

**ARCIPI Archaeological Database and Pottery Workshop  
Summary Report  
March 18, 2014**

Dr. Katie Lindstrom, Honorary Fellow, University of Wisconsin, Madison, was invited by Dr. J. M. Kenoyer and Dr. Abdul Samad to undertake training workshops and to network with Pakistani archaeologists and museum specialists as part of the ARCIPI Program. Her stay in Pakistan was facilitated by the American Institute of Pakistan Studies office and staff in Islamabad and Lahore.

Katie arrived in Pakistan from India on February 26 and spent four days in Lahore where she had the opportunity to meet with Saleem ul-Haq and Afzal Khan at the Lahore Fort, whom she worked on previous research trips to Pakistan. She also made a day trip to Harappa and met with the Harappa museum curator Muhammed Hassan Khokar and staff of the Harappa Archaeological Research Project.

From March 12 to 14, 2014 Katie led an archaeological training workshop series in collaboration with Dr. Abdul Samad, Department of Archaeology, Hazara University. The workshop was hosted at the office of the American Institute of Pakistan Studies in Islamabad. The first two days were devoted to an interactive workshop on building archaeology databases using easily available computer software. On the third day, a half-day workshop was carried out to introduce common methods for recording and studying pottery from archaeological excavations. Nineteen individuals attended the workshop series, including 6 women: 11 students (BA, MA and MPhil) and 4 instructors from the Department of Archaeology at Hazara University, 3 students from the Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations at Quaid-i-Azam University, and one museum curator from the Chitral Museum.

The goal of the database workshop was to train established archaeologists (faculty/staff) as well as the next generation of archaeologists (students at various levels) to build computerized artifact, excavation, and museum databases as a way to both document existing collections and also to advance research programs. During the workshop Katie shared her experiences building databases for a variety of archaeological and institutional programs using Filemaker Pro software. She also presented the elements of a successful database archive and data management plan. The workshop participants then worked in groups of 3-5 people to learn and practice various database techniques that Katie demonstrated. Working in small groups, the participants were able to learn from and teach each other and problem-solve as a group. By the conclusion of the workshop, each group had successfully produced an artifact database, which had the necessary elements to be functional for basic artifact or antiquities documentation. The group was very engaged in learning how to use the Filemaker software for archaeological and museum programs.

The goal of the pottery workshop was to provide participants with experience recording archaeological pottery and the skills and tools necessary to begin their own project recording and analyzing pottery. Participants were engaged in group discussion

concerning the variables involved in choosing a research strategy. They also worked in small groups to practice measuring and drawing archaeological pottery.

Those involved, who are beginning to spread the word to their colleagues at other museums and universities, considered the workshop a success. Katie has already received a request from Abid-ur-Rehman, curator at Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan, to offer similar database training to faculty, staff and students from his and other universities in Pakistan.

In addition to leading this workshop series, Katie delivered a lecture to a group of over 30 students and faculty at the Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations, Qaid-i-Azam University. The faculty and students from Hazara University were also invited to attend the lecture, but due to an unexpected travel delay they were unable to attend. Her lecture presented new archaeological research from sites in India and highlighted the similarities and differences in the pottery used by ancient communities in modern-day India and Pakistan. She also discussed her experiences at current excavations that were taking place in Gujarat, India under the direction of Dr. K. Krishnan and Dr. P. Ajithprasad at the Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, who are also participants in the ARCPPI program. Those who attended the lecture were very engaged in asking questions about archaeology in India and eager to understand more about their shared heritage.

Overall the trip was very successful and allowed Katie to meet with students, scholars and professional archaeologists and museum curators from many different institutions in Pakistan. She reconnected with people whom when had met and worked with on previous research trips to Pakistan and also met many new colleagues. Thus, the trip allowed Katie to extend and strengthen her networks within Pakistan and to continue her interests in building professional networks between those working on cultural heritage issues in India and Pakistan.