

PIMA REPORT FOR ATTENDING ICOM MEETING IN SHANGHAI, CHINA NOVEMBER 7-12, 2010

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Introduction

The PIMA Secretary-General (SG) was one of the successful applicants to receive an ICOM Australia Bursary of AUD \$2200. PIMA would like to take this opportunity to thank ICOM Australia for the financial support of AUD \$2200 to support the travel and accommodation costs in Shanghai, China for the PIMA SG.

Travel arrangements

The funds provided by ICOM Australia covered most of the international travel cost. Travel was from Auckland to Beijing (one way), and the other way was from Shanghai to Auckland. Both flights flew via Singapore.

The flight to Beijing enabled me to attend an ICOM MPR meeting scheduled to be held on Thursday November 4th and Friday 5th, 2010. These meetings were held leading up to the main ICOM meeting in Shanghai. Accommodation and meals in Beijing as well as the local flight between Beijing to Shanghai was fully paid for by the China ICOM MPR Team. I represented PIMA at this meeting and presented a paper on PIMA and its role in the Pacific (*please see attached power point presentation*).

ICOM MPR meeting in Beijing

The PIMA SG was selected to present a paper prior to the main ICOM meeting in Shanghai. ICOM Australia was acknowledged at this meeting prior to my presentation. It was great that the Pacific was represented among the many international dignitaries that were present at this meeting in Beijing. Some of the international delegates were from Australia, Norway, Russia, Denmark, Uruguay, Brazil and Paraguay (see attached photo).



ICOM meeting in Shanghai

The presence of PIMA at the ICOM meeting has many benefits. One of which was international advocacy. PIMA was acknowledged by some of the organisations such as AFRICOM and ICOM MPR. This alone is an example of how PIMA can be physically present in one place and is able to share ideas and network with so many museums and heritage related organisations from across the globe. One tangible benefit has come in the form of AFRICOM wanting to share resources with PIMA as well as encourage exchange programs between the two regions. Another way is to share an online exhibition on printed bark-cloth, known as tapa.

The opening of the ICOM Meeting was spectacular. Attendees were able to witness cultural dances and performances from theatre, classical singing to Chinese ballet dancing. It made the evening an unforgettable experience.

One of PIMA's trustees, Dr Amareswar Galla was also present at the ICOM meeting opening. I was able to meet him, as well as Vinod Daniel, from the Australian Museum in Sydney. Both individuals have played a part in PIMA's development through the years. This relationship must be maintained and nurtured. Mr Daniel was able to introduce me to other museum colleagues who were present at the opening.

I was able to attend consecutive sessions after the opening on Sunday November 7th, 2010. What I have learnt from the duration of my stay in Beijing and Shanghai has so many benefits for myself as a museum professional and mostly for PIMA for its future!

Acknowledgement of ICOM Australia

ICOM Australia was acknowledged before I started my speech in Beijing at the ICOM MPR meeting. There were also some promotion on the PIMA website and the PIMA Facebook page

On behalf of PIMA, thank you very much ICOM Australia for your support