

EDITORIAL FOR IPPA BULLETIN 29, 2009

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HANOI CONFERENCE DECEMBER 2009

At the date of printing (January 2010), this conference is already over. It was a great success with around 600 delegates in attendance. For full details go to the IPPA website at

<http://arts.anu.edu.au/arcworld/ippa/19thcongress.htm>,
and see also the announcements page at
<http://ejournal.anu.edu.au/index.php/bippa/>.

The program for the conference, that also lists sponsors, is printed at the end of this Bulletin. Delegates who visited the Ba Dinh site on the mid-week conference tour will be interested to read the article by Dinh et al. in this issue.

GRANUCCI FUND WINNERS FOR 2008

Sofwan Noerwidi of the Center for Archaeological Research, Yogyakarta (Jl. Gedongkuning 174, Yogyakarta) was granted funds for archaeological research at the site complex of Kendenglembu in East Java. A full report on this research by Sofwan is included in this issue of BIPPA.

Nuno Vasco Oliveira from the office of the Secretary of State for Culture, Ministry of Culture, Timor Leste, was granted funds for "Documenting archaeological sites in Timor-Leste – a first systematic approach". Nuno's description of the project runs as follows:

There is as yet no East Timorese trained archaeologist, nor any graduate studies in archaeology in Timor-Leste. This project aims at training local staff of the National Directorate for Culture (*Direcção Nacional de Cultura*, DNC), under the Secretary of State for Culture (SEC) of the República Democrática de Timor-Leste (RDTL), in documenting archaeological sites in the country. The DNC staff is part of the future National Museum of Timor-Leste and has had previous training in museum collections management provided by the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT). MAGNT has also provided the DNC with a database to manage its museum collection which will now be extended to include all archaeological sites in Timor-Leste. The National Museum will act as a repository for archaeological collections and associated research resulting from excavations or works undertaken in Timor-Leste. Therefore, training of local staff to document archaeological sites and manage them at a national level is a fundamental first step in order to create an institutional archaeological framework that will enable protecting the country's existing heritage

and raise awareness for the need to develop graduate studies in this area.

Archaeological work in Timor-Leste was initiated in the 1930s by Alfred Bühler, and later continued by a team led by the Portuguese anthropologist António de Almeida who recorded and excavated several archaeological sites in the former Portuguese colony. Between 1975 and 1999 little archaeological research was undertaken, and none resulted in any known publications in English. Since the 1999 referendum, which ultimately led to Independence in May 2002, Timor-Leste has seen archaeological work resumed. The East Timor Archaeological Project (ETAP), a joint project between the Australian National University (ANU) and James Cook University (JCU), has been recording archaeological sites in Timor-Leste since 2000. One of its members, Sue O'Connor, has continued fieldwork in the country and many more sites have since been recorded, ranging from aceramic shell middens to caves and rock shelters, some of them with evidence of rock paintings. Additional archaeological fieldwork in Timor-Leste included the work undertaken by Peter Lape and some of his graduate students from the University of Washington (UW), who carried out research survey and excavations in several sites in the eastern part of the country. Much of these works have recently been published and it is expected that lists of sites will soon be provided by these archaeologists, to be incorporated within the national database of archaeological sites in Timor-Leste.

GRANUCCI ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be no Granucci awards for 2009 since the available funding will be used to enable delegates from Indonesia and Timor-Leste to attend the IPPA conference in Hanoi.

THE ONLINE IPPA BULLETIN

The IPPA Bulletin is now edited by Ben Marwick and Peter Lape at the University of Washington, Seattle, and future issues will be published online at <https://digital.lib.washington.edu/ojs/index.php/BIPPA/>. Ben and Peter also have an IPPA email account at bippa@uw.edu. Hopefully, many of you who attended the Hanoi conference will submit your papers for future issues. The ANU website for BIPPA and ippa@anu.edu.au will be kept open until further notice.