ARCHAEOLOGICAL
INSTITUTE *of* AMERICA

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December 08, 2009

Dear AIA Council Delegate:

Thank you for your service to the Archaeological Institute of America. As a Delegate, your hard work, guidance and input help to shape the course of the Institute.

The 131st Annual Meeting of the Council of the Archaeological Institute of America will be held at 5:45pm on Friday, January 08, 2010, at the Anaheim Marriott in Anaheim, CA. Please visit the Annual Meeting website at www.archaeological.org/annualmeeting for registration and travel information, as well as the complete preliminary schedule.

Enclosed you will find "Instructions for Council Delegates," which outlines the procedures for attending the meeting, voting by absentee ballot and designating a limited proxy. Please have these materials on hand during the meeting. If you are unable to attend, please pass these materials along to your proxy. If you would like to receive these materials by e-mail only in the future (to save paper and mailing costs) please send me an e-mail to let me know.

I hope you will be able to attend as there is so much good news to share with you! As discussed in the enclosed Final FY09 Report of the Officers, we are making progress in many areas. Recent accomplishments include:

- Our Society Resource and Programs Guides are now on-line. In spite of the economic crisis, we are offering over $30,000 in additional grants to Societies.
- We have secured a pledge to offer more new funding to Societies in FY11.
- The American Journal of Archaeology has once again expanded its print and online content and we have a growing number of electronic subscribers
- We held our first gala and raised nearly $200k net of expenses – about $70,000 for the Jane Waldbaum Field School Scholarship Program
- President C. Brian Rose formed a new committee to produce "Field Notes", an AIA on-line newsletter for professionals. Content is being added regularly.
- We have been successful in attracting sponsorship for our new events. One of the tourism boards in Peru has agreed to a $100k sponsorship of our spring gala on April 28, 2010. This will provide much needed funds for AIA programs as we struggle through these difficult economic times.
- The Board approved a business plan for Site Preservation, which uses the strengths of our organization to provide information and resources to archaeologists, conservators and heritage management specialists to fund and spread best practices as well as education and outreach to the public.

At last year's Council meeting, I stated that one of our long-term goals is to begin the quiet phase of a major fundraising campaign in the Spring of 2010. We have been working to increase the effectiveness and reach of our programs and expand our audience in order to ensure the success of that campaign. We are succeeding in our efforts – our site preservation and outreach and education efforts will reach about 50,000 new people in FY10 with face-to-face programs that raise awareness of the importance of archaeology and what it can teach us. We have added an AIA section to ARCHAEOLOGY magazine to reach 750,000 more people with information about our programs and we are working on a redesign of our websites that will allow us to reach millions more. Our galas and other development events are helping us bring in people who share our passion and want to support our programs and mission. This will allow us to successfully raise funds for our professional programs, outreach to our communities, and preservation that is necessary to ensure a future for our field.

This is a critical time for the Institute. Even as we face difficult economic times, we are confident we can achieve the goals that lie before us through a compelling vision for the future, an effective implementation plan and a stronger fundraising operation. Your presence at the Annual Meeting of Council is critical as you will elect the Trustees who will be charged with continuing this work and ensuring our success. There are other important issues on which you will vote, including a proposal to modify Articles IV.3, IV.6, V.1, V.3, VIII.3, VIII.5, and VII.6 to clarification the nomination process for Officers and Trustees.

I look forward to seeing you at our meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 617-353-9362 or tkeller@aia.bu.edu or our Governance Coordinator, Aimee Fairclough, at (617) 353-9361 or afairclough@aia.bu.edu.

With many thanks for your work on behalf of the Institute,

Teresa Keller
Executive Director

Please save the dates for our upcoming Annual Meetings:

January 6-9, 2011	San Antonio, TX	San Antonio Marriott
January 5-8, 2012	Philadelphia, PA	Philadelphia Marriott