

SES no.102; Preface and Acknowledgements

journal or publication title	Senri Ethnological Studies
volume	102
page range	i-i
year	2019-12-09
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/10502/00009461

Preface and Acknowledgements

This publication has been compiled as a result of the presentations and discussions that took place at the International Symposium on “Preservation of Cultural Heritage in a Changing World,” held at the National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka (hereinafter “Minpaku”) on October 7 and 8, 2017. The symposium was the first in the new symposium series “Research Trends Roundtable” started in the 2017 academic year, and was programmed by the Department of Advanced Human Sciences.

We are deeply grateful to Bertrand Lavédrine (Director, Centre de recherche sur la conservation / Professor, Muséum national d’histoire naturelle, Paris, France, and Overseas Visiting Fellow at Minpaku, 2017). Without his support and collaboration, it would not have been possible to realize this symposium. The Director General of Minpaku, Kenji Yoshida was kind enough to make opening remarks at the symposium. We should also thank Masayuki Deguchi for serving as the moderator, Noboru Yoshioka, Naoko Iizumi, Keiko Sagara, and Naoaki Kobayashi for devoting in the organization of the symposium, as well as Tomomi Wadaka, Yukako Kawamura and Sachi Hashimoto for conducting a visit of environmentally friendly pest control treatment facilities of Minpaku. We would like to present our sincere appreciation to Minpaku and to a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Innovative Areas – Platforms for Advanced Technologies and Research Resources, Research Platform Resource Support Program “Platform for Integration and Sophistication of Image Information on Area Studies” for their generous financial support. The symposium was conducted with simultaneous interpretation in Japanese and English, as well as Japanese to Japanese Sign Language interpretation with the cooperation of the Sign Language Linguistics Research Section (SiLLR), Department of Advanced Human Sciences. We also thank Setsuko Ikuta and Mieko Yoshimura for their dedicated work at the symposium, Mariko Tagawa for secretarial works, and personnel of the Publications Committee for their patient and conscientious works for the publication.

The theme of the conservation and utilization of cultural heritage in the twenty-first century is closely associated with an inter-university research project that began at Minpaku in the autumn of 2017 entitled “Conservation Science Research on the Establishment of Sustainable Collection Management and Museum Environment.” This research project offers a framework in which to pursue this theme further, for which this publication observes the current state of the art and represents a point of departure. We hope that the discussions in this volume will encourage Japanese and overseas researchers to find out further useful approaches and solutions regarding the conservation and utilization of cultural heritage.

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December 2019