



Newsletter #6 Summer 2009  
www.naisections.org/INTL  
Editors: Duane Fast dfast@artcrft.com  
Laurie B. Heupel ches98ter@uplogon.com

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NAI International Conference  
Election results

The NAI International Conference was recently held in Athens Greece. Find out what you missed by reading this issue.

And also, the results of the first election for the board of directors. Thanks to all of you who voted. Member support is vital to a healthy group, and our section appears to be in excellent condition.



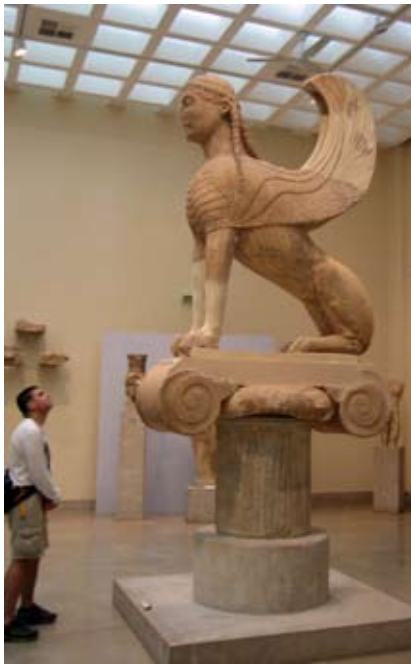
Temple of Apollo at Delphi was visited by NAI International Conference attendees in Greece.

## NAI International Conference 2009 Athens, Greece

Well, what can we say about a conference in Greece except “magic”. For those that were there, it was great to meet you, we had a lot of fun together. For those that missed it, my sincerest sympathies.

Experiencing an ancient culture like Greece in the company of many other interpreters is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Local tour guides have varying opinions on the joys of traveling with us, however. They do not all share our excitement and love of knowledge. One tour guide complained to me- “Why do these people ask so many questions? Who cares about all of those silly details!” Another guide had to be coerced into letting us spend more than an hour at a major ancient site in a spectacular location, because “There’s nothing there. In half an hour you’ve seen everything and will get bored.” But another, more knowledgeable and interested guide, encouraged questions and discussion and enjoyed the dialogue. (After all, dialectics was originally a Greek philosophy.)

The spirit of Greek dialectics carried itself over into the conference as well. The usual mix of fascinating sessions became starting points for long conversations and discussions that carried on deep into the night. Words and pictures alone cannot convey the intellectual and emotional impact of this conference. I hate to use cliches, but- “You really had to be there”.



Gregory Benton contemplates ancient Greek artwork.



A confused tour guide with bemused NAI members.



Group explorations of antiquities and night life were well attended.



Temple of Poseidon

Acropolis



Roadside memorials to crash victims abound.



Spectacular village locations.



The "boys from down under" supply dramatic flair to demonstrate a point in a session led by Alvaro Cardenas and Rick Morales.



Patrick Lehnes from Germany facilitated an Interp Europe session.



Thorsten Ludwig and Rick Morales provided soulful song stylings.



Ilan Shamir entertained the crowds with infectious rhythms.



So you missed the NAI International Conference in Greece? And you're feeling very sorry that you didn't go? Don't make the same mistake twice. Start getting ready for next year's conference in Australia!

The conference will be held April 13-17, 2010 in Townsville, Queensland Australia in cooperation with IAA and Townsville. The call for papers is already posted.

Check it out at [http://www.interpnet.com/ic/!](http://www.interpnet.com/ic/)

***And now for the part you've all been waiting for.... drum roll please!  
It's time to reveal the first NAI International Section Election Results***

**DIRECTOR**

Duane Fast  
Vancouver, Canada  
dfast@artcrft.com

Duane Fast is active internationally through both business and non-profit roles. He is the General Manager of Artcraft Display Graphics Inc., a company specializing in creating environmentally friendly interpretive graphics and exhibits since 1965. Duane is also a long-time board member, and currently President-elect, of the Themed Attraction Association Canada, Canada's association for parks and museums (and an NAI affiliate). He serves on the board of an International Commission on Geoparks. Duane is also contributing editor to National Business Magazines in the USA. And finally, Duane is a founding member of the NAI International Section.



**VICE-DIRECTOR**

Theresa Coble  
Nacogdoches, Texas  
tcoble@sfasu.edu

Theresa Coble is the founding member of the NAI International Section. She had the original concept and propelled it forward. Theresa Coble is an Associate Professor of recreation, interpretation and community-based heritage tourism development in the Arthur Temple College of Forestry & Agriculture at Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA) in Nacogdoches, Texas. A native Minnesotan, she has a bachelors in biology, a masters in Chinese, and a Ph.D. in Forest Resources. Prior to her appointment at SFA, Theresa was a wilderness canoe guide, taught English in the People's Republic of China (1986-1990), and served as a faculty member at West Virginia University. At SFA she has helped develop, launch and administer a first-ever 100% online masters degree program in Resource Interpretation in partnership with the National Park Service.



#### SECRETARY

Teri Brewer  
Wales, UK  
timeandplace@mac.com

Teri Brewer is a folklorist and interpretive trainer based in Wales and California. She is semi retired, but still contributes to teaching in anthropology, folklore and tourism at several universities and does occasional consulting. Recently she served on the curatorial committee for the 2009 Smithsonian Folklife Festival and has been involved in the research and planning for several other cultural festivals over the past 20 years including for the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Nevada, and for Sacred music in Wales. She has been a member of NAI since 2004, has her CIG and CIT and is now working towards completion of her CIP requirements. A member of the NAI consulting team that visited Korea in 2005 she also participated in the first two IWH conferences in Canada and Puerto Rico and regularly runs field schools on cultural landscape interpretation (past field schools have been held in Austria, Egypt, Wales, England, Arizona and California).



#### TREASURER

Sylvia Lin  
Taipei, Taiwan

Sylvia Lin, who recently received her Ph.D. from Stephen F. Austin State University, Texas, is a native Taiwanese fluent in Mandarin, Taiwanese and English. She is currently Assistant Professor in the Department of Leisure Management at I-Shou University in Taiwan. Sylvia has served as the treasurer for NAI International Section since 2008. Her interest in this section is to promote international understanding and cultural competency in relation to interpretation.



We also have an official advisor. Professor Jim Wilson, one of our founding members, has generously agreed to serve as our grey-headed voice of wisdom.

Jim has been a biologist, educator and administrator for most of his life. His major interests include environmental interpretation and the interrelationship of people and the land. In his current position as part of the Des Lee Collaborative at University of Missouri-St. Louis he works with private organizations and public agencies dedicated to conservation, heritage protection and development. Formerly with the Missouri Department of Conservation in endangered species, natural history and education, he helped develop and supervise nature centers and conservation education programs. He is also a member of the board of the St. Louis Audubon Society and the Open Space Council.



### **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

**NAI International needs your help! These newsletters don't happen by themselves. We need articles written by our members from all over the world.**

**Share your expertise and experiences with your colleagues.**

**They WILL be interested in what you have to say. Thanks for your help!**

**Email them to [ches98ter@uplogon.com](mailto:ches98ter@uplogon.com) or [dfast@artcraft.com](mailto:dfast@artcraft.com).**