President’s Report

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Six years passes by quickly. It seems just yesterday that all of you provided me with the honor of serving AIPS as its President, which I have now done for almost two full terms. AIPS today has 37 Universities as institutional members and our individual membership stands at 737 (from approximately 55 in 2010–2011). In the past seven years 2010–2017, AIPS has awarded 77 Research Fellowships (50 were for research in Pakistan). Within the same time period, 50 domestic and 46 international (a total of 96) travel grants have been awarded and AIPS funded 51 workshops in the US and Pakistan. In addition, 52 scholars have been awarded summer research grants since this program’s inception (2012). Since 2010, with the aid of the US Embassy and CAORC/CEC grants, AIPS has funded 225 US-based scholars with fellowships, summer research grants and travel grants. In this day of social media and outreach, evidenced by website tracking data (and through the ongoing efforts by our staff colleagues), our website (www.pakistanstudies-aips.org) is highly utilized by scholars from Pakistan and the US. During 2016, the AIPS website recorded approximately 26,000 unique visitors with 31% users from Pakistan and 37% from the US. The remaining 32% of visitors came from other global locations, including India, the UK, and the UAE. In addition to announcing competitions, publications, and events in Pakistan and the US, AIPS utilizes social media outlets such as Facebook, to maintain contact with scholars and the general public.

This data clearly shows that AIPS is moving forward with energy and vision. For the moment we are financially secure and have the required funds to maintain our core mission of enhancing the study of Pakistan in US universities through academic workshops, fellowships, exchange programs and travel grants to conferences. Building on past practice we continue to broaden opportunities for research and academic exchange for our members in a range of disciplines. For example, following up on the Dissertation Writing program initiated by my predecessor, Mark Kanover, since 2014, AIPS has trained 124 junior faculty in public sector universities in Pakistan through organizing ten workshops (each workshop is part of a series of two or three workshops based on a particular theme: Teaching, Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Management, Conflict and Peace Building, Visual Analysis: Art, Architecture, and Media and Pakistan and Peace: Methods and Meaning).

Furthermore, in addition to supporting workshops and conferences in Pakistan and in the US (LUMS/Clemson University, Boston University, University of Michigan in 2016–2017), in 2014, AIPS initiated a series of workshops on new intellectual areas of research on Pakistan in the coming decade. Two workshops have already been organized at the University of Michigan (2015) and Arizona State University (2016). In 2017, a third will be organized in Pakistan in Fall of 2017. Similarly, the success of the summer research grant that is directed toward graduate students notwithstanding, AIPS has successfully held two workshops in conjunction with the South Asia Conference in Madison for junior scholars. These workshops have provided a venue for the new generation working on Pakistan to become familiar with each other’s work and also get to know the senior scholars in the field. Apart from the intellectual merit of such events, these are the future of AIPS and will eventually be part of the leadership of tomorrow. As we know, since 2014 AIPS has partnered with the University of California, Berkeley Urdu Program in restarting the teaching of Urdu in Lahore. Pakistan after a lapse of more than a decade. This program has expanded and now sponsors Urdu teachers from Pakistan to be trained in the pedagogical methods of teaching Urdu as a second language at US universities and at the SASLJ program in Madison. In opening up new areas of engagement and exchange, AIPS has created a pilot exchange project between US based community colleges and two year colleges in Lahore. The project is being conducted with close collaboration with the Punjab HEC. We envisage faculty members from the selected degree colleges

Kamran Asdar Ali

Chairman, AIPS

President, AIPS

Contact Information

Tel: 2523231186432
Fax: 2523231186432
E-mail: info@pakistanstudies-aips.org
Website: www.pakistanstudies-aips.org

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AIPS 2017 Newsletter

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The Study of Pakistan in the 21st Century: AIPS (Co)sponsored Conferences

Farina Mir, University of Michigan

In the last decade there has been a substantial increase in the number of students admitted into social science and humanities graduate programs in the United States. Where earlier generations of scholars working on Pakistan were primarily focused in the fields of economics and political science, we now have a new group of graduate students and recent PhDs in cultural anthropology, sociology, anthropology, archaeology, art, architecture, and media studies, history, religious studies, literary studies and a range of other disciplines studying Paki- stani culture and society. AIPS has been in the forefront of this wave of change and has given ample support to these scholars through its numerous programs, includ- ing fellowships, summer research grants, publication write-up awards, and travel grants to attend conferences. Building on these initiatives and mindful of the fact that these young researchers are indeed the future of AIPS and the study of Pakistan in US academia, AIPS Executive Committee decided to organize the second AIPS Jr Scholar Conference on Pakistan as a pre-conference to the 45th Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison on October 20, 2016. We encouraged those graduate students who were writing their disserta- tions and post-doctoral scholars who had completed their PhDs in the last three years to apply. AIPS received 10 proposals out of which 7 were selected, and were able to attend the conference. Each participant’s travel fund was reimbursed. Of last year’s eight proposals, AIPS awarded three. We are looking for 10-12 PhDs in humanities and social sciences and expect that this number will grow. The first conference was held in February 2015 in New York City.

Participants and Presentation Titles:

Abida Bano, PhD Candidate, Western Michigan University
“Women’s Representation in Local Democracy: Formal and Informal Institutions in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa”

Saad Gultekin, PhD Candidate, New York University
“Politics: Experimental Evidence on Candidacy from KP (Pakistan)”

Maira Hayat, PhD Candidate, University of Chicago
“Big Companies, Small Bureaucrats: Welfare and Governance in Pakistan”

Sahar Khan, PhD Candidate, University of California, Irvine
“Ontological Security: Explaining Continued State-sponsored Militancy in Pakistan”

Faiza Muntasim, Visiting Assistant Professor, Hamilton College

“Negotiating Nonconformity: The Politics of Enrochment in the Planned Modern City of Islamabad”

Shayam Rajani, PhD Candidate, Tufts University

“Obstructing Geography: Resisting British Interventions in Early Nineteenth Century Sindhi”

Masal Saif, Assistant Professor, Clemson University

“ Sovereignty between God and the State: Insulting Muhammad in Contemporary Pakistan”

Continued on p.25
University of Michigan’s Pakistan Conference 2016: Infrastructure and its Discontents in Pakistan

The 6th Annual Pakistan Conference, organized by the Pakistan Studies Working Group of the American Institute of Pakistan Studies, University of Michigan, was held on April 8, 2016. The panelists, academics, and artists from Pakistan and the United States focused on the theme of infrastructure and development. From the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor to the jingle of flyovers and underpasses in Lahore, the development of infrastructure in Pakistan has rapidly transformed the country’s landscape. This process has been accompanied by both critique and approval within Pakistani society. A conversation between artists and academics, conference participants engaged in discussions on the relationship between infrastructure and industrial development in the 21st century through the prism of Pakistan’s post-independence history, industrialization, and the present discourse on an “infrastructure crisis” in the context of a globalizing Pakistan. This talk was followed by a panel on “Infrastructure, Identity, and Place: The Politics of Mega Development Projects in Pakistan” with presentations by Majeed Akhter (Department of Geography, Indiana University) and Haleez Jamali (School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Habib University, Karachi). Akhter’s paper examined the series of development projects collectively labeled the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. He drew on debates in political geography, Marxist political economy, world systems theory, and Asian studies to situate the controversy within the longer history of contradictory infrastructural interventions in the Indus region. His talk was followed by Jamali’s presentation, which explored the struggles over land and practices of place emerging from ethnic Baloch fisherman’s entanglements with the Pakistani government’s plans and practices for developing a large commercial seaport in the coastal town of Gwadar. Collectively, they presented a nuanced and well-rounded picture of the stakes and effects of infrastructural projects in Pakistan.

The second panel at the conference titled, “Dhriti and Development: Seeing Infrastructure Ruined Landscapes” consisted of two artists, Shahnaz Razjar and Zahra Malikani, members of the Tentative Collective based in Pakistan. Aside from their art practice, they are teachers at the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture and co-founders of the Karachi Art Anti-University. Using artistic and interdisciplinary research methods, they focused on the relationship of infrastructure to the landscape and ecology of cities. Reframing the controlled and constructed image of infrastructure as modern and technological progress, they highlighted the ruination of landscapes and degraded ecologies. They discussed the Bari river in Lahore and its system of dysfunctional water sanitation plants and the mega-development project of Bahria Town, where a vast network of private infrastructure displaced indigenous communities. By documenting the impact of infrastructural ruination at these two sites, the two artists powerfully portrayed the ruins created across a rapidly transforming landscape alongside “development.”

David Gilman, Professor of History at North Carolina State University, provided comments as discussant for all three panels. He put the presentations in conversation with one another, drawing them together within a longer history of state power, and regimes of property and law in South Asia. The conference ended with a roundtable discussion on engaged scholarship in which scholars were invited in a beneficial reciprocal partnership with the communities they study. This session included short presentations by graduate students working in various parts of the globe including India, South Africa and the United States. This paper was motivated by the discontent around development, which often manifests in contentious political action by communities, individuals, and social formations that are directly impacted by development projects and scholarship concerning them. III — Zehra Hashmi

Clemson University AIPS-sponsored collaborative conference: State, Society and Democracy in the Postcolony

Clemson University, in collaboration with the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) and with support from the Lahore College of Women University (LCWU) and AIPS organized a conference titled, “State, Society and Democracy in the Postcolony,” in August 2016. Conference participants who arrived in Lahore early were welcomed at an informal dinner on 4th August at Haveli Restaurant—an establishment in Old Lahore with a stunning view of the Badshahi Mosque and Minar-e-Pakistan. The conference formally began on the morning of 5th August and continued until the evening of 8th August. Six days were packed with exciting presentations.

This conference focused on the impact of neoliberalism on state, society and democracy in the postcolonial world. Most papers centered on Pakistan but several also examined other parts of the Global South, particularly other regions in the Indian subcontinent. We had more than a hundred attendees in addition to the almost 40 presenters ranged from full professors in the United States to graduate students from all over the world. We were pleased to also have a high number of local Pakistan-based scholars present their work.

One of the distinguishing features of the conference was the novelty of approaches adopted to the examination of the state and society in Pakistan. For example, one excellent paper interwove a year of fieldwork in a small Pakistani village and affect theory to assert that the affective is a technology of rule which undergirds state-society relations. Another outstanding paper examined legal identity construction among hijras to show that influential state and social actors, employing the rhetoric of benevolence, create new identity categories that reflect dominant social constructions of minorities. Yet another paper focused on the Pakistani Ahmadi community to explore and theorize the insecurities and suspicion birthed by discourses of Ahmadi decapitation. The paper examined anxieties over ensuring that Ahmadies are clearly separated from state-endorsed Muslims and used these examinations to comment on the modern state’s regulation of religion and religious difference in Pakistan. While such approaches to politics may not be so novel for other parts of the Global South, they certainly represent a new trend in scholarship on Pakistan.

A defining feature of the conference was its focus on the state and society in South Asia through Foucauldian lenses. Examinations of everyday citizens’ engagements, negotiations and interactions with state in South Asian are an emerging trend to which the conference contributed. Pakistan is often peripheral to other such examinations of the South Asian state. In contrast to this dominant trend, our conference situated Pakistan at the heart of its study while also placing it in conversation with its South Asian neighbors, particularly India. The conference was very well received and was covered in the media.


The conference organizers are very grateful for the AIPS support that made this conference possible. III — Marsha Saeed
Trending Pakistan: A History Workshop
Arizona State University in collaboration with the AIPS

April 28/29, 2016

Trending Pakistan; A History Workshop was organized and sponsored by the AIPS on April 28 and 29, 2016 at Arizona State University. This three-part workshop series grew out of the AIPS President Kamran Ali Asdar’s initiative to encourage and infuse new thinking and intellectual questions for the study of Pakistan. The workshop was co-sponsored by ASU’s Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict, Hardt-Nichakos Initiative in Peace Studies.

History is everywhere in Pakistan—it is being actively created, consumed and recycled.

The main aim of the workshop was to critically engage and explore the diversities of Pakistan’s history by bringing together a variety of junior and promising young scholars from Pakistan, India, and the United States. The workshop explored burgeoning new trends and approaches for rethinking the role of history in understanding Pakistan. The workshop focused on various issues of politics, culture and society for linking the past with the present. The twelve papers presented at the conference covered local, national and diasporic histories of Pakistan and Pakistani communities. The vibrancy and possibility of multiple histories emerging and circulating in different affects was a common thread. It became clear from the two-day discussion that history is not an ignored or dead topic in Pakistan, nor is it controlled and managed by one central body. Rather, history is everywhere in Pakistan—it is being actively created, consumed and recycled for use in different sites, communities, and contexts. The effort to engage in this multi-faceted history was the main thrust of the conference.

AIPS Pilots a Community College Exchange Program with Pakistani college principals in the US.

The American Institute of Pakistan Studies has initiated a pilot community college training program in collaboration with the Punjab Higher Education Commission. The project fundamentally is an exchange program for the teachers and administrators at selected degree colleges in Punjab. It focuses on the professional development of faculty members from these colleges who will spend three weeks each at selected US community colleges. The program is designed to (a) expose visiting faculty to research opportunities and teaching pedagogies through a program of mentorship; (b) attract discipline-specific teaching and advanced pedagogical techniques; (c) participate in workshops, seminars/lectures in addition to meeting with the libraries and other academic resources on campus; (d) take advantage of site visits, networking opportunities, and intercultural experiences on campus; and (e) work on field-specific curricular topics (the visiting Pakistani faculty and the mentor/partner faculty at the community colleges) for associate degree level students. They will also co-develop a topical course to be offered at the Degree College by the returning faculty. In the second phase of this project, faculty from the US community colleges who have served as mentors will travel to Lahore to offer training courses for a group of degree college faculty and administrators.

Recently, under this program AIPS partnered with the University of Texas at Austin’s South Asia Institute to host three principals of degree colleges in Pakistan to study the community college system in the US at the Austin Community College (ACC) this spring. Given below is a short report on the activities to date.

For three weeks during March and April 2017, Dr. Iqra Butt, Principal, Government College for Women in Gujranwala visited with administrators at ACC to learn how community colleges function in the US. ACC’s Office of International Programs took the principals to meet adminstrators and faculty one-on-one, and attend governance meetings where administrative issues were discussed and decisions taken.

The principals also toured several ACC campuses in the Greater Austin area, and were impressed with student learning facilities like the ACC/CElorator Lab and Bioscience Incubator. The ACC/CElorator is a state-of-the-art technological teaching facility that provides 600+ computer stations and an extensive network of faculty, counselors, advisors, tutors, librarians and other staff for individualized and group learning. The lab facilitates the teaching of mathematics as a foundation subject at ACC, and also encourages DIY learning albeit with teachers and instructors always available to help. The Bioscience Incubator is a wet lab facility that bridges the gap in the “research to product” cycle, providing an innovative work environment for life science entrepreneurs.

“It would be revolutionary if we follow this model in our country,” said Dr. Iqra Butt, talking to SAI at the conclusion of his visit. According to Dr. Butt, the only way to make community college in Pakistan “meaningful and successful” is to give the community in the vicinity of the college more involvement in college affairs.

Mr. Jaffry agreed, adding: “The link between academia and industry must be established.”

Ms. Sarwar also visited the job fair taking place at ACC’s Highland Campus during her visit. “I was impressed with what she saw,” she said. “It was very organized,” she said. “Companies were conducting on-the-spot job interviews.”

The principals were all too aware of the lack of infrastructure and resources in Pakistan where both computers and teachers are scarce. Dr. Butt said some of what she saw could be implemented in Pakistan, “but not at this scale.”

The principals were invited to interact with students of Sociology, Government and Psychology classes to talk about Pakistan’s government and its conflicts with India over Kashmir, and the lives of women in Pakistan. “You are pampered,” Ms. Sarwar said to a class of sociology students she interacted with during the last few days of her visit.

All three visitors expressed their appreciation for William Hayden, Director International Programs at ACC, who planned their study tour and personally drove them around for meetings and visits.

For his part, Mr. Hayden said the principals’ visits were also “a great learning opportunity for ACC to understand… the many challenges they face as they embark on the pilot project to adopt US community college practices in their own institutions.”

The three principals also spent time exploring the city on foot and immobile UT’s intellectual spirit. Mr. Jaffry summed up his impressions in the following words: “It was an eye-opener for students studying everywhere—in labs and classrooms, on this street, sitting under trees in the shade.”

Rubina Sarwar and William Hayden, ACC

Eighth Karachi Literature Festival
by Aqsa Ijaz, AIPS Junior Faculty Mentoring Fellow, 2015-16.

Being an AIPS Junior Scholar Mentor Fellow (2015-2016) provided me with great opportunities to meet a wide-range of academics in the United States. This opportunity also led to meetings with U.S. academics at events in Pakistan, like the Karachi Literature Festival (KLF).

In February 2017, KLF invited me to be a part of a panel—along with Christina Oesterheld, Bushra Malik, Fahmida Riaz, and Amtul Manan Tariq—titled “Feminine Consciousness in Urdu Fiction.” At KLF, I met my former mentor (Matthew Cook), who was on three KLF panels. I also met Anita Weiss, the University of Oregon’s AIPS trustee. Professor Weiss was on multiple KLF panels, one of which was devoted to her book Interpreting Islam, Modernity and Women’s Rights. In addition to Matthew Cook and Anita Weiss, I also met Roger Long (Eastern Michigan State University) at KLF. Like Cook and Weiss, Long was on multiple KLF panels. One was “Remembering Liaquat Ali Khan” and another was “The Birth of Two Nations.”

Being able to extend academic conversations in Pakistan with people that I met in the United States was a great part of being at KLF. It also highlights how the AIPS Junior Scholar Mentor Fellow program not only fosters academic exchanges between Pakistanis and Americans in the United States but also Pakistanis.

Matthew Cook and Aqsa Ijaz
from regions in the Global South, so that the attendees might find parallels with Pakistan. For example, one of the readings discussed formal and ephemeral museums in Morocco, enabling the attendees to recognize institutions in Lahore. A question like “how many museums are there in Lahore” now no longer had a simple or formulaic answer because Lahore has many surprising and diverse permanent and temporary sites for the collection and display of art and material culture.

William Glover (Professor, University of Michigan), whose expertise is architectural history and urbanism led the second workshop. Given the speed with which Pakistan is urbanizing, this is a topic of tremendous importance. The workshop took a field trip to the city of Chiniot famous for its architectural crafts and mansions, and also created a joint project for the workshop, by writing reflections on the space and location of their own homes, based on the concepts and histories they had engaged with during the week.

I also conducted the final workshop, which was focused on crafts, media, and popular cinema. The readings and case studies included a look at Lollywood, an institution which was founded during the 1970s to preserve and promote the folk culture of Pakistan. The attendees discussed the stability of the idea of the “folk” with reference to an uneven but steadily modernizing society. A key focus of this week was on the analysis of commercial cinema. Questions such as “how does the song-and-dance sequence upend the narrative form of realist cinema?” were up for discussion.

Hammad Nasar, (Director of Research, Asia Art Archives, guest-led a session on the analysis of photography. Hammad Nasar, then director of research at Asia Art Archives, guest-led another session on research practices in archives. Case studies were drawn

Islamabad Center News

The Islamabad Center had an event-filled year coordinating multiple programs, workshops and conferences. In association with COMSATS, we organized a fusion music concert at the Pakistan National Council of Arts, Islamabad on January 8, 2017. Music school faculty and students from University of Texas in partnership with National Academy for Performing Arts (NAPA) performed SANGAT at Islamabad. Over 350 people, including the US Public Affairs Officer and Cultural Affairs officer and other delegates and officials from governmental ministries, universities and the Prime Minister Secretariat attended the event. Before Islamabad, the SANGAT team also performed in Karachi, which attracted a large gathering of over 250 attendees.

1) The AIPS Islamabad center facilitated a Hollings Center pre-departure orientation of the Afghanistan-Pakistan dialogue group on November 22, 2016 at Ramada Hotel, Islamabad. Mt. Ashley Mutlu, Hollings Center coordinator, coordinated the pre-departure orientation of participants in Pakistan including academics, trade leaders and civil society organization representatives. The meeting focused on exploring possible avenues for dialogue and collaborations with colleagues and related organizations in Afghanistan.

2) AIPS, in association with LUMS, hosted a faculty development workshop on “Art & Architecture” at LUMS Raising Executive Center, Lahore from Jan 2-6, 2017. Dr. Imtiaz Dadi (Professor of Art History at Cornell University) conducted the five-day extensive workshop and interacted with Pakistan junior faculty members from various universities and institutes across Pakistan. The workshop was the third and final in the series, under the US Embassy-funded AIPS initiative for thematic research workshops, for academic mentoring of Pakistani students and faculty by US scholars.

3) The AIPS Islamabad center hosted a series of talks by visiting Trustee, Dr. Robert Nichols, (Professor of History, Stockton University, New Jersey) at Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, COMSATS, Islamabad and Atama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad during his visit, February 4 – 20, 2017. Dr. Nichols gave talks related to his book, “Frontier Crime Regulations: History in Documents,” at Quaid-i-Azam and Allam Iqbal Open University which was well attended by students and faculty at both the universities. He gave a separate talk titled, “History of Environment” at COMSATS, Islamabat on February 23, which was hosted by the Center for Research in Climate Change at COMSATS, Islamabad. Faculty and students along with officials from Ministry of Climate Change attended the talk and interacted with the scholar on various historical aspects of Climate Change issues.

4) The AIPS Islamabad center hosted visiting faculty members from University of North Carolina, Wilmington (UNCW) under the US Embassy in Pakistan funded faculty exchange partnership program. For this program, UNCW partners with International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIU), Dr. Caroline Clements is the Project Director, and she along with other faculty members visited AIPS center, Islamabad on February 16 and held courtesy meetings with the AIPS Pakistan Director, Mr. Nadeem Akbar along with the visiting AIPS Trustee, Dr. Robert Nichols. AIPS is facilitating visa processing and other logistics for the ongoing faculty exchange program between UNCW and IIU.

T his workshop series was conducted in three one-week sessions between 2015 and 2017. Each workshop focused on specific facets of visual analysis, and was attended by faculty from Lahore, Karachi, Rawalpindi and other places, who are affiliated with institutions of higher education and teach art history, visual studies, architectural history, and cinema studies. As there are hardly any departments in Pakistan focusing on these areas, the efforts of these faculty members are based on individual initiative and commitment, rather than being conducted systematically with good institutional support. The goal of conducting these workshops was not only to introduce the attendees to key issues in the field and current scholarship around them, but also for them to exchange ideas amongst themselves and to see each other as resources and allies facing similar challenges.

I organized the workshop series and led the first workshops. Its focus was on methods for the analysis of modern art. The topics covered included formal analysis, and situating modern art with reference to nationalism, institutions, and developments in transnational modernism. Zahid Chaudhary, a professor at Princeton University and the author of a book on colonial era photography, guest-led a session on the analysis of photography. Hammad Nasar, then director of research at Asia Art Archives, guest-led another session on research practices in archives. Case studies were drawn...
BULPIP-AIPS
Urdu Language Program

In Fall 2016, the BULPIP-AIPS Urdu Language Program hosted its third batch of students in Lahore. A cohort of eight, these students came from a variety of departments and programs (History, Comparative Literature, Visual Studies, Asian Studies, Conflict Resolution, and Education Policy Studies) and institutions (Indiana University, City University of New York, Georgetown, UT-Austin, UC Berkeley, UC Irvine, Harvard, and UCLA). The students spent approximately three weeks on the campus of the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) undergoing intensive Urdu language training under the tutelage of the program’s highly regarded Urdu teachers—Faiza Saleem (who has taught in the program since its inception in the Fall of 2014) and Umar Anjum (who has been with the program since the Fall of 2015). Gwen Kirk returned as the Program Manager and also lecturer in Urdu linguistics and Urdu poetry (Kirk received her doctorate in Anthropology from the University of Texas-Austin in October 2016). Although students and program personnel alike had to take basic security precautions, none missed any opportunity to explore Lahore, meet residents of the city, and pursue their own research. By all accounts, the program highlights were the weekend road trip to Rohri Fort, Islamabad, Taxila, the Katas Raj Temple, the Khewra Salt Mines, Golra Sharif, and Murre in November and the weekly Friday speaker series (which hosted philosopher and singer Dr. Muhammad Jawaad, artist Salma Hashmi, calligrapher Abdul Basit, traditional Punjabi wrestlers, among others). Reflecting back on their experience, individual students noted “BULPIP was a transformative educational experience”; “compared to other Urdu language programs BULPIP was extremely well organized and effective”; “my Urdu has gone from average to really good, I really feel well equipped to undertake primary research work now”; the Urdu teachers were “the best language teachers I have ever had (and I have over twelve years of language training under my belt)”; “LUMS was a really safe and welcoming space”; “Lahore is an amazing city that I can now imagine visiting and re-visiting over the years to come”; and “the BULPIP program is a must-attend for anyone interested in Urdu, Pakistan, the Muslim experience in South Asia”. For more information about the program, please contact Ms. Behnaz Rafai (behnazraufi@berkeley.edu) or visit http://southasia.berkeley.edu/BULPIP III—Muni Farouqi, UC-Berkeley

BULPIP-AIPS
Urdu Teacher Training Program

Now in its second year, the BULPIP-AIPS Urdu Teacher Training Program hosted three Pakistan-based Urdu lecturers—Sidra Aziz (Government College for Women, Rawalpindi), Ahmed Atta (Government Zamindar College, Gujrat), and Inamullah Nadaeem (Habib University, Karachi). They spent five weeks attending the Summer 2016 SASLI Urdu program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. As well as sitting in on Beginning and Intermediate Urdu classes, the lecturers also had many other opportunities to learn the latest techniques of Urdu training for non-native learners. Upon completion of the SASLI part of their program, the participants flew to the Austin, Texas, where they went through a three-day workshop under the guidance of Dr. Abkar Hyder (UT-Austin), Ms. Shahnaz Hasan (UT-Austin) and Dr. Jamiel Ahmed (University of Washington). All the participants remarked about the usefulness of the summer program for their future Urdu teaching. For more information about the program, please contact Ms. Behnaz Rafai (behnazraufi@berkeley.edu). III—Muni Farouqi, UC-Berkeley

Pakistan Archaeology and Cultural Heritage News

This past year has seen some very important archaeology conferences and excavations programs in Pakistan that demonstrate the growing importance of Cultural Heritage and Archaeological studies throughout the country. AIPS has a long history of supporting Cultural Heritage studies, archaeology conferences, and conference travel for scholars to present their work in Pakistan and as well as in the USA (see website for list). The conferences being held in Pakistan were organized by Pakistani scholars who in the past have been involved in AIPS supported conferences and travel. The support for these conferences has been through local Pakistani institutions, including international travel for US and other foreign scholars to participate in the conferences. The AIPS office in Islamabad has been of great assistance in helping with the logistics of the travel and post-conference visits of some of the US participants.

2nd Harappa International Conference 2018: The Indus Civilization in Regional Context, Dec 18-20, 2018 was organized by Dr. Shahid Rajput, COMSATS, Islamabad. The conference was held at COMSATS Sahiwal, Punjab with a session at the Harappa Museum. The main goal of this three-day international conference was to provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of recent and innovative archaeological research on the regional context of the Indus Civilization. Specifically focused was the interaction between the Indus and adjacent regions prior to, during and after the main urban phase of the Indus. Tradition commonly referred to as the Harappa Phase, dating to between 2600-1800 BCE. The conference brought together diverse scholars from Pakistan and other regions of the world that have expertise on archaeology of Pakistan as well as adjacent regions, including Afghanistan, India, Oman, Iran, and various countries of Central Asia and western China. The conference was organized in collaboration with the Department of Archaeology, Government of the Punjab and the Curator Harappa Museum Harappa.

The second major conference on archaeology was held at the site museum in Mohenjo-Daro, Sindh on Feb 9-11, 2017 and was supported by the National Fund for Mohenjodaro and the Ministry of Culture, Government of Sindh. This conference was organized by Dr. Kaleemullah Lashari and his many colleagues, including Dr. Asna Ibrahim, of the State Bank of Pakistan, Museum, Karachi. It was attended by a large number of Pakistani and foreign scholars, as well as students from universities located throughout Pakistan. One of the major goals of the conference was to raise local and international awareness of the site and the Indus Civilization as a whole. The organizers also launched an important new website with software for the undeciphered Indus Script (www.mohenjo-daroonline.net). In addition to academic panels focused on the archaeology of the Indus and Mohenjo-daro, the participants were invited to an evening of music that spanned the entire region of Pakistan where the Indus and its tributaries flow. It was a spectacular event with performers from all the major provinces of Pakistan. The participants were assured of the ongoing support for archaeology and the preservation of the site of Mohenjo-daro by officials from the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities, as well as the Department of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Sindh.

Both of these important conferences provided encouragement for continuing collaboration between Pakistani and US scholars in the fields of archaeology, both tangible and intangible. AIPS should be congratulated for its role in helping these scholars interact over the past many years and its efforts in establishing a firm foundation for future collaborations. III—J. Mark Kenoyer

Study and Researching Together: Interreligious Dialogue at Loyola Hall, Lahore

Stepping inside Loyola Hall, the Jesuit Center for Interreligious Dialogue at Lahore, feels like entering an oasis. Outside, car workshops, vegetable vendors, andrickshaws create a constant din. Inside, a huge garden with beds of roses and a bird aviary greet the visi- tor and allow for a deep breath of fresh air. Founded in 1962 as an intellectual meeting point for members of all religious communi- ties, the Jesuit Center recently reopened its doors to the public. The compound on 28 Waris Road features an excellent research li- brary with around 8,000 volumes (and grow- ing) on South Asian history, Islamic Studies, Religious Studies, and Christian theology. In addition, interested readers will not only find copies of the Quran and various Hadith collections, but also commentary literature on both as well as Christian scriptures. This is complemented by a collection of academic journals that is constantly updated, a library with Urdu poetry and prose, and sections on psychology, science, and IT related topics.

The person behind this initiative is Father Juan Carlos Palkarid S.J, a Peruvian Jesuit with an academic training in Islamic Studies, knowledge of Arabic, Persian and Urdu, and several years of study and work experience in the Middle East and Africa. Father Juan also regularly hosts academic events such as lectures, workshops, and conferences at Loyola Hall. His objective is to bring scholars from different backgrounds together, offer them a space for the free and unhindered exchange of ideas, and make resources avail- able that facilitate academic studies and re- search. However, Loyola Hall not only wants to create an atmosphere of scholarly learn- ing, but also a space for personal exchange. Visitors to the building and its ongoing con- versations begin in the library over a cup of tea in the garden, amidst the smell of roses and chirping birds. —Maria Magdalena Fuchs
William Belcher Assistant Professor of Historic Archaeology, University of Hawai‘i—West O‘ahu

William Belcher received a domestic travel award to present his paper, “Subsistence Practices in the Indus Tradition: A Fishy Perspective,” at the 45th Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison, Wisconsin. This award allowed him to continue his research related to understanding the fishing practices of ancient Pakistan, particularly the analysis of fish remains from the archaeological site of Harappa, District Sialk, Punjab Province.

Abdul Haque Chang Assistant Professor of Digital Humanities, University of Texas at Austin

Chang’s work addresses how the southern region of Sindh, Pakistan, can be studied through anthropological research projects and using social science perspectives to understand how the region is connected with different geographies of the Indian Ocean past and present. Using examples of environmental studies and political ecology, he shows how the ecological degradation in Sindh cannot be reduced to apolitical climate change debates. He demonstrates, through the examples of market economy, environmental martyrdom, and a growing need for housing in Karachi, a complex relationship with environmental degradation in which capitalism creates a double bind for the poor population of the region to sustain the economic growth of the city. These poor people are deprived of their land rights, and this land is taken over by international developers. Their political and social representation is denied by corrupt politicians, who are at work within the greater political economy of capital. In 2016 Abdul Haque Chang presented a paper based on his research at the Annual Anthropology Conference in Minneapolis. Currently, Chang’s ethnographic fieldwork is a comparative study of Sufism at the PanDarawar shrine located in central Java, Indonesia, and the shrine of Shah Abdul Latif Bhatti at Shikarpur, Sindh. Chang will be affiliated in Indonesia with Sunan Kaliaga State Islamic University, Yogyakarta during the fieldwork; the university is highly supportive of this research and Chang’s efforts.

Nabeela Chaudhry PhD Student, University of Texas at Austin

After a break from work begun during her M.A. at the University of Washington, Nabeela Chaudhry geared up to dive back into her research on Pakistani television serials. An AIPS grant enabled her to present her research at the 45th Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison, Wisconsin, and allowed her to get valuable feedback that guided her back on her journey to explore the realms of entertainment television: Chaudhry’s larger research project pertains to shifting the definition of “rural” and “urban” and what differences—in methodology, thought, and political context—arise when the rural is defined in terms of the ecological degradation vs. the urban as a growth-centered economy.

Elizabeth Lhost PhD Candidate, University of Chicago

Elizabeth Lhost received an AIPS travel grant to attend the three-day conference, “Ocean of Law, II,” at Leiden University in the Netherlands where she presented and workshoped a portion of her dissertation research on the circulation of Urdu-language fatwa-literature across the South Asian subcontinent and Indian Ocean littoral. During this conference, she exchanged ideas and participated in conversations with a dynamic group of scholars working on aspects of Islamic law and history throughout South and Southeast Asia. This research is part of her dissertation project on the paperwork of Islamic legal practice in nineteenth-century South Asia, which she will complete and defend at the University of Chicago this Spring. Lhost has also been awarded a two-year A.W. Mellon postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for the thematic programs on “Translation, Adaptation, and Transplantation.” As a postdoctoral fellow, she will teach courses in the undergraduate Legal Studies Program and continue her research and writing on the culture and practices of Islamic law in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Robert Nichols Professor of History, Stockton University

Robert Nichols spent the month of February 2017 in Pakistan. He visited the AIPS Center in Islamabad and other colleagues, collected research material, and delivered several lectures. With AIPS Pakistan Director, Nadeem Akbar, he visited the Ilob Institute in Islamabad and met with the Chair of the Punjab JEC in Lahore. He also met with the first two participants of the AIPS PHEC community college exchange initiative, Muhammad Ijaz Butt, Government College Township and Syed Muhammad Baqir Jaffary, Government College Civil Lines.

He arrived as the issue of the merger of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas on the Afghan border into the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province was generating debates in political circles and the media.

Having published an edited volume, “The Frontier Crimes Regulation: A History in Documents” (OUP, 2015), he was invited to give lectures on this subject at the University of Sargodha, for the Council of Social Sciences in Islamabad, for the History Department at Quaid-i-Azam University, and for the AIPS Center, Islamabad for invited guests, many of whom traveled from Peshawar for the talk. After some press coverage of lectures he was invited to write a piece for The Friday Times. This was published March 3 just after the Prime Minister and the Cabinet had met and determined on pursuing the merger. Occasionally, historians have some relevant perspective. Some links follow: www.thefridaytimes.com/tt/2017-final-frontier/tribuna.com.pk/story/134450/tata-margod-k-p/ uos.edu.pk/home/news/35huo.edu.pk/

Uma Z. Rizvi Associate Professor of Anthropology and Urban Studies, Pratt Institute of Art and Design

Uma Rizvi received an AIPS International Travel Grant to attend the 8th World Archaeological Congress (WAC) in Kyoto, Japan in August 2016, where she presented a paper, “Intimate Landscapes: Sand.” This paper laid out theory related to her current archaeological research on

Member News

Dean Accardi Visiting Assistant Professor, Connecticut College

Dean Accardi was awarded an AIPS Travel Grant to co-present a paper with Karen Pechitch, “Engendering Blackhi Networks in Kashmir and Tamil Nadu,” at the 45th Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison. This presentation served to build a foundation for ongoing collaborative research between Accardi and Pechitch investigating how somewhat marginalized religious figures who are nonetheless pertinent to differing sectarian, regional, and national identities may share parallel processes of gendering and reappraisal to serve sociopolitical ends. Their presentation raised the issue of religion and politics in ways that addressed concerns of Pakistani Studies and demonstrated how certain historical dynamics may serve parallel ends even across contentious national boundaries, promoting continued collaboration and investment in Pakistani Studies among scholars who may situ-
the third millennium BCE conducted in India, Pakistan and the United Arab Emir- ates. At the core of her presentation was an explicit desire to decolonize the discipline, and to do so, she spoke of bodies as human, as geolocals and as narrative: her use of archaeological poetics is part of a postcolonial critique that is as much about decolonization as it is about destabilizing capitalism, patriarchy and the nation. In addition to the paper, she organized the plenary for Indigenous Archaeologies, in which a key focus was placed on Kalash of Pakistan and a resolution passed by WAC-8, which she helped write and present to the Congress. Rizvi was the chair (with Hirofumi Kato) for the Theme on Postco- lonial experiences, Archaeological Practice and Indigenous Archaeologies.

Shahzah Rouse
Professor of Sociology,
Sarah Lawrence College
Shahzah Rouse is sabbatical from Sarah Lawrence College and is currently based at the Graduate Institute for Development Studies at the Lahore School of Economics. During this time, she is editing a volume on the Economic History of Pakistan (starting with Mughal period) with Dr. Rashid Ahmad, Director of Graduate Institute of Development Studies, Lahore School of Econom- ics, finishing a paper on missionaries, the colonial state and education in Lahore and is hoping to contribute a chapter in the Political Economy of Lahore, 1849-1947. She is also contributing towards Research Methods Seminar: qualitative methods at Lahore School of Economics. In summer, she plans on investigating British Army records in London for regiments posted in Lahore during the Colonial period.

Masahal Salf
Assistant Professor of Religion,
Clemson University
Insulting the Prophet Muhammad has often garnered international headlines in the past decade. This research—that lies at the inter- section of Islamic dream interpretation and insulting Muhammad—seeks to answer this central question: How do Pakistani Muslims dream or dream to justify the extrajudicial killings of individuals who insult Muham- mad? This question relates to two press- ing concerns in contemporary Islam: 1) What is the relationship between use of and criminality in the imaginary of Islamic legal scholars? 2) What exceptions are articulated by Pakistani clerics and mystics for reacting to the egregious ‘crime’ of insulting Muhammad? The significance of this research is two-fold. On the one hand, it provides us valuable insight into the complex relationship between the crime of insulting Muhammad and the Islamic dream tradition. Additionally, Masahal Salf’s focus on the dreams serves as an important case study for the unsettling of Western liberal assumptions regarding rationality, logic and the centrality of the state. Thanks to AIPS’ generous funding, Salf spent the sum- mer of 2016 in Pakistan and had sustained engagement with multiple individuals who, drawing on their dreams of the Prophet, comment on the crime of insulting Muham- mad. These conversations have enabled Salf to begin answering her research ques- tion. She will soon begin writing on her findings and she looks forward to present- ing and publishing her work.

Yasmin Salkia
Professor of History, Arizona State University
A four-month AIPS Senior Fellowship allowed Yasmin Salkia an opportunity to conduct archival work in Lahore and Islam- abad for a new book project, tentatively titled, “Azadi: Middle Actors” and Emancip- ation From British Colonialism (1920-1940).” Her main sources for archival work were the Obaidunnah Siddhi Foundation in Lahore and the National Documentation Center and the Pakistan National Archives in Islamabad. She completed an essay during this fellowship period that will appear in the August 2018 volume, Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East. During her four months stay in Pakistan, Dr. Salkia gave lectures at several univer- sities in Lahore and Islamabad. Another highlight of the visit was a radio program she did at the school of journalism, Punjab University. She hosted two social meetings bringing together a variety of faculty from Punjab University, Forman Christian College, Lahore University of Management Studies and Government College University in pursu- ing her interest to contribute in forming an intellectual community in Lahore. She hopes this initiative will bear results and her colleagues at Lahore will take this initiative forward and develop teaching and research clusters based on mutually agreed on ideas and topics of interest.

Safi would like to thank AIPS for awarding her a fellowship that created new avenues for scholarly and community engagement at multiple levels for her.

Marvin Weinbaum
Assistant Professor of Economics, Elmhurst College
University of Illinois—Urban-Champaign
On Friday, March 10, 2017, Marvin Wein- baum, Director of the Middle East Insti- tute’s Pakistan Studies Center moderated an event dealing with the policy options for the Trump administration in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Among the panelists was Daniel Feldman, a former Obama adminis- tration Special Representative for Afghani- stan and Pakistan. In addition to events on Pakistan the Middle East Institute hosts scholars working on their dissertations at various universities in Pakistan who are sponsored by the Higher Education Com- mission in the fall and winter semesters. In November 2016 Weinbaum was on a State Department sponsored speaking trip and lectured at seven universities in Pakistan and spoke at several think tanks in addition to presenting a paper at a conference at Government College University Lahore.

Recent Publications by AIPS members


Upcoming Publications by AIPS members


FELLOWSHIP
Since 2010 AIPS has awarded 76 fellowships to US scholars researching on Pakistan and/or South Asia. 16 of these fellowships were conducted in Pakistan.

its bearer with a vast set of other government and corporate databases. NADRA's significance lies in its ubiquity: the card is used for banking, paying bills, school admissions, acquiring a cell phone chip, property transactions, voting and weapons licenses. The NADRA card is a central preoccupation for Pashtun migrants in urban locations. Through multi-sited ethnographic fieldwork in Pashtun neighborhoods and NADRA's institutional sites, this research will address three broad aims:
1) How and to what extent do NADRA's biometric identification technologies transform Pashtun experiences, notions, and practices of kinship? 2) In what ways does incorporation into and exclusion from NADRA's databases shape daily practices, especially for the ethnically marginalized in urban space, affect mobility and access to housing, education and government services? 3) How are NADRA's day to day operations shaped by Pashtun encounters with NADRA, and what does this reveal about Pakistan's governance and security practices? Thus, this project will develop an understanding of historically constituted connections between kinship, biometrics, security practices, and the state, revealing how Pashtun minoritaries as they crystallize into a networked, state-organized infrastructure.

2) Zehra Hashmi Field and Institution: Anthropology and History, University of Michigan Project Title: Biometric Belonging: Kinship, Identification and Security in Urban Pakistan Duration of Research: 2 months Destination: Islamabad, Pakistan
Abstract: This study will investigate the manner and means by which Pakistan's biometric identity card system, the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), moves from a security-oriented identification system into a broader regime shaping domains of social life in Pakistan outside the realm of security. NADRA began in 2000 by launching a multi-biometric (fingerprints, facial, and iris recognition) electronic identity card and claims to be one of the largest centralized databases in the world, hosting data from over 96 million citizens. Each ID record has its own unique identifying number that connects targeting the affluent classes. Spatially, the DHA is modelled like any other high end and private housing enclave anywhere in the world, fortified boundaries, mediterranean villas, golf courses, shopping malls, cinemas, etc. Much of this urban development is taking place on the peripheries of major cities, and entails the annexation and transformation of agricultural land and villages into urban land. To date, there has been no comprehensive scholarly work on the expansion of the DHA in any of the major cities. How are we to understand such model of military led urban development? To address this lacuna, my study will follow the DHA expansion in the South-East of Lahore in order to illuminate the speculative dimension of such forms of urbanization; the economic, political and legal strategies adopted by the military to practice urban development; the conflctual alliances they forge with other classes and state functionaries; and the consequences of these transformations on the local communities, specifically the small land holding peasantry, upon whose land these housing projects are being built.

3) Hareen Kanalu Ramamurthy Field and Institution: History, UCLA Project Title: Sovereignty, Sunni Legality, and the Religious Culture of the Mughal Empire Duration of Research: 2 months Destination: Islamabad, Pakistan, London, UK; Delhi, India; and Istanbul, Turkey
Abstract: My research examines the nature and structure of Islamic sovereignty in the seventeenth century Mughal Empire in South Asia. I will develop a historiographical narrative on the rise of Sunni legal discourse, which led to jurisprudential reforms and the compilation of the imperial legal code, Al-fatala‘ al-alamgiriya and “The Institutions of the World Conquered” in the 1660s. Legal reform rationalized civil law for different religious subject populations like Hindus, Sunnis and Shi‘a Muslims. Questioning the prevalent historiographical, political, and religious foundations among these changes to the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb’s (r. 1658-1707) “Islamic orthodoxy” and conservative policies, I hypothesize instead that the political rivalries among Sunni legal authorities, networks, and institutions played a significant role in pushing for the imperial legal reform. This is a first exploration of law for the first time transformed the Mughal State from a more flexible Turko-Persian entity it inherited from the Delhi Sultanate into a regional empire under greater centralized control. Examining a large corpus of Persian and Arabic legal and political texts, which have been understudied, I wish to demonstrate how the Mughal polity increasingly constituted itself as a “body-politic” in Islamic jurisprudential terms. My study offers a regional history of legal cultures in three provinces, Lahore, Kashmir, and Bihar, to illustrate the conflicts, differences, and particularities of local legal systems within the Mughal Empire. I also critically reassess the state and characteristics of early modern Islamic law through the comparative legal history of its neighbours, the Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal States, which shared similar features.

4) Uzma Rizvi Field and Institution: Archaeology, Pratt Institute of Art Project Title: UAE Coastal Archaeological Heritage Project (AUE-CAHP) Duration of Research: 3 months Destination: United Arab Emirates
Abstract: The UAE Coastal Archaeological and Heritage Project (AUE-CAHP) is a multi-year, transdisciplinary project that focuses on the threshold of sand and water in the United Arab Emirates. This research project conducted along the coastal region of the UAE aims to gather new data (as archaeo- logical and ethnoarchaeological material) as well as reconsider existing data (museum collections, newspapers, and publications). This project incorporates geomorphology, landscape survey, ethnographic practices, critical heritage discourse, contemporary art and architectural poetics. At the core of this project is the desire to contextualize the many relationships between the UAE and Pakistan/Northern India through time, to theorize the concept of a “coast” as a threshold, which has the capacity to engender forms of marginal subject positionality, and the impact such a position makes on subsequent aesthetic forms and critical heritage discourse. Key concepts that drive the project include: mobility, fluidity, cosmopolitism, threshold, coast, gulfs, critical heritage, and aesthetics.

5) Sadia Shibli Field and Institution: Art History, Cornell University Project Title: Abstraction in Post-Independence Pakistan, Bangladesh and India Duration of Research: 3 months Destination: Spain and the UK
Abstract: This project explores the largely unexamined history of abstraction and transnational modernism in post-independence in Pakistan, Bangladesh and India. It focuses on key artists in all three countries who were part of the modernist art movement but due to their use of abstraction, proved difficult to synthesize into figurative, modernist art historical canons within South Asia. Working against this grain, these minoritarian artists instead made sense of modernism from the center of their practice, and developed alternate modes of inquiry into art, technology and subjectivity. This project makes two interventions. Firstly, it challenges Western art historical scholarship on modernism that excludes non-Western artists practicing during the decades of decolonization. And second, it is within Indian historical scholarship that privileges figurative art within its own history of “national” modernism. This project refuses the nation-state as a legitimate boundary within which to situate these artists and instead looks at metropol- itan aesthetic production across the three countries, as evocative of alternate notions of belonging. It argues that these abstract artists from Pakistan, Bangladesh and India were synthesizing local and regional aesthet- ics practices, while also sampling from a complex inheritance of colonial modernity, Islamic art and architectural modernism. By placing these artists within a broader regional framework and also articulating their aesthetic engagements and intellectual thought within Indo-Persian tradi- tions, this project engages with the current transdisciplinary methodology towards decolonized global art history.

6) Neelum Sohail Field and Institution: Modern South Asian History, Tufts University Project Title: Empires of the Beat: Policing the Empire, Governing the Colony, Negotiating the Postcolony Duration of Research: 2 months Destination: Karachi & Lahore, Pakistan; and London, Oxford, & Cambridge, UK
Abstract: By focusing on the development of policing in Singh and Punjab, provinces of the British Crown and also post-colonial Pakistan, in the 1840s and the movement of policing practices and personnel across the British Empire to Hong Kong and India in the mid 19th century and early 20th century, this project contends that policing was not simply coercion and domination from above, but also critically reassess the role of policing practices and personnel across the British Empire to Hong Kong and India in the mid 19th century and early 20th century, This project contends that policing was not simply coercion and domination from above.

AIPS Fellows and Grantees
AIPS awards fellowships and awards for research, writing, conferences, and consulting at higher education institu- tions in Pakistan. Commissions comprised of a combination of AIPS officers, Execu- tive Committee members, and Trustees make all awards through a competitive review process. In the past year, AIPS has awarded the following 36 awards.

AIPS Fellowships
AIPS awarded long-term research fellow- ships (2-9 months, funded by the Council of American Overseas Research Centers and AIPS unrestricted funds) during the past year. Due to security restrictions, applicants who are US citizens are required to conduct long-term fellowships in countries other than the US and Pakistan. Non US citizens, however, can conduct research in Pakistan or in countries other than the US. These awards have been highly competitive, and, AIPS is pleased to announce the recently awarded fellows. Full abstracts and final reports for all fellows can be accessed on the AIPS website (www.pakistanstudies- aips.org/content/fellowship-archives).

1) Atteb Ahmed Field and Institution: Geography, Environment and Society, University of Minnesota Project Title: Between Spatiality and Disposition: Pakistan Military’s Urban Coup d’etat Duration of Research: 2 months Destination: Lahore, Pakistan
Abstract: Just a few months after tak- ing power through a Coup d’etat, General Musharraf established the Defence Housing Authority (DHA), a gated residential and commercial housing society, through an executive order that remains effective to this day. The DHA is the largest residential housing society in Pakistan within a decade through speculative place construction.
AIPS Fellows and Grantees

It was also governance from below. I suggest that the history of modern policing in the colony is an account of managing the dis-
possibility of colonial subjects while actively constructing the frontiers of human ontolo-
gies of race, gender, and class that were vital to the colonial project at the level of the
beat, the territory a police officer patrolled. It studies citizenship, race, class, and gender
crosses of the British Empire through the analytic of policing connecting several
areas of African, East Asian, and Pakistan studies with the field of South Asian history.
Thus, my project aims to provide a new
perspective on histories of, and debates around, citizenship, race, class, and gender in Pakistan through a multidisciplinary and
multi-local study of the creation and legal codification of colonial policing forces, the
debates around policing practices, the daily reports and memoirs of various police-
men, court cases, the rise of labor and crime
statistics as well as the popular image of the policeman as seen in newspapers and novels roughly
between 1840 and 1930.

7) Shundana Yusaf
Field and Institution: Architectural History, University of Utah
Project Title: The Resonant Tomb: Sufi Shrines in the Indo-Persian World
Duration of Research: 4 months
Destination: India and Iran
Abstract: A four-month AIPS Senior Research Fellowship for US citizens in
Summer 2017 will allow me to conduct fieldwork on the architectural context
of these architectural rituals and practices in
India and Iran. This work will complement work done on a Fulbright Scholar-
ship in Pakistan Sufi shrines with short
trips to Afghanistan and Uzbekistan in Fall 2017. These two pieces will come together constituting a regional exploration of Sufi
soundscapes in Indo-Persian world, trun-
cated today into modern nation states. The AIPS Fellowship will enable me to expand the lens on Sufi khangahs in Pakistan and put their auditory rituals in a cross-cultural and
transnational context.

AIPS Summer Fellowship Grantees 2017
Since 2012 AIPS has been able to offer
short-term research travel grants/summer
research grants. This year AIPS short-term/summer research grants are funded by AIPS unrestricted funds, to allow scholars to do preliminary and/or exploratory research
in Pakistan. Abstracts and final reports for
these projects can be found on the AIPS
website (www.pakistanstudies-aips.org).

1. Abdul Aijaz
Field and Institution: Geography and English, Indiana University
Project: Post-colonial Indus River Hydro-social Relations

2. Salman A. Hussain
Field and Institution: History and Anthropology, University of Michigan
Project: Transnational Migrations to the Gulf in Sindh, Pakistan

3. Sida Kamran
Field and Institution: Sociology, The New School
Project: Commodification of Intimate Practices and the Construction of the ‘Economy’ and ‘Markets’ by Focusing on
All-female Workplace

4. Tarig L. Rahman
Field and Institution: Anthropology, University of California, Irvine
Project: Plots, Speculation, and Capital in Urban Pakistan

5. Zoya Sameen
Field and Institution: History, University of Chicago
Project: The Consumption of Prostitution: A History of Buying Sex in the Northwestern
Indian Subcontinent, 1858-1918

6. Gemma Sharp
Field and Institution: Art History, City Un-
erversity of New York, The Graduate Center

7. Luke Sonnet
Field and Institution: Political Science, University of Texas at Austin
Project: The Causes and Effects of Electricity Load Shedding in Pakistan

AIPS Advising Travel Grants

Through a grant from the US Embassy in Pakistan, AIPS was able to fund travel to
Pakistan by scholars from US universities as
advisors for specific programs at Pakistani universities. This year, AIPS funded one advisor,
who has gone to Pakistan twice in 2016 to advise COMSATS on the redesign of their
Architecture and Design Program.

Hasan-Uddin Khan
Field and Institution: Architecture and Design Faculties, Roger Williams University
Pakistan Institution: COMSATS Institute of Information Technology

AIPS Conference Travel Grants

AIPS awards travel grants to help facilitate its members’ participation in international or domestic conferences, or for invited lectures in Pakistan. These grants are funded in part by CAORC, US Embassy in Pakistan and AIPS unrestricted funds.
Abstracts and final reports for these projects can be found on the AIPS website (www.pakistanstudies-aips.org).

US-Based Scholarly awarded for
domestic and international grants
Abstracts and final reports for these projects can be found on the AIPS website (www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/content/travel-grant-archives).

1. Hassan Abbas
National Defense University
State, Society and Democracy in the Post-
Colony Conference
August 2016
Paper: Sectarianism & Internal Security: How the State-Society Nexus was Reconfigured in the Post-Zia Era

2. Dean Accardi
Connecticut College
45th Annual Conference on South Asia
October 2016
Paper: Engendering Bhakti Networks in Kashmir and Tamil Nadu

3. Abdul Aijaz
Indiana University
Annual Conference of Association of American Geographers
April 2017
Paper: Reconstructions of Interests and Identities: Symbolic Politics of Pak-China Economic Corridor and Pakistanis Federation

4. William Belcher
University of Hawaii, West O’ahu
45th Annual Conference on South Asia
October 2016

5. Elizabeth Bolton
University of Texas at Austin
45th Annual Conference on South Asia
October 2016
Paper: The Power of Place: Community and Newswork at Lahore’s City-2 Channel

6. Waqas H. Butt
University of California, San Diego
Politics of Waste Conference
June 2017
Paper: Legitimacy as Fetish: Documenting Work in Lahore’s Waste Infrastructure

7. Christopher Candland
Wellesley College
Dynamics of Change in the Pakistan-
Afghanistan Borderland
August-September 2016
Paper: The Purpose of Government, Manufac-
ture of Legitimacy, and Violence of the State Conflict Transformation in Pakistan

8. Abdul Haque Chang
University of Texas at Austin
115th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association
November 2016
Paper: Rethinking the Question of Fisherman through Gulka Piety

9. Nabeela Chaudhary
University of Texas at Austin
45th Annual Conference on South Asia
October 2016
Paper: “This is Where You Belong”— Shifting Representations of the Ideal Woman in Pakistani TV Serials from the 1980’s to the Present

10. Jeffrey Diamond
Clarion University
Paper: “Recasting of Asian Studies Conference
Paper: Building a New “Paradise”: Anjumans and Urdu Literary Culture in Late Nineteenth Century India

11. Joel Gordon
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
Cinema and Transnationalism in Pakistan and South Asia Regional Histories Confer-
ence
September 2016
Paper: Movie Stars without Borders: Fash-
ioning National Identity in Regional Studies/ Regional Identity in National Studies

12. Saad Gulzar
New York University
American Political Science Association Annual Meeting in Philadelphia
September 2016
Paper: Politicians: Experimental Evidence on Candidacy

13. Faris Ahmed Khan
Brandeis University
Feminist Conference to the 45th Annual
Conference on South Asia
October 2016
Paper: Khwaja Sira: Dissent, Sex/Gender Activism, and State Regulation in Pakistan

14. Aliizhawan Khatri
University of Buffalo
45th Annual Conference on South Asia
October 2016
Paper: The Ethics of Digital Humanities Approaches to Cultural Studies: A Per-
spective from Computer Science

15. Elizabeth Lhost
University of Chicago
Ocean of Law II
December 2016
Paper: Mapping Legal Authority in the Indian Ocean: The Geography of 19th and 20th
Century Fatawa Literature from South Asia
AIPS Fellows and Grantees

16. Nadia Loan  
University of Oregon  
Association of Asian Studies in Asia Conference  
June 2016  
Paper: The Quran Workbook: Materiality and Devotion in Contemporary Pakistan

17. Carla Petievich  
University of Texas at Austin  
Annual Conference of Association of American Geographers  
April 2017  
Paper: Notes on the Multiple Locations of Modern Punjabi Literature

18. Uzma Rizvi  
Purdue Institute of Art and Design  
World Archaeological Congress  
August-September 2016  
Paper: Archaeologies of Emotion and Emotional Archaeologies

19. Osama Rehan Siddiqui  
Cornell University  
45th Annual Conference on South Asia and Princeton’s Hindi-Urdu Conference on Literature and Politics  
October 2016  
Paper: The Enchantment of Political Economy: Wealth and Its Sciences in Colonial India

Pakistan-based Scholar  
International Travel Support  
AIPS offers travel grants to AIPS member institution faculty to bring Pakistan-based scholars to the US.

1. Saeed Shafqat  
Locations: Academic Engagements at numerous universities in North Carolina  
Sponsoring Institution in the US: Wake Forest University  
Affiliated Institution in Pakistan: Forman Christian College University  
August 2016

2. Anjum Tanveer  
Location: 45th Annual Conference on South Asia and Princeton’s Hindi-Urdu Conference on Literature and Politics  
Sponsoring Institution in the U.S.: Princeton University  
Affiliated Institution in Pakistan: Iqra University  
October 2016

University of Michigan  
The University of Michigan (UM) was pleased to enhance its ties with Pakistani institutions this past year, through MOUs signed with Habib University and the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS). The MOUs help pave the way for students from these institutions to spend a semester at UM. We are expecting our first batch of students from those institutions this summer, and look forward to more in the years to come. As circumstances allow, we also hope to send UM undergraduates to Habib and LUMS.

UM continues to be a hub for the study of Pakistan in the US. Anchored by faculty who work on Pakistan (William J. Glover, Matthew Hull, and Farina Mir), UM supports the work of graduate students working on Pakistan (currently we have two PhD students whose research focuses on Pakistan: Zehra Hashmi and Salman Adil Hussain, both in the Program in Anthropology and History). UM has also instituted an annual conference on Pakistan. In 2016, we hosted the 6th UM-Pakistan Conference on Infrastructure. In 2017, we hosted the 7th UM-Pakistan Conference, on “Gender & Sexuality.” AIPS generously supported both conferences. —Farina Mir

The University of Texas at Austin  
In Spring 2017, in partnership with AIPS, the South Asia Institute at the University of Texas at Austin hosted three scholars from Pakistan who were chosen to study the community college system in the US in order to emulate it in their own institutions in Pakistan. (See page 7 for more on this program.

Another scholar who visited Austin in Spring 2017 under the AIPS-SAI partnership, was Faiza Saleem, Faiza, who is an Urdu language instructor for BULIP in Pakistan, spent her time shadowing Urdu language faculty at UT in order to be trained in teaching Urdu to students enrolled in the intensive immersion program in Pakistan every Fall.

Under continuing university partnerships with the National College of Arts (NCA) in Lahore and the National Academy of Performing Arts (NAPA) in Karachi, SAI hosted batches of students at UT for a seminar in Fall 2016 and Spring 2017. NAPA students spent a semester at the Butler School of Music, while NCA students studied various aspects of film-making at the Department of Radio-Television-Film at the Moody School of Communication. In January 2017, three Sangat concerts took place in Pakistan. Sangat is an ensemble of NAPA and UT music students and UT music faculty, who perform a raga-based fusion of classical, folk and Western music. The first event was held in Karachi at NAPA’s in-house theater on January 6, 2017. The concert was well attended, and received a favorable review in the local press (East, West and music, Dawn Metro, January 7, 2017). The second performance took place in Islamabad on January 8, 2017 and the third at the US Consulate in Karachi on January 10, 2017.

Back in the US, the Pakistan Consulate in Houston invited SAI and Pakistani exchange students at UT for the Spring semester, to participate in Pakistan Day celebrations on March 23, 2017. Two NAPA students and one NCA student along with two UT students and a member of the Butler School of Music faculty traveled to Houston with SAI staff and performed at the concert at the Consul General’s residence. III ---Sahar Ali

Institutional Member News

The NAPA, NCA and Butler School of Music “ensemble” performing at the Pakistan Day celebrations at the Pakistani Consul General’s residence in Houston.
University of Wisconsin-Madison
In November 2016 UW-Madison hosted 160 Fulbright scholars from Pakistan for a three-day orientation focused on social movements in the US. The Institute of International Education’s (IIE) Fulbright Program, an academic exchange program co-founded by Pakistani stomach brought together the Pakistani master’s and PhD students, who are currently studying at universities across the US as part of two-year program supported by the US Department of State. The seminar focused on US social movements, particularly #BlackLivesMatter, along with other issues in the nation, such as marriage equality.

“UW-Madison is an ideal location for this seminar to take place,” said Laaila du Pernon, Associate Director of the Center for South Asia and Director and organizer of the seminar. “We have over 50 years of experience teaching our students the languages and cultures of South Asia including Pakistan, and our campus is invested in creating a truly inclusive atmosphere and climate for students.”

The seminar included a keynote address on marriage equality by Professor Emeritus Joe Eide, lectures and interactive workshops by Professors Chris Walker, Bridget Fielder, and Faisal Abdu-Allah, and opportunities for peer student interaction. The First Wave Learning Community was also a significant part of the seminar, with the students providing feedback on the Fulbright scholars’ performance and discussion groups.

Graduate students from the Department of Counseling Psychology under the guidance of Professor Stephen Quintana facilitated small-group sessions with the Fulbright scholars to reflect on life in the US. “Being selected by the IIE to host this seminar is a great honor,” said Guido Podeda, vice provost and dean of the international division. “This is an opportunity not only to share information on social movements in the US, but also to engage in a dialogue on cultural and ethical issues on a global level.”

The Center for South Asia, a Title VI National Resource Center, is a member of the Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS). IRIS is a part of UW-Madison’s International Division and comprises the area studies centers at the UW-Madison—Laaila du Pernon.

University of Washington, Seattle
The University of Washington (UW) is happy to be hosting Ms. Sida Afzal, currently of Islamabad, as a Fulbright Teaching University of Washington, Seattle (UW) as a Second Language Fellow. Ms. Afzal teaches Urdu as a foreign language at International Islamic University in Islamabad, and is an Urdu lecturer in the Government Post-Graduate College in Rawalpindi, and she earned a Master’s Degree in Urdu from Punjab University, Lahore.

She has participated in other Urdu teaching workshops at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the University of Texas, Austin. She has produced her own Urdu teaching trainings in Pakistan. During her internship at the University of Washington, Ms. Afzal hopes to learn new teaching techniques, particularly language teaching done differently than is now done in Pakistan. In her opinion, most language teachers in Pakistan teach their students as though they are children. She likes to use technology in the classroom, and also Pakistan’s highly admired television serials.

The foreign students in her classroom in Pakistan are mostly Chinese and Korean, who take Urdu because they are doing translation studies or doing social work in Pakistan. In addition, some who work for their home governments are encouraged to study Urdu to better relate to Pakistanis. These language trends tend to prefer to learn in a government university.

Ms. Afzal is working with UW Senior Urdu lecturer, Jameed Ahmad, who said that BULRIP wants to build a cadre of Pakistani teachers who can work with foreign students who are second language learners. This program can build capacity in Pakistani institutions to be able to offer courses in Urdu for foreigners and second language learners. Ms. Afzal is observing beginning, intermediate and advanced Hindi and Urdu classes, where she is witnessing different teaching techniques and learning environments.

This summer UW will host a four-day intensive workshop with Ms. Afzal and one other teacher who will be shadowing teachers at the South Asia Summer Language Institute in Wisconsin—Keith Snodgrass.

Brown University
On Tuesday, April 4, 2017, Naiza Khan and Bari Abd two most prominent multi-media artists from Pakistan gave the Roger B. Hinkle Memorial Lecture on: The Disapp-proaching City/“The City as Archive” at the Granoff Center for the Creative Arts at Brown University. Their work on the city of Karachi interrogates both the sensory scale of the South Asian city, as well as its historical and political conflicts. A tumultuous city by the sea confronting the disasters of climate change, a city shaped by historic displacements and facing continuous migrations, a city that routinely erupts in violence, both with its past and over competing resources—these artists take on the city as few others have, and provide a kind of critical, ethical and satirical commentary that makes us rethink it again.

Naiza Khan, taught for many years at the Indus School of Art and Architecture in Karachi. She continues to serve on the board of the Department of Visual Studies at the University of Karachi and is the founder of the Vial Artists’ Collective, a vital organization that supports artists through residencies, workshops and collaborations in a regional network.

Bari Abd was one of the early artists to begin working with video and performance, producing iconic works like Mangos (1999), Shan Pipe Band Learns the Star Spangled Banner (2003), and The Ghost of Mohammad Bin Qasim (2006).

Wake Forest University
Funded through a grant from the US Embassy in Pakistan, AIPS supported lectures by Professor Saeed Shahfat. The intention of this grant was to facilitate intellectual exchanges between the US and Pakistan. The grant provided travel support for invited scholars (as well as artists and musicians) from Pakistan to travel to the United States. As an invited scholar, Professor Saeed Shahfat, the Director of Forman Christian College’s Centre for Public Policy and Governance in Lahore, came to the US in August 2016 to present multiple lectures in the United States over a period of two to three weeks. Presentations were held in Winston-Salem, NC, and Washington, D.C. In addition, he gave a talk at the Carolina Asia Center titled: “Perceptions, Realities and the Changing Dynamics of Pakistan-Relations.” The talk focused on multiple dimensions of the U.S.-Pakistan relationship as well as its changing contours and possible future directions. This invited speaker was co-sponsored by three AIPS member institutions: North Carolina Central University, Wake Forest University, and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.


INSTITUTIONAL NEWS

New AIPS Institutional Members

Stanford University
The Center for South Asia at Stanford started as a proper center in the Fall of 2010 and we have not had the same challenges with faculty and post docs in a number of fields. Initially we did not have faculty working in Pakistan, although we had a good number of faculty interested, and instead we had invited scholars and hosted in broader audiences. Along with the Abassi Program in Islamic Studies, we ran a joint post-doctoral program on “Muslim Literatures Cultures of South Asia” for some years.

In 2017 we had the good fortune to be able to recruit Saad Gofar, a young dynamic political scientist working on Pakistan and South Asia. He will be affiliated as post-doc for three years with the Department of Anthropology and the Woods Institute for the Environment, Stanford’s hub for research on global environmental questions.

Some years earlier, we recruited Dr. Ryan Perkins, a specialist in Urdu and Punjabi literature and the Muslim public sphere, as our South Asia Muslim Public Sphere Project, who is working with AIPS on a library/digital archiving workshop series in Pakistan, is engaged in a major effort to bring Stanford’s library holdings in South Asia up to a standard of elite research universities.

Scholars associated with Center for South Asia, the Abassi program and other units at Stanford University have been associated with the Habib University in Karachi since 2013. Today, Stanford has an agreement with Habib that encompasses exchanges of students at all levels, including this summer at Stanford, a visiting program that allows facility and writing up students form both schools to spend time at either institution. The agreement will also help Stanford scholars beginning new work in Pakistan acquire an institutional home and contacts within the government.

CSA hopes to see this collaboration generate a steady stream of students and faculty visiting both institutions. Professors Thomas Blom Hansen and Nadeem Hussain (Philosophy) undertook a more formal and comprehensive review of Habib’s teaching program and structure in February 2017. It is our hope that our report will be useful to the future development of the university.

The scholars associated with the Center for South Asia at Stanford are all excited about joining the larger scholarly community within the AIPS. Our membership will help connect our faculty and students on Pakistan to scholars in the US and we hope to see our graduate students and faculty participate actively in conferences, events and language training in Pakistan. We also plan to promote Pakistani more systematically on campus as an area in its own right, in our teaching as well as being visible on the research agendas of faculty and graduate students.

We also look forward to hosting and facilitating events, speakers and activities connected with AIPS here on the Stanford campus.

Brown University
The newly established Center for Contemporary South Asia (CCSA) is based at the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University. CCSA promotes research, teaching and public engagement on key issues of modern South Asia in an interdisciplinary framework and in a historically and culturally grounded manner. The Center invites applications from senior scholars, post-doctoral researchers, and junior faculty on the region and is home to the South Asian Studies concentration. In conjunction with greater efforts at the Watson Institute, CCSA seeks to define a new approach to regional studies for the 21st century. Anchored in the social sciences, this new approach is problem driven, comparative and multidisciplinary. Our multidisciplinary will include sustained interaction of social scientists with the humanities on the one hand and the disciplines such as medicine and public health on the other. CCSA is an expansion of the Brown-India Initiative, we look forward to participating in AIPS and other regional institutes given this new expanded mission.
AIPS News

AIPS Book Prize

AIPS is pleased to announce the 2015-16 Book Prize winner, David Gilmartin, author of Blood and Water: The Indus River Basin in Modern History. The Book Prize committee highly praised Professor Gilmartin’s book as a major contribution to the study of colonial state formation, environmental history and the settlement of colonial frontiers. Blood and Water expands the scope of Pakistan Studies and South Asian studies by highlighting the great transformations initiated by canal irrigation and the implications of these projects for contemporary politics, including within Pakistan and the trans-boundary water disputes between India and Pakistan. His research is prodigious and the culmination of several decades of related research and scholarly reflection. Competing visions of statecraft and political community are explored in relation to the continuing power of nature to shape the Indus basin. This book is an invaluable contribution to scholarship on Pakistan and broader issues of state development and the environment. In addition to making original contribution to the study of British India and Pakistan, Blood and Water is going to be a major reference point for environmental historians, political scientists and anthropologists for many years to come.

Blood and Water

is a major contribution to the study of colonial state formation, environmental history, and the settlement of colonial frontiers.

Funding Opportunities for AIPS Member Institutions:

The AIPS grants below are open to faculty from any AIPS Member Institution. A scholarly committee reviews all applications. To apply for a grant, please contact aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org for further instructions.

1) Publication and Library Development

Funding (up to $3,000) is available for small grants related to publication and library development. These small grants are intended to be seed money for larger projects. A proposal should explain the budget, and if it is part of a larger project, how the entirety of project will be funded and sustained. In addition, the proposal should address how the project will make materials accessible to Pakistan Studies scholars.

2) Course Development Grant

Course development seed money for a South Asia/Pakistan course, working in collaboration with a Minority-Serving Institution. These funds are meant to support the stipend for a graduate student who could teach such a course. These awards (up to $4,000) are funded through grants from the Department of Education and CAOIRC.

3) Program Support for a Workshop/Conference on Pakistan in the US

AIPS has funds (up to $4,500) to support a Pakistan-related conference that will take place in the US. These funds may be used to support airfare and other direct conference expenses. This award is funded through a grant from CAOIRC.

4) Pakistan Lecture Series (PLS)

PLS is a program designed to support academic exchange between Pakistanis and US scholars and to promote the field of Pakistan studies as a whole. As a part of this program a Pakistan scholar, artist, musician, etc., is invited to travel to the USA for two to four weeks and present lectures at a minimum of three US AIPS member institutions. AIPS members or member institutions nominate PLS speakers. Each institution is expected to pay local travel expenses and is funded through grants from CAOIRC and the Government of Pakistan.

5) Conference in Pakistan in collaboration with a Public University

AIPS has funds to support a collaborative workshop with a public university in Pakistan using the theme of deepening democratic values and emphasizing diversity, tolerance, and co-existence. The budget can fund travel for US-based scholars or can be used to assist a university in organizing a conference/workshop. This workshop must be collaborative. This award (up to $5,500) is funded through a grant from CAOIRC.

6) Conference in Pakistan in collaboration with a Minority Serving Institution (MSI)

AIPS currently has seed money to organize a workshop or conference at a Pakistani institution. A requirement of this award is that you invite or collaborate with at least one individual working at a Minority-Serving Institution or Community College located in the United States. This award (up to $6,000) is funded through a grant from the Department of Education and is for a conference to take place in the next fiscal year (October 1, 2017-September 30, 2018).

AIPS 2016-17 ELECTIONS RESULTS

Executive Committee

Matthew A. Cook (North Carolina Central University) was elected to the AIPS Vice President seat, replacing Farina Mir on October 1, 2016. Similarly, election for two EC Members was conducted in the summer of 2016 and Iqbal Singh Svea (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) and Frank Korom (Boston University) were elected. Congratulations to these three AIPS members! Their terms will run through September 30, 2019.

At-Large Trustees

Due to increasing membership rolls, we added two new seats to the At-Large membership, bringing the total of At-Large Trustees to eight. AIPS is currently conducting an election for four At-Large Trustee seats.

Presidential Election

AIPS will be running an election for a new President during Spring/Summer 2017. Our sincere thanks to outgoing President Kamran Asdar Ali for his dedicated service to AIPS as its president! The new President’s term will begin October 1, 2017.

Thanks to Matthew Cook, AIPS VP, and AIPS staff members Laura Hammond and Aasif Rashid for editorial assistance on this newsletter.

President’s Report

Cont’d from page 2

will spend 2-3 weeks each at selected US Community Colleges. Faculty and administrators from the US community colleges will also travel to Lahore during the exchange period to lead a training course for a group of selected degree college faculty in Punjab. We hope that the Punjab Ministry of Higher Education on reviewing the results of this pilot project will consider upscaling the entire project to include the 700+ degree colleges in the province. The first batch of three degree college Principals from Multan, Lahore and Gujranwala (two men and one woman) spent 2-3 weeks at Austin Community College this Spring.

So, to reiterate, AIPS’s finances are in excellent shape, our core mission of providing avenues for research in Pakistan to US based scholars is being seriously addressed, we have expanded our goals of building scholarly capacity of junior faculty in Pakistani universities in a variety of disciplines and we are encouraging the new generation of Pakistani scholars in the US in their research. This said, the most important issue that AIPS as an organization will face in the coming months (and perhaps years) is the uncertainty of our funding streams. Within this scenario, we have to be extremely vigilant regarding our finances and expenditures. Yet, due to the EC and elected members working closely in the past several years, there has been cross training, transparency, the maturing of oversight procedures and openness of dialogue and discussion. Given this history, I am confident that our new leadership will be more than capable in finding creative and productive solutions for the future health of the organization.

I thank each and every one of you for your support, advice and encouragement in the past six years. My special thanks to our two directors, Laura Hammond and Nadeem Akbar, and their staff. Their dedication, hard work and tireless effort makes all this possible.

Thank you.

Best Wishes,

Kamran
In Memoriam: Intizar Husein (1925-2016)
By Kamran Asdar Ali

Intizar Husein, in an informal gathering once said to me that Daudi sent two things to Pakistan (after partition), one an acclaimed intellectual (who will remain unnamed) and the second, Nihari. Intizar Saheb maintained that “woh sahib to nahin chale, par Nihari chal pai” (that person did not succeed, but Nihari kept on going). He forgot that among the many that crossed the border in those fateful autumn months of 1947, another person who came from Dopiai in UP “kept on going” was the great writer Intizar Husein himself who passed away on February 2nd, 2016.

With his passing, an entire era in Urdu prose and fiction has ended. His short stories, columns, essays and novels are a gift to us all, and in them we find the thoughts, dreams, trepidations and pleasures of a generation that has been leaving us in the past decade. Born in 1925, Intizar Husein received his BA and MA from Meenut College in the mid 1940s, before he migrated to Pakistan in 1947. The composite political catagory of being a mohair (or misgar) in Pakistan notwithstanding, Intizar Husein’s many texts introduces readers to differences within this groupA. Relying on the use of distinct dialects and idioms and through his discussion of literary rivalries, sights, smells, tastes, mannerisms and etiquettes we are made to inhabit the company of people who created their own identity in opposition to those who may have lived only a few miles away in British India. So, we get an intimate understanding of what it means to be from Aligarh, or Bulandi-shahr, or Meerut, or Lucknow, or from a small town in the Oudh region (but these can be stories from any part of South Asia as the underlying message is about how the emphasis on difference is intrinsic to the processes of identity formation). Intizar Husein’s sojourns into the specifics of the migration experience has hence raised questions about his own nostal-gia for a lost past. Indeed, in his novels like Basti (the most acclaimed) and Agay Basti, (the most un-named) and the second, woh name unnamed) and the second, woh ab maintaind that “woh se khat Kachhe, Shahr-i-Aftos, Aakhri Admi stand out as masterpieces of In Urdu prose as he introduced new aesthetics in narrative style while providing a critical commentary on the violent events of 1971 and the kind of people Pakistanis had become.

Hence, Intizar Husein’s larger oeuvre cannot merely be read within the tropes of Partition literature or for that matter as a form of “nostalgia” (however we define it). Rather his writings have a more universal tone linked to the dilemmas of displacement, of a diasporic existence, of an experience of rootlessness and vagancy that one inhabits, one once leaves “home.” A crucial question that his writings raise is about how we remember, for what purposes, who does the remembering, in what context and against what kinds of history this memory is counterpoised to. In doing this, he takes us into the realm of individual memories that undermine the nationalistic narrative of cataclysmic events like Partition.

In making this argument, Husein’s writing enters a much broader social and cultural impasse. Finally, by juxtaposing of memory with history, Intizar Husein hints at larger questions of who are we, where have we come from, what is our future. These queries of self-examination offer a critique of domi-nant history that filmer means through its own deterministic trajectories. Through the use of allegory and older techniques of storytelling (dastan go) we find in him a sense of cyclical time as his characters inhabit, once one leaves “home.”

A master storyteller, Intizar Husein introduces us to the apocalyptic and destruc-tive aspects of our present condition, yet his stories from various and diverse traditions that make up the Muslim experi-ence in South Asia also offer a different sense of history with its own regenerative power. He, therefore, provides a vision of reinvigorating and rebuilding that links the past, present and future in a continuum of human practice and experience that makes his writings so essential for us at this present juncture of our collective social and cultural impasse.

NOTE: AIPS co-sponsored the publication of Story is a Vagabond (Manoa Press) a collection of Intizar Husein’s Fiction, Essays and Drama in 2015. Please contact the AIPS office (aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org) for how to acquire this publication.
Front cover: Imran Channa, *IV Work in Progress*
Graphite and eraser on paper, 53 x 35 inches, 2015.
AIPS is deeply grateful to Imran Channa for his generosity in contributing his artwork for both the front and back cover of this newsletter.

Imran Channa’s artwork is borrowed from his *Enclosure/Eraser* exhibition (Koel Gallery, 2015). As Iftikhar Dadi writes in the accompanying catalogue, the “central concerns of Channa’s extended investigation revolve around the question of historical truth associated with the photograph, and how our understanding of history remains malleable to ideology despite the ostensibly stubborn veracity of photographic evidence. If even the most reliable visual artifact in the archive cannot guarantee truth, how can we situate ourselves as subjects of history? These questions are absolutely central to subjectivities in South Asia today, as we individually and collectively seek a responsible relation to our history, beyond the siren song of exclusivist postcolonial nationalisms.”

**Imran Channa’s artwork helps us make a critical intervention on the 70th anniversary of South Asia’s partition.**