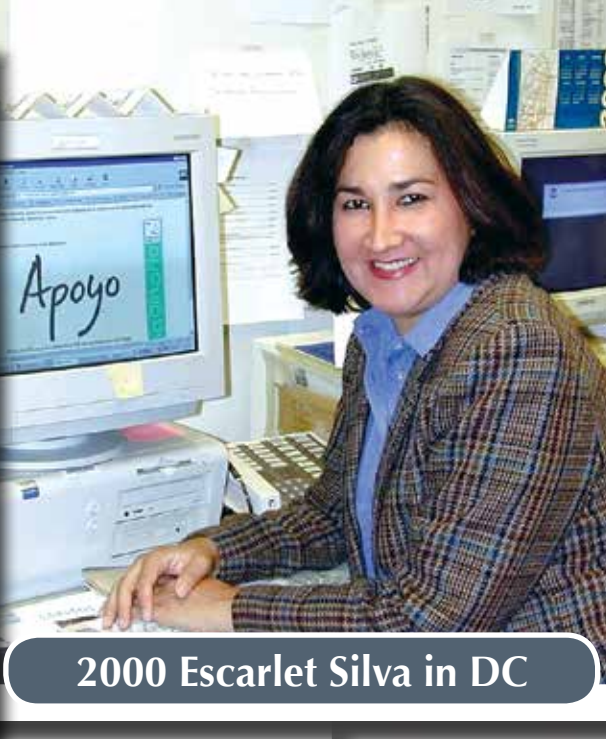
1999 Grantees in St. Louis



2010 Grantees in Milwaukee



2008 Toby Raphael in Dever



2000 Escarlet Silva in DC



2008 Grantees in Denver



2012 Grantees in Albuquerque



2014 Grantees in San Francisco