



CANDIDATE BOARD MEMBERS  
COMCOL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS 2025

It is with great pleasure we present the candidates to the Executive Board of ICOM International Committee for Collecting (COMCOL) for the period 2025-2028.

Online voting will be open from 9am CET September 28 2025 to midnight CET October 28 2025. Link to the voting platform will be shared in the week before the start of the voting.

The new board will be presented to the members on November 3, 2025 at our 2025 Webinar and online Annual Members Meeting.

The candidates are:

**For Chair:**

Brandie MacDonald

**For Board members in alphabetical order:**

Njabulo Chipangura  
Patoo Cusripituck  
Nara Galvao  
Alina Gromova  
Omar Id Tnaine  
Eline Holopainen  
Luiza Giandalia Ramos  
Sandra Vacca  
Chelsea Wang

**CANDIDATE POSITION: CHAIR**

**Name:** Brandie Macdonald

**Country:** United States of America

**Date of Birth:** February 23, 1983

**Title/Position:** Executive Director and Chief Curator

**Institution of Employment:** Indiana University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology

**Website:** [www.umaa.iu.edu](http://www.umaa.iu.edu)

**Motivation for my candidature as chair; how I wish to serve and develop the committee and accomplish as a board member;**

I am deeply passionate about ensuring COMCOL serves our members, creates opportunities for accessibility, and continues to impact the field and our community at large. As Chair, I will be striving to continue to elevate the diverse practices, theories, and conversations around collecting in the broadest sense – for example: correlation/disassociation of voices and community, practitioners, culture bearer, museum professional expertise; tangible and intangible collections stewardships; restitution of cultural property, conservation; community led curation; culturally relative collections stewardship practices, etc. I commit to working collaboratively with the COMCOL board and members, International Committees, and various locally based international partners to continue developing intentional human-centered programs and networking opportunities; where COMCOL members can share impactful work, their cultural and professional expertise, learn from one another, build supportive friendships in the field.

I believe in the power of people, reciprocity, and partnerships. I see this coming to fruition in COMCOL through collectively work together to create areas for members to have greater access to trainings, publishing, and conference attendance, topics, and locations. It would be an honor to be COMCOL Chair and work for, and alongside, COMCOL members, and concurrently have our work be of service to advance COMCOL goals to increase collaboration and connection across international boundaries, foster innovation,

and support museum professionals working with collections stewardship in the broadest sense.

## **Background/short bio/CV, special competences and interests beneficial for COMCOL and ICOM:**

My life's work is rooted in community, stewardship, and pedagogy. I am an Indigenous citizen of the Chickasaw Tribe and Choctaw Tribal descendant. My work focuses on fostering innovative practices and discussion platforms that supports ethical and culturally relevant stewardship practices, collections care and conservation, restitution of material culture and living collections, and community led curation. I have 14+ years' experience in collaborative capacity building, strategic visioning and design. I have 12 years' experience in Diveristy/Equity/Access/Inclusion practices, restitution, and community-led curation; with 6 years' working directly with decolonial practices and Indigenous led curatorial and collections stewardship.

I have served as the COMCOL Secretary since 2022. I am the Executive Director of an academic anthropology museum that focuses on collections care, research, collecting through a politically divided community, and curation that is community-led, community-driven, and highly collaborative with students, faculty, community, and cultural partners. I also am a Visiting Professor at the University of Victoria (UVic) in Canada, where I co-teach a course on collections stewardship and Indigenous methodologies for the Museum Studies. I work as a museum consultant supporting museum professionals around stewardship practices and access ethics for intangible and tangible collections.

### Publications:

Grimm K. & Macdonald B. (2025), Trust through Curation: Community Collaborations and Identity, American Alliance of Museums Magazine.  
 Macdonald, B. (2024), Conserving Us: Curating Living Culture and Living Collections, Performance: the Ethics and Politics of Care, Vol. 2. Routledge Publishing.  
 Macdonald, B., & Parzen, M. (2023), Decolonizing Initiatives in Action: from theory to practice at the Museum of Us; Race and Socio-Cultural Inclusion in Science Communication – Contemporary Innovations, Book Chapter.  
 Macdonald, B. (2022), What Keeps Me Awake at Night: A Letter on Decolonization; Change is Required: Preparing for the Post-Pandemic Museum, Book Chapter.  
 Macdonald, B., (2022), Pausing, Reflection, and Action: Decolonizing Museum Practices; Radical Reimagining Museum Education, Journal of Museum Education, 47(1), 8-17. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10598650.2021.1986668>  
 Datnow, A., Yoshisato, M., Macdonald, B., Trejos, J., & Kennedy, B. C. (2022). Bridging Educational Change and Social Justice: A Call to the Field. Educational Researcher. <https://doi.org/10.3102/0013189X221138837>  
 Macdonald, B., & Vetter K. (2021) From the Colonial to the Decolonial: The Complex Intersection of Museum Policy and Practice, South African Museums Association  
 Macdonald, B., & Parzen, M., (2020), Pausing to Decolonize: Now is the time, History News, American Association for State and Local History, 75(3), 6-7. <https://learn.aaslh.org/products/history-news-summer-2020>  
 Garcia, B., Hyberger, K., Macdonald, B., & Roessel, J. (2019). Ceding Authority and Seeding Trust. American Alliance of Museums. <https://www.aam-us.org/2019/07/01/ceding-authority-and-seeding-trust/>

### Affiliations:

- COMCOL Board Member, Secretary 2022 – Present
  - American Alliance of Museums (AAM) Voluntary Repatriation, Restitution, and Reparations Working Group (2023-2024)
  - Museum Education Roundtable, Journal of Museum Education, Editorial Committee, 2022 – 2025
  - Subject Matter Expert (SME) Advisory Group evaluation of grantmaking and Indigenous programs, Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) (2022-2023)
  - Advisory Council for Ethical Returns Policy, Smithsonian Institutions (2022)
  - Nancy Hanks Award for Professional Excellence, American Alliance of Museums (2020/2021)
  - Western Museum Association, Board Member, USA, 2020 – 2023
  - Fellow, BIPOC Leadership Circle Cohort, ArtEquity (2021-2022)
  - Fellow, Salzburg Global Seminar (2016 - 2023)
  - Leadership Fellow, Intermedia Arts Community Leadership Institute (2015)
  - Rapid City USA, Art Council Board Member, USA 2014 – 2016
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**CANDIDATES POSITION: BOARD MEMBERS**

**Name:** Njabulo Chipangura

**Country:** Ireland

**Date of Birth:** November 27, 1984

**Title/Position:** Professor

**Institution of Employment:** National University of Ireland, Anthropology

**Website:** <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/people/njabulo-chipangura#Biography>

**Motivation for my candidature; how I wish to serve and develop the committee and accomplish as a board member;**

I have been a board member of COMCOL over the past 3 years, and I would wish to continue this role. My research looks at anthropological collections from colonial contexts in particular Africa – tracing how the objects were dislocated from originating communities and brought to European museums during the 19<sup>th</sup> C. My re-election on the COMCOL Board will therefore allow me to contribute to ongoing discussions on strategies on how to decolonise African collections that are in European museums. Some of the decolonial methods that I have engaged with drawn from my own empirical experience having been a curator of living cultures at Manchester Museum, University of Manchester (2022-2025) include collaborating with originating communities in South Africa in undertaking collaborative provenance and object biography research on a collection of beads that were collected from the Nongoma community in the 1920's. This socially engaged curatorial research on the meanings of the beads led to the production of a co-curated exhibition called [\*Stories of the Zulu Beadwork\*](#), that was installed at Manchester Museum in 2023. I believe that this experience of working through collections from colonial context together with originating communities from Africa is an important dimension that I will bring to the COMCOL Board if I am re-elected.



## Background/short bio/CV, special competences and interests beneficial for COMCOL and ICOM :

Njabulo Chipangura is Assistant Professor of African Anthropology at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, where he specializes in museum anthropology and heritage studies. He joined Maynooth in February 2025, following his role as Curator of Anthropology/Living Cultures at Manchester Museum, University of Manchester (2022–2025). Prior to that, he spent over a decade as Curator of Archaeology at the National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe, based at Mutare Museum (2009–2020). He holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, an MA in Museum and Heritage Studies from the University of the Western Cape, South Africa, and a BA Honours in Museum Studies from Midlands State University, Zimbabwe. Chipangura's research spans museum anthropology, heritage studies, and social archaeology, with a focus on decolonial approaches to knowledge production, representation, and collection practices in museums. His work critically engages with the coloniality embedded in museums and advocates for collaborative, community-based methodologies. He is widely published in journals such as *African Arts*, *Museum Worlds*, *Museum Anthropology*, *Museum International*, *Curator*, *Museum Management & Curatorship*, and *Museums & Social Issues*. His first book, *Museums as Agents for Social Change* (Routledge, 2021), explores collaborative programming at Mutare Museum, and his forthcoming co-authored book *Race, Genetics, History: New Practices, New Approaches* is set to be published by Cambridge University Press in 2025. He serves on the editorial boards of *Museum International* and *Museum and Society* (Managing Editor) and is a board member of ICOM's Collections Committee (COMCOL). He is also a curatorial advisory committee member for Museum Lab, Nat Kunde Museum in Germany.

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**Name:** Patoo Cusripituck

**Country:** Thailand

**Date of Birth:** May 3, 1974

**Title/Position:** Lecturer, Program Chairperson MA Museum Studies

**Institution of Employment:** Mahidol University, Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia

**Website:** [lc.mahodol.ac.th/en](http://lc.mahodol.ac.th/en)

**Motivation for my candidature; how I wish to serve and develop the committee and accomplish as a board member;**

I am committed to advancing the philosophy, ethics, and innovative practice of collecting in ways that honour and amplify diverse voices. As Chairperson of the M.A. in Museum Studies at Mahidol University and Head of the Culture Group, I have led projects that reimagine collecting beyond objects to embrace intangible heritage, community narratives, and living traditions. Initiatives such as Vivid Ethnicity: A Mobile Museum for Transformative Engagement, the Ecomuseum Doi Si Than, and Ta Po Poh — an instant ethnic food product that safeguards culinary heritage, foster respect for ethnic traditions, and generates income for the community — embody participatory approaches that ensure communities are active partners in shaping their heritage. Since engaging with COMCOL at the 2023 conferences in Taiwan and Amsterdam, where I presented my research, I have been inspired by the committee's openness, collegiality, and enthusiasm for moving the museumfield forward. My involvement in discussions on the ICOM Code of Ethics has deepened my appreciation for COMCOL's role.

My mission is to guide the discipline toward inclusive museums, where all voices are valued. If elected, I will work to strengthen the Asia–Pacific network, develop research workshops and training, and align these with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

**Background/short bio/CV, special competences and interests beneficial for COMCOL and ICOM:**

Assistant Professor Dr. Patoo Cusripituck is Chairperson of the M.A. in Museum Studies at the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia, Mahidol University, Thailand, and Head of the iCulture Group. She is also an Honorary Research Associate at the University of York, UK, and a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (SFHEA). She brings over two decades of experience in museum education, participatory heritage, and community engagement. Her expertise includes participatory museum practice, design thinking frameworks, and transformative learning as tools for fostering inclusive, ethical, and community-driven collecting. She has led innovative projects such as Vivid Ethnicity: A Mobile Museum for Transformative Engagement, the Ecomuseum Doi Si Than, and Ta Po Poh, an instant ethnic food product that safeguards culinary heritage, fosters respect for ethnic traditions, and generates income for the community.

As an ICOM member since 2015, Patoo has engaged with COMCOL since 2023, presenting research at COMCOL conferences in Taiwan and Amsterdam. She has contributed to discussions on the ICOM Code of Ethics and is committed to strengthening the Asia–Pacific network, building capacity through research workshops and training, and promoting crossdisciplinary collaboration toward the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

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**Name:** Nara Neves Pires Galvão

**Country:** Brazil

**Date of Birth:** June 22, 1977

Neves Pires Galvão Director

**Institution of Employment:** Instituto Ricardo Brennand

**Website:** [www.institutoricardobrennand.org.br](http://www.institutoricardobrennand.org.br)

**Motivation for my candidature; how I wish to serve and develop the committee and accomplish as a board member;**

Being Institutional member of COMCOL during 8 years and individual member for the last 5 years (3 of these years in the board) has been so inspiring and helpful on making decisions for my work. In 2021 I was glad to receive and help to organize the 21 Comcol's annual conference in Brazil, at the Ricardo Brennand Institute. As a museum professional, to meet and discuss theoretical and practical approaches through all the meetings with colleagues from all over the world, on contemporary and traditional collections, helps to face difficult challenges and work better on it, creating new best practices and methods together. I have been working with private collecting for over 20 years and since 2015 I have been researching the relationship between collecting and performance, and more recently collecting, art market and art politics. As part of Comcol's board, I intend to work together on the further development of the committee. My aim is to contribute to decolonial thinking and practices as well as how to make our collections more inclusive. I intend to be an interlocutor of the committee, especially in south America, contributing to the growth of new members, articulating meetings to exchange experiences and bringing Comcol closer to other Committees with the objective of expanding the horizons of our discussions.

**Background/short bio/CV, special competences and interests beneficial for COMCOL and ICOM:**

Currently, I am the Director of the Ricardo Brennand Institute, Recife-PE, Comcol Board member and Icom Brazil Board member. PhD Student and Master in Anthropology at the UFPE. I research Collecting, Art Market, Gender and Art Politics. Graduated in Social Communication – Journalism at the Unicap. I worked in the Analysis of Cultural Projects at the Fundação de Cultura da Cidade do Recife. I was a Capes scholarship between 2015 and 2017 and also in the Professional Development Program at the Rotary Foundation –

Museum and Arts (USA). Organized the 1st International Symposium Collections and Collecting: Practices and Narratives in Contemporary. I have experience in Cultural Management and Production. I organized the 2021 Comcol Annual Conference "Reimagine Collecting: How Collecting can Inspire The Future, together with the Comcol Chair, board members and other professionals from the Ricardo Brennand Institute and I am a really Comcol`s fan.

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**Name:** Alina Gromova

**Country:** Germany

**Date of Birth:** August 6, 1980

**Title/Position:** Deputy-Director. Head of Exhibitions, Collection and Digitalisation

**Institution of Employment:** New Synagogue Berlin – Centrum Judaicum Foundation

**Website:** [www.centrumjudaicum.de](http://www.centrumjudaicum.de)

**Motivation for my candidature; how I wish to serve and develop the committee and accomplish as a board member:**

As a museum professional with over 15 years of curatorial experience and a strong commitment to inclusive, ethical collecting, I am eager to continue contributing to COMCOL's important work. As current Vice President of ICOM Germany and long-standing COMCOL member, I have helped shape transnational dialogues on participatory, community-based collecting. In my role as Deputy Director and Head of Exhibitions, Collection & Digitalisation at the New Synagogue Berlin – Centrum Judaicum Foundation, I lead innovative projects that center marginalized voices and reflect on collecting as a political, transformative act. I bring hands-on experience in co-curation, provenance strategies, and digital practices. In the past I took active part on various COMCOL conferences e.g. in Winnipeg, Kyoto, Recife or Prague. I am also a co-organizer of the upcoming COMCOL/ICOM Germany/Austria panel "Collecting in Times of Divides" in Dubai.

If elected, I will focus on expanding COMCOL's collaborative activities and fostering exchange on decolonial and future-oriented collecting methods. I also wish to support

emerging professionals and strengthen links between global and local museum initiatives. COMCOL is a vital space to reflect on how collecting can respond to contested heritage and social change. I look forward to further advancing this vision with our international community.

### **Background/short bio/CV, special competences and interests beneficial for COMCOL and ICOM:**

Dr. Alina Gromova is a museum professional, researcher, and curator specializing in contemporary collecting, memory culture, and inclusive museum practices. She holds a PhD in European Ethnology (Humboldt University Berlin) and currently serves as Deputy Director and Head of Exhibitions, Collection & Digitalization at the New Synagogue Berlin – Centrum Judaicum Foundation. Her career includes over 15 years of experience at institutions such as the Jewish Museum Berlin and Jewish Holocaust Museum Melbourne. She has led participatory collecting projects (e.g. Object Days, Future Memories, Object Voices) and developed ethical and inclusive strategies for contemporary and community-based collections. Alina is an expert in revisiting collections-work, co-curation, and digital heritage formats. Since 2020, she has served on the board of ICOM Germany (currently Vice President) and has been an active COMCOL board member since 2018. She is co-founder of “Making Museums Matter,” a network for critical, transformative museum work, and part of “New German Museum Makers.” Alina’s interdisciplinary and international perspective, as well as her focus on marginalized narratives, decolonial approaches, and contested heritage, make her a strong contributor to COMCOL’s mission of rethinking collecting practices globally.

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**Name:** Elina Holopainen

**Country:** Finland

**Date of Birth:** February 2, 1974

**Title/Position:** Senior Curator

**Institution of Employment:** KAMU Espoo City Museum

**Website:** [www.espoo.fi/en/kamu-espoo-city-museum](http://www.espoo.fi/en/kamu-espoo-city-museum)

**Motivation for my candidature; how I wish to serve and develop the committee and accomplish as a board member:**

I've had the pleasure of attending COMCOL sessions in Prague (2022) and Amsterdam (2024), where the presentations and discussions greatly inspired my thinking and professional practice. I have especially valued COMCOL's focus on ethical questions in museum work and the space it creates for critical and forward-looking conversations. Throughout my career, I have worked with a wide range of museum collections and collecting practices, in close collaboration with diverse individuals and communities. I believe that museum collections exist for people and communities. It is essential that they reflect the diversity of society and make room for multiple voices and perspectives. I am committed to promoting democratic opportunities for individuals and communities to actively participate in the collecting, interpretation, and research of their own cultural heritage. I would be honored to contribute to the ongoing development of the COMCOL network and its vital work on collections and collecting. With my experience in participatory methods and collection policies, I hope to support knowledge exchange and promote community voices within the network. I aim to bring my expertise and networks to future projects and events, share practices, learn from others, and work toward more inclusive and sustainable collecting.

**Background/short bio/CV, special competences and interests beneficial for COMCOL and ICOM:**

Elina Holopainen currently works as a Senior Curator at the KAMU Espoo City Museum in Finland (since 2022). Previously, she served as Head of Collections (2013–2022) and Curator (2004–2013) at the Finnish Railway Museum. She holds a master's degree in art history from the University of Jyväskylä, Finland, and has also studied museology, journalism, Spanish language and culture, and futures studies. She also holds a professional diploma in museum management. She has extensive experience in museum collection work, both in theory and in practice. Her areas of expertise include participatory contemporary collecting and collection policies. She has led numerous participatory museum projects focusing on collecting, documentation, and research. She has actively promoted the involvement of individuals and communities in museum collections work through a range of initiatives, including the development of volunteer and citizen science programs and the implementation of co-collecting projects in collaboration with diverse communities.

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**Name:** Omar Id Tnaine

**Country:** Morocco

**Date of Birth:** October 12, 1977

**Title/Position:** Curator of Agadir Museum of Art

**Institution of Employment:** National Foundation of Museums of Morocco

**Website:** [www.fnm.ma](http://www.fnm.ma)

**Motivation for my candidature; how I wish to serve and develop the committee and accomplish as a board member:**

As a candidate for the COMCOL board, I seek to advance the transformative potential of museum collections as instruments of cultural equity and social change. My three-year engagement with COMCOL has deepened my appreciation for its crucial role in addressing ethical challenges in collection practices.

As curator of two Agadir museums and a researcher specializing in restitution and decolonial heritage, I bridge theory and practice. My work with Open Restitution Africa and the Arab Council for Social Sciences has developed innovative methodologies connecting institutional protocols with community knowledge, directly informing COMCOL's mission. Over nine years with Morocco's National Foundation of Museums, I've implemented collection programs engaging communities with cultural memory, demonstrating collections' power as tools for social transformation.

If elected, I will focus on three areas: strengthening restitution processes through practical resources; positioning collections as catalysts for sustainable development through expanded partnerships; and amplifying Global South perspectives in collection discourse. My unique combination of operational museum leadership, academic research, and commitment to inclusive practices allows me to address both theoretical and practical challenges facing collections professionals.

I envision COMCOL developing frameworks that reconcile institutional standards with community needs in our complex global landscape. I would be honored to contribute to shaping collection practices that are ethically rigorous, socially relevant, and truly transformative.



**Background/short bio/CV, special competences and interests beneficial for COMCOL and ICOM:**

With a Master's in Museology and a PhD in Information and Communication Sciences from Mohammed V University in Rabat, my career has been driven by a dual passion for museum practice and critical research at the intersection of cultural heritage, postcolonial studies, and social justice. Over nine years of professional experience; including my current role as Curator of two museums in Agadir (the Agadir Art Museum since 2023 and the Museum of the Reconstruction of Agadir since 2025), I have championed the transformative potential of collections as tools for decolonization, community dialogue, and sustainable development.

My research trajectory reflects a commitment to interrogating systemic inequities in cultural preservation. As a grantee of the Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS), I pioneered methodologies to trace Moroccan heritage displaced to European institutions, exposing institutional mechanisms of cultural erasure through archival cross-analysis; work published in peer-reviewed journals and presented at the 7th conference of ACSS in Beirut. Similarly, my six-month investigation for Open Restitution Africa on restitution methodologies honed my expertise in blending empirical research with oral histories, a framework I now adapt to reclaim marginalized narratives, including Amazigh memory.

At the Fondation Nationale des Musées, I've operationalized these insights to reimagine museums as dynamic spaces for cultural diversity. My curatorial practice prioritizes participatory collection mobilization, whether through exhibitions that center postcolonial discourse that leverage heritage for local development.



**Name:** Luiza Giandalia Ramos

**Country:** Brazil

**Date of Birth:** June 1, 1990

**Title/Position:** Project Manager

**Institution of Employment:** Expomus

**Website:** [www.expomus.br](http://www.expomus.br)

**Motivation for my candidature; how I wish to serve and develop the committee and accomplish as a board member:**

I am applying to join the COMCOL as a board member, driven by a strong desire to take on a more active role within the international museology community. I am eager to expand my professional network, engage with diverse cultural perspectives, and learn from different approaches to collection development and museum practices around the world. Participating in a consolidated and vibrant network such as COMCOL aligns with my commitment to collaborative, inclusive, and forward-thinking museology. I am particularly interested in contributing to the committee's ongoing projects, dialogues, and strategic planning — offering my technical, creative, and problem-solving skills developed through years of work in the field.

By joining the board, I hope to help strengthen COMCOL's actions, visibility, and relevance globally, especially in Latin America, while also continuing to grow professionally and intellectually. I believe this experience will broaden my horizons and deepen my understanding of shared challenges and opportunities in collection-related work. I am ready to contribute actively, learn continuously, and support the development of the committee in a meaningful and committed way.

**Background/short bio/CV, special competences and interests beneficial for COMCOL and ICOM:**

I hold an MBA in Museum Management and Innovation from Universidade Cândido Mendes (2024), an MA in Museology from the University of São Paulo – USP (2021), a postgraduate certificate in Museology, Collecting, and Curatorship from Centro Universitário Belas Artes (2014), and a BA and teaching degree in History from PUC-SP (2012). I have solid experience in the field of Museology, with a focus on research, curatorship, and project management. My core qualifications include the technical and executive coordination of museum projects; research and curatorship; and content development for multiple platforms, particularly exhibition narratives. I also have experience in oral history, participatory methodologies, and the design of museological plans. From 2015 to 2020, I worked as a researcher at the Memorial da Resistência de São Paulo, a site of memory addressing the human rights violations of Brazil's military dictatorship. Currently, I serve as a technical and executive coordinator of museological projects at Expomus, a leading company in Brazil's cultural heritage sector. I have recently worked on major museum projects related to science, art, technology, and sustainability. I am deeply committed to collaborative practices and knowledge exchange, and I believe my background can contribute meaningfully to COMCOL's mission.

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**Name:** Sandra Vacca

**Country:** Germany

**Date of Birth:** September 1, 1986

**Title/Position:** Project Manager “DOMiDLabs: Making Museum Design Participatory”

**Institution of Employment:** DOMiD e. V. - Documentation Center and Museum of Migration in Germany

**Website:** [www.domid.org](http://www.domid.org)

**Motivation for my candidature; how I wish to serve and develop the committee and accomplish as a board member;**

Over the past three years, I have been grateful to serve on the COMCOL board, finding inspiration in its values, activities, open dialogue, and vibrant global network. This experience has deepened my motivation to continue for another term and build on what we have achieved together.

For over a decade, at the Documentation Center and Museum of Migration in Germany, I have worked closely with migrants, gathering their stories, memories, and objects that reflect diverse experiences. I also managed a participatory project co-creating narratives with Cologne citizens and exploring new ways to engage with migration histories. These experiences strengthened my commitment to ethical practices of participatory and contemporary collecting, encouraging reflection on whose stories museums include or omit, and how collections can be created and shared in caring, accountable, and inclusive ways.

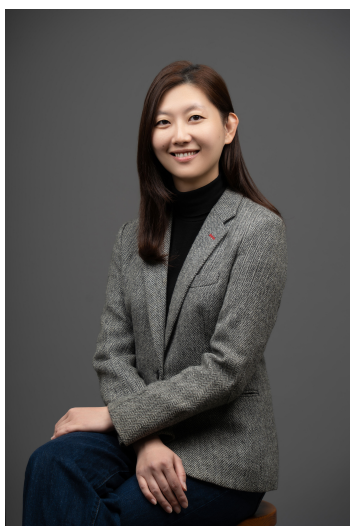
These questions are central to COMCOL’s work. As a board member, I aim to support its mission by fostering the international network and membership, encouraging exchange among museum professionals, and strengthening cooperation with ICOM committees to address contemporary challenges. I am eager to help organize annual conferences and create more opportunities and formats for dialogue and knowledge sharing, learning from colleagues worldwide while supporting inclusive, reflective practices.

**Background/short bio/CV, special competences and interests beneficial for COMCOL and ICOM:**

Sandra Vacca is a museologist and historian who studied in France, the UK and Germany. She started her museum career in Scotland, where she was Curator of the St Andrews Preservation Trust Museum. Since 2013 she has been with DOMiD e.V., the

Documentation Center and Museum of Migration in Germany. Her work involved collecting and working with the collections, conducting interviews, education and outreach and co-curating exhibitions. Parallel to this, she organized participatory, object-based workshops on migration history for trade union members as a freelancer. Until December 2024 she managed the participatory project “DOMiDLabs: Making Museum Design Participatory” which aimed at developing design ideas and testing participatory methods for DOMiD’s upcoming Migration Museum in Cologne (Museum Selma). The project involved members of the civil society as well as international experts and scenographers. Since January 2025 she is part of the curation team with a focus on participatory practices. Sandra has been involved with COMCOL since 2021, first as an affiliated board member, as part of the COMCOL Germany group, and finally as an elected board member. She is also advisory board member of the Museum Association of North Rhine-Westphalia (Migration, Diversity and Participation).

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**Name:** Ya-Hsuan (Chelsea) Wang

**Country:** Taiwan

**Date of Birth:** March 28, 1985

**Title/Position:** Assistant Professor

**Institution of Employment:** Department of Cultural Vocation Development at National Taipei University of Technology

**Website:** [www-en.ntut.edu.tw/](http://www-en.ntut.edu.tw/)

**Motivation for my candidature; how I wish to serve and develop the committee and accomplish as a board member:**

Hello, I’m Chelsea from Taiwan. I first encountered ICOM and COMCOL at the ICOM Kyoto 2019 Conference. From that first experience, I was deeply moved by the sincerity and warmth of the COMCOL community, which encouraged me to stay engaged ever since.

During the pandemic, I co-founded the “COMCOL Young Professionals Network” with my partner Florencia Croizet, organizing bi-monthly online dialogues that provided an inclusive space for emerging professionals around the world. In 2023, I contributed to organizing COMCOL’s annual conference in Taiwan, marking its long-awaited return to Asia.

As a board member, I hope to continue passing on the welcoming spirit that once made me feel at home in COMCOL. I wish to help new and younger members feel a genuine sense of belonging without distance. I also hope to share perspectives on how collecting is being shaped and practiced in contemporary Asia, contributing to more inclusive and dynamic conversations within the committee. COMCOL has played a meaningful role in my professional journey, and I look forward to giving back through sincere, collaborative engagement.

**Background/short bio/CV, special competences and interests beneficial for COMCOL and ICOM:**

Chelsea Wang is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Cultural Vocation Development at National Taipei University of Technology. Her areas of expertise include museology, digital image and brand licensing, cross-disciplinary innovation and collaboration, and arts management. Prior to her academic appointment, she worked for nearly a decade as a researcher in the Creativity and Marketing Division at the National Museum of History in Taiwan. She is an active programmer of creative cultural projects and has served as a Young Board Member of COMCOL since 2020. Chelsea holds a Ph.D. in Arts Management and Cultural Policy from the National Taiwan University of Arts.