

The **Cultural Heritage Institute Program** was first developed by CAORC to bring museum specialists and cultural heritage managers from selected countries to the USA for a month long intensive program at the Smithsonian and other major US institutions, such as the University of Wisconsin, Madison. In 2007 the program supported by CAORC was led by Dr. J. Mark Kenoyer who is a trustee of AIPS and AIIS and involved 10 scholars (5 women) from India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. In 2011 and 2012 two additional programs were developed by AIPS with support from the US Embassy in Islamabad. The 2011 program involved 13 Pakistani scholars (including 2 women) from major museums as well as smaller university museums and regional level departments of archaeology. The 2013 program involved 8 scholars (3 women) from Pakistan and 5 (1 woman) from India in order to build regional interaction. The long-term results are that individuals from each group have trained local staff and students in their museums and universities to spread the knowledge they gained in the USA. New museums have been established by some of the participants, and most important is the establishment of a network of museum specialists in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka who have begun to interact with each other through national and international conferences and online interaction. A South Asian Museum Association will soon be established to formalize these interactions.

AIPS has now held three major international conferences on Education and Cultural Heritage issues in Islamabad and brought several leading Pakistani archaeologists to the US for lecture tours over the past 5 years. The first conference on **Islamic Identities, Gender & Higher Education in Pakistan** was held in January 2007 and involved both US and Pakistani scholars. A conference on **Cultural Heritage Issues in Pakistan: Archaeology, Museums and Conservation** was held in January 2011, and *Archaeology and Cultural Heritage in Pakistan and Adjacent Regions* was held in January 2012. Both of these conferences have allowed people who participated in the Cultural Heritage workshops to showcase what they learned in the USA and show how they applied this knowledge to their own museums and institutions. Some examples of the outcomes in museums in Pakistan include developing handicap access and facilities in major museums, developing displays and educational programs for blind and deaf visitors, programs to bring in disadvantaged children, educating the public about minority communities, women's education, and outreach to lower income urban and rural communities.