The Asian Academy for Heritage Management is a network of institutions throughout Asia and the Pacific offering professional training in the field of heritage management. The mission of the Asian Academy is to strengthen professional capacity to sustainably manage heritage resources by providing a regional platform for institutional cooperation in training, research, and exchange. Under the guidance of UNESCO and ICCROM, the Asian Academy promotes integrated, holistic and multi-disciplinary management of heritage resources, including both tangible and intangible expressions of culture.

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Message from the Secretariat

Welcome to this year’s second edition of the Asian Academy for Heritage Management Newsletter. We would like to thank those who submitted news and articles for their contributions. Please print and post this newsletter to allow all staff and students to read it. The secretariat is now accepting articles, news, research announcements and events for our next issue. Please submit all items to asian-academy@unescobkk.org.

We look forward to continued co-operation with our members and to receiving input from our readers. Please contact us at asian-academy@unescobkk.org.

Asian Academy News

Asian Academy for Heritage Management Strategy Meeting

Bangkok, Thailand, 2 October 2006

In order to discuss the future development of the network and to elect an Asian Academy Steering Committee consisting of representatives from the institutional members, an AAHM Strategy Meeting has been scheduled for October 2006. Additional items on the agenda are the assessment of the outcomes from the activities of the working groups and the reconsideration of the network’s structure.

composed of member institutions of the Asian Academy, with the Institute for Tourism Studies (Macao SAR, China) and the University of Hong Kong (China) serving as the lead training focal point.

Report of the meeting can be downloaded on our website: http://www.unescobkk.org/index.php?id=4103

2006 AAHM Student Poster Competition

Deadline for submissions: 1 September 2006
Winner announcement: 3 October 2006

The competition provides an occasion for graduate students from AAHM member institutions to present their conservation projects or research work in the area of heritage conservation in Asia.

The international jury for the competition will be comprised of conservation experts from AAHM member institutions. The jury will announce the winners during the AAHM Research Conference in Bangkok on 3 October 2006, where the works will also be exhibited.

Entries in the form of posters or research papers must reach the Asian Academy for Heritage Management via mail by 1 September 2006.


Members News

Quick response to save heritage in Jogja, Indonesia

The Center for Heritage Conservation at Gadjah Mada University in close collaboration with several other heritage related institutions has initiated a project to revive the cultural assets damaged by the earthquake in Jogja, Indonesia on 27 May 2006.

A severe earthquake (5.9 Richter scale) shook the region on the 250th anniversary of the city of Jogja, one of Indonesia’s major tourism destinations. Jogja has a rich history and is known as the heart of Javanese culture. The city itself and its surroundings are home to a number of cultural attractions such as the Prambanan Temple and Kotagede, a palace site from the Islamic Mataram kingdom, which has been famous for its silverworks.

Many cultural assets, tangible and intangible, were severely damaged or collapsed during the earthquake. Among them were the Prambanan Temple, one of the largest temples in Java and a World Heritage site (inscribed in 1991) and the remains of the water castle Taman Sari, which was built in the 18th century as a pleasure park for the sultans and royal families.

Further architectural structures affected by the earthquake include numerous mosques, the Bayat Cemetery, and Tarun-martani, the only cigar factory in Indonesia (built in 1918). The earthquake devastated local communities and heavily undermined the activities of local industries such as the production of batik paintings, wood carvings, weavings, and other handicrafts.

Two days after the earthquake, Jogja Heritage Society (JHS) together with the Center for Heritage Conservation (CHC), Department of Architecture and Planning, Gadjah Mada University, in collaboration with friends and related institutions, agreed to set up a Heritage Post dedicated to the people of Jogja and its tangible culture. The Heritage Post formulates comprehensive programs to mobilize concerned individuals, locally as well as internationally, including the earthquake victims, to work together to rebuild damaged cultural assets.

The rehabilitation of the diverse heritage of Jogja is needed to stimulate substantial economic development. The task of rebuilding Jogja after the disaster is now in the hands of an enthusiastic team of people who realize that safeguarding heritage is essential.

Formoreinformation,pleasevisithttp://www.jogjaheritage.org or contact: PUSAKA HERITAGE, Rumah Pusaka Budaya, Jl. Pakuningratan 40, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. E-mail: jogja-pusaka@yahoo.com

Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia now offers postgraduate programmes in maritime archaeology

The Department of Archaeology at Flinders University has been teaching maritime archaeology at the Bachelor level since 1996.

Now Flinders University has introduced MA, PhD, and several short courses. This specialised area of archaeology is only taught at a small number of universities throughout the world, and at only two other universities in Australia. Maritime archaeology and underwater cultural heritage management are growth areas with increasing public profiles, particularly in North America and Europe, where they are almost invariably taught at the postgraduate level.

Maritime archaeology is concerned with the material aspects of seafaring from the earliest watercraft to shipwrecks of the twentieth century. It involves many issues such as Bronze Age trade, the changing technology of ship building, the shipwreck as time capsule, submerged harbour works, underwater cultural heritage management, ship abandonment, and archaeological displays in maritime museums to name a few. Material culture is used to examine subjects such as technological change, transportation, colonisation, exploration, international trade, culture and seafaring sub-cultures.

Maritime archaeology at Flinders University can be of interest for many graduates interested in a study course in this field, particularly given the new opportunities offered:

- Study on campus or as a distance-learning students,
- Study full- or part-time,
- Study maritime archaeology at Flinders University in collaboration with the University of Ulster (UK).
For further information, please contact: Associate Professor Mark Staniforth, Department of Archaeology, GPO Box 2100, Adelaide, SA 5001, Australia. Ph.: +61852015195, Fax: +61882012784, e-mail: mark.staniforth@flinders.edu.au. Web: http://ehlt.flinders.edu.au/archaeology/

Public awareness campaign encourages responsible tourism in Cambodia

Heritage Watch, one of the Institutional Affiliate members of the Asian Academy, starts its Heritage Friendly Tourism Programme in Cambodia at the end of the summer.

This campaign aims at advancing a series of guidelines for protection of the country’s rich cultural heritage. “The guidelines, along with a newsletter about archaeology in the country, will be widely distributed to foreign visitors by a network of Heritage Friendly businesses – hotels, restaurants, and tour operators that have demonstrated commitment to protecting” Cambodia’s great past. In return, these businesses will be recognized by the Heritage Friendly logo displayed on their door. This programme is supported by the country’s Ministry of Tourism which makes it one of the most successful initiatives in sustainable tourism development in the region.

Source: TOUCHSTONE, the Heritage Watch Newsletter, Volume 1, Issue 6 May 2006. For more information on Heritage Watch activities, please refer to their website: http://www.heritagewatch.org/index.php

Asia-Pacific Heritage News in Press

China marks first national Cultural Heritage Day

While World Heritage Day falls on 18 April, many countries adopt various dates to mark their own days in celebration and appreciation of cultural heritage. China joined this movement and announced the second Saturday of June as National Cultural Heritage Day aiming to “boost public awareness of heritage protection”. At the same time, “Chinese State Councilor Chen Zhili called for nationwide efforts to mark the first national Cultural Heritage Day which this year happened to be 10 June.


Arson guts UNESCO World Heritage site in South Korea

“Sojangdae watchtower at Hwasong Fortress in Suwon City, Kyonggi Province, a historic relic from the late Choson Kingdom was destroyed by arson Monday. The second floor of the belvedere was burned down in some 20 minutes after the fire broke out on Monday, despite efforts by some 40 firefighters and 10 fire tenders. It was the second arson of cultural assets in a week. The two incidents have triggered criticism over the government’s failure to have appropriate measures in place to prevent wooden cultural assets from being destroyed by fire”.


Aborigines ‘not consulted on remains’

“British museums hold about 40,000 (Australian) Aboriginal artefacts and human remains collected almost from the time of first colonisation.” In March, the Australian government concluded a historic deal with Britain to repatriate Aboriginal remains but indigenous groups are angered not to have been consulted.


Workshop in Hue, Viet Nam discusses preservation of World Heritage sites

“Representatives from provinces having World Heritage Sites and managers of nature reserves attended the three-day conference in the former imperial city, organized by UNESCO and Vietnam’s culture ministry. They discussed solutions to protect and raise the profile of the heritage sites in Vietnam, suitable management models, and the possibility of cooperation between the sites and biosphere reserves”.


Tourism threatening Tibet’s sacred spaces

“Tibet’s capital, Lhasa, is bursting at the seams with tourists. It already receives so many tourists that the famed Potala Palace, the ancient symbol of Tibet, has imposed a daily limit on visitors. Even humble Tibetan pilgrims are turned away when the daily maximum is reached. But the tourism boom is about to get much bigger. China’s new high-altitude railway to Tibet is expected to open the floodgates to a massive influx of new visitors -- an extra 4,000 a day when it is in full operation”.


UNESCO Asia-Pacific News

36 entries received for the 2006 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards

This year’s Awards programme has drawn 36 entries from 11 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The broad range of entries includes three urban areas, three churches, two temples, two palaces, as well as tombs, caves, mosques, and private mansions. A total of six entries from four countries have also been received for the UNESCO Heritage Awards Jury Commendation for Innovation.

More information about each of the projects can be found at http://www.unescobkk.org/index.php?id=4109.
The course aims to serve a wide range of conservation practitioners and decision makers by placing technical issues within the broader conservation context in order to link them to planning and management concerns. The first part of the course will consist of an overview of the different approaches and of key concepts in built heritage conservation. The second part, focusing on an integrated approach to conservation and management of heritage, will provide an opportunity for the participants to view conservation concerns within a broader strategic and planning framework capturing not only technical but also the cultural, environmental and sustainability issues. Finally, a portion of the course will be allocated to looking at technical aspects of conservation interventions.

At the conclusion of the course, participants will have a better understanding of critical processes in conservation in order to apply them at the macro/micro levels; improve their strategic planning skills relevant to heritage management; expand their awareness, knowledge, and understanding of current principles and practices in conservation of built heritage; and enhance skills, judgments, and experience.

Or: contact: ICCROM - Sites Unit, Ph.: +39-6 585531, Fax: +39-658553349, e-mail: builtheritage07@iccrom.org

Member profile of the month
"Wisdom is all Wealth" - Faculty of Architecture, University of Moratuwa

Architectural education in Sri Lanka commenced as early as 1961 as a basic course of study and developed into the Faculty of Architecture and Town and Country Planning in 1979. The Department, from its very inception, has very close relationships with the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA), the Royal Institute of British Architects, and the Commonwealth Association of Architects. And these institutions, in return, have formally recognised the study courses offered by the Department.

The Department of Architecture offers both first degree and postgraduate courses, as well as several courses leading to toward certificates. Full-time B.Sc. ‘Built Environment’ programme introduces a series of studies ranging from social, economic, psychological and physiological conditions of man to the technological and institutional issues of the environment in which he lives.

Of particular interest to the goals of the AAHM is the Postgraduate Course in Architectural Conservation. It is a part-time, two-year course, designed for working conservators which results in the Master of Science award (ACOMAS). Another option is to complete a one-year course and gain a postgraduate diploma in Architectural Conservation.

The Faculty of Architecture is equipped with its own Conservation Laboratory and Architectural Research Unit. At present, the Department has all the resources to be involved in teaching, research, and consultancy assignments. It participates in a number of research activities related to improvement of living environments, amongst which are work in the fields of climatology, environment, and building materials. The ACOMAS group is currently also involved in Discovery of Lost Cities and in Conservation of Historic Monuments projects in the Ancient City of Polonnaruwa, as well as research on Architectural Surfaces Conservation.

For more information, please visit the University of Moratuwa website at http://www.mrt.ac.lk

Asia-Pacific Calendar of Events

"Angkor - Landscape, City and Temple” Conference
Sydney, Australia, 17-22 July 2006

The University of Sydney will host a conference that will provide an opportunity for the international community of researchers to contribute to a definitive overview of recent and ongoing research on Angkor, to discuss future directions and collaboration, and to participate in specialist workshops and training sessions.

For more information, please refer to conference website: http://conferences.arts.usyd.edu.au/index.php?cf=9

City Development World 2006 Conference
Sydney, Australia, 25-27 July 2006

The conference will draw key industry leaders that can share their vision and practical strategies for city development. Among the key topics to be discussed are the following: community development, regeneration and urban renewal, planning, design and construction.

For more information visit the conference’s website: http://www.terrapinn.com/2006/cdw_au/index.stm or contact: Jasmine Chia at email: jasmine.chia@terrapinn.com

Indigenous Development and Modernisation Conference with a special focus on Cultural Tourism
Kunming, China, 6-14 August 2006

This international forum aims at sharing international experience in indigenous development among the Chinese and international academia, indigenous communities, and government officials, and providing an opportunity for the Chinese experience in indigenous development and Chinese ethnic studies to be shared with the international community.

More information can be found at the conference website: http://www.arts.uottawa.ca/conferences/yunnan/

Want to join the Asian Academy?

Signing up for the Asian Academy is easier than you think. Simply go to the “Members” page of the Asian Academy website and download the documents your institution requires. Upon acceptance your institution will be eligible for all the
Staff News

We would like to extend our greetings to Mr Sadahiko Tanaka who recently joined ICCROM as a project manager in the Sites Unit. Mr Tanaka is on a secondment from the Agency for Cultural Affairs (Bunka-cho), Government of Japan, where he is a Specialist for the Cultural Properties, Architecture and Other Structures Division in the Department of Cultural Properties.

Internship Opportunity

The AAHM internship programme is open to all students with relevant educational background. The internship applications and other relevant information is available on our website: http://www.unescobkk.org/index.php?id=923.