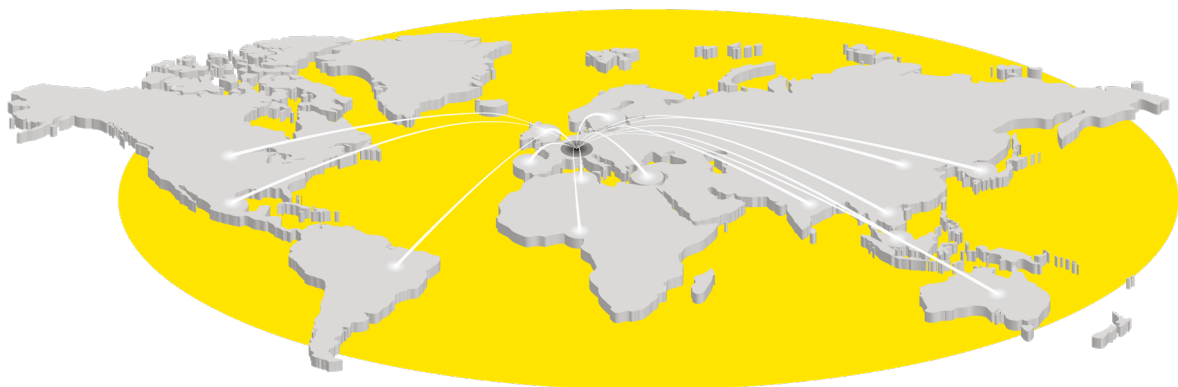


# Conference Report

## Thinking and Planning the Future in Heritage Management

*ICOMOS University Forum, Amsterdam, 11–14 June 2019*



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



UNESCO Chair  
on Heritage Futures,  
Linnæus University, Sweden



Linnæus University



ICOMOS

City of  
Amsterdam

## UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures

Since 2017, Linnaeus University in Kalmar, Sweden, has been hosting a UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures. Heritage futures are concerned with the roles of heritage in managing the relations between present and future societies, e.g. through anticipation or planning. Cornelius Holtorf, holder of the UNESCO Chair, and his team continue to promote future-thinking in the heritage sector and work with heritage practitioners in developing their own professional strategies for the future. Among the tasks of the Chair are academic research on heritage futures, international collaborations in a UNESCO context, and the development of training courses for heritage professionals.

## Amsterdam School for Heritage, Memory and Material Culture (AHM)

Founded in 2014, the research institute and doctoral school is committed to the analysis of the remnants and narratives of the past in the present and the remaking of pasts into heritage, memory and material culture. AHM seeks to integrate all branches of research focusing on the material and intangible remains of the past, the reciprocal relations between objects and meanings, and the dynamics of memory, from diverse theoretical and methodological perspectives, concept-oriented, object-oriented and user-oriented approaches.

## The ICOMOS University Forum

Originally instigated in 2015, the ICOMOS University Forum aims at mobilising more academics based at universities to get involved in the work of the global cultural heritage community that is the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). The University Forum has been meeting in small meetings with a well-defined focus, each time bringing together 30-50 university researchers and heritage practitioners from around the world and representing different disciplines and levels of experience to discuss issues of mutual interest and intellectually explore key questions for cultural heritage. The University Forum in Amsterdam was the second meeting.



*Authors of this report are Nour A. Munaṣwar, PhD Candidate, University of Amsterdam, and Helena Rydén, Assistant to the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures at Linnaeus University. Photographs by Anneke Dekker.*

*The ideas and opinions expressed in this report are those of the authors; they are not necessarily those of UNESCO and do not commit the Organization. This report was first published on 31 October 2019.*

# Content

Introduction.....	4
The Conference.....	6
Opening Day.....	6
Presentation Day.....	7
Workshop Day.....	10
Bill Wei - Socratic Dialogue.....	10
Kate Clark - Heritage Values.....	12
Laura Watts - 'Heritage End.'.....	14
Concluding Day.....	16
Concluding remarks.....	18
Conference feedback.....	18
Conference Organizers and Scientific Committee.....	19

## Appendices

1. Full Programme
2. List of Participants
3. Abstracts of presentations
4. Abstracts of posters
5. Reflections - feedback received

### Reflections from the participants

The participants were asked to reflect on the meeting, both orally on the concluding day and by questionnaire. Some of their reflections are presented in this report.

## Introduction

In November 2017, the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures at Linnaeus University, in collaboration with the Amsterdam School for Heritage, Memory and Material Culture (AHM), ICOMOS International, ICOMOS Netherlands, and the City of Amsterdam, agreed upon organizing an ICOMOS University Forum held in Amsterdam, Netherlands, 11-14 June 2019. The Amsterdam School for Heritage, Memory and Material Culture (AHM) of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) hosted the meeting, which aimed at promoting thinking and planning the future in heritage management.

The main questions that were discussed during the meeting were:

- How do we perceive of the future?
- Which future and future generations do heritage professionals work for?
- What heritage will be needed in the future (and how do we know)?
- How can we build capacity in future thinking among heritage professionals worldwide?

### *Participants*

The conference participants included scholars and heritage managers, both young and established, from different parts of the world. They had in parts been personally invited and in parts sent in applications for participation and travel grants in response to a call issued widely to ICOMOS members and others. By mid-February 2019, the organizers had received almost 120 applications from all over the world. The Scientific Committee selected 8 emerging ICOMOS members and 8 full ICOMOS members to attend the meeting, in addition to those who had already been invited.

All in all, the ICOMOS University Forum brought together about 50 global heritage specialists from academia and professional practice, representing not only many European countries but also Australia, Brazil, China, India, Korea, Mexico, Nigeria, Singapore, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey and the USA. During the meeting, participants enriched the discussion with their multicultural and multidisciplinary expertise.



*Toshiyuki Kono, President of ICOMOS and Cornelius Holtorf, holder of the UNESCO Chair in Heritage Futures at Linnaeus University in Sweden, joining for discussion in Amsterdam. Photograph by Helena Rydén*





*Participants from many countries on all continents meeting in Amsterdam for the second workshop of the ICOMOS University Forum.  
Photograph by Anneke Dekker*

### *'Futures literacy'*

The participants were to share their own future-related insights and experiences in relation to heritage. The meeting also aimed at inspiring everybody to think further, drawing on several innovative discussion-oriented workshops. The specific goal of the University Forum was to contribute to building capacity and for participants to gain a form of literacy in future thinking: 'futures literacy'. This meant that the main emphasis in the programme was not on lectures and extensive formal presentations but on discussion facilitated in different ways and by the encouragement of listening, understanding and the participants' own thinking on issues relevant to thinking and planning the future in heritage management. For that reason, the number of participants had to be restricted.

Over the coming years, the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures will build on the experiences from Amsterdam and develop training material and courses on heritage futures for the global heritage sector.

### *Social media*

The organizing committee aimed to spread knowledge of the meeting and publicize the content of the discussions by utilizing social media platforms such as Twitter. We used the following hashtag: #HeritageFuturesAmsterdam @UnescoChairLNU

Many participants were active on social media. The public response on Twitter was however lower than expected, and did not end up in much academic tweeting. Nevertheless, the social media platforms, e.g. Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, helped the participants communicate and network among each other during and after the meeting. The activity on social media also raised public awareness of the event and the questions discussed.

# The Conference

The gathering in Amsterdam had four different parts divided over four days. The first day, Tuesday, June 11th, began during the afternoon with a Welcome and an introductory lecture followed by a discussion (“Opening Day”). The second day, Wednesday, June 12th (“Presentation Day”), comprised three sessions, each featuring three presentations, and a poster session, followed by a Welcome Reception and a dinner mingle.

The third day, Thursday, June 13th, featured three workshops facilitated by Kate Clark, Laura Watts, and Bill Wei respectively (“Workshop Day”). The day concluded with a dinner mingle featuring a special address by Jerzy Gawronski, Head of Archaeology, City of Amsterdam, on “Metro Archaeology in Amsterdam Exploring Future Approaches to Public Heritage”.

The final day, Friday, June 14th, started with a concluding plenary on “Developing Futures Literacy in Heritage Management” in which the three workshop facilitators Kate Clark, Laura Watts, and Bill Wei participated, together with Cornelius Holtorf. Finally, Vanicka Arora from Western Sydney University gave an Open Lecture on “(Re)Building Heritage Futures: Reconstruction as a Heritage Making Practice” before Toshiyuki Kono, President of ICOMOS International, formally concluded the meeting.

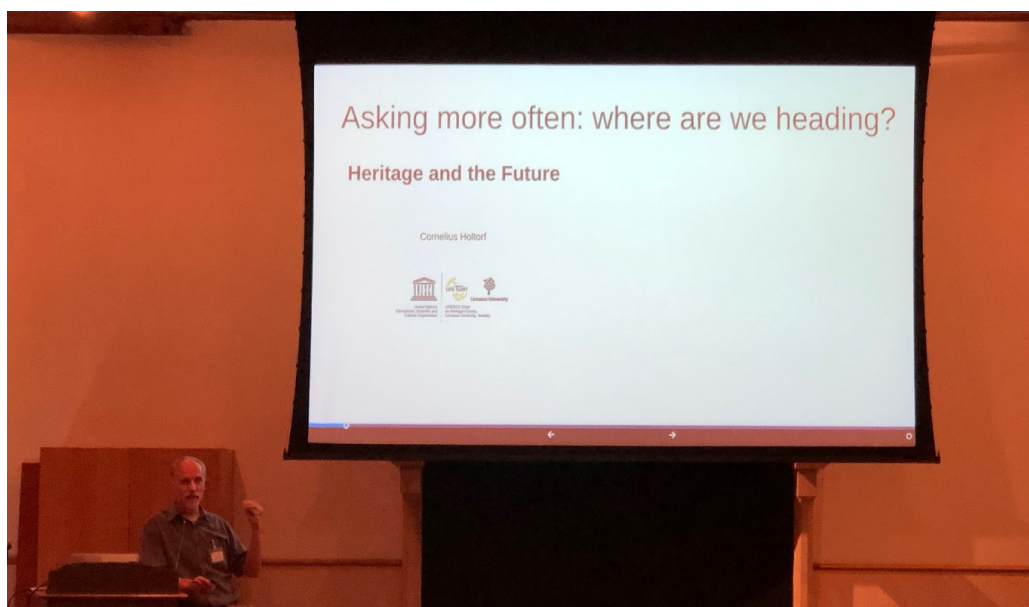
## *Opening Day*

During the afternoon of June 11th, the meeting was kicked off with a welcome speech by Christa-Maria Lerm-Hayes, Academic Director of AHM, University of Amsterdam (UvA). Later on, Cornelius Holtorf, UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures, Linnaeus University, gave an open lecture introducing the concepts behind the meeting and addressing questions related to the crux of thinking and planning the future in heritage management.

Holtorf explained the Heritage Futures project, funded by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), based at University College London (UCL) and led by Rodney Harrison, Professor of Heritage Studies at UCL. Holtorf’s opening lecture focused on elaborating the questions that were going to be addressed during the four-day conference:

- When is the future that heritage practices work towards?
- How can we determine what will benefit future generations?
- What is the legacy we will actually leave behind?

and how can the answers to these questions be applied to contemporary heritage practices?



*Cornelius Holtorf giving the opening lecture of the meeting in Amsterdam. Photograph by Nour A. Munawwar*



## Presentation Day

Day Two started with a short welcome address by Marielies Schelhaas, Secretary-General, Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO. Then, Holtorf elaborated on the plans for the meeting and chaired a short self-presentation of all participants and organizers. The rest of the day was divided into three plenary sessions (followed by a poster session), with three presentations in each session provoking the participants by addressing various key issues.

### First Session (chaired by Laura Watts)

Irene Stengs presented the first paper. She is Professor by Special Appointment in the Anthropology of Ritual and Popular Culture at Vrije University of Amsterdam (VU). Stengs's paper highlighted the concept of "Anticipatory Heritage" and how to preserve the future memory of our time. Stengs emphasized how governmental organizations, museums and local communities are focused on making the heritage of the future.

Sarah May presented the second paper. May is a Senior Lecturer in Public History and Heritage at Swansea University in Wales and was an affiliated researcher in the Heritage Futures project. Using case studies from the United Kingdom, May's paper showed how responsibilities to the present and planning for the future are constrained by commonplace phrases framing heritage as a gift for future generations who effectively are infantilised.

Christina Fredengren presented the final paper in this session via a recorded talk. Fredengren is Associate Professor at Stockholm University, Sweden. Fredengren presented a paper on "Deep Time Trouble - Sustainability and Heritages in the Anthropocene".

In the session, the "presentness" of the future was discussed. The concept "deep time" seemed to be unknown to many participants and a discussion followed to make it clear. "Deep time" refers to the time scale of geologic events, which is vastly greater than the time scale of humans. Environmental problems are a main heritage for the future.

### Second Session (chaired by Sarah May)

Nour A. Munawar kicked off the second session. Nour is an archaeologist and a PhD researcher at the University of Amsterdam (UvA). Munawar's paper focused on how the recent intentionally destructive actions against Syria's heritage started a process of heritagizing in the present, which will eventually become part of the Syrian collective memory. Munawar's presentation highlighted how heritage is in a constant process of transformation in post-conflict contexts, in addition to emphasizing the role of politics in post-war reconstruction in several places in contemporary Syria.



Presentation and discussion during the sessions on 12 June. Photographs by Anneke Dekker

Peter Stone, the UNESCO Chair in Cultural Property Protection and Peace at Newcastle University, presented his talk on the protection of cultural property in future armed conflicts. Stone's talk raised a number of issues that are concerned with the ethical debate that should inform how to engage proactively and pragmatically with cultural property protection in the future.

Damien Helly, Visiting Professor at the EU International Relations and Diplomacy Studies Department at College of Europe in Bruges, concluded the session. Helly is an independent international cultural advisor. Helly's paper aimed at encouraging participants to invest their skills, talents and knowledge in the development of scenario-building exercises to contribute to and influence European Union policy-making in the field of heritage protection in conflict.

The discussion that followed the second session focused on how cultural heritage is part of a human story, and can be an opportunity to develop the contemporary understanding and use of heritage. Thus, cultural heritage sites could have a positive impact in the future and might become ambassadors for building peace and sustaining it. Another key issue that was addressed during the discussion was that heritage is in a constant process of transformation. In fact, less preservation of heritage in the present could allow for more engagement with memories of the past in the future.

### **Third Session (chaired by Cornelius Holtorf)**

The first talk was a recorded talk by Ege Yildirim from Turkey, ICOMOS Focal Point for the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Ege is an urban planner specializing in heritage conservation and management. Yildirim's talk provided the participants with an overview of the work of the Sustainable Development Goals Working Group of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS).

The second talk was presented by Alexander Vander Stichele, FARO, the Flemish Support Institute for Cultural Heritage. Stichele's paper discussed experiences with future forecasting in the Flemish cultural heritage field.

Richard Sandford, Professor of Heritage Evidence, Foresight and Policy at UCL's Institute for Sustainable Heritage concluded the session. Sandford's talk focused on the place of the workshop in developing futures. His presentation provided a brief overview of the history of workshops in foresight and futures work, considering the varied capacity of different methods to support participatory and pedagogic goals, and shared examples from workshops run for public policy teams, non-profit organisations, and educators.

The discussion after the last session made it clear that it seems difficult to embrace a common vision of the future. When exploring different futures, scenario-building is often not accepted, but goals are easy to accept (AGENDA 2030). Climate change and biodiversity are closely related to cultural heritage issues.

### **Poster Session**

Day Two was concluded by a poster session. Each presenter of a poster had the opportunity to explain her/his research and answer questions for the ambulating participants.

Patrícia Brum, holder of an MA on Museum Studies from Universidade Nova de Lisboa and Filipa Neto, from Portugal, had prepared a poster entitled: "Loosing heritage, what does this mean?" In this poster, Brum and Neto elaborated the recent events of heritage destructions, such as the fire in the roof of Notre-Dame (France) or the Museu Nacional (Brazil). Brum and Neto sought to understand how people will be able cope with the future of cultural heritage in the light of the increasingly destructive actions in the field of heritage.

Gabriel Caballero, a landscape architect, from the Philippines presented his research on: "Heritage Narratives of the Future and Synergizing Nature and Culture." In this poster, Caballero discussed initiatives that showcase priorities of conservation, both natural and cultural, balancing economic sensibilities, and creating immersive spaces that come together in a particular site.

Sonali Ghosh, an Indian Forest Service officer, showed a poster on: "Rethinking Nature-Culture in Heritage Futures." Ghosh argued in her poster presentation that the multi-stakeholder approach for governance of Sites, including the documentation of best practices shall be attempted thereby highlighting the need to develop an integrated sustainability approach.

The team of the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures at Linnaeus University, Cornelius Holtorf, Anders Högberg, Claudio Pescatore, Ulrika Söderström, Helena Rydén from Linnaeus University, Sweden, and Sarah May from University of Swansea, UK, prepared a poster explaining how and when the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures at Linnaeus University was established and the topics that the UNESCO Chair team are concerned about, such as final repositories of nuclear waste and the design of a message for the New Horizons spacecraft.



Pam Jordan, a PhD researcher at the University of Amsterdam (UvA), prepared a poster about “Sonic Heritage Preservation”. Jordan elaborated her research questions on heritage preservation and interpretations in the contexts of the case study of Mount Lykaion, Greece. Jordan’s presentation aimed at understanding how heritage sites and their interpretation can be made more inclusive and accessible through sonic sensitivity.

Qingkai Ma from China presented his research on: “Making and Using Heritage for Confucian Edification: The discourse of heritage in pre-modern China”. Ma highlighted how heritage was conceptualized and used in an alternative way before the 20th century in pre-modern China. The poster explored the discourse of the Temple and Cemetery of Mencius in Zoucheng city, China, through ethnographic fieldwork and interpreting historical records.

Sandra Rafaela Magalhães Corrêa, an architect and urbanist from Brazil, who is a specialist in conservation on monuments and historical sites, presented a poster titled: “‘Re-signify’ Cultural Heritage: two projects that aim to make a difference in the future of vulnerable populations”. Corrêa aimed at understanding how to establish a dialogue about cultural heritage with the people living in cultural heritage sites in Brazil, who do not have what is necessary for their subsistence.

Monalisa Maharjan, a researcher at CIDEHUS and the UNESCO Chair in Intangible Cultural Heritage and Traditional Know-How at the University of Evora, Portugal, showed a poster on: “Heritage Conservation in the Future: What Heritages? For Whom? By Whom?” Maharjan’s poster explored the changing concepts of heritage in formal heritage conservation and how it might impact future heritage.

Samuel Antonio Duarte Pineda, an architect, project manager and founder of Studio A + ID, from Mexico, presented a poster on: “Unfinished Sympathy - Which future do heritage professionals work for?” Samuel’s poster was focused on how the use of artificial intelligence for the documentation, conservation and dissemination of heritage will be a fundamental part of its preservation.

John Kelechi Ugwuanyi, a lecturer at the Department of Archaeology & Tourism, University of Nigeria, and at the time of the meeting completing a PhD at the University of York, UK, had prepared a presentation about: “Igbo Heritage Ontologies in the Anthropocene: A Perspective on Epistemic Reconciliation for Heritage Futures”. Ugwuanyi’s poster focused on how the Igbo ontologies in southeast Nigeria will be useful in re-thinking heritage conservation for the future. It recognises the ‘life’ in heritage and argues for a paradigm shift that would focus attention on keeping the ‘utilitarian values’ of heritage in their living community in the Anthropocene.

Evert Verhoeven from the Netherlands and Anna Maria Borowska from Austria, showed a poster titled: “Heritage management in a digital age: memories of worlds”. The poster offered some insights in challenges and possibilities that lie ahead of digital heritage which is seen as one of the best solutions for preventing the loss of heritage through disaster, war or change.

Gustav Wollentz, an archaeologist who finished his PhD at Kiel University, Germany, presented his research on: “Accommodating a future of diversity - on heritage and belonging”. Wollentz’s poster focused on the research plan for a project which he is developing, focusing on the relation between future perspectives and the feeling of belonging among youth in ethnically diverse neighborhoods in Sweden.

The quality of the posters was high. The topics represented a great variety, all related to the overall conference theme, and with examples from many parts of the world. The session was informal and all participants of the conference showed a great interest in the different topics brought up by the presenters.



Sandra Magalhaes Corrêa (with Cecilia) and Patricia Brum during the poster session. Photograph by Helena Rydén

## Workshop Day

# Bill Wei - Socratic Dialogue

The main objective of the workshop was to promote thoughts and develop future thinking about how we perceive the future, what future that is, and what heritage is needed for the future (and how do we know?). One way of doing this is to use the Socratic method. This method allows participants to conduct a structured dialogue in which participants investigate each other and themselves in order to find out what lies behind the questions which are posed, and what lies behind the various opinions and answers to the questions.

The method provides a safe atmosphere to express one's opinion, where participants ask each other informative questions, as opposed to judgmental or steering questions. The Socratic dialogue was facilitated by Bill Wei who is a senior conservation scientist in the Cultural Heritage Laboratory of the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands (RCE). Wei has trained as a Socratic dialogue moderator, and has organized and moderated over 40 dialogues over the past eight years on a number of controversial issues in conservation ethics and perception.

Socratic dialogues were conducted with three groups, where each group dealt with one of the questions:

“Why do you want to preserve cultural heritage?”

“For which future generation(s) do you want to preserve cultural heritage?”

“What do you want to preserve for future generations?”

The results of the dialogues were a list of essences (see below). Each participant wrote in one or two lines what they took with them from the dialogue, be it an answer to the question, another question, or even an observation unrelated to the original question.

## Group One

Why Do You Want to Preserve Cultural Heritage?

Heritage was often described as a resource to be used for 'good'

Heritage 'preservation' could be an aim and also a tool.

The motivations behind (not) preserving cultural heritage are deeply personal, which makes understanding each other's ideas maybe more important than finding mutual ground(s).

Heritage has a means of promoting peace, tolerance, a sense of belonging to a place & empowering people in a utopian view, but it also has the means to marginalise, disempower, destroy & provide intolerance.

Cultural heritage can be related to belonging, real life, tolerance and peace. But it can also be related to conflicts, domination and marginalization. It's important to problematize the role of cultural heritage to promote understanding.

Preservation of heritage is a process of understanding all diverse socio-political dimensions among communities.

There is a lot of abstractness and optimism when it comes to heritage protection.

Very wide variety of views and understanding of heritage and why we preserve it.

The need/urge to preserve heritage is very often linked to personal stories, histories and/or needs.

We are connected to our cultural heritages in many more ways than expected. More similar than we think!

The most difficult part in the work is balancing people's different views and prioritization.

What is the line between (natural) cultural heritage and 'nature'?

Heritage and the motivation for preserving it is personal.

Why "I want" is different from "Why we want"!

## Group Two

For which future generation(s) do you want to preserve cultural heritage?

Uncertainty about intergenerational dialogue

Not sure if futures generations want to preserve cultural heritage

Futures are never static nor singular

We as human beings have a moral obligation to all possible futures and generation to preserve, or pass along their own culture.



Bill Wei. Photograph by Helena Rydén

An awareness that the question is complex, without easy answers.  
Heritage is abstract and complicated.  
Does suffering have a place in our imagination of the future?  
Cultural Heritage has multiple values.  
Different Cultural Heritage has different temporalities.  
Cultural Heritage is about the present.  
Most of us don't want to preserve cultural heritage for longer than the lifetime of people they have known.  
Preserving cultural heritage has deeply personal meaning and is expressed in shared interest and common value.  
We perceive Cultural Heritage depending on personal experiences and views.  
Cultural Heritage is about people and should be preserved for people.

### Group Three

What do you want to preserve for future generations?

To listen to people carefully and don't assume or read between lines.  
Conservation of heritage is personally biased and significance can turn too optimistic.  
Diversity of approaches and views makes it all the more important productive, non-judgemental dialog.  
Self-imposed conflict by the heritage conservators to drag engagement out of context.  
What heritage experts want to preserve for the future is always very personal.  
Continuity between past and future, nature, culture and community.

What was remarkable during the workshop was the number of essences that recognized the personal influence of the heritage professional when making decisions or giving advice. Examples of such essences include:

- "The motivations behind (not) preserving cultural heritage are deeply personal, which makes understanding each other's ideas maybe more important than finding mutual ground(s)."
- "Most of us don't want to preserve cultural heritage for longer than the lifetime of people they have known."

For a number of participants, the concepts of preservation and heritage were found to be more abstract and complex than they had previously thought. One of the most common eye openers was how thought-provoking and challenging it was to have to answer questions in the "I" form, resulting in the following realization (essence): " 'Why I want' is different from 'Why we want'!"

A participant shared this view: "The three workshops were all excellent. I felt that Bill's workshop was one of the best. It offered good practice on how to listen to others and how to maintain open communication. Through his dialogue process, I considered our communication methods and listening skills when working with relevant stakeholders, including local communities. Better understanding of each other is a necessary starting point for heritage management, which will allow us to build constructive dialogues that will inform us of where we are heading in the future." Another participant said: "Bill gave me practical skills for listening + communicating."

# Kate Clark - Heritage Values

The workshop on values in heritage practice was designed to take the participants on a journey through a variety of heritage values. Heritage touches all of us. How do we decide what to preserve? How do we make the case for heritage when there are so many other priorities?

This workshop was facilitated by Kate Clark, who is an industrial archaeologist and has worked in museums and heritage in the public, private and voluntary sectors, and in government. Currently she is based in the UK and works at Cadw, the Welsh Government's historic environment service. 'Playing with the past' - her book of creative games and activities to explore values in heritage practice - will be published later this year.

The workshop started with participants telling their personal story on heritage to the person sitting beside. Everyone was then asked to tell the other participants the story of their neighbour. The stories told were about pride, happiness, loss, sadness and more. Kate Clark emphasized: "Heritage is all about people. All heritage is very personal". The lesson was also to trust when retelling.

After the personal story was performed, participants were split into small groups to focus on different actors and their different objectives. It was clear that heritage management is a complex issue and involves many actors and aspects.

At the end of the workshop participants went through different values in regard to heritage management. It became obvious that heritage values create a common ground for communicating, understanding and making priorities for the future.

It seemed to be a new way of thinking about heritage for many participants. The workshop made the participants understand that values can help identify and prioritise what's truly important for the future. Communication seems to be a key issue and is an essential expertise for a heritage professional. Professional communication is based on values. It became clear during the workshop that heritage is about people and that it is emotional and personal.

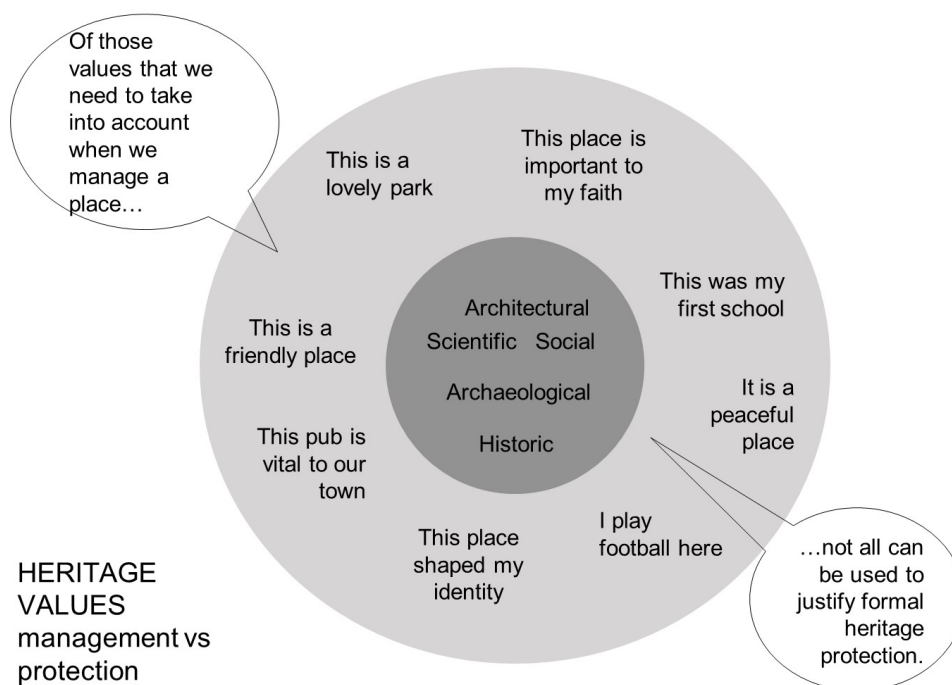
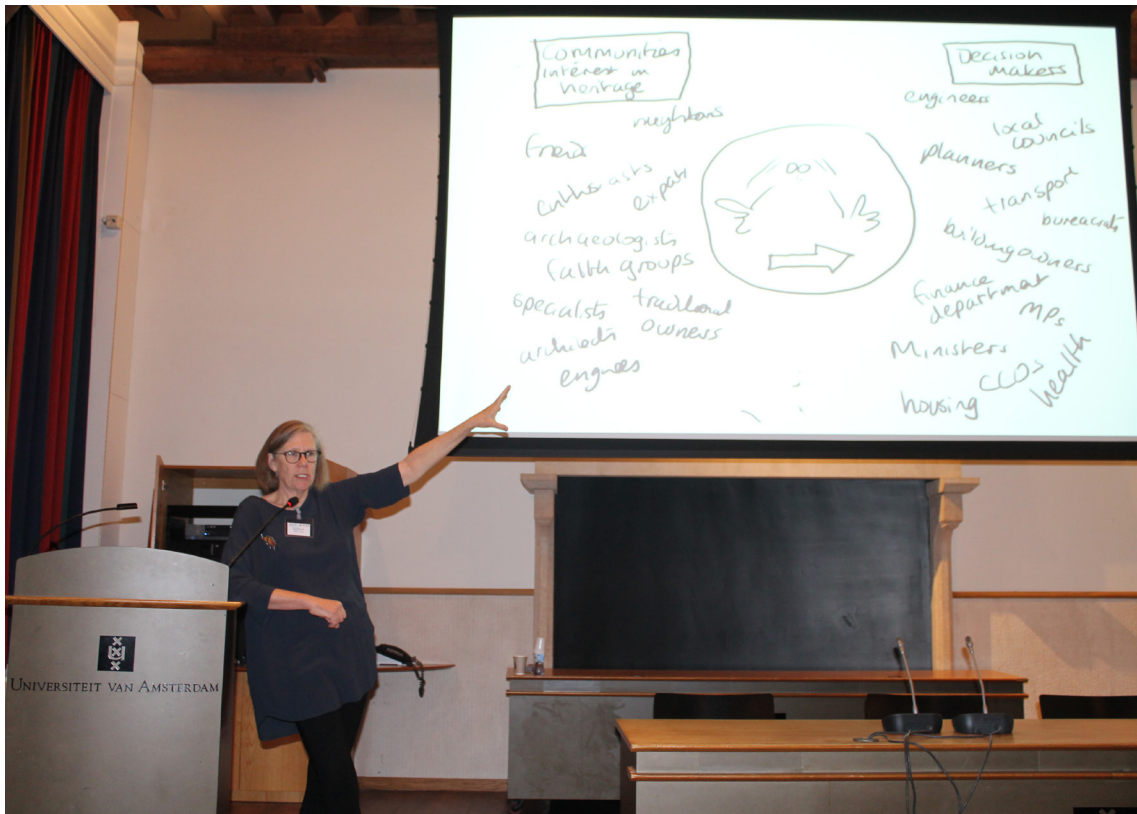


Image from Kate Clark's presentation showing the differences among the heritage values and which values should be taken into consideration when a site needs to be managed.





Kate Clark. Photograph by Helena Rydén

*“What became clear in the discussions is that cultural heritage is very emotionally controlled and personal. When planning the cultural heritage for future generations, we need to think more about how our work will affect future generations.”*

CORNELIUS HOLTORF

One participant expressed how the Heritage Values workshop helped to better understand heritage management by saying: “I found all the workshops inspiring in their own way. For me it was probably Kate Clark’s workshop that inspired me most, because we talked about skills. On the one hand it was repetition of what I already (thought I) knew, but through workshop mechanism it clarified the practice of Heritage Management and that it’s much more about people than about material. This is usually not what is taught in Heritage Management education.”

As an answer to which of the workshops inspired you the most: Kate’s. Simply because I’m a very practical person and I clearly see myself replicating the workshop on my case-study to help plan its future.

## Laura Watts – ‘Heritage End’

Laura Watts, who is a writer, poet, ethnographer of futures, and Senior Lecturer at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK, moderated the final workshop. Her latest book *Energy at the End of the World: an Orkney Islands Saga* has just been published by MIT Press.

### Future island of Doggerland

This workshop allowed participants to join the character Miriam on the future island of Doggerland, where their marine energy heritage, including buildings and data recordings, is being transformed from matter to energy—and sent to the stars. How to inhabit a future and explore a time and a place where heritage can end with sustainability, dignity, and care? What does it mean for heritage to end when that can include people, places, monuments, and the data entangled in all of these?

The workshop was based on a ‘speculative futures’ short story written by Laura Watts, and edited for the event, which placed the participants on the island, and allowed them to meet the islanders and experience the environment. This story was accompanied by a guidebook of imagery and maps to the island to orientate and inspire participants. The basis for the material was ethnographic fieldwork Watts is conducting in the Orkney Islands, Scotland, around the community-made energy futures and consequent contemporary archaeology.

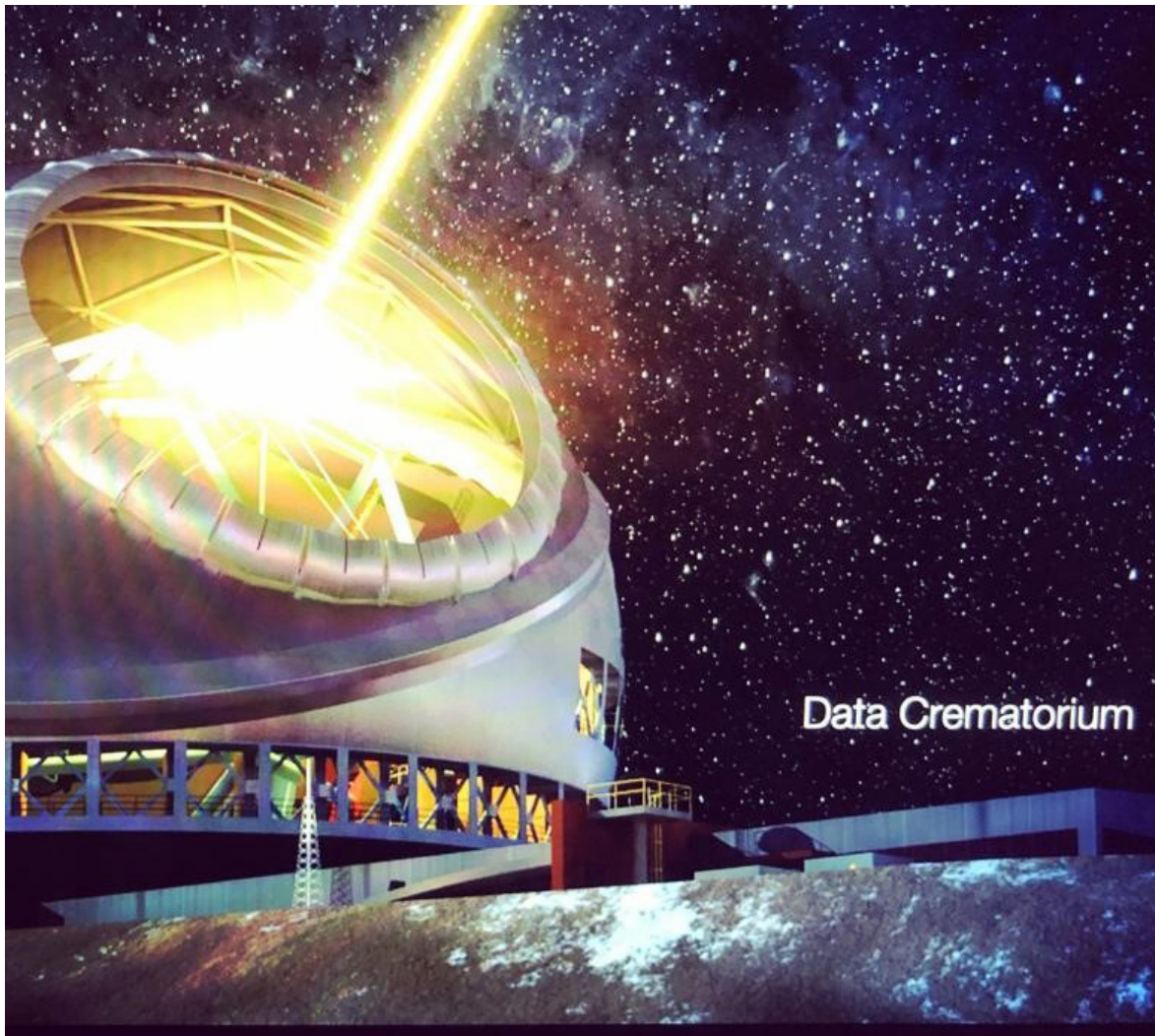
### Data, people and place

After the short story was performed aloud, participants were split into groups to focus on different forms of heritage futures: data, people, and place. These group committees were invited to interview a representative of the island community trust (acted by Watts), in order to gather sufficient information to make their report, raise concerns, and finally vote on whether the islanders could keep their ‘data crematorium’ open and running. The format of the workshop was adapted and improved during the whole day.

There were some interesting discussions that developed during the workshop, which included the implications for personhood (what counts as a person) when heritage expands to include monuments, persons, and digital data; the responsibility to protect outer space as a particular environment; the tension between sustainability and heritage in a place where resources are limited, and heritage could be recycled; how heritage might need to be redefined when a cultural identity is defined by change rather than fixity; how oral storytelling may be a more enduring form of heritage than digital data or material culture.



*Laura Watts on the importance of imagination during the workshop. Watch the film [https://play.lnu.se/media/t/o\\_ifmjy5m7](https://play.lnu.se/media/t/o_ifmjy5m7)*



*Data Crematorium. Image from Heritage End guidebook by Laura Watts.*

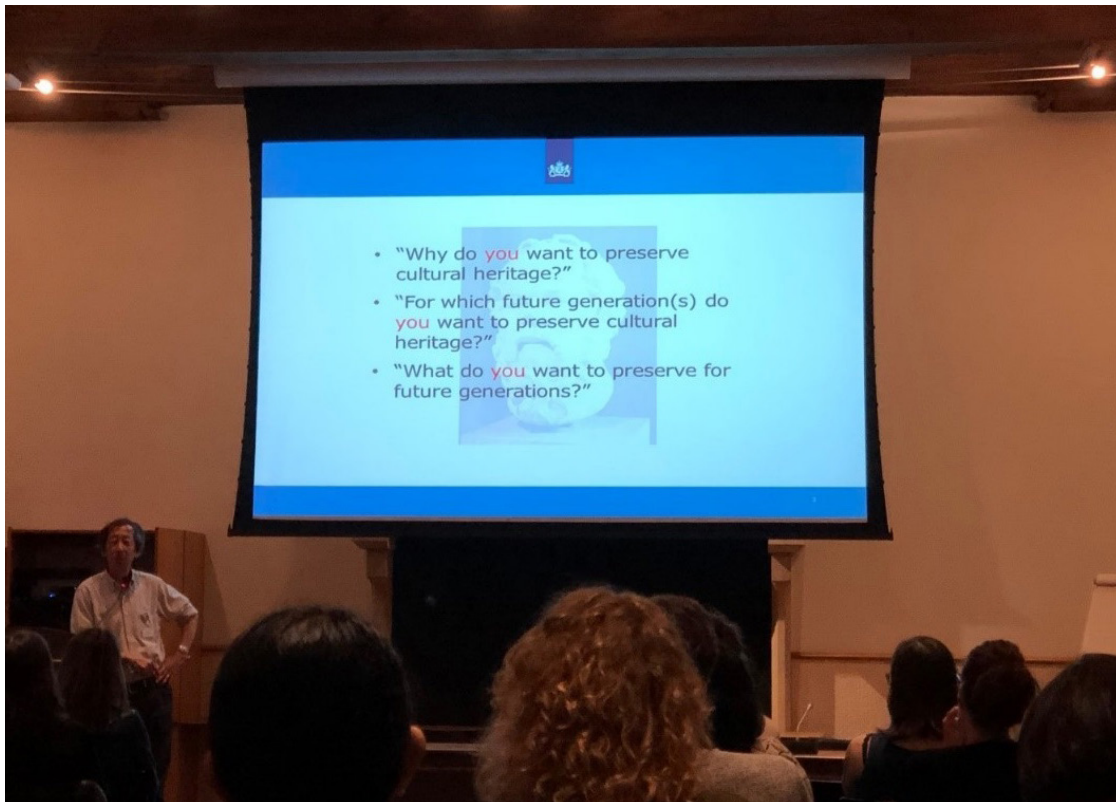
One participant reflected on how Laura's workshop helped to think about the future by saying: "Laura gave me an imaginarium for thinking about "ends"+new". Another highlighted how the 'Heritage End' workshop prepared for future scenarios in future heritage management: "The setting of the Doggerland workshop prepares you to think about a very strange and non-real heritage but the realistic approach teaches you how to be prepared to tackle the challenges of future heritage."

Another participant shared this view about all three workshops: "Heritage cannot be discussed without considering the associated emotions, which were observed during the workshop. Encouraging heritage professionals to apply storytelling methodologies and/or emotion design in heritage management will encourage deeper communication between heritage, the concerned society, and people, which will offer heritage professionals more ideas and help identify specific needs for how to address issues in the future."



## Concluding Day

The final day started with a concluding plenary on Developing Futures Literacy in Heritage Management, featuring the three workshop moderators Kate Clark, Laura Watts, Bill Wei, together with Cornelius Holtorf. During this plenary, the moderators reflected with all participants on the joint discussions in the workshops during the day before and indeed on the conference as a whole.



Bill Wei addressing the results of the workshop day. Photograph by Nour A. Munawar

One of the participants stressed the importance of establishing a nexus between reconstructed heritage and people: "If time had allowed, I would have enjoyed discussing the reconstruction of cultural heritage. The discussion that was held caused me to question the relationship between revived heritage and the people, relevant ethical and human rights issues, the rebuilding of meanings through the reconstruction process, differences in the reproduction of collections in museums, and global interests in local heritage, including different reconstruction approaches in the era of digitization."

Other participants appreciated that "The conference led the participants to rethink the definition of, and re-evaluate, 'the future and the future generation' in the field of heritage management. To further develop current heritage practices as well as to make it possible for a paradigm shift in the future, we may need to revisit the critical meanings of our technical languages"; and that "we carry different futures in ourselves and meet the futures of others in our work".

A third voice expressed how, throughout the four days, the University Forum gave an opportunity for everyone to share knowledge and experiences: "I enjoyed very much how in the final statements almost everyone mentioned a talk or thought they had received from someone else."



## Vanicka Arora – concluding lecture

Finally, Vanicka Arora, who is an architect and a doctoral candidate at the Institute for Culture and Society, Western Sydney University in Australia, gave the concluding lecture. The theme of the lecture was “(Re)Building Heritage Futures: Reconstruction as a Heritage Making Practice.”

Vanicka’s research looks at cycles of post-earthquake reconstruction in Nepal, where the earliest recorded event dates to 1255 AD and the most recent one in 2015. This region has often been described as ‘between earthquakes’ and the recurrence of earthquakes in Nepal has meant that its built fabric has gone through cycles of massive reconstruction campaigns - a phenomenon particularly observable in the densely urbanised Kathmandu Valley. It has also meant that the practices, rather than the products of reconstruction have maintained a sense of continuity and that the finite lives (and rebirths) of buildings have been measured in terms of successive earthquakes. What forms of heritage are being produced today, through reconstruction, in the wake of the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake?

Arora elaborated that reconstruction persists as one of the most contentious practices for built heritage. The act of reconstruction challenges many of the mainstream conceptual descriptors for heritage, including ideas of permanence and its characterisation as non-renewable. Arora added that reconstruction acts as a heritage making practice, as new values and meanings are negotiated and added through the acts of reassembling, rebuilding, reconstituting old (and new) forms, materials and technologies.

Multiple accounts emerging from Asian contexts suggest approaches to heritage mirror philosophical approaches to cycles of life and death, positioning reconstruction as a valid and inevitable response to ageing, decayed or destroyed material past. Can we then look at both the products and practices of reconstruction as arbiters between the past, present and future?

A discussion followed the lecture. The questions focused on what possibilities do different types of reconstruction processes offer for the future? There seems to be a lack of distinction between construction and reconstruction. How can we manage age and past? Reconstruction is in itself heritage.

Another participant raised the question: What matters to people? The same building can have multiple futures but still the same value. Decisions for present and future heritage management emerge from value and that can change. Such questions can provoke us to think differently: How important is it that there was something there before? Can we build a past from scratch?



Vanicka Arora giving the concluding lecture. Photograph by Nour A. Munarwar

## *Farewell*

Finally, the conference was concluded by Professor Toshiyuki Kono, President of ICOMOS International, who thanked the organizers for their efforts and expressed for the participants his hopes that the next, the third, ICOMOS University Forum, will be organized outside Europe.

### **Concluding remarks by the authors of this report**

Over the last year, we have been working closely with the organisation of the second ICOMOS University Forum in Amsterdam. We appreciated our collaboration very much because it broadened our brains to see, for us, new and future aspects of heritage management.

The involvement in planning and then finally meeting participants, with different backgrounds, academics as well as practitioners, all in different ways specialists in the field of heritage, allowed us to gain a deeper understanding of the complexity of heritage futures.

We found out that the gathering turned out to be more conceptual than we thought it would be. It was not only about listening to presentations and then discussing. It was about changing our way of thinking about the future, about values and methods to communicate. We learned to use our imagination when thinking and planning for the future in heritage management. We also understood that heritage is very emotional and personal. Finally, yet importantly, we developed our own network and made new friends!

*Nour A. Munawar, PhD Candidate, University of Amsterdam*

*Helena Rydén, Assistant to the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures at Linnaeus University*

### **Conference feedback**

The participants were asked to reflect on the meeting, both orally on the concluding day and by questionnaire. This is present in the report and in appendices. Finally some voices from social media and a concluding remark:

Answering the question what participants would have liked to discuss more during the meeting one of them pointed out:

“Sustainability!! This remained a rather conceptual discussion point, or a one-liner along the lines of reusing buildings=sustainability/passing on practises=sustainability. This is a topic that needs its own conference w/a similar format+diversity of participants.”



Sonali Ghosh, Indian Forest Service officer, on the significance of engaging with Heritage Futures and exploring Nature-Culture linkages. Watch the film [https://play.lnu.se/media/t/o\\_xlhnnx7l](https://play.lnu.se/media/t/o_xlhnnx7l)



Image and comment from social media. The conference gave the participants the opportunity to connect with colleagues and share experiences from around the world, thus developing their network.

### Conference Organizers

Professor Cornelius Holtorf, Linnaeus University  
Professor James Symonds, University of Amsterdam  
Dr Ihab Saloul, University of Amsterdam  
Nour A. Munawar, PhD Candidate, University of Amsterdam

### Scientific Committee

- Professor Cornelius Holtorf, UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures, Linnaeus University (Chair)
- Professor Toshiyuki Kono, Professor of Law, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, and President, ICOMOS International, Paris
- Marie-Laure Lavenir, Director General, ICOMOS International, Paris
- Dr Heleen van Londen, Assistant Professor, University of Amsterdam
- Dr Patricia Lulof, Associate Professor of Classical and Mediterranean Archaeology, University of Amsterdam
- Dr Ihab Saloul, Vice Director, AHM, University of Amsterdam
- Professor James Symonds, Professor of Historical Archaeology (North of the Alps), University of Amsterdam

The conference was mainly funded by the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures, with generous contributions from the Amsterdam School for Heritage, Memory and Material Culture (AHM) and the City of Amsterdam.

*Follow our work*

Over the coming years, the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures will build on the experiences from Amsterdam and develop training courses on heritage futures for the global heritage sector.

This was the second ICOMOS University Forum. We hope that the next, the third, ICOMOS University Forum will be organised outside Europe.

ICOMOS University Forum

<https://www.icomos.org/en/what-we-do/disseminating-knowledge/icomos-university-forum>

UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures

<https://lnu.se/en/unescochair>

@UnescoChairLNU

Amsterdam School for Heritage, Memory and Material Culture (AHM)

<http://ahm.uva.nl>



# Appendices



ICOMOS

City of  
Amsterdam



## Thinking and Planning the Future in Heritage Management

Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 11-14 June 2019

ICOMOS University Forum organized by the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures at Linnaeus University, Kalmar, Sweden and the Amsterdam School for Heritage, Memory and Material Culture, in collaboration with ICOMOS International, ICOMOS Netherlands, and City of Amsterdam, held at Amsterdam, Netherlands, 11-14 June 2019

The meeting aims at promoting to think and plan the future in heritage management. How do we perceive of the future? Which future do heritage professionals work for? What heritage will be needed in the future (and how do we know)? How can we build capacity in future thinking among heritage professionals worldwide?

The participants will include academics and heritage managers, both young and established, from many parts of the world.

Please feel free to use the below Twitter hashtag in your Tweets:  
*#HeritageFuturesAmsterdam*

We intend to photograph/film the workshop activities. The photos/recordings may be used in both printed and digital form, in various channels. The material may be stored in image and media banks. If you want to know how the data is used or have any other questions, please contact us.

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*Please direct any questions about local arrangements (incl pre-registration) in Amsterdam to Nour A. Munawar ([N.A.Munawar@uva.nl](mailto:N.A.Munawar@uva.nl)).*

## Conference Programme

### Tuesday, 11 June: Doelenzaal, University Library

16:00-16:10 **Welcome** by Christa-Maria Lerm-Hayes, Academic Director of AHM, University of Amsterdam (UvA)

16:10-17:30 **Open Lecture** with discussion:

*Heritage and the future – where are we heading?*

by Cornelius Holtorf, UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures, Linnaeus University

Informal Pub evening in **De Jaren Café**

### Wednesday, 12 June: Doelenzaal, University Library

#### **Presentation Day**

9.00-10:15 **Introductory session**

Short welcome address by Marielies Schelhaas, Secretary-General, Netherland's Commission for UNESCO

Short Introduction to the Conference (Cornelius Holtorf)

Short presentations 'who is who' (all participants)

10:15-10:30 **Coffee break** sponsored by AHM

10:30-12:00 **Plenary presentations (15 min each)** with discussion

**Chair:** James Symonds

*"Anticipatory Heritage" – Preserving the future memory of our time*, by Irene Stengs, Vrije University of Amsterdam (VU), Netherlands

*Heritage and Future Generations*, by Sarah May, Swansea University, UK

*Deep Time Trouble – Sustainability and Heritages in the Anthropocene*, by Christina Fredengren, University of Stockholm, Sweden

12:00-13:00 **Lunch** sponsored by AHM

13:00-14:30 **Plenary presentations (15 min each)** with discussion

**Chair:** Sarah May

*The Role of Heritage on Future Syria*, by Nour A. Munawar, University of Amsterdam (UvA), Netherlands

*Protecting cultural property in armed conflicts of the future*, by Peter Stone, Newcastle University, UK

*A scenario-building toolbox for EU policies on heritage protection and management in conflict*, by Damien Helly, Brussels, Belgium

14:30-14:45 **Coffee break** sponsored by AHM

14:45-16:15 **Plenary presentations (15 min each)** with discussion

Chair: Cornelius Holtorf

*ICOMOS and the Sustainable Development Goals* (pre-recorded video presentation), by Ege Yildirim, ICOMOS Focal Point for the UN Sustainable Development Goals, Turkey

*Future forecasting in the Flemish cultural heritage field*, by Alexander Van der Stichele, FARO, Belgium

*The place of the workshop in developing futures*, by Richard Sandford, UCL, UK

16:15-16:30 **Coffee break** sponsored by AHM

16:30-17:30 **Poster session**

17:45-20:00 **Welcome reception and dinner mingle** sponsored by AHM, **BG2 Building**

Thursday, 13 June: **Doelenzaal, Potgieterzaal, and Belle van Zuylenzaal, University Library**

### ***Workshop Day***

9:00-9:45 **Introduction** to the Day and to the Workshop Facilitators (Kate Clark, Laura Watts, Bill Wei)

10:00-12:00 **Workshop session I**

12:00-13:00 **Mingle lunch** sponsored by AHM

13:00-15:00 **Workshop session II**

15:00-15:30 **Coffee break** sponsored by AHM

15.30-17.30 **Workshop session III**

17:45-20:00 **Dinner mingle** sponsored by City of Amsterdam, **BG2 Building**

Featuring a **special address** by Jerzy Gawronski, Head of Archaeology, City of Amsterdam: *Metro Archaeology in Amsterdam Exploring Future Approaches to Public Heritage*

Friday, 14 June: **Doelenzaal, University Library**

9:00-11:00 **Concluding Plenary:** *Developing Futures Literacy in Heritage Management* (Kate Clark, Laura Watts, Bill Wei, Cornelius Holtorf) (participation by the personally invited participants to the workshop on the day before only)

11:00-11:30 **Coffee break** sponsored by AHM



11:30-13:00 **Open lecture** with discussion

*(Re)Building Heritage Futures: Reconstruction as a Heritage Making Practice* by Vanicka Arora, Western Sydney University, Australia

13:00 **Conclusion and Farewell:** Toshiyuki Kono, President of ICOMOS

13:30 End of Conference

Appendix 2 List of Participants

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Appendix 3 Abstracts of presentations

OPENING LECTURE

**Heritage and the future – where are we heading?**

Cornelius Holtorf, UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures, Linnaeus University

This introductory lecture introduces the significance in heritage management of thinking and planning the future. For the past two centuries, heritage has been playing an important role in many societies, and many people today genuinely feel passionate about heritage. Heritage management in our time is consequently dedicated to preserving the heritage for the benefit of future generations. In this lecture, I ask how to manage the heritage so that it has important roles to play even in future societies – when people will live under different conditions and may feel passionate for different causes than we do now. For that very reason, it is pertinent to ask where society is heading. In order to acquire ‘future literacy’ in the heritage sector we need to ask new questions such as: What can we know about the conditions under which people will live in future societies? How can we make sure heritage will benefit these people? How can heritage become ‘future-proof’?

**Heritage and Future Generations**

Sarah May, Swansea University, UK

It is a common feature of many heritage policies to frame heritage as a gift from the past to the future, and to claim that without our work future generations may not have a past. This paper will unpick these commonplace phrases and examine how they relate to the idea that ‘children are our future’. Working together these notions infantilise the future and frame it as needing our care; while at the same time helps us avoid the fearful framings of the future which dominate other discourse. Using case studies from the UK I will show how they constrain both our planning for the future and our responsibilities to the present.

**The Role of Heritage on Future Syria**

Nour A. Munawar, University of Amsterdam (UvA), The Netherlands

In order to end a war, someone has to pay a price, usually through the loss of physical evidence of the past. This can be noted in post-World War II European cities, Warsaw, Berlin, and Rotterdam. Viewed in this way, heritage casualties are not just an unfortunate side-effect of conflict, but almost a pre-requisite. The destruction of heritage during the hostilities in Syria has provoked scholars, institutes, and international organisations to debate the impact of damaging irreplaceable heritage, and the best ways to safeguard Syria’s past for future generations. I take a different approach, as I argue that heritage is in a constant process of transformation and change over time (Holtorf 2015). When seen in this way, the destruction and loss of heritage sites is not endangering Syria’s heritage, and it may, in fact, be seen as creating the future heritage of post-war Syria.

World Heritage Sites, such as the old city of Aleppo, are threatened by reconstruction plans that have already begun to be implemented by government agencies, even as the war is ongoing. The rapid clean-up and rebuilding plans of Syrian heritage could erase traces and narratives of war and violence, which ultimately ignores the fact that the destruction of heritage can be considered to be part of the lifecycle of any archaeological site. In my view, the recent intentionally destructive actions have started a process of *heritagizing* the present, which will eventually become part of the Syrian collective memory. This process has the capacity to make a strong contribution to the rebuilding of fragmented identities in the aftermath of the war.



### **“Anticipatory Heritage” – Preserving the future memory of our time**

Irene Stengs, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU), The Netherlands

This presentation focusses on the growing tendency among both institutional professionals and individuals to preserve as heritage historical objects and events ‘of the future’. Herewith, I mean objects and events that have a particular relevance in the here-and-now, at least for those involved. Different from ‘heritage looking back,’ in which case the historical value of certain objects or events is decided upon retrospectively, museums, research institutions, government organisations and local communities are increasingly committed to the creation of the heritage of the future. By doing so, they are engaged in constructing the future memory of our time or, as I call it, in *anticipatory heritage*.

My presentation will highlight two interrelated processes: of selection and of heritage making. What arguments or selection criteria are mobilized in order to attribute heritage value to certain objects, places or practices? As I will show, heritage may be made overnight. It is my argument that a better understanding of the forces that put the preservation of heritage ever higher on societal and political agendas, requires research with a strong focus on the makeability and making of heritage for the future.

### **Protecting cultural property in armed conflicts of the future**

Peter Stone, Newcastle University, UK

Cultural property (not only archaeological sites but archives, library and museum collections, and art) is always damaged and destroyed during conflict – it is what happens, and there is nothing that can be done about it. However, a proportion of such damage and destruction is frequently avoidable and has been regarded as bad practice by military theorists for over 2,000 years. During both the First and Second World Wars military units were created to try to protect cultural property. These were staffed by mainly conscripted heritage experts keen to use their expertise to protect cultural property. However, these units were largely broken up at the end of the Second World War. Despite the 1954 Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two Protocols of 1954 and 1999, the military - and heritage community - essentially forgot the importance of cultural property protection during armed conflict (CPP). It was only following the disastrous destruction and looting that followed the war in the former Yugoslavia and the 2003 invasion of Iraq that the issue returned to the agenda.

While there has been debate over the ethics of working in CPP it is clear that some (most?) heritage organisations are willing to work with the military. However, a number of issues raised in the ethical debate must inform how we proactively and pragmatically engage with CPP in the future. How do we deal with future conflicts? Should there be a new sub-discipline of CPP heritage management? Is CPP as, or more, important than the protection of people? CPP has been mentioned in no more than six recent UN Security Council resolutions – taking CPP from a heritage issue to an international political and security one. How do we ensure that the heritage community does not lose control of managing CPP – or does that matter?

### **A scenario-building toolbox for EU policies on heritage protection and management in conflict**

Damien Helly, Brussels, Belgium

The objective of this presentation is to encourage participants to invest their skills, talents and knowledge in the development of scenario-building exercises to contribute to and influence European Union policy-making in the field of heritage protection in conflict. The presentation will be comprised of four parts, with short introduction and conclusion.

Short Introduction: Why Will the EU Matter in Future Heritage Management & Protection in conflict? Why do we and EU policy makers need scenario building workshops on this theme? This introductory part will remind

participants of the effectiveness and potential of the European Union as a Heritage management actor in a world marked by increasing uncertainty in global governance, multilateral cooperation frameworks and technological innovations. Conflict will be dealt with as a wide spectrum of conflictual situations.

I will then quickly shed light on the fragility of EU policy-making and the need for joined up approaches among international and European experts (i.e. insistence of many Member States on their national heritage priorities thereby neglecting the collective and European added value in this field, EU staff rotation and limited institutional memory, vulnerability of European heritage professional networks in their capacity to influence the EU heritage management policy agenda).

Once the scene is set, I will go into the heart of the matter and present the scenario-building method I designed for the case study of EU cultural heritage protection in armed conflict: the use of meta-scenario configurations (drawing on scenario building developed in other expertise communities), and the value of scenario configurations combinations to stimulate socially and scientifically innovative collective intelligence and engagement in (EU) heritage management.

In the last part, I will underline the need for participatory and perhaps most importantly multidisciplinary participation in scenario-building workshops as ways of making sense of the challenges in the present time, strengthening links and trust between experts from different backgrounds but working on various approaches of the same question, and addressing bottle-necks, hurdles and threats hampering effective and efficient heritage management and protection in an age of uncertainty and technological change.

I will conclude by inviting participants to design jointly with me (either as an independent cultural expert or as the founder of our social innovation group 'Culture Solutions' specialised in EU international cultural relations) specific scenario-building exercises for EU heritage protection and management policy makers and relevant professionals.

### **Future forecasting in the Flemish cultural heritage field**

Alexander Van der Stichele, FARO, Belgium

In 2010, Faro, the Flemish interface for cultural heritage, carried out a huge field analysis of the Flemish heritage field. We used both quantitative and qualitative methods in order to depict the current state of the Flemish heritage field on one side and to think about the future of this field on the other. One of the methods we used to make heritage professionals think about the future of their field and profession was to make use of scenario exercises. For these scenario exercises we brought together heritage professionals from different backgrounds and different institutions/organisations. We made sure we had a good mix of men and women, younger people and older people. Before we started working on the possible scenario's each group was introduced to real and scientifically valid future forecasts about the demographic evolution in Flanders and globalisation tendencies, the consequences of climate change, the impact of the economic crisis, the rise of the internet of things, etc. After this introduction the participants were asked to create newspapers that might be published in 2020. For this, they could make use of any material they found in current media or on the internet. Based on the newspapers that were produced by the heritage professionals, talks were held about the implications of these future scenarios on their own profession and the broader heritage field.

It was the first time that this kind of scenario exercises took place in the Flemish heritage field. The results of our exercises were mixed, to say the least. First of all, there was quite some resistance. Some of our participants found the idea of future forecasting ridiculous and they refused to participate. And among those who did participate, we noticed that many have trouble imagining different futures. So, in the end we decided not to use the results from these exercise for our field analysis.

### **ICOMOS Focal Point for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

Ege Yildirim, ICOMOS Focal Point for SDGs, Turkey

The poster will provide an overview of the work of the Sustainable Development Goals Working Group of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). In 2015, the fundamental role of culture and heritage in sustainable development was recognized by the UN at the highest level: Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals, expressed most clearly in Target 11.4 to “protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage” under the Urban Goal (SDG11). Through integration of cultural heritage into sustainable urbanism, tourism, climate action, disaster preparedness and other policy areas, ICOMOS is committed to implementing Agenda 2030, which addresses the very future of planet Earth.

### **Deep Time Trouble – Sustainability and Heritages in the Anthropocene**

Christina Fredengren, Stockholm University Sweden

This paper will discuss the anthropocentric and social constructivist nature of recent heritage politics, where immaterial heritage often is granted an increasing weight in relation to material heritage and where “things” and “landscapes” are captured mainly through human perception, ascribed value due to significance for the human being, and critiqued mainly through politics of representation. Hence heritage politics clearly puts the human being (or a select few of these) in the centre i.e. it is Anthropocentric. Furthermore, heritage is often described as a re-working of the past in the present, which risks narrowing down the understanding of heritages of all kinds into a presentism, which risks undermining an exploration of the excessive material workings and environmental problems that future generations are tied into.

At the same time, one can argue that man-made environmental problems are one of the major inheritances of our times, where exactly such figures of anthropocentric and presentist thought have led us into Deep Time Trouble of planetary climate change. Is it not time to start thinking of the material workings of a range of different heritages, with recipients that may be more-than-human for to practice not only care within generations, but also between generations, for to become better multi-species ancestors. Here we may gain inspiration from theoretical and practical explorations within new materialism and critical feminist posthumanism.

### **The place of the workshop in developing futures**

Richard Sandford, UCL’s Institute for Sustainable Heritage

Trend analysis, horizon scanning, projections - these can all be done at a desk by researchers and analysts. But futures work often aims to change minds and cultures, and for that human interaction is necessary. In all futures traditions, the workshop has occupied a central role in the development of narratives of possible futures. From the social activism of Jungk and Müllert, through the corporate conversations of Shell and the Global Business Network, to the speculative approaches emerging from contemporary design practice, in recent decades a wide range of practical approaches and methods have evolved, testament to the diverse nature of the groups that find value in convening groups to think about the future.

This presentation will offer a brief overview of the history of workshops in foresight and futures work, considering the varied capacity of different methods to support participatory and pedagogic goals, and share examples from workshops run for public policy teams, non-profit organisations, and educators. Some key practical questions will emerge, all relevant to heritage managers and researchers concerned with developing futures methods suited to heritage. How can different kinds of expertise be recognised? Is the process or the product more important? And when the workshop is over, what happens to the futures created there?

CONCLUDING LECTURE

**(Re)Building Heritage Futures: Reconstruction as a Heritage Making Practice**

Vanicka Arora, Western Sydney University, Australia

Reconstruction persists as one of the most contentious practices for built heritage. The act of reconstruction challenges many of the mainstream conceptual descriptors for heritage, including ideas of permanence and its characterisation as non-renewable. I argue that reconstruction acts as a heritage making practice, as new values and meanings are negotiated and added through the acts of reassembling, rebuilding, reconstituting old (and new) forms, materials and technologies. Multiple accounts emerging from Asian contexts suggest approaches to heritage mirror philosophical approaches to cycles of life and death, positioning reconstruction as a valid and inevitable response to ageing, decayed or destroyed material past. Can we then look at both the products and practices of reconstruction as arbiters between the past, present and future?

My research looks at cycles of post-earthquake reconstruction in Nepal, where the earliest recorded event dates to 1255 AD and the most recent one in 2015. This region has often been described as 'between earthquakes' and the recurrence of earthquakes in Nepal has meant that its built fabric has gone through cycles of massive reconstruction campaigns - a phenomenon particularly observable in the densely urbanised Kathmandu Valley. It has also meant that the practices, rather than the products of reconstruction have maintained a sense of continuity and that the finite lives (and rebirths) of buildings have been measured in terms of successive earthquakes. What forms of heritage are being produced today, through reconstruction, in the wake of the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake? What possibilities do different types of reconstruction processes offer for the future?

Some of these answers may lie in the examination of relationships between values, risk and resilience as articulated by built heritage and its reconstruction. In the context of catastrophic risks, or risks associated with large scale disasters, heritage is described as simultaneously being increasingly threatened, while at the same time as increasingly valuable due to its contribution to community resilience. Reconstruction is positioned then as a means to reduce future risks and increase future resilience for heritage, by both looking forward- through principles such as 'Build Back Better' and looking back- through a reinforcement of traditional management systems and approaches. I suggest that we look both ways, in the past and the future, as well as the outcome and the process of reconstruction itself.





Appendix 4 Abstracts of posters (in alphabetic order)

**Loosing heritage, what does this mean?**

Patrícia Brum and Filipa Neto, Portugal

After seeing recent events such as the fire in the roof of Notre-dame (France) or the Museu Nacional (Brazil), one cannot help but wonder what is actually going to remain in the future? All around the world, people reacted in social media, expressing loss and grieve. For sure, these are not human lives being lost, but still people unite in the face of such catastrophes. If in this consumer society, it is so much easier to destroy or get rid off than to repair and preserve what exists, how should we cope regarding cultural heritage?

**Heritage Narratives of the Future and Synergizing Nature and Culture**

Gabriel Caballero, Philippines

From cities and historic cores developing ways of improving biodiversity within their districts, to heritage trees being identified with cultural significance, all these point to stronger links between nature and culture as an important initiative of urban heritage management in the future. Natural heritage sites like Chauvet Cave in France have adopted museological techniques to innovatively protect sites while making them accessible to the public through interpretive strategies. Some natural heritage sites in Asia are also exploring similar strategies. My poster will discuss initiatives that showcase priorities of conservation, both natural and cultural, balancing economic sensibilities, and creating immersive spaces that come together in a particular site.

**“Re-signify” Cultural Heritage: two projects that aims to make difference in the future of vulnerable populations**

Sandra Rafaela Magalhães Corrêa, Brazil

More than half of the population living in cultural heritage's areas in Brazil has low income. How to dialogue about cultural heritage with who do not have the necessary for their subsistence? Two projects in implementation by IPHAN aim to “re-signify” the patrimony by its local communities, through concrete actions and tools inserted in their daily routine for improvement of quality of life. One of the projects is located in the Amazon region, another is an urban settlement in Bahia enveloped by a National Park, with direct environmental impact. Both have less than 400 inhabitants, most of them in situation of social vulnerability.

**Rethinking Nature-culture in Heritage Futures**

Sonali Ghosh, India

The World Heritage Convention 1972, uniquely blends in the ethos of humans (culture) and their connection with nature, whereas the actual management and protection of world heritage sites often gets compartmentalised. The multi-stakeholder approach for governance of Sites, including the documentation of best practises shall be attempted thereby highlighting the need to develop an integrated sustainability approach.

### **UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures at Linnaeus University**

Cornelius Holtorf, Anders Högberg, Claudio Pescatore, Ulrika Söderström, Helena Rydén, Linnaeus University, Sweden, and Sarah May, University of Swansea, UK

A UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures was created in September 2017 at Linnaeus University in Kalmar, Sweden. It is often said that heritage is to be conserved for the benefit of future generations. The UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures investigates what this may mean in the context of the inherent uncertainty of the future on the one hand and practices associated with different kinds of heritage on the other hand. Some research and related activities of the Chair were funded as part of the AHRC funded Heritage Futures project based at University College London and directed by Professor Rodney Harrison.

How is the future being made through the 1972 World Heritage Convention, reconstructions of lost heritage, final repositories of nuclear waste, or the design of a message for the New Horizons spacecraft? When are the futures these practices work towards? How can we best determine what will benefit relevant future generations? What is the actual legacy we will leave behind? The Chair supports heritage practitioners in finding answers to these questions and in developing their own professional strategies for the future. In this way it supports heritage practitioners in working with cultural heritage for the future. Which future (or futures) is heritage for, what will benefit future generations, and how can the answers to these questions be applied to contemporary heritage practices?

### **Sonic Heritage Preservation**

Pam Jordan, University of Amsterdam (UvA), The Netherlands

How do we preserve and interpret heritage that is characterized by acoustics or sonic qualities? Can heritage sites and their interpretation be made more inclusive and accessible through sonic sensitivity? This poster considers these questions through the case study of Mount Lykaion, Greece, where archaeological remains of a Zeus sanctuary sit at the cusp of their public-oriented development. While the architecture is in ruins, the landscape hosts unusual acoustics that are likely representative of conditions in 400BCE, providing visitors a direct encounter with ancient experience. Here, the most intact heritage remains may be the acoustics themselves, asserting important challenges for heritage conceptualization and conservation efforts.

### **Making and Using heritage for Confucian Edification: The discourse of heritage in pre-modern China**

Qingkai Ma, China

Among Chinese heritage professionals, there is a feeling of conserving heritage for future generations and a deficiency of 'future consciousness' (Holtorf & Högberg 2015). However, before the 20th century in pre-modern China, heritage was conceptualized and used in an alternative way. This study explores the discourse of Temple and Cemetery of Mencius in Zoucheng city, China through ethnographic fieldwork and interpreting historical records. Mencius saved Confucianism from decline during the Warring States Period (475 -221 B.C.), for which he was regarded as the "other sage", second only to Confucius (551 -479 B.C.). The Temple and Cemetery of Mencius were constructed to offer sacrifice to Mencius and managed by Mencius's descendants before the 1950s. They were valued for their contribution to the edification of people for the present and the future. They were restored and rebuilt for more than 30 times, demonstrating a non-linear conception of time.

### **Heritage Conservation in Future: What Heritages? For Whom? By whom?**

Monalisa Maharjan, Portugal

Since the concept of heritage conservation has conceived, there have been a lot of changes on what we consider heritage and how we preserve, conserve and safeguard it. Institutionalization and structuring of heritage has a great influence on how people continuity their traditional practices and use of heritage. In this scenario heritage in future will be largely influenced and controlled by the heritage professionals, institutions and state, giving less space for the community who actually continue the practices. This poster will explore on changing concept of heritages in the formal heritage conservation and continuity; and how it might impact the heritage in future.

### **Unfinished Sympathy - Which future do heritage professionals work for?**

Samuel Antonio Duarte Pineda, Mexico

Cities and communities fragmented, effect caused by gentrification and segregation, where in certain cases, the cultural and natural heritage has an impact due to the attraction of tourism. In other cases, urban expansion and population growth (estimated in 2030, 50% of the world population will live in urban areas), are those that affect the heritage located in urban contexts and that are generators of identity and memory. In this context, the use of artificial intelligence for the documentation, conservation and dissemination of heritage will be a fundamental part of its preservation.

### **Igbo Heritage Ontologies in the Anthropocene: A Perspective on Epistemic Reconciliation for Heritage Futures**

John Kelechi Ugwuanyi , UK

This poster examines how the Igbo ontologies in southeast Nigeria will be useful in re-thinking heritage conservation for the future. It recognises the 'life' in heritage and argues for a paradigm shift that would focus attention on keeping the 'utilitarian values' of heritage in their living community in the Anthropocene.

Among the Igbo, *odinani/odinala/odinai'*, *ntonani/ntoala/ntoal'* and *omenani/omenala/ omenal'* communicate 'heritage' and demonstrate the ways the practice and material take a new form, style and pattern to continue to survive the associated narratives. Other concepts like *nchekwebe*, *ndokwebe*, *ndozi/mmezi*, *mmekwata/mmekwete* or *mmechite* contextually translate as 'conservation', *ncheta/nchete* and *iye/ihe/ife nchete* relates to 'remembering', 'memory' or 'memorabilia' and *njirimara* or *odibendi* is 'identity'. These Igbo ontologies of heritage, memory, identity and conservation encourage cultural continuity based on 'utilitarian values' principled on the 'life cycle' of birth, death, and rebirth of human and things. This practice is opposed to the conventional conservation that encourages static non-using approach which struggles to keep heritage materials or practices 'forever' as a way of preserving 'authenticity'.

### **"Heritage management in a digital age: memories of worlds"**

Evert Verhoeven, The Netherlands and Anna Maria Borowska, Austria

Digital heritage is seen as one of the best solutions for the loss of heritage through disaster, war or change. By creating a "digital copy" of an object or site, the information should be accessible for future generations. This approach also leads to a paradox within heritage management: how can you store you data and your digital heritage in a sustainable way that will stand the test of time? In addition, how can digital landscapes (for example a MMORPG-landscape) themselves be integrated in a heritage context. With our poster, we offer some insights in challenges and possibilities that lay ahead.



**Accommodating a future of diversity - on heritage and belonging**

Gustav Wollentz, Sweden

This poster will present the research plan for a project which I am developing, focusing on the relation between future perspectives and the feeling of belonging among youth in ethnically diverse neighbourhoods in Sweden. I will study how future perspectives draw upon, and produce new forms of, tangible/intangible heritage. My goal is to provide suggestions for strengthening the ties between ethnically diverse communities and heritage institutions. The research will be based on interviews, participative observation and a study of available reports from heritage agencies. This poster will present key questions, a theoretical foundation as well as methods and aims of the project.

Appendix 5 Reflections – feedback received

Questionnaire for conference participants (distributed on Friday 14 June 2019)

**Why is it important to you how to think and plan the future in heritage management?**

I'm interested in the education and training of future heritage management professionals. The what, how, where and who of this new curriculum will depend on a vision for the future of heritage management as a profession.

In order to=not to make people angry, be blamed too harshly

It's a good way to prepare and be ready when a change comes

In the process of heritage management, (digital) documentation, in which I am currently involved, is one of the important parts. Documentation is essential and a prerequisite to all aspects of preservation activities, such as planning and applying appropriate preventive measures to safeguard cultural heritage. Thanks to the emergence of digital technologies, traditional documentation and heritage management systems have evolved simultaneously as the needs for handling increased contextual knowledge and embodied meanings have been identified. In light of this, I feel that it is important to think and plan for the future. There are possibilities to encounter new perspectives and innovative practices in heritage management compared to what we have done previously.

Conservation is to serve to transmit evidence of the past to the future.

It's what I have done, do, and teach about! Central to my whole career.

It gives me a sense of purpose and meaning. No one should work without a mission and it should be revised from time to time, so it is closer to reality.

I think heritage needs to assert itself as a significant voice in current debates+developments in sustainability+climate change, conflict+migration, architectural design, accessibility, and so much more. Our multidisciplinary base is such an asset when we band together with confidence

**How did the conference challenge the way in which you are looking at the future in relation to heritage?**

The conference made me more aware of the fact that heritage is deeply personal and that the future is not ours. It also reconfirmed or reminded me that HM is practiced differently across the globe and that the term 'heritage professional' is not well-defined.

I never really thought about things like deep time (never even heard of it!) or what come after digitization. This made the conference thought-provoking and refreshing.

It reminded me of, and stressed, the need to think of a plethora of possible futures.

We can never know what is the future going to be or who will be recipients

The workshop led me to rethink the definition of and re-evaluate "the future and the future generation" in the field of heritage management. Depending on how we define the scope of the above terms, we can be the future generation, and the future generation can be preset people. We are closely interlinked and can influence each other. To further develop current heritage practices as well as to make it possible for a paradigm shift in the future, we may need to revisit the critical meanings of our technical languages.

“We” and “I”

It gave me most of a few days to think about the issues with different, some new, prompts

I was resilient to the idea of change in heritage, but now recognize it is an unavoidable subject.

It helped remove the hesitation I have to discuss deep time and far futures in relation to current heritage work. It is so important to challenge the ego present in actions of “passing on our heritage for future generations”.

**What did the conference inspire you to do differently in the future?**

Be more aware that we cannot determine what is and what will be important for future generations.

Teaching techniques (socratic dialogue, role-playing, as useful teaching methods in some cases). Establishing dialog with an even greater variety of persons. Defining (and understanding) the notion of “Heritage”

Very inspired by the workshops. I work sometimes with kids and already thinking about engaging them in simpler but similar workshop settings

It provided a great opportunity to revisit important notions regarding how we perceive the future of heritage management and what core elements we must consider. For successful heritage management and the maximization of the relevant positive impacts on society (people and the environment, including other species), value-based approaches, the involvement of appropriate people, proper communication, and mutual understanding must be considered. These elements are fundamental but often forgotten, both unintentionally and intentionally.

New educational skills!

Remember to listen more

Try to accept change

To reframe my research and practice entirely in the present. To not infantilize the future (any more than the present, at least!). And to commit to engaging with heritage folk more consistently, theretically, and practically in my future work. (It felt a bit like a homecoming after working w/other disciplines for the past 10 years!)

**Which of the three workshop formats (on Thursday) inspired you most to think about heritage futures in new ways and why?**

I found all the workshops inspiring in their own way. For me it was probably Kate Clark’s workshop that inspired me most, because we talked about skills. On the one hand it was repetition of what I already (thought I) knew, but through workshop mechanism it clarified the practice of HM and that it’s much more about people than about material. This is usually not what is taught in HM education.

Laura Watts, as it presented, very vividly, a scenario in which heritage is seen very differently from ours.

“Doggerland workshop”. The setting of the workshop prepares you to think about a very strange and non real heritage but the realistic approach teaches you how to be prepared to tackle the challenges of future heritage.

The three workshops were all excellent. I felt that Bill’s workshop was one of the best. It offered good practice on how to listen to others and how to maintain open communication. Through his dialogue process, I considered our communication methods and listening skills when working with relevant stakeholders, including local communities. Better understanding of each other is a necessary starting point for heritage management, which will allow us to build constructive dialogues that will inform us of where we are heading in the future.

Laura’s WS – I could apply, using various reading materials.

I guess Bill's making me focus on the "I"

Kate's. Simply because I'm a very practical person and I clearly see myself replicating the workshop on my case-study to help plan its future.

Bill's gave me practical skills for listening+communicating. Kate gave me hope. Laura gave me an imaginarium for thinking about "ends"+new. Each thus gave me a different route to+through heritage futures+a future heritage

### **What is the best way to inspire heritage professionals to think and plan the future?**

Thought provoking hands-on highly engaging conferences, like the Thinking and Planning the Future in HM meeting and include future-thinking into curricula of future HM professionals.

Meetings like this!

Include different stakeholders and make them listen to each other's views

Heritage cannot be discussed without considering the associated emotions, which were observed during the workshop. Encouraging heritage professionals to apply storytelling methodologies and/or emotion design in heritage management will encourage deeper communication between heritage, the concerned society, and people, which will offer heritage professionals more ideas and help identify specific needs for how to address issues in the future.

Participation in the workshops that we did!

Be honest about heritage presentation: why and how we do it: get them to acknowledge that we/they construct the heritage through archives

Speak up. Make others aware of this debate.

Making them ask and answer WHY questions. Then load them with practical tools.

### **Which aspects of thinking and planning the future in relation to heritage would you have liked to discuss more during the conference?**

From my personal motivation for participating I'd say education.

I wish we could discuss the key concepts and ideas raised in the meeting more in-depth. Heritage, Reasons for conservation, Heritage-people skills, Future, etc. A good reason (and an invitation) to organize more meeting along this line.

The politics of the management policies and decisions, because in the end unless we learn how to convince and engage politicians we can not make a difference.

If time had allowed, I would have enjoyed discussing the reconstruction of cultural heritage. The discussion that was held caused me to question the relationship between revived heritage and the people, relevant ethical and human rights issues, the rebuilding of meanings through the reconstruction process, differences in the reproduction of collections in museums, and global interests in local heritage, including different reconstruction approaches in the era of digitization.

Reconstruction link between tangible and intangible heritages

How to survive in a healthy manner, in crazy times, where it is hard to listen.



Sustainability!! This remained a rather conceptual discussion point, or a one-liner along the lines of reusing buildings=sustainability/passing on practises=sustainability. This is a topic that needs its own conference w/a similar format+diversity of participants.

All note: Last presentation seemed a bit of topic (too specific on Nepalese heritage) and too long.

I enjoyed very much how in the final statements almost everyone mentioned a talk or thought they had received from someone else.

Question for conference participants (distributed on Friday 14 June 2019)

**What did you find most surprising or challenging during the conference?**

That oral storytelling might be the best way to maintain heritage – after it has gone as material.

The combination of the way the presentations, workshops and discussions were set up. Innovative thoughts on time, place and people.

Surprisingly to understand how personal is heritage. Interdisciplinary/different perspectives/diverse. Challenge certain values correlated to heritage, the concepts of deeptime, circular time, oral history (form we preserve, the quantity of things), unwanted gift..., decision making.

Communication is a key issue. It is an essential expertise for a heritage professional.

Great diversity of participants and intense engagemat. I've never thought about the future in the way we were asked to think about in the meeting. Refreshing to be crith. people are prepared to have wider view. Kate Clark's workshop gave me ideas about curricula in HM. The Socratic discussion was the most challenging for me.

I learned how challenging it is to listen, carefully, ask short, direct, honest questions and to really listen, really try to understand. The phrasing of a question of course, but also the honesty we show when we use I think, I prefer. It's actually alright to be personal and just bring yourself in regard to Cultural Heritage.

The openness in discussions and genuine conversations were inspiring. The personal aspects of the workshops was challenging, maybe a bit confronting, but helpful and insightful. Communicate trust, respect, listen. Don't make assumptions.

There are various ways to approach the heritage process!

As a graduate student – who still has to find her aim and direction in the field – I found it most surprising that over the last days during the presentations and personal conversations that resonated was that these experienced professionals are so open about their questions, concerns and uncertainties and that these considerations – as annoying and unnerving as they can be - are vital for heritage practioners. And what I would like to take with me from the last few days is to aim for and hold on to a humble, selfreflective adaptive approach in heritage practice and doing this without losing a much needed sense of humour.

I was intrigued by the 'presentness' of the future. A lot of the discussions were more about the present knowledge to predict the future, the use of present management systems to adapt, transition into the future.

It was a great opportunity to re-discover & re-examine that heritage is a complex domain associated with many different cultural, political & economical aspects. Beacuse of those diverse spectrum, heritage allows us to investigate to think of a set of new values, ideas, stories, and traditions, so on. By re-visiting what we are doing today in the field of heritage, it really helps to recognize/make what the important actors, that cover values,

trust and communities so on, once again. Those could be a kind of the starting points for diverting our way for the future.

The idea of heritage being an actor, active + influential in military actions. Also, it was powerful to hear the call to stop dividing the “present” and “future”.

Not much surprising – except perhaps the content of Bill’s and Laura’s workshops. So engaging in them was slightly challenging. Nice to have a few days to reflect.

I was pleasantly surprised at how many professionals (including ICOMOS and UNESCO) are willing and actively thinking about how to change the way the profession looks at heritage in the future. I don’t feel alone anymore, going “against” traditional methodologies.

Heritage thinking is so varied – and so is future thinking in heritage (and is better developed than I thought). Thinking methods are important and (again) varied. Geography. not defined by the things it studies – its a practice of thought.

Most surprising

1. I have a bit more dystopian view of heritage in which, the motivations of heritage designation is removed from that alien baby of “future generations”. Heritage is constructed in the present, reinforced by the authorised heritage discourse and fueled by ego. I now think that my role is a mediator of priorities of things that move in time, from past to the future.

2 Heritage practioners need to also imagine and to think of future scenarios. Although the future is a dream, it can help open new ideas in the present. Laura’s workshop was captivating and provides a glimpse of current issues of digital heritage today.

Heritage, heritage work and /or management are closely linked to the personal thinking and institutions of the people involved. This is great, but at the same time seems to be a to really think freshly about the future heritage and heritage management. How to jump from the institutional/ way of thinking about future heritage to a more open and daring thinking on a more systematic level. How to handle/make use of this tension?

Not a surprise or a challenge but an appreciation that there are the same set of issues and approaches to address the future for tools (sustainability) of heritage. the same key driven that need to be addressed, some theoretical concepts, have now become clear and that is great.

The most challenging as well as stimulating part of the workshop was to engage with understand, and be open to different ways of relating to futures depending on each persons background and personal experiences. Engaging with different futures through dialogue, meeting people.

I find it very challenging to cope with the ever-growing, all-encompassing notion of heritage. I was surprised by how interesting the meeting at nearly every moment.

Prior to the conference, I believed that thinking carefully about the content of the future is difficult since I enjoy the challenge of thinking carefully I’m grateful. This belief has been confirmed, and indeed deepened. I’m now aware – this has me excited and daunted at once – of new specific problems that will, for me, make thinking carefully about the content of the future yet more challenging.

What is surprising is that no one has the answer. We only have certain expectato. Since I’m an emerging professional, it was inspiring to get the insights from other people who have been dealing and thinking about this longer and who actually admit that there is no answer to this question, but that actual process of discussing this is as important as the answer. My opinion mattered among professionals/famous in the field people – honored.

Despite the differences of our cultural contexts and educational backgrounds, we share a common language, the concern to the past, present and the future of cultural heritage. With this common language, we can promote intercultural dialogues. There are challenges of course. For example, different cultures have different understandings of heritage and ways of using heritage. But it is challenging to make these cultural particularities understood by international scholars.

University Forum. Academia + practitioners. Intersubjective. Concept – methodology. Education – professionals + development + imagination + fantasy.

Thinking/imagining a far future.

It gives a new perspective about heritage conservation. It is refreshing and energizing. I have gained energy and new knowledge. Huge thanks! Well organized, too.

1 Surprised at the level of gap between the heritage academics and practitioners, the manner that practitioners reduce the academic jargons to languages understandable by all kinds of audience is plausible. 2 I appreciate the assemblage of diversity. I mean here includes disciplinary, cultural and geographical. It was very useful. 3 The workshop approaches were particularly surprising and helpful.

The challenge for me personally was to adapt to all three workshops. It was really informative and I needed time to unlearn the things I had learned my whole life and press my mind to think.

The workshop provided novel thought-provoking ideas and methodologies on heritage futures, which are very helpful and useful for the management of CH in the context of contemporary Thailand.

I'm expecting a more technical workshop and my surprise is because was more conceptual workshop.

When I came, I thought I would listen about how planning the future, about concepts, etc. of course we had some of these but the most surprising for me was the intentions of make us (think) change our way of thinking, methods to dialogue, open our minds, to make us free to imagine the future we want to work for. For me, this is really a treasure, we could watch ourselves and think about how we dialogue with people and the world about the heritage and our future.