

Memory of the World conference

The third UNESCO International Memory of the World Conference, *Communities and Memories - a global perspective*, was held at the National Library of Australia in February. More than 150 attendees from over 30 countries attended the conference that aims at increasing the understanding of the Memory of the World program and to put in place strategies to ensure its long term success in helping to safeguard the world's documentary heritage.

Six plenary sessions, four working sessions, a choice between five workshops and forty-one speakers discussed key topics that affect the Program. One major outcome was the development of a proclamation and a series of recommendations, addressed to UNESCO, for expanding the status of and further strengthening the Memory of the World program.

During the conference new inscriptions to the Asia Pacific Regional Register and to the Australian National Register

were announced. The four inaugural inscriptions to the Asia Pacific Register included the archive of photographs from Cambodia's notorious Tuol Sleng prison.

The closing ceremony saw 11 inscriptions to the Australian Register announced; including the Women's Suffrage Petitions of 1891 and 1894 from South Australia and from the Australian War Memorial, Ashmead-Bartlett's film of the 1915 Gallipoli landing. Also at the Ceremony, Jan Lyall, chair of the Conference Organising Committee, was awarded the UNESCO Marie Curie medal for her work with the Program as well as recognising her work in the area of preservation of documentary heritage. The next Conference is proposed for 2011.

For details see <http://www.amw.org.au/mow2008/mow/mow2008.htm>

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AESIS boosts AusGeoRef

Geoscience Australia, AGIA (SA) and AGI are pleased to announce that references from the Australian Earth Science Information Service (AESIS) database have been added to the *AusGeoRef* database, complementing the world's most inclusive source of geoscience information focusing on Australia.

The 78 000 AESIS references will almost double the size of the *AusGeoRef* database. It will provide greater coverage of geoscience literature specific to Australia (including the Antarctic regions) and Papua New Guinea. Many of the additional references relate to mining, mineral processing, mineral resources, and environmental protection.

To learn more about AusGeoRef or to sign up for a free 30-day trial subscription, visit <http://www.agiweb.org/georef/ausgeoref/index.html>



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