Record of the Japanese Archaeological Association

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A new management system for the Japanese Archaeological Association has been inaugurated under chairman TANIGAWA Akio, and vice-chairmen ISHIKAWA Hideshi and KONDO Hideo. The number of Association members was 4,096 at the end of fiscal 2016, with 18 deceased, 59 withdrawals, and 66 new members, resulting in a smaller decrease of members compared to previous years. The spring general meeting was held at Tokyo Gakugei University on May 28 and 29, and the fall convention at Hirosaki University in Aomori Prefecture from Oct. 15 to 17.

Due to increased necessity for an organized support system after the Kumamoto Earthquake that happened in April 2016, Special Committee for Measures to Counter the Effects of the Kumamoto Earthquake was organized on May 28. It conducted activities such as field surveys on damage to archaeological sites. Special Committee for Measures to Counter the Effects of the Great East Japan Earthquake ended its work after five years, and Nihon Kokogaku Kyokai Higashi Nihon Daishinsai Taisaku Tokubetsu Iinkai Hokokusho (Report of the Special Committee to Counter Effects of the Great East Japan Earthquake, Japanese Archaeological Association) was published at the end of fiscal 2016.

Major activities in this fiscal year were the following. (1) Examination of copyright regulations in order to respond to a request for open access. New regulations are to be enacted in fiscal 2017. (2) Provisions were discussed for “patron members” such as corporate membership, friendship membership, and student membership, aiming to expand members of the Association other than full members, to be enacted in fiscal 2017. (3) “Poster session by high school students” was commenced in order to foster the future generation of archaeologists, and the first presentation took place at the general meeting. (4) The 8th World Archaeological Congress 2016 Kyoto (WAC-8) was held from Oct. 28 to Sept. 2, 2016 at Doshisha University, and the Japan Archaeological Association sponsored the opening session and a poster exhibition.

The grand prize of the 6th Japanese Archaeological Association Award was given to Chu-Kinsei no Ezochi to Hoppo Koeki (Ezochi and Northern Trade in Mid-Late
Modern Period) by SEKINE Tatsuhito (Yoshikawa Kobunkan, Oct. 2014), and the encouragement prize was given to Tatara-buki Seitetsu no Seiritsu to Tenkai (Formation and Development of Tatara Iron Smelting) by KAKUDA Noriyuki (Seibundo Shuppan, Dec. 2014).

As the Japanese Archaeological Association will have its 70th anniversary in 2018, memorial projects are being prepared under a theme “Japanese Archaeology at a Turning Point and the Japanese Archaeological Association.”