

IASA appreciates the work Dr Edmondson has done under the auspices of UNESCO to promote a better understanding of audiovisual archiving. The 1st edition (1998) and 2nd edition (2004) have been widely used on the broader philosophy of audiovisual archives and as a reference in many academic studies. However, IASA feels strongly that the 3rd Edition did not take note of IASA publications published since 2004, all regarded as authoritative in the industry and that the 3rd Edition therefore contradicts IASA's stance on digitisation. The IASA Board is furthermore concerned that text referring to digitisation appearing in the 2nd Edition was left unchanged in the 3rd Edition, which renders the publication outdated:

- IASA TC03 *The safeguarding of the Audio Heritage: Ethics, Principles and Preservation Strategy*, ed. by Dietrich Schüller. Version 3, 2005
- IASA TC04 *Guidelines on the Production and Preservation of Digital Audio Objects*, ed. by Kevin Bradley. Second edition 2009
- IASA TC05 *Handling and Storage of Audio and Video Carriers*, edited by Dietrich Schüller and Albrecht Häfner. First edition 2014
- IASA Special Publication No. 6 *Ethical Principles for Sound and Audiovisual Archives*. 2010 (revised 2011)

It is therefore with disappointment that IASA take note of the 3rd Edition.

Concerns

As this publication is endorsed by UNESCO, it is likely to be regarded by many as an authoritative publication.

It is for this reason that IASA has a concern about the quality of the references to IASA publications in **Appendix 4: Selected reading list**, the lack of IASA publications references within the body of the work with specific reference to the IASA TC03, TC04, and TC05, and the IASA Special Publication No 6, as well as some of the photographs used and its accompanying captions.

While Dr Edmondson used a group of knowledgeable experts to assist and advise him, it is not clear why the various technical committees of the AV organisations that make up the CCAA were not requested to assist – specifically in respect of Chapter 5. However, IASA recognises that Albrecht Häfner, a IASA Technical Committee member, was included in the advisory group for the 3rd Edition.

IASA believes that prior to the publication of the 3rd Edition broader consultation with the IASA Technical Committee should have been done. Notable omissions are the IASA TC04 *Guidelines on the Production and Preservation of Digital Audio Objects* (which is an accepted authority in the sound archiving field) and the IASA TC05 *Handling and Storage of Audio and Video Carriers*. Neither appear in the text nor are they referenced at all. It is also of concern that the IASA TC03 *Safeguarding the Audio Heritage: Ethics, Principles and Preservation Strategy* was incorrectly referenced (see below).

IASA questions the Mexican Spanish translations as recommended reading rather than the more accessible English versions, e.g.

Bradley, Kevin Riesgos asociados con el uso de los discos compactos y Videodiscos (DVDs) como medios confiables de almacenamiento para colecciones de archivo. Estrategias y alternativas. UNESCO, 2007. Editado en español por la Fonoteca Nacional, Mexico.

The recommended publication should be:

Risks Associated with the Use of Recordable CDs and DVDs as Reliable Storage Media in Archival Collections - Strategies and Alternatives'. UNESCO
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001477/147782E.pdf>

Inaccuracies

Chapter 4: The audiovisual archive: typology and paradigm

Footnote 48: The impression is created that IASA's membership is still primarily focused on sound. That has changed over the years and the word 'often' should be removed.

Chapter 7: Ethics and advocacy

Par 7.1.3: This paragraph refers to the IASA TC03 publication (Footnote 107). The TC03 deals with preservation and not with ethics in the context of this chapter. The correct publication to be used is the IASA Special Publication No. 6: <http://www.iasa-web.org/ethical-principles>

Appendix 4: Selected reading list

IASA TCO series including TC03. La salvaguardia del patrimonio sonoro: ética, principios y estrategias de preservación. (2003) Asociación Internacional de Archivos Sonoros y Audiovisuales (IASA)-Radio Educación, Mexico.

It should be noted that there are no IASA TCO series. TC is short for Technical Committee and the two digits at the end (03, 04 etc) indicate the number of the publication in this series. The TC series is a specific and growing volume of work titled: *Standards, Recommended Practices and Strategies*

This should be instead:

IASA TC series, *Standards, Recommended Practices and Strategies*, including TC03. Safeguarding the Audio Heritage: Ethics, Principles and Preservation Strategy (2005) International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives. <http://www.iasa-web.org/tc03/ethics-principles-preservation-strategy>

Photographs

IASA welcomes the use of photographs in this edition to illustrate archival practices.

Chapter 2: Foundations and history

Par 1.2.2: The photograph should be of a recognizable audiovisual item in decay to make the point.

Chapter 4: The audiovisual archive: typology and paradigm

Par 4.3.6: The photograph shows the wrong way to store discs. A photograph showing the proper way to store discs should have been included.

Chapter 5: Preservation and access: exploring nature and concept

Par 5.5.5: In the photo it is almost clear that those are mouldy tape boxes but the caption does not state so clearly.

Recommendation

The IASA Board feels strongly that the 3rd Edition of the Philosophy is a necessary and long overdue publication and is committed to assist Dr Edmondson to ensure an updated document.

- IASA recommends the 3rd edition in its current form to be removed from the internet and all future print work suspended until the publication has been updated to reflect the work done by the CCAA member organisations since 2004 and to ensure inaccuracies has been corrected.
- IASA recommends all technical committees of the CCAA to review the document and to give relevant input. To this end the IASA Board proposes the IASA Technical Committee to review the document, to make recommendations and to assist Dr Edmondson with the update of the 3rd Edition.