

Humanities Research

Karen Nero's trip to Micronesia

Karen Nero departed for Micronesia on 25 April. The purpose of her trip is research and meeting colleagues concerning potential projects. She is due to return on 7 June for a trip to the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (Kosrae, Pohnpei, Yap) and Palau.

One of the purposes of her trip is to develop new projects, one on oral histories and memory. It builds upon 25 years of oral historical and museum studies, and will also discuss digitization of photographs of artefacts from these countries held in major museums in Aotearoa. It also includes repatriation of digitized oral histories especially to Palau and Yap, a process that has just commenced through our Audio Services.

Karen has heard again from a US student who wishes to do a PhD with her on memories in Tobi (or Hatohobei State of the Republic of Palau) and Karen is considering the best supervisory team. The student is interested in the issue of climate change and site/

artefact losses, so the project may need an archaeologist as well.

During her meetings in Micronesia, Karen will be in discussion with officials concerning overseas archiving. At present archiving is done at the University of Hawaii in order to avoid environmental challenges including tsunamis and typhoons. Archiving Micronesian materials at UC is an exciting possibility.

Karen joined us in Humanities at the start of the year.



Ancient Pounding Stone
Menka Forest