

# AN OVERVIEW OF US/ICOMOS IN 2006

# From John Fowler Chairman of the Board of Trustees

US/ICOMOS entered 2006 fully energized by the award of the Gazzola Prize to our Chair Emerita Ann Webster Smith and the sweeping re-election of our Executive Director Gustavo Araoz as International Vice President of ICOMOS, both of which occurred at the General Assembly in Xi'an, China the previous October. Contributing to the enthusiasm was the welcome response to the large US/ICOMOS delegation there, which reassured the world that Americans are ready, once again, to be fully engaged in the international preservation arena.

In the spring of this year, the sudden news of the death of Ann Webster Smith during the US/ICOMOS International Symposium in Newport was a great blow to us all. Yet being the unmitigated supporter that she was, she would have rejoiced in the Symposium's great success, which was owed largely to the work of our former Vice Chair Eric Hertfelder. The event attracted major national and international heritage figures from all continents, and gave American preservationists their only annual opportunity to view our own work in a sweeping global context. ... (continued on page 3)



John Fowler presents Ann Webster Smith with the Gazzola Prize at a reception in Washington DC

Inside 10th US/ICOMOS International Symposium April 18-21, 2007, San Francisco



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# ANNOUNCEMENT from the US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees Support for an American President of ICOMOS

At its summer meeting in San Francisco, held July 22, 2006, the US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees voted to endorse for ICOMOS President the candidacy of Gustavo Araoz, currently Executive Director of US/ICOMOS and Vice President if ICOMOS. In recognition of the challenges to US/ICOMOS this candidacy would bring, the Board endorsed Mr. Araoz's candidacy once the following criteria were met:

- 1. Resolution of an potential conflicts of interest from the perspective of the International entity;
- 2. Resolution of any potential conflicts of interest from the perspective of the US National Committee (through a third party legal assessment or opinion letter contracted by US/ICOMOS);
- 3. Formation of a Board committee to support the candidacy; and
- 4. Outline of a detailed 5-year development and organizational plan for US/ICOMOS.

The vote was unanimously in favor of the candidacy.

# Legal Review

Subsequent to the July Board meeting, a legal review working group, chaired by Paul Edmondson and including James Reap and Richard Nettler, made an assessment of the potential conflicts of interest and presented their findings to the Board at its October 28 meeting in Washington, DC.



This review found no fatal conflict of interest in the Executive Director of US/ICOMOS serving as President of ICOMOS, noting that any conflicts that arise could be dealt with through a conflict-of-interest policy adopted beforehand.

The legal review working group has since been working to draft a conflict-of-interest policy (both for the Executive Director and for the Board of Trustees) to present to the Board.

The US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees is currently reviewing the five-year development plan and five-year strategic plan to include this candidacy.

Michael Petzet (current ICOMOS President) with Gustavo Araoz, who is currently serving a second 3-year term as ICOMOS Vice President.

# AN OVERVIEW OF US/ICOMOS IN 2006 (continued from p.1)

We cannot forget how this event, now entering its 10th year grew out of the vision and generosity of one member, **Ron Fleming**, who single-handedly organized and funded the first Symposium. He had the vision and now serves on the US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees.

Also in the spring, US/ICOMOS met with the cultural subcommittee of the US National Commission for UNESCO to present in detail the current contributions that ICOMOS makes and the potential ones it could make—to international heritage protection and, in particular, to sites listed in the World Heritage List. The report that US/ICOMOS compiled was then shared with other National Committees to use with their own UNESCO National Commissions.

Over the summer, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation invited US/ICOMOS to co-chair one of eleven expert panels in the Preserve America Summit, convened by First Lady Laura Bush in New Orleans in October. Our panel, the only one dealing with international issues, formulated major policy and program recommendations that will help our country regain a position of international cultural leadership.

As for all Americans, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan were constant concerns, particularly as they have affected the extraordinary cultural heritage of these regions. To help our national authorities

protect such places in future conflicts, US/ICOMOS convened in late summer a meeting of concerned major cultural organizations and government agencies to launch an overdue national discussion of ratification by the United States of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property during Armed Conflict. US/ICOMOS continues to explore with government authorities how we can help sensitize military personnel to the special needs of heritage sites and cultural property.



Our decade-long World Heritage campaign bore fruit in 2006

in a wave of public interest in US participation through nominations of American sites to the World Heritage List. US/ICOMOS has been advising the National Park Service Office of International Affairs (NPS-OIA) on the planning and implementation of the process for drafting a new Tentative List of sites that will be nominated by the US over the next ten years. At the other end of the spectrum, US/ICOMOS has also reached out to numerous communities throughout the United States that are exploring nominating their sites to help them navigate the intricacies of World Heritage criteria and processes. A singular effort in this direction was the public World Heritage workshop that we co-sponsored with the International Conservation Union (IUCN) at the National Geographic Society in the fall—an event that was orchestrated and funded by Patricia O'Donnell, another of our generous and visionary donors and members.

At the international level, the increased American presence of US/ICOMOS has made major contributions to the field and to ICOMOS. For the annual ICOMOS Advisory Committee meeting last fall in Edinburgh, I took the unusual and welcome step of taking with me a large delegation of our Board members, who thus were able to contribute to the general discussions and participate actively in several of the standing sub-committees. ... (continued on page 4)

# AN OVERVIEW OF US/ICOMOS IN 2006 (continued from p. 3)

Also important to recognize is the work that our Director Gustavo Araoz has been quietly carrying out as International Vice President of ICOMOS. After three years of leading a strategic planning process with our worldwide membership, his efforts culminated in the creation of a new ICOMOS Scientific Council that will coordinate inter-disciplinary research and programs among all the International Scientific Committees of ICOMOS. Encouraged by this, ICOMOS President Michael Petzet has now entrusted him with similar duties to transform the National Committees of ICOMOS, an effort that he launched at the September ICOMOS meetings in Scotland.

Gustavo's success and leadership have not gone unnoticed at the international level. Since the Madrid General Assembly in 2002, many colleagues from abroad have been approaching members and Trustees of US/ICOMOS to ask that we support his candidacy for President at the next elections in the 2008 Quebec General Assembly. At its July meeting in San Francisco, the Board weighed the challenges and opportunities of an ICOMOS President from the United States, and unanimously adopted an enthusiastic resolution to work to make this candidacy possible.

Not since we hosted the 1987 ICOMOS General Assembly in Washington has there been so much energy and optimism among the US/ICOMOS leadership regarding our global potential. While having an American President of ICOMOS would be a great honor for both US/ICOMOS and the United States, it also would carry great responsibilities, not the least of which are financial. In order to sustain Gustavo's duties as President of ICOMOS, in preparation for 2008, we would need to raise \$100,000 annually for three years. This amount is above and beyond the scheduled annual fundraising goals needed to sustain our existing program structure and continue our institutional growth according to the 5-Year Development Plan, to which the Board is deeply committed.

While the magnitude of our new fundraising goals seems daunting, we are blessed by the support of many loyal friends, like Ed Crocker, Kak Slick, Jim Hare, and Bessie Hanahan, who organized a reception to introduce US/ICOMOS to the cultural community of Santa Fe. Our confidence was re-affirmed shortly after by a generous gift of \$20,000 from Alexandra and Peter Harrison, first-time donors from New Mexico—the largest single private donation ever to US/ICOMOS.

With the assistance of our many individual members and friends, and with our partner institutions, we know that US/ICOMOS will be successful in meeting these great and exciting challenges, which will bring major benefits not only for US/ICOMOS, but also for the US preservation community, the United States, and for the cultural heritage of the entire world.

Below-scenes from the Santa Fe reception, July, 2006. Center - Bessie Hanahan and Jim Hare of Santa Fe.



# NEW PROGRAM STRUCTURE FOR US/ICOMOS

In January of 2006, the Board of Trustees adopted a new program structure for US/ICOMOS that more closely aligns with the mission statement of US/ICOMOS and, given the limits of staff and financial resources, streamlines the administration and management, as well as the growth, of US/ICOMOS programs and activities.

#### **Education and Training**

Specialized Committees Workshops & Seminars

#### **Exchanges of People**

Summer Intern Program Professional Exchange Program (in the planning stages) Expert Exchanges (primarily in coordination with other programs) Travel Grants to members for US/ICOMOS representation abroad World Heritage Study Tours

#### **Exchanges & Dissemination of Information**

Annual US/ICOMOS International Symposium Newsletter and E-News Service US/ICOMOS Website Annual Journal Cooperation with Other Organizations

#### **Technical Assistance**

Support for US Sites seeking World Heritage inscription Support the US role in World Heritage Support the US role in other International Conventions Emergency Response Fund Occasional site- or project-specific assistance

#### Advocacy

Participation in the National Trust Annual Meeting Liaising to other Affinity Organizations Public Information

#### **ICOMOS** International

US representation in the ICOMOS Bureau, Executive and Advisory Committees Relations and communication with the ICOMOS Secretariat Relations and communication with other ICOMOS National Committees Linking with and supporting the ICOMOS International Scientific Committees

This program structure and the success of the various programs and activities listed within it is dependent upon a dynamic and expanding membership base. US/ICOMOS continues to seek ways in which members and partner organizations can work together to enhance these programs and activities.

#### ICOMOS TO RECOGNIZE PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE OF MEMBERS

As reported through various means over the past year, the framework and structure of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committees (ISCs) has been extensively revised to better serve our members, as well as the needs of ICOMSO of the heritage conservation field. The ICOMOS Executive Committee approves the formation of ICOMOS Scientific Committees, but they are really grassroots initiatives that spring from specific proposals by like-minded members who need a specialized forum to exchange the ideas and establish mechanisms for cooperation. In spite of certain gaps in the topics addressed by our ISCs (for instance, metals conservation), there is a committee to suit most specializations and interests.

For you, the individual International Members of US/ICOMOS, the opening of these vast networks means greater access to define and participate in the agenda of the International Scientific Committees. Specifically, the changes described below were implemented in your benefit.

#### New Categories of Members

ISCs have abandoned the policy of one voting member per National Committee, replacing it with the new category of unlimited numbers of Expert Members. While any member of ICOMOS may apply for expert membership in as many ISCs as she/he wishes, there will be certain criteria that

will have to be met to gain this recognition. All ISCs have adopted or are in the process of developing their own specific criteria, which will be made public as soon as all are formally adopted and approved. While this should not be confused with a professional certification process, it will be a mechanism for international recognition of expertise in a number of conservation specializations for which there is no formal process of recognition. International Members of US/ICOMOS willing to join any ISC are requested to send their a copy of their CV as well as a statement of their specific qualifications in the field of interest of the ISC in question. US/ICOMOS will then forward the information to the ISC for processing.

#### Young Professional Participation

For younger professionals or those starting their careers in heritage conservation, the ISCs have adopted a special affiliate membership. Affiliate membership will provide opportunities to work closely with internationally recognized experts, as well as mentoring by senior Expert Members of the ISC. . . . *(continued on page 7)* 



#### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE OF MEMBERS (continued from p. 6)**

#### Scientific Council

As part of the overhaul of the ISCs, a Scientific Council was created consisting of the presidents or a designated representative form each of the 28 ISCs. The Council will exercise oversight over the work of the ISCs, verifying that minimum performance is met, that the open membership policy is enforced, and that access to decision making is being given to all members. A principal duty assigned to the Scientific Council is the identification of specific issues that need discussion and research, and to ensure inter-disciplinary work on them through the many disciplines represented in the ISCs membership. Some of these issues are related to the advisory role of ICOMS in the World Heritage Convention, while others deal with global issues affecting heritage conservation.

Two issue areas are in their early stages of implementation: (1) the effects of global warming on heritage conservation, and (2) re-conceptualization of historic cities as historic urban landscapes. All International Members of US/ICOMOS are invited to participate and contribute to these efforts. **Contact <garaoz@usicomos.org> for more information**.

#### Universal Membership Database

A universal membership database has been developed for ICOMOS under the guidance of Gilles Nourissier, a member of the Executive Committee form ICOMOS France. The database will be accessible on-line once testing is completed (using three National Committees and one ISC), and legal requirements for individual identity protection in all ICOMOS countries are satisfactorily addressed. When it becomes functional over the next year, each member of ICOMOS, on a voluntary basis, will have password access to a personal page where, in addition to basic contact information, there are a number of fields to describe education training professional history, publications, language ability. Individual members will be responsible for inputting all data. Eventually, the queriable database will be universally accessible on line those in search of individuals with specific expertise and abilities, who can then request from ICOMOS the pertinent contact information. Thus, the data available in such queries will be strictly controlled to protect the anonymity of each member until approval is given to release it. The database will help ICOMOS in better understanding the resources of our membership, and is expected to become a major tool in assigning missions, identifying consultants, speakers, etc.



Left: Charlotte Winters, Roy Grahan, and Philip Marshall at the US/ICOMOS International Breakfast (National Trust meeting). Center: Pamela Jerome and John Fowler at the Bergen meetings. Right: Anna Latoch and Sam Stokes at the US/ICOMOS International Exchange Program reception.



# 10<sup>th</sup> USICOMOS INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM April 18-21, 2007 in San Francisco California

### Balancing Culture, Conservation, and Economic Development: Heritage Tourism in and around the Pacific Rim

Hosted by The Presidio Trust and Organized by Architectural Resources Group

Planning for the 10th US/ICOMOS International Symposium is almost complete. The conference organizers have assembled a distinguished panel of domestic and international speakers who will explore topics including heritage tourism issues in Japan, Hawaii, Korea, Thailand, Peru, and the United States, among others.

On the eve of the plenary session, a lecture on the experience at Angkor Archaeological Park will be presented at Herbst Theatre by John Stubbs (World Monuments Fund), Tim Winter (University of Sydney), and Simon Warrack (Architectural Conservator, Angkor Archaeological Park). On Friday (April 20), field tours will be conducted of adobe architecture, seacoast fortifications, Japantown and the Castro District, Marin County, and Angel Island. In addition, the symposium is offering two Mobile Workshops—one on high definition documentation and another on preservation/revitalization efforts at Historic Vallejo and Mare Island.

US/ICOMOS is grateful for the support of numerous people, organizations, agencies, and private firms, including

IN PARTERNSHIP WITH Getty Conservation Institute

AND WITH SUPPORT FROM Samuel H. Kress Foundation Fleming Family Trust Global Heritage Fund American Express Historic Preservation Fund US/ICOMOS International Exchange Program

#### AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

California Preservation Foundation Chinese Historical Society of America CyArk 3D Heritage Archive Network National Park Service National Trust for Historic Preservation Office of Historic Preservation, State of California Page & Turnbull San Francisco Architectural Heritage San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park University of California at Berkeley Vallejo Architectural Heritage Foundation INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS Bryan Cave, LLP Hisashi Suyaga (US/ICOMOS Fellow) College of Charleston Crocker LTD Cultural Site Research & Management EDAW, Inc. Hillier Architecture Jan Hird Pokorny Associates Page & Turnbull Robins, Kaplan Miller & Ciresi Robinson & Associates, Inc. RTKL Associates, Inc. San Luis Obispo, California State Parks



# 2007 US/ICOMOS INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

This year, over 40 applications from young US preservationists were competing for some 10 internships available overseas. Based on the recommendations of our jury of professionals and the acceptance of the different host organizations, final placements are being made for the 2007 program. This year, US/ICOMOS is pleased to announce several new overseas host organizations.

#### Ireland

In Ireland, the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH), a division of Heritage Policy & Architectural Protection Section of the Department of the Environment, will host a US/ ICOMOS for the first time. Emmeline Henderson, 2003 US/ICOMOS intern from Ireland and now Secretary of ICOMOS Ireland, was instrumental in establishing this internship opportunity. NIAH will pick up the stipend costs for the intern as well as assist in finding housing.

#### Scotland

The Scottish Stone Liaison Group (funded in part by Historic Scotland) will also host a US/ ICOMOS intern for the first time, also providing the stipend. Located in Dumferline (near Edinburg), the US/ICOMOS intern will research various aspects of the use of Scottish stone in historic buildings.

#### Ghana

In 2006, Gina Haney (US/ICOMOS Board member) and Theresa Coolahan (US/ICOMOS intern) traveled to Ghana to make an assessment of the Consolidation Phase, Natural Resources Conservation and Historic Preservation Project, Central Region, Ghana, which was completed five years ago. One of the goals of this trip was to develop a new internship opportunity in Ghana. Based on these efforts, in 2007, the Oguaa Traditional Council and ICOMOS Ghana will serve as hosts for a US/ICOMOS intern to document Gothic House, which is being restored for use as the headquarters of the Council.

#### Middle East

Two host organizations in the Middle East are joining the US/ICOMOS International Exchange Program in 2007. Plans are underway to send two US/ICOMOS Interns to the Al-Houson Cultural Properties Project in Jordan and to send two US/ICOMOS Interns to the International Conservation Center in Akko, Israel.

#### United States

In the United States, we expect to place 10 international interns with various host organizations across the country. US/ICOMOS is pleased that the Historic Preservation Program at Clemson University/Charleston has agreed to become our newest US host organization.



# Central Region Natural Resource and Historic Preservation Project, Ghana US/ICOMOS, Conservation International, ICOMOS Ghana

As part of its charge, US/ICOMOS guides change and sustainable development by undertaking projects that address issues associated with sustainable development as it applies to heritage conservation. One example of such work undertaken by US/ICOMOS in partnership with Conservation International and with funding from USAID is the Central Region Natural Resource and Historic Preservation Project, Ghana. A multi-year initiative completed in 2000, this project provided assistance to local government, traditional authorities, and non-profit organizations focusing on sensitive and long-term community development and assisted them to define a plan to control and maintain ownership of their resources and the benefits they generate, both monetary and cultural.

The subsequent **DEVELOPMENT OF A LONG-TERM PLAN** the following issues were addressed:



- urban design
- transportation systems
- sanitation, drainage, and erosion control
- new housing within historic city centers
- coastal development
- pedestrian access and safety
- environmental quality
- community education and awareness
- economic incentives and microenterprise development
- sensitive cultural tourism based on community traditions

The PARTNERSHIP between US/ICOMOS and Ghana forged a relationship that led to

- **CAPACITY BUILDING** of local architects and urban planners, the development and sustained use of a
- **MUNICIPAL GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS)** for use by local and regional planning authorities, and a series of successful
- **COMMUNITY-BASED DESIGN WORKSHOPS/CHARETTES** resulting in the creation of a long-term, community-based development plan.

In September 2006, US/ICOMOS Board member Gina Haney (and former Ghana Project Coordinator) and Theresa Coolahan (2006 US/ICOMOS Intern sponsored by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation) traveled to Accra and Cape Coast, Ghana to conduct the evaluation mission. They were met by James Reap (US/ICOMOS Board member) for a portion of the trip. Based on the results of this trip, an evaluation report was compiled to assist the local and national heritage groups with on-going planning and management of Cape Coast's heritage resources.

In addition, the team was successful in establishing the beginnings of annual internship to Ghana, focusing initially on restoration efforts at Gothic House, the headquarters of the Oguaa Traditional Council. Built by wealthy trader James Dawson around 1815, Gothic House is one of Cape Coast's most important architectural sites. The property was owned for many years by Jacob Wilson Sey, who founded the Aborigines Rights Protection Agency in the 1890s, before turning it over to the Ghanaian government shortly after Ghana achieved independence. The internship will be hosted by ICOMOS Ghana (located in Accra) and the Cape Coast Traditional Council, with assistance from the Ghana Heritage Conservation Trust.



# Support World Heritage Preservation—Join US/ICOMOS!

US/ICOMOS guides and promotes activities through an extensive membership network of preservation professionals, institutions, and organizations, including specialized scientific committees. US/ICOMOS

membership is open to all individuals who care about preserving our world's cultural heritage. Individuals and institutions may join at different levels to receive different benefits. Membership categories and benefits are listed below. US/ICOMOS is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, so donations to US/ICOMOS are tax-deductible. Membership dues account for less than five percent of the operating budget. To achieve its mission, US/ICOMOS depends on the generous philanthropy of foundations, members, and friends.

Enroll me as an individual member in the following category:

- □ International (\$135) a portion of International membership dues goes to the ICOMOS Secretariat in Paris, which sends out the ICOMOS Card, good for free or discounted entry to heritage sites around the world
- $\square$  National Affiliate (\$80)
- □ **Student** (\$30)

For non-profit organizations, educational institutions, government agencies, private commercial firms, and other institutions, Institutional membership is a cost-effective way to support international preservation and reward the professional commitment of your staff.

Enroll my organization/institution/agency as an Institutional member at the following level:

- □ **Institutional** (\$425) designate up to 4 staff members as International members)
- □ **Supporting** (\$850) designate up to 8 staff members as International members)
- □ **Benefactor** (\$1500) contact US/ICOMOS for benefits

Name	
Title	
Organization	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Phone	Fax
Email	
VISA or MasterCard (circle one)	
Card #	
Exp.	Ver. Code

Mail your completed membership enrollment form with payment to:



US/ICOMOS 401 F Street, NW, Suite 331 Washington, DC 20001

If paying by credit card, you may fax the form to 202-842-1861.

Please visit our website at http://www.icomos.org/usicomos For more information on membership and US/ICOMOS programs and activities.



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#### **ICOMOS** International Scientific Committees

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