CAA-GR National Chapter

Wednesday, 19 May 2021

CAA-GR National Chapter at CAA International Steering Committee

1.   CAA-GR2021 conference

Local Organizers of CAA-Gr 2020 conference in accordance with the CAA-GR Board came to the decision to postpone the 4th CAA-GR conference to October 2021 due to COVID19 crisis. Even though, the situation has not considerably improved since then, we see a realistic chance that it will be possible to organize the conference in Autumn 2021 hosting participants at the facilities of the National Centre for Scientific Research "Demokritos". For this, we decided to give it another try and would like to invite you for the October 21th/22nd 2021. This will be the definite date, though, without another postponement. The abstracts and contributions already submitted last year will remain to be considered for presentation. There is no need for re-submission. The authors are free to update or edit their abstracts until the new deadline or to withdraw them. In the case that the pandemic situation has not clearly improved until then, impeding, still or again, the hosting of participants at N.C.S.R. "Demokritos", the conference will be held as a purely virtual (online) event. In any case, we are considering possibilities for presentations and conference participation via the Internet, but we are looking forward to gathering a considerable number of participants in person. The postponed conference will be jointly organized by the Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology and the Institute of Informatics and Telecommunications. The focus of the conference will remain on 'Big Data in Archaeology'. In the framework of the conference, a one-day workshop on 'Management and evaluation of Big Data' will take place.

2.   2021 CAA International Conference

The CAA-GR Board promotes the CAA International Conference of 2021 through its contacts and members. The conference was promoted through (a) the CAA-GR website @ https://gr.caa-international.org/2021/01/20/caa-international-conference-2021-cyprus/, (b) the CAA-GR Facebook and Twitter page and (c) the mailing lists maintained by the Steering Committee. The conference will take place virtually between 14th -18th June 2021.

3.   CAA-GR Chapter and the global pandemic

During the pandemic two virtual communications in terms of roundtable sessions have been planned and performed to keep a close connection with the members. Details regarding these two events are provided below.

3.1   *Current Status and the Future of Digital Archaeology in the Eastern Mediterranean, CAA-GR 2020 Sessions – "Greece, Cyprus, Turkey", 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct. 2020*

The Greek Chapter of the Computer Applications & Quantitative Methods in Archaeology (CAA-GR) organized a series of weekly online roundtable sessions (1 ½ hours duration each)

during October 2020. The invited speakers and the participants had the opportunity to exchange knowledge and experiences on digital archaeology in the Eastern Mediterranean and will envision future directions. A strong focal point in these discussions was on how the digital practice can cross boundaries and facilitate international collaboration. The intention was to establish a cross-border collegial environment where scholars could share their experiences, highlight problems and offer potential solutions, knowledge transfer and know-how.

In the first week, colleagues residing in Greece, Cyprus, and Turkey offered their experience and discussed issues, such as the level of digital scholarship in educational institutes, challenges in adopting digital curricula, managerial problems in digital projects and how they tackled them. In the second week, colleagues from foreign archaeological missions shared their experience in conducting or managing digital archaeology projects in an Eastern Mediterranean country, focusing on aspects of digital archaeology that might have eased the integration to host countries respectively or created a new and unforeseeable set of problems. In the third week, scholars who are/were in the state sector took the floor and talked about the impact of digital transformation and how states evaluate archaeological projects. National policies concerning digital archaeology or presentation of large-scale archaeological projects were at focus in this meeting. Furthermore, participants contributed their experience on how and why state archaeological services and departments adopt some digital tools and reject others. In the fourth week, a scholar of digital archaeology provided a synthesis on the previous weeks' discussions.

The participants were able to share their opinions on how digital archaeology will/should be in the future in the Eastern Mediterranean. Approximately 100 participants enrolled and participated at least once in a session. The primarily targeted countries, Greece, Cyprus and Turkey dominated the presence but there was also significant participation from the USA, UK, Austria, Italy, Germany and also Australia, Canada, France, Hungary, Ireland, Lebanon, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal (see also point 4 below).

3.2   Open Archaeological content curation and stewardship, CAA-GR 2021 Session 16 April 2021

The Greek Chapter of the Computer Applications & Quantitative Methods in Archaeology (CAA-GR) in collaboration with the ARIADNEplus consortium (Advanced Research Infrastructure for Archaeological Dataset Networking in Europe – plus), the SEADDA network (Saving European Archaeology from the Digital Dark Age) and the CARARE association (Connecting Archaeology and Architecture in Europe), organized an online roundtable session on Open Archaeological content curation and stewardship.

The event was based on the outcomes of last year's CAA-GR October sessions on the "Current Status and the Future of Digital Archaeology in the Eastern Mediterranean". A recurring theme that emerged during these discussions has been the overall management of digital archaeological content.

The online roundtable session extended this discussion, addressing issues related to the accessibility of digital archaeological content, and the effort required by heritage professionals and researchers to manage, structure, secure over the long term so as to make heritage digital assets available to the wider community at both local and international levels.

The invited speakers had opportunity to share their own experience on archaeological data stewardship and the Open Science strategy. They described the current landscape of policies and best practices towards digital content curation and showcase ongoing international research on archaeological data archiving, dissemination and reuse through the gradual integration of separate institutional and national archaeological data repositories and into larger content aggregators at the European and global level.

As archaeologists and heritage professionals are increasingly becoming digital data producers and users, the theme of digital curation is relevant to daily practices with respect to sustainable, transparent, open and reusable resources in the connected world. The intention was to highlight problems and present potential solutions, set up know-how transfer networks and facilitate transnational collaborative activities to address digital obsolescence. The presentations followed by a roundtable discussion, including a Q&A for the audience.

4. Presentation at the 2021 CAA International Conference

During the 2021 CAA international conference an oral presentation has been prepared for presenting the outcomes from the online roundtable sessions run through October 2020. The title of that presentation is "CAA-GR online community practices during the pandemic: Outcomes of the first series of online roundtable sessions", co-authored by Agapiou A., Katsianis M., Pavlidis G., Moullou D., Kalayci T. and Sylaiou S.

5. CAA-GR members

Based on the latest records, the CAA-GR National Chapter has grown to a community of 110 members. Approximately 90 members were added during 2020, a significant increase after many have dropped-out due to the GDPR regulations.

6. Elections

According to the CAA-GR constitution, members of the CAA-GR Board are elected for a 3-year term with the right to be re-elected for a second term. 2021 is a year for elections at CAA-GR. Two of the current Board members, Markos Katsianis, Deputy Chair, and Tuna Kalayci, Treasurer, are stepping down, as they are completing their second 3-year term. All Board positions will be open to interested eligible candidates. According to the provisions of article III.3.c, due to the current status regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and for the smooth operation of the CAA-GR, electronic voting will be used for this election.

In this respect the CAA-GR Board is launching the election procedure for new Board members. All eligible candidates (according to articles III.3.d, IV.2, V.4) are invited to apply for any Board position. The elections will be conducted with electronic voting through the Zeus Digital Voting system. Candidacies must be submitted (according to article V.4) to the present Board

members at least 10 days before the published election date, through the dedicated form, by indicating the position of the Board at which they would like to be elected and uploading a 2-page CV as well as a photograph.

All information on eligible candidates will be made accessible to CAA-GR members via the CAA-GR channels.

Important Dates
- Candidacy form open: Monday, 3 May 2021
- Deadline for candidates: Friday, 21 May 2021
- e-Vote start: Monday, 1 June 2021
- e-Vote end: Friday, 18 June 2021
- Announcement of results: Monday, 21 June 2021 through the CAA-GR media channels.

7.   Report on the engagement in social media

The CAA-GR Facebook page has been a major distribution and promotion factor for keeping contact with our members, friends, interested parties and the public. The strategy adopted included

(a) sharing of all the CAA-GR cite posts,
(b) sharing and promoting CAA-GR activities and events,
(c) sharing of CAA International activities and events,
(d) sharing of relevant material and news from third parties, which are relevant to the topics of CAA.
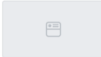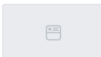
The Facebook page has been recognised as a particularly helpful channel for keeping in touch with the community. The following figure show the overall engagement results for 2020.
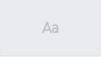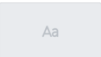

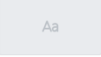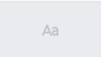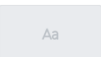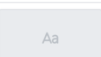| People reached	Engagement	Link clicks	Comments	Shares	Reactions	Photo views	New followers	Net followers
62,553	5,587	1,754	16	571	2,296	83	91	86

In addition, the following thee figures show (indicatively) the activity frequency on the CAA-GR page in the last three months of 2020.
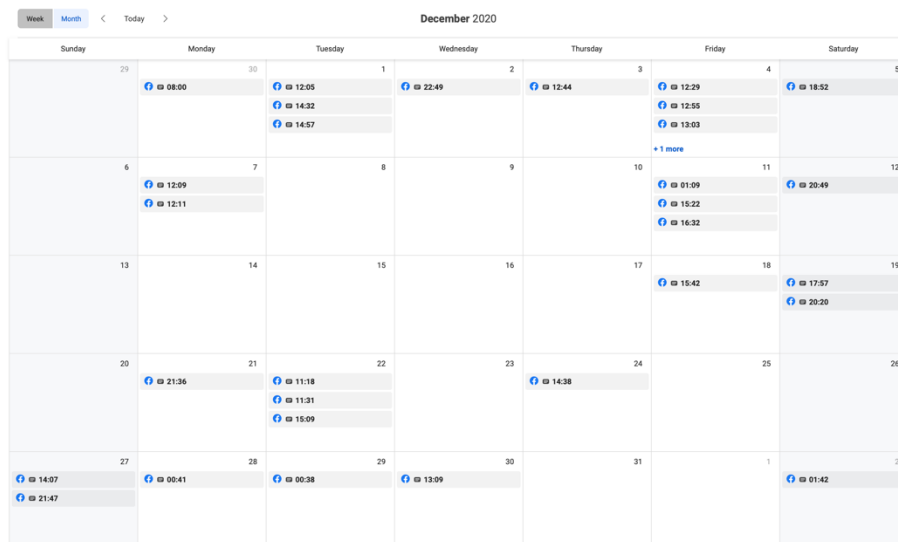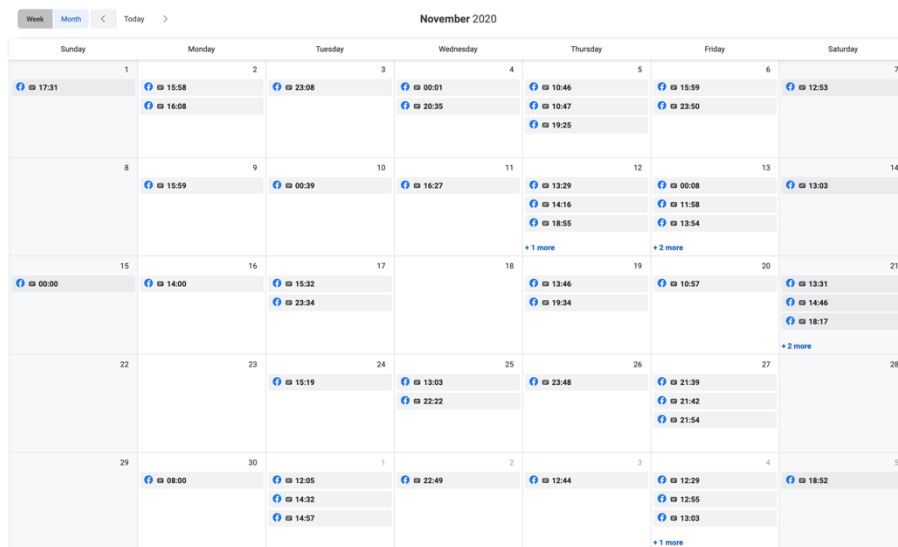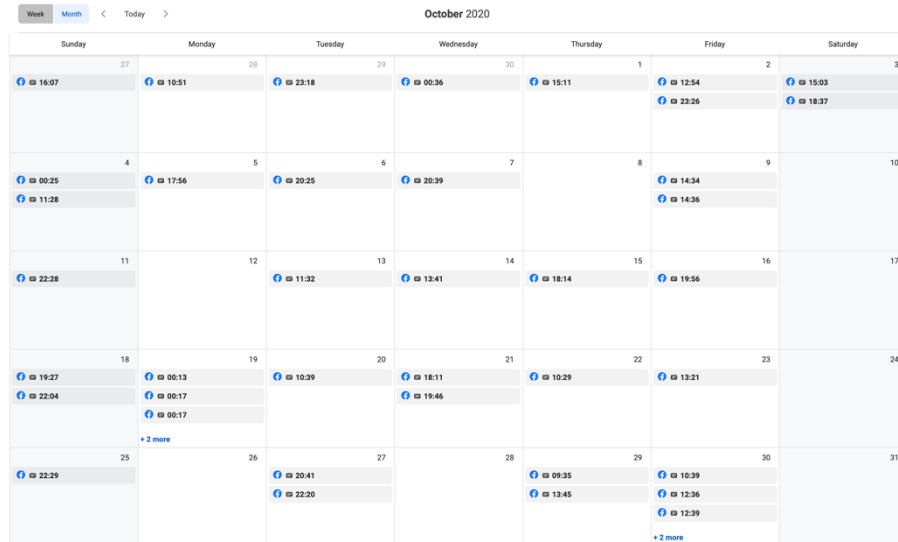
The following figure shows a part of the engagement report on each of the posts, which shows an average of impressions and people reach around 70 on shared posts and around 100 on published content.

Post		Post status	Published ↓	Details	Impressions	People reached	Engagement
Lost art: will virtual exhibitions replace in-person museum-going? ... — CAA Greece		● Published	30/12/2020 13:09 Stella Sylaiou		53	52	1
Saunas to sourdough: Unesco updates culture heritage list — CAA Greece		● Published	29/12/2020 00:38 Stella Sylaiou		58	57	0
ICOFOM - International Committee for Museology — CAA Greece		● Shared From CAA Greece	28/12/2020 00:41 Stella Sylaiou		53	53	2
EEMAA-Hellenic Society for the Study of Ancient Egypt — CAA Greece		● Shared From CAA Greece	27/12/2020 21:47 Stella Sylaiou		67	66	1
Timeline Photos — CAA Greece		● Shared From CAA Greece	27/12/2020 14:07 Stella Sylaiou		92	91	2

It should be noted that content of particular interest has attracted significantly more attention as shown in the following figure.

Post		Post status	Published ↓	Details	Impressions	People reached	Engagement
📣 Excitement here @ CAA-GR as we move forward for the electio... — CAA Greece		● Published	04/04/2021 12:16 George Pavlidis		1,424	1,364	13
https://dl.acm.org/journal/tochi/calls-for-papers/historyhci?fbclid... — CAA Greece		● Published	06/03/2021 12:46 Stella Sylaiou		60	60	1
https://www.ebyzantinemuseum.gr/?i=bxm.en.collections&fbclid=... — CAA Greece		● Published	20/01/2021 18:57 Stella Sylaiou		51	48	0
Call for Papers The CAA2021 call for papers is now open. You are ... — CAA Greece		● Published	20/01/2021 14:19 Stella Sylaiou		355	347	13
https://tetragwno.gr/themata/ekpaideysi/antigoni-ekpaideytiko-ka... — CAA Greece		● Published	13/11/2020 14:02 Stella Sylaiou		38	35	1
https://virtualnubia.uw.edu.pl/en/?fbclid=IwAR1I7MHV9igMZ6grP... — CAA Greece		● Published	02/10/2020 23:26 Stella Sylaiou		150	136	2
CAA-GR 2020 SESSIONS – "Greece, Cyprus, Turkey" "Current Stat... — CAA Greece		● Published	02/10/2020 12:54 Stella Sylaiou		98	93	3
SoftwareEngineer, Postdoc, RA - 3DInfrastructure - Maastricht Uni... — CAA Greece		● Published	05/09/2020 12:37 Stella Sylaiou		378	337	13

19th ,May 2021

The CAA-GR Steering Committee Members

Athos Agapiou Chair	Markos Katsianis Deputy Chair	George Pavlidis Secretary	Dorina Moullou Publication Officer	Tuna Kalayci Treasurer	Stella Sylaiou Social Media, Communications and Outreach