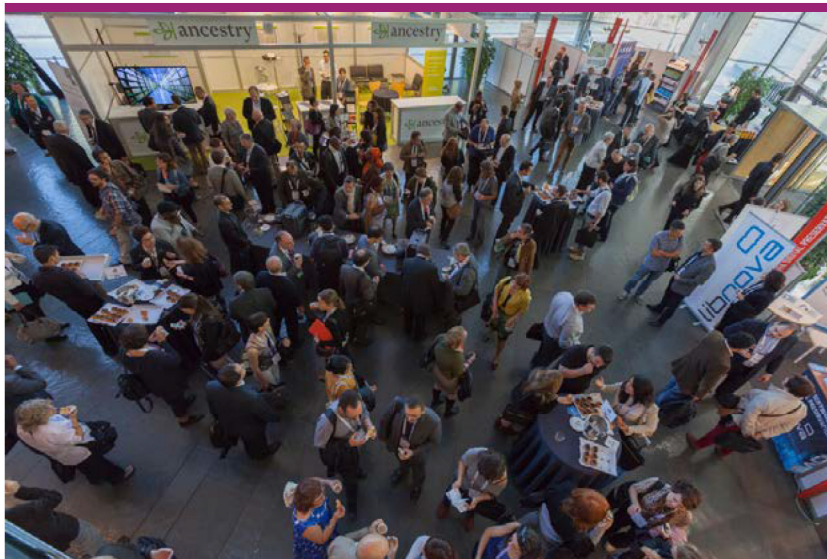


Archivists are also economically profitable



Assessing the impact of an international conference on a city is a rather complex issue, because any objective dataset (or, at least, those data that some institutions have tried to objectify) also needs to be defined by various intangible elements, often of an individual nature, that affect or can affect every participant in many different ways.

Let us start with what is objective. The figures in the attached table admit little controversy and provide a clear idea of the global interest aroused by Girona's call: almost a thousand archivists from 90 countries were attracted by a proposal that drew the attention of professionals from places as far afield as Korea, Mexico, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Australia, New Zealand, Armenia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Colombia, Congo, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Georgia, Haiti, India, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon,

Malaysia, Peru, Senegal, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam or Zimbabwe; without forgetting, of course, dozens of countries from the European and Western bloc.

These figures show the number of papers received and accepted, which constitute more than 1600 pages of scientific content generated by our colleagues in a generous attempt to share their knowledge. The numbers also tell us about six keynote speakers; nevertheless, behind this cold statistic, those of us who were there feel very fortunate to have witnessed their contribution. Allow us to focus on the first and last speakers: Joan Roca and Jordi Savall. It is truly stimulating, and makes us live our profession with pride, to see how the archive (in the broadest sense of the word) has become a key element in the creative process of people who have reached such a degree of excellence in their fields. *(Continued on page 2)*



Joan Boadas





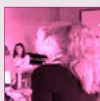


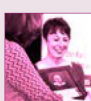
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GIRONA 2014



6 Keynote addresses

Joan Roca, Yael Hersonsky, Miguel-Anxo Murado, Albert García Espuche, Joan Fontcuberta, Jordi Savall

- 4  Conference overview: Creative partnerships a response to new challenges
- 10 The Chair of the Forum for National Archivists reflects on his new role 
- 12  The role of archives in wider society
- 13 Learning and networking: Preservation planning for audio-visual collections 
- 14  PCOM's New Professionals Programme
- 15 A global opportunity: some reflections on the ICA annual conference 
- 16  General Assembly 2014: a smooth transition of presidential power
- 17 Emmet Leahy award for Julie McLeod 

Flash

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David A. Leitch

The International Council on Archives (ICA) is dedicated to the advancement of archives through international cooperation. Archives, by providing evidence of human activities and transactions, underlie the rights of individuals and states, and are fundamental to democracy and good governance. In pursuing the advancement of archives, ICA works for the protection and enhancement of the memory of the world.

Flash communicates news on ICA activities and highlights current issues in archives. It is the complement to the in-depth professional reflection, reports and debate in *Comma*.

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(Continued from page 1) Some more figures: full hotels with 100% occupancy rate. The Spanish Convention Bureau, an organization dedicated to studies of the business tourism sector in Spain, states in its last study published in 2012 that the average daily expenditure per participant, in a city with Girona's characteristics, is 230 €. If we multiply this by an average five-day stay, the direct economic impact of the Conference, Archives and Cultural Industries in Girona, has been of the order of a million euros. And, without any doubt, the discovery of the town by many participants in the Conference will have a multiplying effect on the city's economy when they come back again with their family or friends (destination experience, as technically known in the sector).

However, as we mentioned earlier, this Conference has left an intangible trace,

personal, intimate, hardly quantifiable. Girona's archivists have been able to work together and show exhibitions, communications, projections and publications to the entire citizenship. Both visitors and locals have had the opportunity to understand their documentary heritage in greater depth and we archivists have had the opportunity to explain the foundations of our profession and the role that we aim to play in a fast-changing environment such as the present.

For us, it has undoubtedly been a privilege to organize this event; as it was to realize the thrust, vitality, professional ambition and solidarity of archivists from all around the world. This is the great strength of the International Council on Archives (ICA) and it is one of the main reasons why we all must contribute to its continuous development.

ICA Annual Conference 2015

Reykjavik, Iceland, 27-29 September



Reykjavik.

Under the general title of "Archives: Evidence, Security and Civil Rights: Ensuring trustworthy information", this conference will explore how the concerns, research and work of archivists and records managers contribute to the fundamental societal goals of information security and protection and the support of civil rights, particularly in the modern world of open data. It also aims to demonstrate the enduring value and relevance of ICA and its work. The premise that the ICA network, its members, partners and the wider profession and workforce are of vital importance to modern society will give a clear focus to workshops, lectures and debates ranging from the principles to the functional requirements.