EDITORIAL

The SAfA conference in Calgary is only a couple of months away. Details can be found on the web site – http://homepages.ucalgary.ca/~safaconf/SAFA/. This includes the conference programme. Note that there is also a possibility that extended abstracts of papers will be published electronically. Normally, we include the programme and abstracts in *Nyame Akuma*, but with new technologies, we may be able to offer more information. Meanwhile, if you have specific questions, e-mail the conference organizers at safaconf@ucalgary.ca.

The next World Archaeological Congress (WAC 6) will be held in Kingston, Jamaica from May 20 to 27, 2007. The organizers are calling for proposals for themes and sessions. A theme would contain a number of sessions related to the same overall issue. Sessions can be organized as demonstrations, workshops, debates, panels or forums. Proposals for themes will be accepted up to May 30, 2006, while proposals for sessions will be accepted up to August 31, 2006. Contact the organizers at wac6jamaica@gmail.com.

The following is an update relating to Kodalo's plagiarism of Stan Ambrose and colleagues' Kenyan research, as originally described in the June 2004 issue of *Nyame Akuma* (#61). Stan Ambrose loaned me a copy of the MA thesis of Amollo Maurice Ouma, "Understanding the MSA adaptive strategies in East Africa: an experimental approach" (University of Nairobi, 2001). I compared this to Kodalo's 2002 paper in *Nyame Akuma*. While there are similarities in the sites from which data was analyzed, there is no direct link between the two publications. I concluded that, while there is a possibility Kodalo made use of Amollo's data, there is no way to prove it unequivocably. This was the first of two papers that Kodalo submitted to *Nyame Akuma*. The second, published in December 2002, was definitely plagiarized from the research of Ambrose and colleagues.

It is either feast or famine with this publication. By the fall deadline, I only had a couple of articles. So I sent a message out to the SAfA list serve, and eventually received quite a few. Since I am unfortunately quite behind in getting this issue out, I will put a number of the articles into the June 2006 issue, which will be prepared a month or two after this issue. Not all articles submitted are acceptable. Here are some obvious ways to increase the chance of having your paper used in *Nyame Akuma* in timely fashion. Limit the size of the article and the number of illustrations submitted. If you submit your article electronically, you should follow additional guidelines. I need the figures as separate graphics files, not just embedded in the text. Put the figure captions in a list at the end of the article, not on the figures themselves. For the text file, use the minimum of formatting or embedded codes. For your bibliography or references cited, provide complete bibliographic entries. And limit the bibliography to essential items. This publication is not a journal; it is for current research papers. That said, please continue to submit articles to me.

Papers in this issue deal with a range of topics. McDonald *et al*. report on continuing fieldwork on Holocene archaeology and Quaternary geology at Kharga Oasis in Egypt. Phillips discusses community based research conducted while archaeologists were working at the Ethiopian center of Aksum. Insoll and colleagues report on research in northern Ghana, which attempts to investigate historically important areas. Causey and Lane discuss the use of geographic information systems (GIS) and landscape archaeology to investigate the history and impact of pastoralism in the Laikipia District of Kenya.

Stern, Simons and Curnoe *et al*. are papers from a symposium on Africa's past presented at the joint meeting of the Australian Archaeological Association and the Australian Association of Maritime Archaeology held in November 2005. An introduction is provided by Stern (see the Kenyan section), then she discusses her own site formation research on Plio-Pleistocene archaeological sites at Koobi Fora. Simons discusses the history of pastoralism and Kenya, and Curnoe *et al*. report on new palaeoanthropological research in the Northern Cape region of South Africa. Winton *et al*. discuss new fieldwork in Niger, while Hambolu reports on the excavation of terracotta sculptures near Tsunkwui in northern Nigeria. Wynne-Jones discusses her research at the famous Swahili medieval town of Kilwa Kiliwani, and Haynes and Klimowicz discuss possible evidence for early land clearance in northwestern Zimbabwe.