

IKUWA3: *Beyond Boundaries*

3rd International Congress on Underwater Archaeology

10 – 12 JULY 2008

**Institute of Archaeology,
University College London**

CALL FOR PAPERS

Please send abstracts of 250-500 words to:

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**Abstracts are to be received no later than
30th September 2007**

IKUWA3: *Beyond Boundaries*

The 3rd International Congress on Underwater Archaeology explores the theme of challenges in underwater archaeology: how underwater archaeology can be interlinked across boundaries, whether real or imagined, institutional, environmental, political, legislative or other.

Underwater archaeology in the early 21st century is undergoing a period of unprecedented change: new technologies allow access to ever more numerous and more inaccessible sites, sites which are, paradoxically, under ever greater threat. Remote survey and diving technologies, the mapping of wrecks and submerged landscapes, and familiarity with undersea deposits across the globe increasingly place underwater archaeology in the middle of a new era of underwater exploration. Meanwhile, public involvement and interest in the underwater cultural heritage is at an all-time high, and tools such as the UNESCO Convention may lead to unprecedented changes in the management environment.

Concurrent sessions will discuss:

- Research Trends and the Future
- Techniques and Scientific Methods
- Managing Underwater Cultural Heritage for the Public

The Congress is being co-hosted by the Nautical Archaeology Society, the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and the Institute of Archaeology (University College London), reflecting the breadth of interest in archaeology under water and the range of individuals and organisations involved in the exploration and understanding of the maritime cultural resource.

The Congress includes a three day practical field school, a three day conference (with associated social events), and two days of fieldtrips, together with a poster display, industry stands and a bookshop. It coincides with the 2008 UK National Archaeology Week.

Theme A: *Research Trends and Future Issues*

Maritime, Underwater, Nautical, Marine or Wetland Archaeology? These differentiations have all been made in the development of archaeology interested in submerged material culture and 'landscapes'. Arguably, archaeologists could ask how many different 'archaeologies' are out there? And, are these archaeologies actually different? This session entitled 'Research Trends and the Future' will explore and challenge these 'differentiations' by analysing various approaches in archaeological research such as:

- The application of different theoretical approaches and the lessons learnt
- Seamless approaches and the adoption and application of concepts such as 'maritime cultural landscapes' and 'seascapes'.
- The utilisation of maritime ethno-archaeology and its implications for our understanding of the past
- Cross-disciplinary contributions and the study of submerged landscapes
- Shipwrecks, aircraft, and other structures and the use and implications of social history.

This session will critically analyse archaeological research trends and the challenges that have been undertaken in the last years, will explore new venues, and reflect on the future of maritime, underwater, nautical, marine and wetland archaeology.

Theme B: *Techniques and Scientific Applications*

The scientific study of underwater archaeological sites in the form of shipwrecks and their cargoes, inundated terrestrial sites, foreshore and inter-tidal sites, is enormously important to the advancement of our knowledge of human history.

IKUWA3 provides a forum for researchers in underwater archaeology and related disciplines, to exchange ideas and explore future challenges in the development, application and implementation of new and existing technologies and scientific methods, and their relationship to the theory and practice of underwater archaeology. It is hoped that IKUWA3 will provide momentum in new directions in underwater archaeology, and showcase emerging technologies and methods in:

- Conservation
- Exploration and discovery
- Survey technology
- Data management and GIS
- Excavation and recording
- Experimental archaeology
- Deep water archaeology
- Blue water research

Together, these are opening up new frontiers in underwater science, and creating opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration '*beyond boundaries*'.

Theme C: *Managing Underwater Cultural Heritage for the Public*

The practice of archaeology is undertaken ultimately by and for the public. This is realised in a wide variety of ways: enhancing knowledge through scholarly research, managing fragile underwater sites, disseminating information through a variety of media, hands-on engagement through visitor experiences and attractions, involvement in fieldwork, or increasing heritage-related leisure activities with walks, dives and trails. Encouraging public support and understanding has never been more important for developing long-term sustainability for underwater archaeology.

Securing the future of the underwater cultural resource for future generations is a challenging task. The development of appropriate management frameworks has to mitigate numerous threats, whether due to treasure hunters, development, intrusive industries or natural threats of weather, erosion and rising sea level. Such threats are often addressed through legislative means as well as through standards and guidance to help regulate conduct in the marine zone. Over three days this broad session theme will consider aspects of managing underwater cultural heritage for the public through a number of sub-themes:

- Managing sites: in-situ preservation, development control, rescue archaeology, and planned recovery
- Legislative frameworks and legal directions
- Training, education and professional development: education provision, training schemes and examples, professional development, standards and ethics
- Active public involvement
- Managing public access: visitor schemes, museums, and the antiquities trade.

NB: Posters will also be accepted. It is required that all those submitting papers (and posters) will be expected to abide by both the IFA Code of Conduct and NAS Statement of Principles. With respect to the acceptance of papers (and posters), the decision of the organisers is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.