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Asian Approaches to Conservation

Bangkok, 18 July 2006

The UNESCO-ICCROM Asian Academy for Heritage Management (AAHM) is a network of academic teaching and research institutions whose purpose is to promote professional training to enhance the management of the Asia-Pacific region’s cultural heritage. At the Asian Academy’s inaugural Research Conference on 3 and 4 October 2006, scholars, researchers and practitioners from the network’s member institutions will come together in Bangkok to present the latest research findings in the field of cultural heritage conservation.

In response to the increasing demand for improved professional management of the cultural heritage resources of the Asia-Pacific region, UNESCO and ICCROM have established a consortium of the region’s premium universities, the Asian Academy for Heritage Management. This consortium networks institutes of higher learning throughout the Asia-Pacific region that are engaged in the research and teaching of heritage conservation and cultural institution management.

“The Asian Academy meets the urgent need for capacity building among professionals in the region”, says Dr Richard Engelhardt, UNESCO Regional Advisor for Culture in Asia and the Pacific. "Our objective is to tap into existing conservation knowledge in the region and to initiate new synergies between researchers, practitioners, and advanced students by providing a joint platform."

On 3 and 4 October 2006, the first Research Conference of the AAHM organized in cooperation with the Chulalongkorn University, one of the AAHM’s core member institutions, will take place in Bangkok. The Research Conference will offer scholars, researchers and practitioners the opportunity to share their scientific knowledge and conservation experiences, and to participate in open debates on cultural heritage conservation. Registration for the Research Conference is now open.

Running parallel to the conference will be a poster exhibition on the conference theme of “Asian Approaches to Conservation” with works submitted for the AAHM 2006 Awards for Outstanding Student Work by students from member institutions of the AAHM. The winners of the competition will be announced at the AAHM Research Conference.

For further information please visit the Asian Academy for Heritage Management online at www.unescobkk.org/culture/asian-academy.

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