

# Nominations for chair, deputy chairs and secretary

2026 CRM SIG Steering Committee Election

## Chair

**Pavlos Fafalios**, Assistant Professor, Technical University of Crete, School of Production Engineering & Management and Affiliated Researcher, Centre for Cultural Informatics & Information Systems Laboratory, Institute of Computer Science - FORTH

Web: <http://users.ics.forth.gr/~fafalios/>

Email: [fafalios@ics.forth.gr](mailto:fafalios@ics.forth.gr)

### Nominators:

Martin Doerr, FORTH-ICS, [martin@ics.forth.gr](mailto:martin@ics.forth.gr)

Christian-Emil Ore, University of Oslo, [c.e.s.ore@iln.uio.no](mailto:c.e.s.ore@iln.uio.no)

### Short bio:

Pavlos Fafalios is an Assistant Professor at the Technical University of Crete and an Affiliated Researcher at FORTH-ICS. He holds a PhD in Information Systems from the Computer Science Department of the University of Crete. He conducted postdoctoral research at Leibniz University Hannover (2016-2019) and subsequently at FORTH-ICS (2019-2023). He has co-authored more than 60 research articles. His research interests lie in the areas of Information Systems and Knowledge Engineering, with applications in Cultural Heritage and the Humanities. He has participated in multiple research projects funded by European and Greek funding bodies and was awarded an MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship for research in the field of Digital Humanities.

### Statement of interest:

Following my one-year term as Interim Chair, I would like to continue serving as Chair of CIDOC CRM to help ensure continuity during a period of important organizational and administrative changes within the SIG. A three-year term would provide the necessary time to consolidate the work already initiated and to clarify and improve several key governance aspects, including voting procedures, bylaws, membership policies (such as individual membership and the maintenance of membership status), and the relationship with ICOM Documentation. Establishing clear frameworks in these areas will help create a solid foundation for future Steering Committees and support the long-term sustainability and effectiveness of the SIG.

## **Deputy Chairs (two positions). Candidates:**

### **1 Erin Canning**

**Erin Canning**, MLIS, MMst, D.Phil. candidate: University of Oxford, Victoria & Albert Museum, AHRC-funded Collaborative Doctoral Partnership: 'Application of computational approaches in addressing problematic terminology within V&A Museum catalogues', erin.canning@eng.ox.ac.uk

#### **Nominators**

1. Martin Doerr, FORTH-ICS, martin@ics.forth.gr
2. Pavlos Fafalios, FORTH-ICS, fafalios@ics.forth.gr
3. Stephen Stead, Paveprime, steads@paveprime.com

#### **Short bio:**

Erin Canning is a doctoral researcher co-located at the Oxford e-Research Centre, University of Oxford and the Victoria & Albert Museum. Their research is in the use of semantic web technologies in cultural heritage institutions, with a current focus on the representation of museum critical cataloguing guidelines and practices. Erin is involved in the development, maintenance, and application of semantic information standards in the fields of cultural heritage and linguistics. Prior to pursuing doctoral studies, they held the position of Ontology Systems Analyst at the Linked Infrastructure for Networked Cultural Scholarship project (LINCS). Erin holds degrees in Art History (BA), Museum Studies (MMst), and Information Science (MI) from Mount Allison University and the University of Toronto.

#### **Statement of interest:**

I am standing for a Deputy Chair role in the CIDOC CRM SIG. I have been a SIG participant since 2020 and have contributed to issues on the core ontology, helped lead issues on ethics and inclusion regarding both the ontology and the SIG, assisted with edits to the ontology documentation, and co-led the update of ISO 21127 to align with CIDOC CRM v.7.1.3. I have also worked to encourage new participation in the SIG by students and early-career professionals working with the CRM. If elected, I will continue to support the SIG's work to develop stable, reliable information standards while fostering a welcoming and inclusive community.

## **2 Nicola Carboni**

**Nicola Carboni**, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (carboni@illinois.edu / nic.carboni@gmail.com)

### **Nominators:**

1. Philippe Michon, Canadian Heritage Information Network (philippe.michon@pch.gc.ca)
2. George Bruseker, Takin Solutions (george@takin.solutions)

### **Short bio:**

Nicola Carboni is an Assistant Professor in the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. His research sits at the intersection of documentation and computation, integrating data science and knowledge representation to make heritage data more accessible and interpretable. Previously, he held positions as a Digital Humanities Fellow at Harvard Villa I Tatti, Postdoctoral Researcher in Digital Humanities at the University of Geneva, Research Fellow and Semantic Architect for the Swiss Art Research Infrastructure at the University of Zurich, and Marie Curie Early-Stage Research Fellow at the CNRS MAP Lab.

### **Statement of interest:**

I am standing for election as deputy chair of the CIDOC CRM Special Interest Group. I am an Assistant Professor at the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where I direct the Encoding Culture(s) Lab and represent the iSchool in the SIG.

My work with CIDOC-CRM spans more than a decade. It began during my doctorate, developing ontological mappings alongside archaeologists, museum professionals, and art historians. From there, it grew into a series of projects focused on how textual and visual resources can be brought into the model, with particular attention to semantic interoperability between CIDOC-CRM and other ontologies. Over these years, I have developed CRM extensions and formalized layered mapping approaches for different heritage objects and activities. I contributed to establishing the Semantic Reference Data Modelling method, and I have worked with colleagues across the heritage community to treat CIDOC-CRM as a method for organizing cultural information rather than simply as the output of a semantic mapping.

Two commitments motivate my candidacy. The first concerns participation. A substantial community works with CRM across the United States, Canada, and Mexico, in museums, universities, and research infrastructures, yet it remains scattered and only loosely connected to the SIG. I would like to reach out to these institutions, help them exchange approaches and experience, and bring their expertise and concerns into the group's work.

The second concerns accessibility. I would like to work with the SIG on resources that make the model understandable to the operators and developers who implement it: worked technical and conceptual examples, documented patterns, and teaching materials built and maintained as part of the group's regular output rather than left to individual projects. Materials of this kind reduce how much adoption depends on expert mediation and put decades of ontological work within reach of the institutions that want to use it.

Alongside the ordinary work of the committee, I will pursue these two objectives together. Opening the group up and making the model easier to adopt lead to the same outcome: a larger, more active community with new voices in it. That is the SIG I would like to help build.

### **3 Mark Fichtner**

**Mark Fichtner**, Germanisches Nationalmuseum, [m.fichtner@gnm.de](mailto:m.fichtner@gnm.de)

#### **Nominators**

1. Martin Doerr, FORTH-ICS, [martin@ics.forth.gr](mailto:martin@ics.forth.gr)
2. Pavlos Fafalios, FORTH-ICS, [fafalios@ics.forth.gr](mailto:fafalios@ics.forth.gr)
3. Athanasios Velios, English Heritage, [thanasis@softicon.co.uk](mailto:thanasis@softicon.co.uk)

#### **Short bio:**

Mark Fichtner was born on 07.01.1983 in Freiburg in Breisgau, Germany. He studied computer science from 2003 and finished with the diploma in 2008. From 2009 until 2012 he worked for the natural history museum Koenig in Bonn (<https://bonn.leibniz-lib.de/>) as scientific staff in the research project "Wissenschaftliche KommunikationsInfrastruktur" (WissKI, scientific research communication infrastructure, <https://wiss-ki.eu/>). This ontology-driven software typically brings the ISO 21127 (CIDOC CRM) in direct use. As a follow up he changed to the Germanisches Nationalmuseum (<https://www.gnm.de/>) where he was responsible for the creation and modelling of WissKI-based project databases in various research projects. From 2014 to 2018 he lead the project WissKI<sup>2</sup> that resulted in the current state of the WissKI software. Since 2018 he was deputy of the IT department in the Germanisches Nationalmuseum. Since the sudden death of Siegfried Krause, he took over as the head of the department. He finished his Ph.D. in 2025 (<https://open.fau.de/items/7013415c-e597-47a9-ac24-9dbcca65f070>).

#### **Statement of interest:**

Since 2009 I am following the activities of the CIDOC CRM SIG. With the Erlangen-CRM and WissKI we tried to provide a working framework for cultural heritage firmly based on the CIDOC CRM. With my fixed position at one of the biggest museums in Germany comes a deep interest in high quality documentation and long term stability of the CIDOC CRM. Therefore I am highly motivated to contribute to the SIG and provide stability in the future.

## Secretary

**Eleni Tsouloucha**, Centre for Cultural Informatics of the Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH-ICS), [tsoulouha@ics.forth.gr](mailto:tsoulouha@ics.forth.gr)

### Nominators

1. Martin Doerr, FORTH-ICS, [martin@ics.forth.gr](mailto:martin@ics.forth.gr)
2. Pavlos Fafalios, FORTH-ICS, [fafalios@ics.forth.gr](mailto:fafalios@ics.forth.gr)

### Short bio:

Eleni Tsouloucha is a research assistant at the Centre for Cultural Informatics of the Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH-ICS). She holds degrees in Linguistics and Computational Linguistics from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, the National Technical University of Athens, and Utrecht University. Her work focuses on knowledge representation, conceptual modelling, and ontology engineering, particularly for cultural heritage and digital humanities. She has participated in national and international research projects involving semantic interoperability, vocabulary development, and data integration. She is actively involved in the development and maintenance of CIDOC CRM and harmonized extensions and has served as Secretary of the CIDOC CRM Special Interest Group.

### Statement of interest

Following my term as Secretary of the CIDOC CRM SIG, I have decided to stand again for this role to help ensure continuity and support a smooth transition as the group enters a new phase. Over the years, I have been closely involved in the organization of the SIG's activities; the planning of meetings, and the ongoing development and maintenance of its outputs, including CIDOC CRM and harmonized extensions, in collaboration with the wider community. I see the role of Secretary primarily as one of enabling the group's work to proceed efficiently and consistently, and I can carry on in this capacity during the next term. I help create a solid foundation for future Steering Committees and support the long-term sustainability and effectiveness of the SIG.