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SOUTH ASIA COOPERATIVE COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP 2015 SUMMARY REPORT AND OUTCOMES

The 6th Annual South Asia Cooperative Collection Development Workshop was held on October 23, 2015 in Madison, WI. The session featured an action-oriented collective review of participants' Cooperative Acquisitions Program profiles for Pakistan and Afghanistan, thanks to data supplied this year by the Islamabad Field Office of the Library of Congress. Distinctive niche collections assembled outside standard library supply lines were highlighted. Visitors beyond the circle of active workshop participants sparked a number of conversations on collecting practices, opportunities, and problem spots. As always the workshop's thrust was toward reducing unnecessary duplication in the national collection and improving coverage and access to it.

Business: Profiles

The profile review activity is familiar by now. Our first workshop in 2010 addressed profiles for materials supplied by LC's Delhi Field Office, achieving re-allocation of 10% of the monetary value of participant bills. In 2014 we held small-group discussions on profiles and possibilities for collaboration, but without material commitments. In 2015 the goal was to re-allocate 5% of the monetary value of our Islamabad bills. Since the quantity of materials supplied by the Islamabad office is comparatively small, many participants chose to add to their profile selections rather than reallocate to a major degree.

- Increases in actual spend ranged from 3% to 28%. Participant strategies hinged on librarians' knowledge of their local user groups, immediate and extended, and on institutional trends and/or capacities.
- One institution charged with reducing its spending did so, even as it improved coverage in a little-collected language.
- Fine-tuning even after the workshop had ended shows that the logic of small changes producing large cumulative effects has become a pattern of thought for our grassroots constituency.

Kamran Ali, President of the American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS), then invited the workshop to consider ways we might use AIPS's network of institutions and contacts in Pakistan to procure library materials to further deepen and diversify our collections. AIPS has been active in Pakistan for over 40 years, has multiple funding sources, collaborates with 35 universities, and maintains 2 offices in country. They can obtain materials that are hard to get through other lines of supply—political pamphlets, cultural and society publications, dissertations, unpublished

material, underground material. Under just what vendor model US libraries might contract with AIPS is however far from clear.

Zakir Hussein, of the LC Field Office in Islamabad, gave an update on changes to profile structures in the coming year and participants were encouraged to consider how these changes might affect our collaborations.

- Many profile categories will be collapsed, making for a simpler structure with fewer levels of selectivity. In part these changes reflect the 10% reduction in LC's own collecting in this world area.
- The Islamabad Field Office offers Cooperative Acquisitions Program participants the whole or a subset of what LC collects for itself. By contrast, the Delhi Field Office collects for LC a subset of what it offers to CAP participants.

Pleasure: Niche Collections

Laura Ring, of the University of Chicago, gave a presentation on the Ethnomusicology collection that she and Jim Nye have assembled following their declaration of specialization at the 2012 workshop.

- Supported by two fulltime librarians who travel often to South Asia
- Have acquired a superb collection of monographs on Indic music from around the world, and whole musical collections in South Asia.
- They handle multiple formats, including archaic and modern sound recordings. PowerPoint slides on Chicago's rich assembly will be posted at <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/collection/south-asian-cooperation>. Access to the materials themselves is forthcoming at the Digital South Asia Library <http://dsal.uchicago.edu/>.

David Faust, of the University of Minnesota, presented ways of collecting on Critical Development Issues. Faust has a host of library duties, with little time for travel and special efforts and therefore focuses on "access" rather than "ownership."

- Collecting in place. Visiting speakers often donate books and ephemera related to their topics, and Minnesota's study abroad program also collects on the library's behalf.
- "Collection development as access development." Moving forward with the imperative for access as identified in the now defunct PAIR (Portal to Asian Internet Resources) project, Minnesota continues to identify and curate list of substantial web sites selected for their particular relevance to Critical Development Issues, a Minnesota specialty.

Next Year

Possible topics for the 2016 workshop include:

- Weeding and print retention
- Web archiving
- Non-LC vendors
- Geographic specializations
- Collecting from conflict areas
- Capacity-building for metadata
- Gathering collection policies, quantitative analysis

2015 Participating Institutions

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Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University / TRLN
Harvard University
Indiana University
University of California, Los Angeles
University of Chicago
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of Pennsylvania
University of Texas
University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin
Yale University

2015 Invited Observers

American Institute of Pakistan Studies
British Library
Library of Congress Islamabad Field Office
Library of Congress New Delhi Field Office
Stanford University
Washington University (St. Louis)