

## **Call for theme and session organisers**

This is a call for expressions of interest in being involved as theme or session organisers for the *Inaugural Asian Academy for Heritage Management (AAHM) Asia-Pacific regional conference on Underwater Cultural Heritage* to be held in Manila, Philippines from 8 to 12 November 2011.

Each theme and session will require at least two, and no more than three, organisers. Preference will be given to groups of theme and session organisers who are prepared to work to ensure gender balance, have a blend of experienced and early-career professionals/academics (or graduate students) and have at least one member of their group who speaks a language other than English. The conference organisers can help interested individuals to make contact with other potentially suitable organisers. Theme and session organisers will be expected to attend the conference in person and to present an individual, or jointly written, paper in either their own or another theme or session.

### **Theme organisers**

Themes will encompass 'large-scale' issues in maritime archaeology and/or underwater cultural heritage management. Themes will need to have at least three sessions that fit comfortably within the theme and should run for a minimum of one whole day up to three days of the conference itself. Theme organisers will be required to draft a suitable theme description of 300 to 500 words which will appear on the conference website. They will be responsible for the overall co-ordination of their theme within the conference program including involvement in the recruitment, evaluation and selection of sessions and session organisers for their theme. Theme organisers will be expected to chair a session within their theme and be prepared to stand in as chair of a session if required. Theme organisers will be expected to play a role in the publication(s) that arise from the conference.

### **Session organisers**

Sessions will address a significant issue or 'sub-theme' in maritime archaeology and/or underwater cultural heritage management. A session will consist at a minimum of four presentations (each of 20 minutes plus 20 minutes at the end of the session for questions). A session needs to have a minimum of four presenters. There may be more than one session on a particular issue/ sub-theme. Session organisers are to provide a session description of approximately 300 words to appear on the conference website. They will be responsible for coordinating their session within the conference program including involvement in the recruitment, evaluation and selection of presenters for their session. Session organisers will also select a suitable chair for each part of their session and they will be expected to chair a session part within their session, as well as be prepared to stand in as chair of a session part if required. Session organisers will be expected to play a role in the publication(s) that arise from the conference.

# ***The Inaugural Asian Academy for Heritage Management (AAHM)***

## ***Asia-Pacific regional conference***

### ***on Underwater Cultural Heritage***

#### **Introduction**

The 2001 *UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage* (UNESCO Convention 2001) entered into force on 2 January 2009 and provides the basis for international cooperation and exchange of knowledge about underwater cultural heritage. Recent decades have witnessed an expansion of activity directed at underwater cultural heritage which has raised awareness of the potential and importance of this heritage. There has also been a realisation of the threats to this material from human activities and natural action, sea-level rise and erosion, increased development, industrial extraction, exploitation of marine resources and SCUBA diving activities which are all contributing to damage and loss. This period of relatively rapid change has increased pressure on governments, heritage groups and agencies, coastal zone managers, diving groups and other users to formulate an approach to managing the underwater cultural heritage. This conference will provide an opportunity to exchange and disseminate information about underwater cultural heritage and underwater archaeology in Asia and the countries of the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

**Date:** 8 to 12 November 2011

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Host organisations:** The National Museum of the Philippines and  
the University of the Philippines

#### **This Conference is supported by:**

UNESCO

ICOMOS-ICUCH

Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology (ACUA)

Australasian Institute for maritime Archaeology (AIMA)

Institute for Nautical Archaeology (INA)

Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS)

Society of Africanist Archaeologists (SAfA)

Maritime Heritage Program in the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries at NOAA

Maritime Archaeology Program (MAP) at Flinders University

Program in Maritime Studies at East Carolina University

Centre for Maritime Archaeology at the University of Southampton

**This Conference is sponsored by:**

UNESCO National Commission (Australia)

**Organising Committee:** consisting of host organisations, Conference Program  
Chair, Theme Organisers and ??

**Conference Themes:** Underwater Cultural Heritage Management  
Artefacts from Underwater sites  
Underwater Archaeology  
Nautical (Ship and boat) Archaeology  
Submerged site archaeology  
Intangible underwater cultural heritage

**Conference Aims**

- to exchange and disseminate information about underwater cultural heritage in Asia and the countries of the Indian and Pacific Oceans
- to facilitate professional development for underwater archaeologists and underwater cultural heritage managers in the Asia-Pacific region
- to provide a forum for discussion and exchange of ideas and approaches about underwater cultural heritage and underwater archaeology
- To publish the proceedings both online and in print and disseminate to a wide audience

**Timetable**

Establish Organising Committee	October 2010
Expressions of Interest Call	November 2010
First Call for Papers	December 2010
Second Call for Papers	February 2011
Conference abstract due by	June 2011
Conference papers due by	September 2011
Conference papers available online by	October 2011
Conference	November 2011
Publication by	8 November 2011

Associate Professor Mark Staniforth

Maritime Archaeology Program - Flinders University

3 Nov 2010