



## EDITORIAL



WITH THIS ISSUE of *Asian Perspectives* I assume the editorship of the journal from my colleague Wilhelm G. Solheim II, who is retiring. Bill Solheim founded *Asian Perspectives* while a graduate student at the University of Arizona, and he has been its guiding force for the past 35 years. Because of Bill's efforts, the journal I now inherit is the premier English-language periodical on Asian and Pacific prehistory. I am about to step into some very big shoes. Fortunately, Bill will remain in association with the University of Hawaii as Emeritus Professor of Anthropology. He continues on the Editorial Board of the journal, and I expect to seek his advice.

As I take up the editorship, *Asian Perspectives* is being published on schedule, two issues per year appearing in May (spring) and November (fall). Issues will continue to be 100–150 pages each. At this time I am exploring the possibility of adding a third issue each year, which I hope can be devoted to Hawaiian archaeology. An outlet is needed for the significant archaeological research being conducted in the Hawaiian Islands. A special issue each year would also be a fitting tribute to Kenneth Emory, who died recently and whose career in Hawaiian and Polynesian archaeology and ethnology is explored by Patrick Kirch in this issue.

As the new editor, I felt it was time to consider some modification to the journal's appearance. Barbara Pope, of Honolulu, created the new cover, both inside and out. The illustrations on the cover are derived from actual archaeological or historical objects found in Asia and the Pacific. Deborah Waite of the University of Hawaii Department of Art identified these materials in several published works and brought them to my attention. We hope the design expresses the historical link between the Pacific region and Asia, symbolizing the scope of the Journal's commitment.

With no apologies, we are now *Asian Perspectives: The Journal of Archaeology for Asia and the Pacific*. The expertise of the new Editorial Board begins to reflect the geographic spread: South Asia to Hawaii, Japan to New Zealand. I will continue to expand the Board to encompass all regions of the Pacific and Asia and to create diversity in the representation of archaeology in this journal.

Despite the physical changes, much about *Asian Perspectives* will remain the same. I encourage archaeologists to submit papers for consideration or to suggest individuals who might be invited to prepare papers. Suggestions for special thematic or area issues are welcome; a few special issues are already in the development stage. My goal is to produce issues of *Asian Perspectives* with articles that contribute to the resolution of important archaeological problems and contents that stimulate discussion, debate, and new research beyond the geographic borders of Asia and the Pacific. Papers that meet these criteria must address substantive issues of relevance to the region. I am not particularly doctrinaire when it comes to theoretical preferences,

but research should be presented within a specified context of archaeological method and theory. All research is improved when presented in a form that allows the reader to identify the propositions that link results to the assumptions and principles from which they derive or to the generalizations of which they form a part. I am willing to work with or assist contributors who may feel uncomfortable writing about the general implications of their work. Writing and publishing can and should be as much a learning experience for the author as it is for the reader.

*Asian Perspectives* is published by the University of Hawaii Press under the direction of William Hamilton. JoAnn Tenorio heads up the Journals Department, and Shirley Samuelson is the production specialist for the journal. Both JoAnn and Shirley have helped to put *AP* on schedule and establish a level of consistent quality. The University of Hawaii Press has provided substantial financial support for the journal over the past few years, especially while we were publishing more than one volume per year to eliminate a backlog of papers. Both the College of Social Sciences and the Department of Anthropology at the University of Hawaii support *Asian Perspectives*. The Dean of the College, Richard Dubanoski, and Chair of the Department, Ben Finney, provide office space, equipment, operations, and personnel. Robert Albert, Assistant Editor, handles the book reviews and much of the correspondence. This issue has also benefitted from the work of Wendy Arbeit, whose illustrations appear in the papers by Sweeney, Miksic, and Reynolds.

Now that *Asian Perspectives* is back on schedule, I am seeing an increased number of subscribers and a greater number of submissions. To those of you who continued to subscribe during the years in which issues appeared fitfully, I give my thanks and pledge adherence to publication deadlines. For those of you interested in preparing papers for consideration, I encourage you to follow the style guide published in Vol. 30, No. 1, pp. 163–166. Note the two format changes we are instituting with this volume. Abstracts and keywords accompany each article, placed at the end. No longer do we employ an abbreviation system for listing publication series in the References sections of papers; all journals and publications are spelled out. With Vol. 31, we have begun a transition to electronic typesetting. Thus, in addition to a typed (hard) copy of each paper, we will be asking authors to submit a copy on disk at the time papers are approved for publication. This will reduce our typesetting costs and reduce the time it takes to produce each issue. You may write to me for copies of both the *Asian Perspectives* style guide and instructions for preparing electronic manuscripts on disk.

Finally, let us not lose sight of the reason archaeology journals are important; they provide a lasting record of our attempts to describe and interpret the past. *Asian Perspectives* will publish the very best papers that advance our understanding of Pacific and Asian prehistory and archaeology. I took forward to reading your papers and seeing them published in this journal.

MICHAEL W. GRAVES