
Materials in Motion

Towards an International Council of Animation Archives?

How to proceed as an international platform for the preservation of animation heritage?

Manchester, November 2nd 2019

Based on the outcome of last years expert meeting in Amsterdam we herewith offer you our proposal for a mission statement as well as several scenarios for formalization we would like to put up for discussion.

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Mission statement

Materials in Motion recognizes the uniqueness of animation collections and aims to raise awareness of the importance of preserving our animation heritage. It's mission is to share information among professionals, to encourage collaboration and to develop good practices in collection management in order to safeguard and provide access to animation artefacts that constitute the visual and conceptual context of the animated film for the purpose of research, exhibition, and promotion. Materials in Motions operates on a global scale.

Objectives (short and long term):

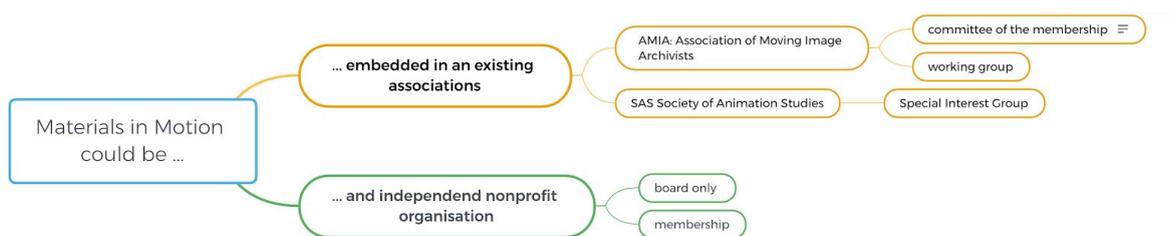
- formulate a joint philosophy
- develop (peer reviewed) guidelines and standards for collection and condition surveys, identification, selection and deselection criteria, handling materials, shared terminology, and identification tools.
- provide an online platform for discussion, communication and sharing of knowledge
- encouraging publications: white paper (state of the art and future perspectives), edited volumes of specialized journals or book series
- assist in fundraising for joint preservation projects
- organize regular events and meetings
- maintain a bibliography and a repository of open access publications
- maintain a professional directory / collection directory
- provide training / workshops

Target group:

- independent animation filmmakers
- private collectors
- (independent) conservators (collection care, object, plastics, paper, film, digital art)
- animation academics and experts (researchers, festival programmers, teachers, writers)
- conservation scientists
- students and lecturers at university courses specialized in conservation
- animation industry / studio's (archivists, collection managers, filmmakers, digital assets managers)
- animation collections around the globe (curators, archivists, conservators and collection managers)

Suggested scenarios for formalization

Materials in Motion needs formalization to guarantee continuity and to operate independently of institutions. There are different scenarios each with its own advantages and disadvantages. Materials in Motions (MIM) can operate embedded in an existing organisation such as The Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) or Society for Animation Studies (SAS) or independently as a non profit organisation. In the first case MIM will lose its name, identity, and independence, but can profit from an existing infrastructure. In the latter MIM can operate independently, but will have to invest time and money to set up its own infrastructure.



In this document we will introduce each option. Weighing the pros and cons we would like to decide on a formal structure to further explore in the coming year.

An AMIA committee or working group

<https://amianet.org/>

The Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) is a nonprofit international association dedicated to the preservation and use of moving image media. AMIA supports public and professional education and fosters cooperation and communication among individuals and organizations concerned with the acquisition, preservation, description, exhibition, and use of moving image materials. Membership is open to any interested individual, institution, organization or corporation.

AMIA committee

<https://amianet.org/committees/>

Committees are the heart of AMIA, playing a crucial role in program development, strategic direction, and fulfilling the mission of the organization. AMIA Committees of the Membership focus on the principal activities of the profession

and arise from the membership of the Association. Committees of the Membership are created by the membership and are open to all members.

For all volunteers Basecamp offers the ability to work collaboratively by sending messages, linking collaborative documents, storing files, and keeping a calendar.

As a committee chair you never have to “go it alone.” The AMIA office can answer questions, offer background, provide logistics, and help with communications. Each committee is also assigned a Board Liaison. This is the committee’s direct line to the Board. The liaison brings issues to the committee and serves as an additional resource for the chair(s) as needed.

Members can Committees of the Membership can be formed by the membership at any time. Committee chairs are appointed by election.

PRO

Operates globally

Membership of AMIA is open to everybody (also corporate)

Use of AMIA social media platforms

Page on AMIA website plus hosting account for individual website and blog

Project management software and an infrastructure to work collaboratively is available.

500 \$ per project, funding for larger projects by application, raising third party funding is supported

Collaboration between different committees is possible

CON

You have to become an AMIA member to join the committee. Membership fee is \$110 individual.

Not independent, you operate under the name of AMIA and committees have to report to AMIA

AMIA funds no more than 10 projects per year

You work with volunteers

AMIA Working Group

<https://amianet.org/committees/task-forces-and-working-groups/>

An AMIA Working Group is an ad hoc committee established to work on a specific task or project for a defined period of time. A working group might involve members from different committees or individual members collaborating on a project. A Working Group is formed by individual members or committees and does not need a vote of the Board to be established, but does notify the Board of its charge/mission and the intended term (e.g. one year, six months, etc).

PRO

CON

Ad hoc: manageable

You have to become an AMIA member to join the committee. Membership fee is \$110 individual.

Membership of AMIA open to everybody (also corporate)

Ad hoc: not durable, can be used as a first step. E.g. a white paper

Use of AMIA social media platforms

Not independent, you operate under the name of AMIA and working groups have to report to AMIA

Project management software and an infrastructure to work collaboratively is available.

A SAS Special Interest Group

<https://www.animationstudies.org/v3/special-interest-groups-sigs/>

The Society for Animation Studies is an international organization dedicated to the study of animation history and theory. Each year, the SAS holds an annual conference at locations throughout the world, where members present their recent research. The SAS is a [non-profit 501\(c\)\(3\) organization](#).

SAS Special Interest Groups (SAS SIGs) can be discipline-specific, thematic, organised by sector, area, or identity – but in each case the SIG should serve to promote focused engagement with the chosen subject.

PRO

Community of animation specialists

Membership is open to any interested individual, institution, organization or corporation.

SIG's membership will be free to apply for financial support to host SIG-organised, SAS-supported events.

CON

No focus on preservation

You have to become a SAS member to join the SIG.
Regular membership: US\$ 35.00/35.00 € per year.
Institutional membership: minimum US\$ 90.00/90.00 € per year for up to three members, plus US\$ 30.00/30.00 € for each additional member.

All new SIGs must have a minimum of 10 fully paid SAS members affiliated at launch, with the expectation that SIGs maintain this minimum number of paid SAS members through the life of the SIG.

A SIG does not operate independently, its numbers, and related activities, will be reviewed annually so as to re-confirm their sustainability and qualification for financial support.

SIG Convenors will be required to report on the annual activity of their SIG at the SAS AGM.

Use of SAS social media platforms

SIGs will be treated as committees. As such, SIGs will constitute publically-acknowledged sub-groupings of the SAS membership.

SIG members will be able to negotiate opportunities to guest edit an issue of [Animation Studies Online](#), as well as to contribute SIG news copy for the main SAS website, or guest curate a theme of the [Animation Studies 2.0](#) blog.

Non profit organisation / association

from Wikipedia: A nonprofit organization [...] is dedicated to furthering a particular social cause or advocating for a shared point of view. In economic terms, it is an organization that uses its surplus of the revenues to further achieve its ultimate objective, rather than distributing its income to the organization's shareholders, leaders, or members. Nonprofits are tax exempt or charitable, meaning they do not pay income tax on the money that they receive for their organization. [...]

The two major types of nonprofit organization are membership and board-only. A membership organization elects the board and has regular meetings and the power to amend the bylaws. A board-only organization typically has a self-selected board and a membership whose powers are limited to those delegated to it by the board. The law imposes many complexities and requirements on membership decision-making. Accordingly, many organizations form board-only structures.

A non profit organisation can be based in any country (and must abide to the law of that country), but can operate internationally.

Non profit organisation (board only)

PRO

Can operate globally

Fully independent, can operate under its own name

Easier to apply for funds

Can hire employees as well as work with volunteers

Independent of members, board does not have to report or answer to members, less administration, no general assembly required.

CON

Requires seed capital

No infrastructure in place: founding an non-profit organisation is time- consuming

Fully dependent on funding

Non-profit association (members)

PRO

Can operate globally

Fully independent, can operate under its own name

Easier to apply for funds

Can hire employees as well as work with volunteers

Requires less seed capital and funding as compared with a non-members organisation: annual income in membership fees guaranteed (although fluctuating)

CON

Requires seed capital

No infrastructure in place: founding a non-profit organisation is time-consuming

More time-consuming as compared to a board only organization (membership administration, general assembly, annual reports etc.)

Has to report and answer to members in annual members meetings

Serves its members only