

SPAFA Affairs

French Scholarship Awarded to Indonesian

Engkos Abubakar Kosasih, a research assistant at the National Research Centre of Archaeology in Indonesia, has been awarded a scholarship by the government of France through a grant to SPAFA under the Centre Staff Development Programme. He will undergo training in prehistory with emphasis on prehistoric painting at the Institute de la Paleontologie Humaine effective September 1982.

His programme of studies includes both coursework and laboratory training. The topics embrace civilization, cave art and conservation and preservation of prehistoric artifacts.

Kosasih has twice been a participant to the training programmes being implemented by the SPAFA Sub-Centre for Prehistory based in the Philippines. He has published two research articles: one on traditional fishing in the village of Cangkuang and the other, on archaeological research in the Philippines.

New SPAFA Coordinator Appointed

Miss Suchitra Vuthisathira assumed the position of SPAFA Co-ordinator effective September 1, 1982.

Prior to this appointment, Miss Vuthisathira was assistant professor of history at the Thammasat University. Simultaneously, she headed the Teaching-Learning Development Unit. The unit is responsible for the professional development of the university faculty members. It conducts seminars, workshops, and conferences and make available basic materials concerning higher education to those in need of them.

Miss Vuthisathira has a Master of Arts in History degree from

the University of Illinois. A government scholar in her undergraduate years, she finished her bachelors degree from the Clark University, also an American institution.

The SPAFA Co-ordinating Unit has three professional staff. Dr. Rosa C. P. Tenazas, a Ph.D. in Anthropology (archaeology major) with training from the University of Pennsylvania (Fulbright Program), Cornell University and the University of San Carlos in Cebu City, Philippines, has been re-nominated for a second term as Assistant Co-ordinator. An Indonesian, Mr. Djasponi, who also has a background in history, serves as the Documentalist.

Training in Ethnoarchaeology Held

A four-month training course in Ethnoarchaeology was conducted in the Philippines from January 15 to May 15 this year. Its programme of activities included a lecture series, field work, weekly lectures at the field site, tour of a pottery-making village and other archaeological sites in the country, and report-writing.

The lecture series, held at the National Museum of the Philippines, covered the various aspects of anthropology, archaeology, ethnoarchaeology, physical anthropology, ethnography, chemistry and conservation, and photography. A total of 20 lectures was given by the staffmembers of the Anthropology Division of the National Museum.

Research activities following a

pecially prepared design were conducted in Atulu, Iguig, a pottery-making village in Cagayan Province. These involved ethnographic gathering of data and archaeological excavations of specified areas in Atulu. While in the field site, additional lectures which were useful in the conduct of the research were provided. Reference materials were also made available to the training participants who were divided into teams of three during the field work.

Mr. Wilfredo Ronquillo, the Chairman of the SPAFA Steering Committee for the Philippines and Dr. P. Brion Griffin of the University of Hawaii supervised the activities. Dr. Griffin, along with Mrs. Agnes Estioko-Griffin, worked out the research design for and

participated in the field portion of the course.

Nine participants, three each from the SPAFA member countries, took part in the training. However, only five completed the course. They were the following: Mr. Roby Aryono and Mr. Christophorus Vibisono from Indonesia; and Mr. Nicolas Cuadra, Mr. Maharlika Cuevas and Miss Thelma Roales from the Philippines. The four who had to drop out were as follows: Mr. Dewa Gede Rai Jaya from Indonesia; and Miss Kanchana Swangdee, Mrs. Bhummitra Wanne and Mrs. Pranee Wongthet from Thailand.

This activity is part of the SPAFA new second development plan which has been implemented since December 1981.

Use of Cheap Art Materials Stressed

The imaginative use of low-cost and indigenous materials in the teaching of the arts was the focus of a teacher training programme convened by the SEAMEO Project for Archaeology and Fine Arts through its Sub-Centre for Fine Arts in the Philippines. The training also dealt at length with some problems peculiar to the teaching of arts in the grade school.

The course was divided into two parts: theories and application. The lecture portion was held at the College of Fine Arts, University of the Philippines; the workshop, at the Design Center. To provide the participants insights into the current programmes and thrust in art education in the Philippines, field trips to selected primary schools in Manila and Quezon City and to the Mariano Marcos State University in Ilocos Norte were also organized. These activities took place from 12 April to 12 May 1982.

Art theories and concepts were explained in lectures conducted by selected faculty members of the UP College of Fine Arts. The deterrents to the effective teaching of the arts like the low priority accorded the subject, the prohibitive cost of art materials and supplies, and the un-

due emphasis given the resulting artwork rather than the process were also discussed.

As a result, the following recommendations were offered by those involved in the training: the extension of the time allotted for the Arts from 30 minutes to 40 minutes twice a week; the encouragement of a more imaginative use of non-art materials as alternatives; the redirection of attention from the activity to the creative concept; the involvement of teachers and administrators in art activities aimed at improving compe-

tence; and the adoption of a more defined programme of activities for Art Education.

The workshops on relief print-making, mixed media methods and terracota provided participants an opportunity to create works of art and to master some process which could be adopted in the classroom. The resultant art works were exhibited at the Cultural Center of the Philippines Small Gallery. Raymundo Albano, CCP Museum Director, Benjie Cabangis, UP Art

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The participants to the training course in the teaching of Fine Arts with Philippine Deputy Minister of Education and Culture, Herminigildo Dum-lao (fourth from left).



Prof. Virginia F. Agbayani giving a lecture on art education.



Weaving demonstrations acquaint the participants with the traditional techniques and processes involved in this craft.

