RIINA LINNA

Community Manager, Finnish Museum of Technology

Secretary of ICOM CIMUSET

Board member at the Finnish Association of Science journalists and editors Chair of the Union of Museum and Cultural Heritage Professionals in Finland

I have served as the secretary of ICOM CIMUSET. I feel I have found a global professional home in CIMUSET, a community where I belong. I want to serve CIMUSET and its members as the Chair.

MY EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD

I have worked at the Finnish Museum of Technology for more than 25 years. I have done it all from scrubbing toilets to receiving visitors to curating guided tours, creating games and building exhibitions. Been a team leader, too. My work has allowed me to develop my skills – I am not afraid to do what is needed or learn new skills if that is what it takes.

For the past five years I have worked as a community manager, focusing on community curation. At the Finnish Museum of Technology this means I help various communities from collectors to hobbyists create their own exhibitions. This work has truly been transformative. It has shown the power of collaboration and benefiting from various forms of expertise. Work with non-museum people, sometimes professionals in other fields but sometimes not, is a challenge but we do need to be challenged, in our practices and assumptions. In the words of a friend "critical friends" are just what we need to see our blind spots and faults and areas of improvement. Can we be that for one another in CIMUSET?

WHY I WOULD MAKE A GOOD CHAIR FOR THE COMMITTEE

I am a team player. I have shown my dedication to CIMUSET as the secretary in 2022-2025. I have been integral in organizing our regular governance but also our conferences in Seoul, Vienna and now Dubai. I am motivated to work together with brilliant colleagues from around the world whose expertise varies and complements mine. I have seen what the work of an ICOM international committee entails and feel confident taking that on. I am organized, practical and I can be an engaging speaker and presenter. It has taken me some years to find confidence in being a leader as I have always been more comfortable being the support act.

I have gained valuable experience of leading the work of a board at the Union of Museum and Cultural Heritage Professionals where I was re-elected as the chair. I am also a board member of the Finnish Association of Science journalists, editors and communicators.

RELEVANCE OF CIMUSET

When we were discussing the theme for CIMUSET IC Day in ICOM Dubai 2025 there seemed to be urgency in the times we are living. How CIMUSET and museums of science and technology more broadly take on post-truth society with distrust in politics, parties and sometimes in science, too. Issues at hand are complex and answers are not easy to find. CIMUSET is special because we are global, not only in our membership but also in our approach to finding solutions. It is times like these that call for even more collaboration, sharing of experiences and collegial support. CIMUSET as a community is something I want to foster and develop further. I would be proud to lead the work of the board in a time when our collective work feels more important now than ever.