Imagining Conservation: the next twenty years

Centre for Conservation Studies Fortieth Anniversary Conference

6 - 7 July 2012, York

The past four decades have seen a significant change in the conservation of cultural heritage. Since 1931, when the Athens Charter for the Restoration of Historic Monuments was formulated, up until 2005, when UNESCO drafted the Recommendations for Historic Urban Landscapes, a myriad of charters, guidelines, conventions and recommendations have been provided by an equally wide range of national and international organisations working in the fields of cultural heritage conservation and management.

However, it is recognised that the application and interpretation of these various documents in diverse cultural contexts has been problematic. In spite of this the conservation sector has always recognised the need for clear guidelines to address the requirement for specific cultural and technical expertise in conservation practice in different communities and regions. In 1993, at its 10th AGM in Colombo, Sri Lanka, ICOMOS adopted the ‘Guidelines for education and training in the conservation of monuments, ensembles and sites’.

This document is particularly important from the point of view that it was authored by the late Sir Bernard Feilden and Jukka Jokilehto, both of whom have been closely associated with the postgraduate course offered at the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies (IoAAS), now Centre for Conservation Studies in the Department of Archaeology at the University of York. Sir Bernard was involved with teaching and developing course curriculum at York and Jukka completed his PhD under the joint programme at York in collaboration with ICCROM. The course was set up in 1972, as one of the first of its kind in the UK, to provide education and training in conservation to mid-career professionals and soon became one of the most reputed and successful courses worldwide. Over these past forty years, the York course has not only provided direction to conservation discipline and practice by way of training a vast body of participants who travelled to York for higher studies or specialised training, but also adapted its structure and content in response to contemporary thinking and ground realities.

In its fortieth anniversary year – 2012, it is timely and relevant to reflect on the successes and failures of the course, evaluate its current role and define a clear vision for the future. With these objectives, an international conference will be held at The King’s Manor in York to discuss various issues, challenges and potentials related to three key themes of education, training and practice in the conservation of cultural heritage.

We very much hope that you will be able to join us on this very special occasion. Booking details are overleaf.
PROGRAMME

Friday 6th July
0930 Registration and coffee
1000 Session 1: Reflections on the past forty years of conservation practice
1130 Session 2: Assessing current trends and approaches to conservation training
1300 Buffet lunch
1400 Session 3: Perspectives on the future of conservation education
1530 Q&A Session
1600 Tea
1700 York Conservation Alumni Association AGM
1830 Meet in Senior Common Room for
1900 Conference Dinner in King’s Manor Refectory

Saturday 7th July
0930 Session 4: Re-defining the framework for conservation education and training
1100 Coffee
1130 Plenary session
1200 Lunch break. Delegates will be free to find their own lunch before:
1300 Visits to various pre-arranged sites within walking distance in York
1500 Conference ends

Please complete this form and return it, together with your remittance, to Navin Piplani at the address below by no later than Friday 29th June 2012. Cheques should be made payable to The University of York.

I/we wish to take part in the 40th anniversary event, and enclose a cheque for (please tick as appropriate):

☐ The full two-day programme (excluding dinner): £140 (YCAA members - £90; students - £60; University of York students – no charge*)

☐ The full two-day programme (including dinner): £175 (YCAA members - £125; students - £95; University of York students - £35)

☐ Dinner only on 6th July at £35 per person
Caesar salad with parmesan and herb croutons; rump of lamb or lentil and cider roast;
lemon tart; coffee
☐ Please tick if vegetarian option (lentil & cider roast) is required

Name(s): ........................................................................................................................................ Date: ........................................
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Contact email/tel no.: ....................................................................................................................

Address: ........................................................................................................................................
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Website: http://www.york.ac.uk/archaeology/news-and-events/events/external/css/conservation-studies-conference-2/

*Free University of York student places are limited to 20, and will be allocated on a first-come/first-serve basis. Other free student places may be allocated one week before the conference if there is still space.