EDITORIAL

The 14th biennial conference of SAfA conference was held May 20 to 24, 1998 in Syracuse, New York. It was organized by Christopher DeCorse, and on behalf of the executive, I would like to thank him and his organizing committee for a wonderful event.

The new officers of SAfA were elected at the business meeting. They are as follows: Nicholas David, President, David Phillipson as Secretary, Scott MacEachern will continue as Treasurer, three members at large (Innocent Pikirayi, Sally MacBrearty and Olivier Gosselain) and Darla Dale is the student representative. Fekri Hassan, as editor of the *African Archaeological Review*, and Pamela Willoughby, as editor of *Nyame Akuma*, are ex officio members of the executive.

At the business meeting, David Phillipson's offer to host the **next SAfA conference at Cambridge University in the year 2000** was accepted. He sends the following information. "The dates will be **July 12 to 15, 2000.** All sessions and the conference dinner will be held in a college, where residential accommodation will be available for those who require it. He hopes to arrange a pre-conference excursion to Avebury and Stonehenge for July 10 and 11, which would include access at sunset to the central stone circle. Formal sessions in Cambridge will start early on the morning of Wednesday July 12 and will end the afternoon of Saturday July 15. Full details will be available by the end of November 1998".

The Executive Committee is interested in hearing from any member or members who wish to consider hosting a future SAfA meeting. Please feel free to contact any of us.

I had the opportunity to attend the "Dual Congress" of the International Association for the Study of Human Palaeontology and the International Association of Human Biologists, in Sun City, South Africa at the end of June 1998. This was an enormous conference, with delegates representing a number of allied disciplines from many countries. There were quite a few SAfA members present, mainly the stone age contingent, but a few Iron Age specialists as well. A number of us had a chance to participate in post-congress excursions. Along with Sally McBrearty and fourteen others, I went on a seven day trip east and north of Cape Town, seeing a variety of very famous stone age sites including Klasies River Mouth, Die Kelders, Nelson Bay Cave, and Elandsfontein, as well as palaeontological sites like Langebaanweg. This excursion was organized by Hillary Deacon of Stellenbosch University, with assistance from Graham Avery (South African Museum) and John Parkington (University of Cape Town). They should all be commended for creating a memorable and educational week, and despite dire warnings about what Cape winters are like, the weather cooperated. Those of you who will attend the World Archaeological Congress in Cape Town in January 1999 should try and take advantage of any excursions attached to the conference. You won't regret it!