



Australia ICOMOS Secretariat
 Ph: +61 3 9251 7131
 austicomos@deakin.edu.au
 www.icomos.org/australia

CONFERENCE PAPER ABSTRACT

NAME OF PRESENTER:	Dr Leah Lui-Chivizhe
TITLE OF PAPER:	Culture/Nature, Islander knowing and the 1875 Chevert Expedition
THEME:	<i>Specific Session 2: CultureNature Journey</i>
<p>PAPER ABSTRACT:</p> <p>The 1875 Chevert expedition, headed by Macleay Museum founder William John Macleay, was the first Australian scientific expedition into New Guinea. With the explicit aim of collecting and documenting the natural environment, the expedition members collected vast amounts of animal and plant material from the east coast of Australia, Torres Strait and coastal New Guinea. The material and data from the expedition, along with important Torres Strait cultural material are a substantial collection in the Macleay Museum's holdings at the University of Sydney.</p> <p>The paper will survey the collections scientific and cultural significance with a view to explore how a planned exhibition of the collection's Torres Strait natural and cultural materials can articulate the connections and disconnections between place, people, nature/culture and engage with Islander histories of knowing.</p>	
<p>BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRESENTER:</p> <p>Leah is a Torres Strait Islander with extensive family links to Mer, Erub, Badu and Mabuiag islands. A historian and curator, she holds a PhD (History) and MSc (Geography) from the University of Sydney and has worked extensively with Aboriginal and Islander people and communities since the mid 1980s. Her current projects include publishing from her doctoral thesis, which focused on the cultural and ecological significance of turtle and turtle shell to Torres Strait people. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow in History at the University of Sydney.</p>	