



## EDITORIAL



As with all editors, there comes a time to pass the mantle to others. With the publication of this double issue of *Asian Perspectives* (39:1–2), I hand the editorship of the journal to Miriam T. Stark of the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa and Patrick V. Kirch of the University of California at Berkeley. Miriam has already assumed editorial responsibility and has been of great assistance in putting together this issue. She and Pat, as co-editors, will hereafter split responsibility for the journal geographically—between Asia and Oceania, respectively.

I have been involved with producing *Asian Perspectives* since 1988 and officially became editor in 1992. During this time, the journal has re-established its pre-eminence in the archaeology of Asia and the Pacific. While there is a tendency to view *Asian Perspectives* as regional in focus, its geographical scope—South Asia to Northeast Asia, Australia east to Rapa Nui and north to Hawai‘i—covers nearly one-half of the planet, an area larger than many prestigious archaeological journals. We have encouraged researchers outside the US to submit papers; the diverse nationalities of the contributors attest to our success in making *AP* a truly international publication (comparable to e.g., *Antiquity*).

One of the aims of *Asian Perspectives* has been to bring attention to the great wealth of cultural and historical resources found throughout Asia and Oceania as well as to the potential significance of these resources in resolving important questions of human history and prehistory. The growth in the number of professional archaeologists who live and/or work in Asia and the Pacific suggests some success in this endeavor. The range of human occupation in this area extends back at least 1.5 million years and a wide variety of adaptations to diverse natural environments has been documented through the archaeological record. *Asian Perspectives* is providing a public venue for reporting on and disseminating information about this record of human accomplishment. Increasingly, the concepts that structure our research and the conclusions that result from our research lend themselves to comparison with other areas of the world.

In archaeologists Miriam Stark and Patrick Kirch, the University of Hawai‘i Press has found an impressive co-editorship to lead *AP* into its second century of publication. Both Miriam and Pat are well published and recognized and need no introduction to the journal’s readers. New information technology make this editorship divided between Honolulu (Miriam) and Berkeley (Pat) a timely possibility. The joint editorship affords us the opportunity to continue the trend in *AP* of publishing archaeological research that will stand the test of time.

I have been assisted over the years of my editorship by a number of individuals

at University of Hawai'i who I should like to acknowledge. Financial support for the journal has been provided by the College of Social Sciences' Dean Richard Dubanoski and by Department of Anthropology Chairs Ben Finney and P. Bion Griffin. I have also received support from two UH senior vice president and executive vice chancellors—the late Carol Eastman and Dean O. Smith. A number of graduate students at UH have worked as editorial assistants over the years and deserve my thanks: Matthew Carlsen, Mary Gunn, Lisa Humphrey, Kim Kihleng, Jace Mikulanec, Lahela Perry, and Shah Mohamed-Zaini. At UH Press, Shirley Samuelson has looked after the journal's production and we have had the support of two excellent Journals Department managers, JoAnn Tenorio and Joel Bradshaw. I would also like to thank UH Press for underwriting the costs involved in re-designing the journal several years ago. We all agree that *AP* is an attractively produced journal; the attention to production quality is a hallmark of UH Press.

Please join me in welcoming the new editors of *Asian Perspectives*; we will all be looking forward to future issues of the journal.

Michael Graves  
Editor