American Institute of Pakistan Studies
NEWSLETTER

Letter from the President – Kamran Asdar Ali

Dear All,

On October 1, 2011 I took over the responsibilities as AIPS’ President. I cannot thank Mark and others enough for all their support and understanding during the transition. Along with me, Anita Weiss was elected Vice President and in late 2011, Farhat Haq was elected Treasurer (one year term). AIPS is organizing elections for the seat of Treasurer (three year term), Secretary, three Executive Committee seats, and three at-large Trustees positions. Please send in your vote in a timely manner so that we have all officers elected by our Madison meeting.

The main AIPS office continues to be in Madison, and Laura Hammond is now the Director of the US office. Among many other things, under her supervision the website has acquired a new look, please do visit it. Nadeem Akbar of course continues as Director of our Pakistan office. One change there is that we now have two residential rooms in our Islamabad office for Members and Trustees.

All of you will agree that these are exciting times for Pakistan Studies in the US. We have seen the publication of a number of excellent monographs in the past few years in disciplines ranging from literary studies, history, anthropology and political science to gender studies and art history. More research papers are being published on Pakistan by US based academics than ever before, and we have seen an exponential increase in the number of graduate students working on Pakistan in the social sciences and the humanities in US universities. In addition, there is an increased interest in Pakistan among the press and public alike (I fear not always for the right reasons).

However, we are at a difficult juncture in terms of our budget. The CAORC/ECA support along with the US Embassy in Islamabad funds for fellowships and conferences have kept us afloat in structural and programmatic terms. We are optimistic that the Title VI awards for ORCs will be resumed in the coming budgetary cycle (albeit at a lower level) and we are confident that after a lapse of two years, the GOP funds for this year will be released.

Despite such constraints, we have moved forward to consolidate our programs and initiate new ones. Our Dissertation Workshops continue to be organized (please do apply) and we are being supported by the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC). HEC and AIPS also signed a MOU to encourage US based faculty members to spend 3 weeks to 4 months at a university in Pakistan. This program is being supported by HEC funds through their short-term foreign faculty hire program. (continued on p. 2)
Visit our New Website!

AIPS U.S. Director, Laura Hammond, in collaboration with website designers at Axis Data, LLC, re-designed the AIPS website, making it more comprehensive and user-friendly. A visit to the homepage reveals colorful photographs of Pakistan, links to major news outlets on Pakistan, easy links to important resources including fellowship announcements, travel grants, job openings, teaching resources, and this online newsletter. There is also a listing of recent and upcoming events of interest to AIPS members.

Navigating inside the website are clear links to Pakistan history and society, more detailed information on fellowships, AIPS Programs such as the annual book prize competition, upcoming conferences, the Foreign Faculty Fellows Program, the dissertation workshop initiative, Pakistan Lecture series, and other AIPS projects. Under Membership you can find information on applying to be an Individual or Institutional member, as well as a section that remembers our late colleagues of Pakistan Studies. The “About” link will guide you to AIPS organizational and governance information, as well as the various forms (e.g., reimbursements, Islamabad Center Survey, membership, dissertation workshop proposal) that are frequently used by AIPS members and visitors.

Come visit the website today at http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/

AIPS International Conference on Archaeology and Cultural Heritage in Pakistan and Adjacent Regions

Professor J. Mark Kenoyer (University of Wisconsin, Madison) organized the AIPS-sponsored international conference, “Archaeology and Cultural Heritage in Pakistan and Adjacent Regions” held in Islamabad January 5-8, 2012. Held in collaboration with the Department of Archaeology and Museums, Ministry of National Heritage and Integration, Government of Pakistan, this conference received additional support from the US Embassy, Islamabad. Radio Pakistan was the official media partner.

Pakistan lies at the intersection of important historical and modern trade and exchange networks that link Afghanistan and Central Asia to the Indus Valley region and beyond to Peninsular India. This venue provided an invaluable forum for leading archaeologists and museum specialists from Pakistan, the US, Afghanistan and India to discuss current research and develop future collaborative projects. The topics ranged from the Prehistoric and Proto-Historic Indus Valley, to the Early Historic and Islamic Periods. Scholars shared recent discoveries and discussed ongoing dating and classification problems as well as other aspects of Cultural Heritage research, preservation, conservation and education.

Faculty and students from universities throughout Pakistan attended the conference along with members of the various ministries and NGOs based in Islamabad.

This conference is the second major Archaeology conference organized by AIPS with the support of the US Embassy in Islamabad. Fifty-four papers were presented by 37 Pakistani scholars, 8 US scholars, 6 Indian, and 3 Afghan. This successful conference was attended by a large number of scholars and
students from Pakistani universities and institutions involved in cultural heritage management, with an average daily attendance of 200 people. The first morning of the conference began with a short welcome by Dr. Kamran Ali, AIPS President, followed by a special inaugural welcome by the Honorable US Ambassador to Pakistan, Mr. Cameron Munter. The seven conference sessions included overviews of the archaeology of Afghanistan as well as various regions of Pakistan and India. One conference theme was museum development and the presentation of Pakistani archaeology to the general public and to special groups of people, such as physically disabled visitors. Thirteen of the Pakistani scholars visited the US for the AIPS Cultural Heritage Training workshop in 2011 and subsequently presented a summary to their respective museums after their return. Other papers focused on issues relating to site and monument conservation as well as conservation and documentation of artifacts. One paper focused on the impact that the Pakistan 18th amendment and devolution has had on the organization and implementation of archaeological excavation and conservation in different regions.

The remaining papers presented the most current research in a specific region or at a specific site in Pakistan, India and Afghanistan.

After the conference, all of the US, Afghani, and Indian participants toured various local museums, monuments and sites in the Islamabad area. The Afghan and some of the US participants toured Taxila after the final conference session. These participants visited the Lahore Museum, saw the high quality of conservation at the Badshahi Mosque, visited the Lahore Fort, including the Shish Mahal and the major gateway of the fort that was conserved with US Ambassador Funds, Jahangir’s Tomb, and the Rohtas Fort and traveled to the Harappa site in southern Punjab. The Indian scholars flew to Mohenjo-daro via Karachi and Sukkur. In Karachi, they visited the National Museum and the State Bank Museum. While in Sukkur they visited the newly excavated site of Lakhani-jo-daro and also visited the stone tool workshops on the Rohri Hills. After visiting Mohenjo-daro, they flew to Lahore to visit the Department of Archaeology, University of the Punjab and met with Dr. Farzand Masih, his colleagues and students. Participants were warmly received by the local Pakistani hosts at each location and in Lahore. The Punjab Archaeology directors and architects took them out to dinner at a newly developed food street next to the Badshahi Mosque. Lastly, they visited the Harappa site prior to returning to India. These post conference travels provided more time for the regional scholars and US scholars to interact and discuss possible aspects of collaboration.

**Update on Research Activities by Carl Ernst**

Professor Carl W. Ernst (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) has published *How to Read the Qur’an: A New Guide, with Select Translations*. He recently appeared on two panels at the 2012 Jaipur Literature Festival: ‘Reconstructing Rumi’ and ‘Violent Mystics.’ He is a co-editor of Perso-Indica (http://perso-indica.net), a research and publishing project that will produce a comprehensive Critical Survey of Persian Works on Indian Learned Traditions, encompassing the treatises and translations produced in India between the 13th and the 19th century. The 1st Perso-Indica Conference, “Translating and Writing Indic Learning in Persian,” will take place on May 30-31, 2012 at Université Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris 3. (UNC Press, 2011; http://uncpress.unc.edu/browse/book_detail?title_id=2202) For more information, please contact Carl Ernst at cernst@email.unc.edu.
ACT Field School Project:
A Wide-Scope Archaeological Project in Swat, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (KP)

By Luca M. Olivieri (ACT Project Director)

ACT (Archaeology Community Tourism) is a joint project carried out by the Italian Archaeological Mission in Pakistan and the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Pakistan) (DOAM). The project, started in April 2011, is funded by the Italian Government through the financial instruments of the Pakistani-Italian Dept Swap Agreement (PIDSA), managed by the Economic Affairs Division, Government of Pakistan. The goal of the project is to recover and strengthen the archaeological heritage of the valley, recently threatened by natural disasters and by armed conflicts, as a precondition for the development of local tourism and economy. All the scheduled activities are conceived as part of a comprehensive “field school”, open both to operators of the local communities and to students of the national Universities.

Amongst the archaeological objectives, ACT singled out the following steps as priorities.

1. Rebuilding of the National Archaeological Museum at Saidu Sharif

The Archaeological Museum of Saidu Sharif, hosting one of the most important collection in the world of Gandharan art, used to attract considerable flows of foreign and Pakistani visitors. In 2009 the Museum was seriously damaged by a major explosion and closed to the public. ACT in collaboration with arch. I. Marati, and experts of Naples University and University of Engineering and Technology, Peshawar, started the restoration of the core of the building, based upon updated anti-seismic technologies, and begun a complete reconstruction of the front and the rear bodies. The construction is expected to end in winter 2013.

2. Restoration of the Main Stupa in Saidu Sharif

The Saidu Sharif Buddhist sacred area was excavated between 1963 and 1982 by the late Domenico Faccenna and Pierfrancesco Callieri.

ACT is rebuilding part of the Main Stupa: the first storey and part of the drum (second storey). The work closely follows the current international standards of architectural restoration and at present is completed as far as concerns the core of the first storey. The reconstruction of the external masonry, of the upper floor of the first storey, as well as the anastilosis of one of the stupa’s columns, will be done in the next two seasons according to the plan, prepared on the basis of the indications provided by prof. P. Callieri, University of Bologna and the experts of the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities, and of the suggestions provided by DOAM, in accordance to the international requirements and standards. A 1:20 model of the Main Stupa is in preparation; it will be displayed in the reconstructed Swat Archaeological Museum.

3. Restoration works and large-scale excavations (1.5 ha.) at the urban site of Barikot (ancient Bazira) and promotion of the site as the hub of an integrated touristic network
The site is under excavation and managed by the Italian Mission since 1984. In the new project, approximately 0.4 ha. have been excavated so far. 130 local workers, Provincial archaeology staff and 12 students of the Quaid-I Azam University, Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations, have been involved in the activity. The Indo-Greek defensive wall and bastions, encircling the excavation area has been restored for a total length of 80 m.

4. Restoration of the domed vihara at Gumbat (Kandak valley) and excavations at its sacred monumental area
The Buddhist site of Balo Kale, Gumbat, has been partially excavated (250 sqm.), while the double-domed shrine has been completely restored in collaboration with Hazara University (Departments of Archaeology and Conservation). The study of the monument as well as the radiocarbon (AMSv) analysis of the wooden structure in situ, is in progress with the collaboration of prof. M. Meister the Pennsylvania University, Department of Art History. The study of the sculptures recovered during the excavation is in progress in collaboration with prof. P. Brancaccio, Drexel University. So far 40 local workers and 4 members of the Hazara University have been involved in the activity.

5. New excavations and research on the protohistoric graveyards of the Swat valley
Although many ancient cemeteries of the late Bronze and Iron ages of the region have been excavated in the past by Italian and Pakistani scholars, many uncertainties remained about their architecture, absolute chronology and the rituals of deposition. ACT began a new phase of archaeological exploration of these cemeteries at the site of Gogdara 4, near Udegram. The original trampling surface of the graveyard was to a great extent preserved. Lines of post-holes, left by wooden fences or railings around the mouth of the graves, were recorded. Two graves were completely excavated, reconstructing complex rituals of deposition and recovering substantial funerary furnishings (various pottery forms and metal objects). The skeletal remains were stored for examination by physical anthropologists, and bone samples were collected for AMS-14C dating.

6. Restoration of the Ghaznavid Mosque at Udegram
The mosque, the third oldest one in Pakistan, the most ancient in KP province, was discovered in 1985 and excavated by an Italian team led by late prof. Umberto Scerrato. After the preliminary conservation of the Mosque of Udegram was completed in September 2011, the Project is presently busy with the realization of the master plan of the reconstruction of the wooden verandha along the qibla wall. Access to the site has been provided by Project through the construction of 2.3 km of cement road and, by the Pakistan Army, by the construction of a convert bridge, lavatories and toilets. After conservation the Mosque housed major religious ceremonies.

7. Protection and excavations in 8 other archaeological sites,
The site of Amluk-dara, recently put under protection by the Project, will be excavated in April-May 2012. Seven other sites have been so far protected, including two protohistoric painted shelters and a Brahmi-Sarada monumental inscription.

The restoration project with the assistance of experts of the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage is scheduled for Fall 2012.

For further information, Luca Olivieri can be contacted at lucamariaolivieri@gmail.com
Karachi Literature Festival

The third annual Karachi Literature Festival was held at the Carlton Hotel, DHA, February 10-12, 2012. It brought together and celebrated Pakistani and international authors writing in languages such as Urdu, Sindhi, Punjabi, Seraiki, English, German, and French. It featured creative writing workshops, debates/discussions, lectures, mushairahs, a book fair, book launches, readings, signings, interactive story-telling for children, music/theatre performances, and more.

Founded by Ameena Saiyid OBE and Asif Farrukhi and organized by the British Council and Oxford University Press, the Festival has grown rapidly. Attendance rose from roughly 5,000 in 2010 to 10,000 in 2011, and likely double that number in 2012. This year, William Dalrymple delivered the keynote address.

Approximately 145 participants were listed on the program, including Mohsin Hamid, Anatol Leiven, and AIPS Vice President Anita Weiss. The Karachi Literature Festival, also celebrating music, dance and theater arts connected to literature, treated festival goers to a unique event on Sunday: the book launch of Salman Ahmad’s Rock and Roll Jihad: a Muslim Rock Star’s Revolution, followed by a concert with his band, Junoon. The sultry night air provided a perfect environment for dancing to the music that is a fusion of sufi qawwalis and Led Zeppelin, in which all attendees took part.

Research on “After the Taliban and the Megaflood in Swat: The Challenges of Reconciliation and Rebuilding Lives”

AIPS Vice President, Anita M. Weiss, had been invited by Oxford University Press to participate in the Karachi Literature Festival in mid-February, 2012. Arriving a month earlier on private funding, she was able to travel to Swat for a few weeks to conduct field research on a project entitled “After the Taliban and the Megaflood in Swat: The Challenges of Reconciliation and Rebuilding Lives.” Swat had endured a difficult period from the mid-2000s culminating in the military assault on the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) in May 2009 and then the devastation caused by the flood (July 30, 2010). Swat’s economy was destroyed: orchards were left to decay, the bazaar in many parts closed, and tourists stopped coming. The questions she was probing on this visit was to understand what local people in Swat considered to be the greatest challenges facing Swat, what are its greatest needs right now, and what do they think are the best solutions, particularly regarding how best to build a sense of community that was shattered during the Taliban era.

She presented the findings from her research at the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington, D.C. in early March. She identified six major challenges confronting Swat right now: infrastructure (rebuilding is ongoing, but there is so much left to do); great numbers of widows and orphans in the wake of the two disasters; local representation is nonexistent; sustainability of the peace once the army departs; the need to tackle rampant corruption; and challenges associated with identity and social cohesion. She made three recommendations in her talk, notably the importance and centrality of reinstating local representation and local decision-making, perhaps by working through Executive Councils within Union Councils; the need to create a Special Industrial Zone to bring in economic opportunities (e.g., so local people can start small factories, such as to make matches or bottled water, which can also encourage tourism to return); and the need to tie local NGO and other donor activities into a network overseen by a local representative system. The latter can help identify ways of encouraging local input in identifying needs and modifying ongoing projects.

Professor Weiss is grateful to the many people who helped her in her research, and particularly to Falak Naz Asfandyar, Jamila Amirzeb, Nadir Khan, Fazal Mabood, Dr. Sultan-e-Rome, and Daud Khan.

Next year’s festival is scheduled for February 15-17, 2013. Additional information can be found at: http://www.karachiliteraturefestival.org/home
AIPS-Sponsored Conference: ‘Development Challenges Confronting Pakistan’

AIPS held its second conference with the support of the US Embassy in Islamabad on May 6-7, 2011. Professor Anita M. Weiss organized this conference in collaboration with the conference steering committee consisting of Dr. Saba Gul Khattak, Dr. Rifaat Hussain, and Dr. Akbar Zaidi.

The focal point for this conference was the global scholarly community’s concern with development and social transformation that has identified and analyzed ‘structural impediments’ that constrain countries’ efforts to alleviate poverty and promote sustainable social development. The UNDP, in launching its Millennium Development Goals, contends that there are “practical, proven solutions” to breaking out of the poverty traps that entangle poor countries, including: investing in human development; increasing agricultural productivity; investing in infrastructure in non-traditional areas; developing industrial policies particularly conducive to promoting small and medium-size enterprises; emphasizing human rights and social equity through democratic governance and including marginalized groups (especially women and girls); promoting environmental sustainability and improving urban management; and being proactive in incorporating multiculturalism into human development strategies so as to mitigate conflict and tension between groups. Such rhetoric, however, is difficult to translate into realistic, practical applied programs.

There has been limited substantive research conducted on Pakistan, however, to identify the unique blend of structural impediments to development that prevail in the country. Indeed, Pakistan’s prospects to promote viable, sustainable social development appear bleaker today than a decade ago. This conference, therefore, sought to rectify this void by bringing together scholars and practitioners and develop a scholarly understanding of the structural impediments, or barriers, that have a negative effect on Pakistan’s ability to eliminate poverty, promote social justice and implement policies to promote equity. The conference’s emphasis was not on pragmatic development challenges such as where to put in new schools, how to introduce new hybrid seeds or new systems of local governance. Instead, it focused on promoting a scholarly understanding of the synergy between local institutions, development and social transformation.

Following opening addresses by the Hon. Robin Raphael, U.S. Coordinator for Economic and Development Assistance in Pakistan, and Dr. Saba Gul Khattak, Member, Social Sector, Planning Commission of Pakistan, over the next two days the Pakistani and US participants discussed various institutions in Pakistan including the economy; legal infrastructure; bureaucracy; political processes; social sector investment challenges; corruption and related inefficiencies’ effects on development; the changing contours of violent conflict; ethnicity and identity; women’s status and rights; environmental concerns; agricultural transformation; among other issues. Attendees came from a wide array of governmental, diplomatic and educational institutions.

The resultant volume, Development Challenges Confronting Pakistan, has been edited by Anita M. Weiss, AIPS Vice President, and Saba Gul Khattak, and is forthcoming from Kumarian Press. It includes chapters from many of the conference participants and additional chapters by Dr. Hassan Askari Rizvi and Dr. Khalid Masud. For more information on this volume, please contact Anita Weiss at aweiss@uoregon.edu.

Pakistan Institute of Development Economics to establish Annual Lecture in honor of AIPS Trustee Gustav Ranis

AIPS Trustee Gustav Ranis (Yale) was the first director of PIDE, the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, in 1958-61. PIDE is in the process of establishing an annual lecture in Professor Ranis’ honor. In addition to having given several talks at PIDE, he remains associated with the Mahbub ul Haq Asian Center for Human Development. Further information on PIDE can be found at http://www.pide.org.pk/; further information on the Mahbub ul Haq Center can be found at http://www.mhhdc.org/. Professor Ranis welcomes inquiries about his work on Pakistan’s economy, and can be contacted at: gustav.ranis@yale.edu.
On August 27-28, 2011, AIPS sponsored the first-ever Women’s Studies Conference in Pakistan, in collaboration with the Government of Pakistan’s National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW), the Centre for Excellence in Gender Studies (Quaid-i-Azam University), and the Centre for Excellence in Women’s Studies (University of Karachi), and funded by the Council of American Overseas Research Centers. The conference steering committee, consisting of Professor Anita M. Weiss (University of Oregon and AIPS), Ms. Anis Haroon & Ms. Sofia Noreen(NCSW), Dr. Farzana Bari & Rabbia Aslam (Quaid-i-Azam University), Dr. Nasreen Aslam Shah & Afiyah Bilgrami (University of Karachi), solicited papers from participants throughout Pakistan to showcase their research in this scholarly forum. The final program, shown below, consisted of scholars, graduate students and practitioners from every province who made presentations in five panels: Learning from Women’s Indigenous Knowledge, Navigating Systems of Law & Justice, Celebrating Fifty Years of the Muslim Family Laws Ordinance, Engendering Pakistan’s Economy: the Impact of The Work Women Do, and Creating Real Democracy.


There were two special events at the conference, in addition to the remarkable presentations made over the two days. The first was a special presentation by Nigar Nazar, creator of Gogi, entitled “Women’s Rights through the Pen of a Cartoonist.” Nigar captivated the audience by showing how her cartoon character, Gogi, has stood up for women’s rights in Pakistan over the years. In addition, she presented caricatures that she penned during the conference of various participants. The second special event was a presentation on “Publishing in Women’s Studies.” AIPS provided a 10-page pamphlet to all conference participants listing relevant refereed journals where they might want to submit the papers they presented at the conference. This useful resource noted the publishing priorities of the various journals, submission requirements, and where to find out more information on each journal. (The pamphlet is available on the AIPS website: http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/sites/default/files/2011-8-27_Publications-3.pdf). The conference concluded with a discussion for Learning from Women’s Studies conferences held in Pakistan throughout the past few decades. Nigar Nazar ended the conference with a cartoon presentation by Nigar Nazar, creator of Gogi, called “The Symbolic and Practical Importance of the MFLO Today.”
History Dissertation Workshop, December 19-21, 2011

Yasmin Saikia, Professor of History and Hardt-Nickachos Chair in Peace Studies and AIPS Trustee at Arizona State University, collaborated with Tanvir Anjum, Assistant Professor of History at Quaid-e-Azam University, to conduct a three-day History Dissertation in Islamabad in December. The twelve graduate students who participated were from various universities in Pakistan including Quaid-e-Azam, Karachi, Peshawar, Sargodha, Jamshoro, Bahawalpur, and Government College University in Lahore. The workshop leaders had sent students three readings in advance of meeting: one was on historical methods, a scholarly essay as a sample of how to write a good literature review, and a third on the art of telling history.

They divided the workshop into three components: ‘Doing History’, ‘Research Methodology and Proposal Discussion’, and ‘Dialoguing with Scholars and Moving Ahead with Writing and Publication’. The ‘Doing History’ component consisted of two main activities. The first focused on how to read and interpret historical sources (both primary and secondary) including a practical exercise underscoring the importance of interpreting them. Students were guided in observation skills and interpretation, how to read both primary and secondary sources, situate their sources within a larger historical debate/discussion, consider alternate viewpoints, and develop their own argument. The second component of ‘Doing History’ was ‘Writing History’, in which students were guided on how to present their dissertation argument in one paragraph for a scholarly audience as well as to write for a wider audience, identify their research question, write a thesis statement and a conclusion. The workshop leaders considered that this exercise, like the previous one, was very successful because the students were empowered to organize their own ideas, clarify and distill the main arguments of their research project, and write concisely and precisely by taking into account their audiences. In this short period of time, the students became aware of how to read history and think and write like a historian by taking a position based on their evidence.

The second day of the dissertation workshop emphasized Research Methodology and students’ proposals. They discussed the different methodological approaches current in the study of history. Students then rewrote their research outlines and presented them to their peers in the workshop, discussing the primary and secondary sources they were using and/or plan to investigate, and the time-line for their dissertation writing. These verbal presentations were particularly valuable as they made many of them aware of the holes in their argument, the need for further research to find the right kind of evidence to back their statement, and how to take a position on a particular topic based on perspective and methodology. This was a very important exercise because students were able to understand the connection between evidence and argument and it became clear to them that history writing is about persuasive argument with the right kind of evidence to back their position. The workshop facilitators provided students with feedback on their proposals, current scholarship that they should engage in their literature review and how to sharpen their arguments to make a unique contribution to their topic of investigation.

The final component of the dissertation workshop was utilized for discussing the different aspects of writing a dissertation, including citation and reference styles, plagiarism, footnotes, how to overcome writer’s block, successful methods of writing an essay and in writing a research grant proposal, and steps toward converting their dissertation into a book. Students became aware of the multiple steps they should pay attention to while writing their dissertation, the steps that lie ahead of them for successful completion of their dissertation, and converting it into a book for a wider audience.

Both Dr. Saikia and Dr. Anjum were very pleased with what was accomplished during the brief three-day
(continued on p. 10)
New Centre for the Study of Pakistan at SOAS, University of London

The University of London has recently opened a Centre for the Study of Pakistan, under the umbrella of the Centre of South Asian Studies. Its goals are to promote research and teaching in the study of Pakistan, both contemporary and historical, across a range of disciplines at SOAS. This is a first step towards developing an interdisciplinary MA program in the Study of Contemporary Pakistan.

The Centre aims to bring together and publicize the range of work on Pakistan underway at SOAS, to build synergies between staff working on Pakistan, and to encourage and facilitate fund raising for such initiatives. In addition, the Centre hopes to foster links between SOAS and other institutions in the UK and abroad who are engaged in academic study of Pakistan across various disciplines, develop outreach programs to disseminate knowledge of Pakistan to a wider audience through a variety of events including workshops, conferences, exhibitions, film and performance arts, to promote understanding of Pakistan in all its aspects, and to involve Pakistani communities in organizing joint events.

The opening event held in September 2011 was a Centenary Celebration of the life of Faiz Ahmed Faiz. Other speakers later in 2011 included Mohammad Hanif, Anatol Lieven, Sarah Ansari, Ehtisham Ahmed, Kamila Shamsie, and Sarmila Bose (University of Oxford). Events held thus far in 2012 include Professor Shaheen Sardar Ali (Warwick University) talking about Pakistan’s implementation of CEDAW and Yunas Samad (University of Bradford) talking about Pakistan-U.S. relations in January, Matthew McCartney (Oxford University) addressing Pakistan’s economy in February, Emmy-winning director Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy showing her latest film, Transgenders: Pakistan’s Open Secret, in March, along with Claire Chambers (Leeds Metropolitan University) talking on Pakistani fiction written in English the same month. Lectures in April included talks on Pakistan’s post-flood rebuilding activities and on Pakistani languages.

The Pakistan Centre welcomes visiting scholars who wish to be located at SOAS to take advantage of its existing research culture and the University of London’s excellent library holdings. ‘Academic Hospitality’ is granted by SOAS to a recognized scholar from a non-British University wishing to avail him or herself of the School’s library and public seminars for a stated period of no more than 12 months. Further information on the Centre, its activities and its opportunities is available at http://www.soas.ac.uk/csp/.

Artifacts from the Early Buddhist site of Nimogram, Swat

Dr. Joan Raducha (University of Wisconsin, Madison) received support from AIPS in December 2010 which enabled her to complete a long term study on the artifacts from the early Buddhist site of Nimogram, Swat. She created a digital archive including an introductory essay, images, and descriptions of the images. The archive is available online in the University of Wisconsin Digital Collection at: http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/Arts/Nimogram. Dr. Raducha welcomes inquiries about the project, and can be contacted at: Raducha@wisc.edu.
New Foreign Faculty Fellows Program in Pakistan

AIPS is pleased to announce a new collaborative program between AIPS and the Higher Education Commission in Pakistan. This program will sponsor highly qualified U.S. research scientists and scholars to provide quality education to students and to enhance research activities in HEC-recognized Educational Institutions in Pakistan.

The Eligibility Criteria for Selection of Visiting Foreign Professors is as follows:

- PhD degree in the relevant field from HEC recognized universities/ institutes.
- Commitment to come for a minimum of three weeks up to three or four months (one semester), which will be extendable to another semester upon the consent of the HEC and host institution.
- All disciplines are eligible.
- Current job/teaching position in a recognized US University with at least two years Post-doctorate foreign experience.
- Good academic and publication record.
- Excellent verbal and written English language skills.

Special waiver of the PhD degree requirement for applicants belonging to Fine Arts, Architecture, Law & Theatre and Arts disciplines, with condition that the prospective candidates must have served as a tenure track faculty member at a US University for at least for three years.

The Foreign Faculty Fellows Program is open to scholars from all disciplines, but candidates from the social sciences and the humanities will be preferred.

Applications consist of a brief cover letter, a current CV, one letter of reference, and the application form. More detailed information and a complete application packet are available on the AIPS website: http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/

Dissertation Workshop Leader – Call for Proposals

AIPS is requesting proposals to lead doctoral dissertation workshops in the future. Based on funding, AIPS seeks to organize three workshops annually. These discipline-based workshops are conducted in collaboration with the Government of Pakistan’s Higher Education Commission (HEC). The goals are to assist doctoral and M. Phil. students to write a world-class dissertation as well as enabling participating students to become a scholarly cohort among themselves. Dissertation workshops focus on students working on their proposals while also exploring issues in developing a thesis question, theoretical and substantive literature reviews, methodology, writing and attribution, and related concerns. Disciplines of high priority for future dissertation workshops include Economics, Education and English, but applications from other disciplines will also be accepted (e.g. anthropology, comparative literature, international relations, sociology).

Applications should consist of the following:

- Current curriculum vitae, especially detailing theses supervised
- Description of the theme of the workshop
- Kinds of doctoral students who would benefit from the workshop (include all relevant groups including Pakistan Studies, Social & Cultural Studies, or other disciplines)
- One or two names of a Pakistan-based scholar you propose to collaborate with you. This person must hold a Ph.D., and preferably work in a university in Pakistan
- Preferred dates for holding the three-day workshop in Islamabad

Applications submission instructions: http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/programs/dissertation-workshop

Please submit applications to: aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org
AIPS 2012-13 Junior and Senior Fellows Awarded

AIPS is pleased to announce the awardees for the 2012-2013 Junior and Senior Fellowship!

- Julie Flowerday, Senior Fellow awarded 9 months in Lahore and Islamabad
- Yelena Biberman, Junior Fellow awarded 4 months in Srinagar and Moscow
- Naindeep Chann, Junior Fellow awarded 3 months in Paris
- Daniel Majchrowicz, Junior Fellow awarded 2 months in London

Junior and Senior Fellowships were funded by Council of American Overseas Research Centers

For abstracts and more information on these fellowships: http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/content/fellows-2012-13

AIPS 2012-13 Short-Term Fellows Awarded

The AIPS 2012-13 Short-Term Fellows to Pakistan have been awarded.

Congratulations to the three selected Fellows in the first round of the 2012-13 competition for Short-Term fellowships.

- William Johnson, University of Oregon
- Sameer Lalwani, MIT
- Audrey Truschke, Columbia University

More information and abstracts can be found here: http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/content/fellows-2012-13

Please see the AIPS website for future competitions: http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/fellowship/

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