I’d like to wish all of our students, staff, faculty, and community members a warm welcome to the 2014–15 academic year. The CSAS had an exceptionally busy last year with (now past) President Mary Sue Coleman’s launch of a university-wide India initiative in Fall 2013 and a CSAS hosted Theme Semester on “India in the World” in Winter 2014. The India initiative was launched in November 2013 when President Coleman led a delegation to India to meet with alumni, to strengthen existing institutional relationships, and to forge new ones. The trip was a wonderful success, and resulted in: the signing of three new Memorandums of Understanding and resulted in: the signing of three MoUs and opportunities for faculty exchange, innovative teaching methods, opportunities for student exchange and mutual visits of fellows and research scholars. The keynotes address of “Recalling Democracy”, on September 5 (4:15pm), kicks off our Scholarly Lecture Series for the year, which will include talks by I.M. faculty and visitors. Our new colleagues Tarifa Faisalah and Ritwik Mistry will be speaking on December 5 and January 30, respectively. Faisalah, an award-winning poet, joins the U-M faculty this fall as the Zell Visiting Professor of Creative Writing. Mistry, who joined the School of Public Health in 2012, works on cancer prevention. You can read more about these new faculty members on pages 8-9 below.

The Scholarly Lecture Series will highlight the work of a number of visitors through the year, also. We look forward to welcoming Anindrajit Dacosta (Communications, NyU); Daisy Rockwell (Literary Critic, Translator, and artist, whose “Green Goddess” adorns our cover); Dirgha Dadi (Art & Art History, Cornell); Richard Wolf (Environmental Science, Harvard); Alison Busch (History Literature, Columbia); and Vinay Godiwala (Geography, University of Minnesota).

And in conjunction with the Institute for the Humanities we will be hosting two award-winning authors: Arundhati Roy and Vikram Chandra. Our full program is on p.15 below, and more detailed information on all talks is on our website (ii.umich.edu/csas).

We hope to make this year just as exciting. The year begins for us with a flourish of activity, as the CSAS hosts a two-day major international conference: “Recalling Democracy: Lineages of the Present”, co-organized by Professors Minralini Sinha (Department of History) and Manu Goswami (NYU). Taking place on September 5 & 6, the conference will assemble an international group of scholars to rethinks India's democratic politics in the concrete political landscapes of late-colonial and postcolonial India (details at: www.ii.umich.edu/csas/events/ conferences).

By now it is widely known that President Mary Sue Coleman took a four-day trip to India in November 2013 to help build on the University of Michigan’s longstanding ties with the South Asian country. The India delegation by Coleman included representatives from the University of Michigan Health System; Stephen M. Ross School of Business; College of Literature, Science, and the Arts; Institute for Social Research; Center for South Asian Studies; and College of Engineering. Their goal was to discuss new research collaborations and to expand on existing partnerships. Furthermore, they aimed to explore new opportunities for Michigan students to study in India, and ways to welcome more Indian students to Ann Arbor, and to reconnect with the vibrant and enthusiastic alumni community.

Coleman first visited India in 1993 and was excited to be back in the country, where she met with dignitaries from several Indian institutions. Coleman discussed overall international achievements made by the University during her tenure as president. “Since becoming the University’s president 12 years ago, I’ve worked with faculty to build our academic partnerships in China, Ghana, South Africa and Brazil,” she said. “I’m proud that we have deepened our work in five countries on three continents because it means deeper experiences for students and faculty.”

James Holloway, the University of Michigan vice provost for global and engaged education, was enthusiastic about the trip and said the visit would provide unique opportunities for students. “It will allow our students to engage in global educational experiences that benefit both the people of India and the students who participate in them.”

This excitement was shared by Coleman and the delegation of University of Michigan representatives.

Coleman’s trip began on November 13, 2013 with a signing ceremony for a memorandum of understanding with Ashoka University, one of the first private liberal arts universities in India. Under the agreement, the two universities will share opportunities for faculty exchange, innovative teaching methods, opportunities for student exchange and mutual visits of fellows and research scholars.

On November 14, 2013, the University of Michigan expanded its partnership with the All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS), one of India’s top academic medical programs. The relationship involves collaborative research on cancer genetics, immunology, trauma and disaster medicine.

Coleman and her delegates went to the Vice Regal lodge, office of the vice chancellor of the University of Delhi, in New Delhi on November 13, 2013. There, they discussed an agreement developed between the University of Michigan and Delhi University. This agreement provides opportunities for collaborative research both in India and in Ann Arbor. It will also allow University of Michigan students the opportunity to participate in a unique program involving long train trips across India.

The educational journeys are inspired by Malatma Gandhi, who ride the rails as a way to memorize and most of his homeland when he returned after living in South Africa for two decades. President Coleman reacted to this aspect of the program opportunity in a very positive way. “I am very excited that U-M students will be able to take the train journey. There are some experiences that may be learned by reading about it.”

Farina Mir, the director of U-M Center for South Asian Studies, added to Coleman’s insights by noting that a global education has become central to student learning. “Our world is increasingly globalized and our partnerships with Indian institutions will provide opportunities for expanded curricular experiences,” she said.

Finally, the delegation rounded out their trip with a stop in Mumbai to attend the India Business Conference sponsored by the University of Michigan India Alumni Association, where Coleman was hosted by Michigan alumnus, Sanjay Reddy, managing director of Mumbai International Airport Pvt. Ltd.
India in the World: A Multidisciplinary Success

The campus-wide India in the World Theme Semester of Winter 2014 was centered in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and coordinated by the Center for South Asian Studies, a faculty steering committee, and a student advisory board. India in the World brought an incredibly wide variety of South Asian events, performances, lectures, and scholars to Ann Arbor and reached students, faculty, and community members in ways the center has not been able to do in the past. The success of the semester would not have been possible without the generous support of the Office of the Dean, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts; the International Institute; the Office of the Vice Provost for Global and Engaged Education; and the many participating schools, centers, and departments.

The center is proud of the breadth of events and activities that took place throughout the Theme Semester. Among these were five exhibitions that were organized around University of Michigan faculty expertise and collections, on:

- The South Asia diaspora
- South Asia maps
- South Asia plant life
- South Asia zoology
- South Asia paleontology

The Theme Semester also included a media series, four conferences, 16 music and dance performances, and 42 lectures. The center was thrilled to be able to work with the University of Michigan Museum of Art and the Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design to bring three influential contemporary South Asian artists to campus: Nilima Sheikh, Shazia Sikander, and Mitu Sen. Along with the weekly media series, the center hosted two of India’s"

India in the World: India and South Asia.

The center hosted a reception to mark the end of the Theme Semester where CSAS director, Dhananjaya Premawardena, and the center’s student government representative, Dhananjaya Premawardena, also presented awards for the India in the World writing and art contests. It was a great way to end the semester as many of the participating schools, centers, and departments were present.

India in the World sought to engage faculty and students and raise the profile of South Asia at Michigan. The level of energy, commitment, time, and thoughtful participation from faculty, students, and community members exceeded all expectations. The center hopes to continue to provide a space for rigorous thought and discussion about India and South Asia.

Cultures of Activism: Arts, Expression, and Pakistan

The Pakistan Students’ Association collaborated with the CSAS to organize the 4th annual U-M Pakistan Conference, held on April 4, 2014. This year’s conference was focused on activism, with an emphasis on art and urban culture. The conference featured talks by three eminent Pakistanis, each a force in his/her respective field.

The course offered a wide range of courses available to undergraduate and graduate students. The courses ranged from undergraduate and graduate studies, a faculty steering committee, and a student advisory board. India in the World brought an incredibly wide variety of South Asian events, performances, lectures, and scholars to Ann Arbor and reached students, faculty, and community members in ways the center has not been able to do in the past. The success of the semester would not have been possible without the generous support of the Office of the Dean, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts; the International Institute; the Office of the Vice Provost for Global and Engaged Education; and the many participating schools, centers, and departments.

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The second speaker of the day was Arif Hasan. Based in Karachi, Hasan is an architect, planner, activist, social researcher, and writer. He is the recipient of a Hilla Reitveld, Pakistan’s highest award for its citizens. Since 1992, he has been involved with the Orangi Pilot Project, which focuses on development in urban slums, and is the founder Chairman of the Urban Resource Centre, Karachi, since its inception in 1999. Hasan spoke about his career, how he turned to addressing urban problems, and discussed specific development projects he has been involved with.

The discussion centered on the role of activism in their practice, and how they see their work impacting Pakistan society. The conference closed with a screening of These Birds Walk, directed by Omar Mullick and Bassam Tariq. The celebrated 2013 documentary examines the work of the Edhi Foundation, a Pakistani charity, by tracing the life of a runaway boy. The conference attracted over 100 people through the course of the day, and was marked by engaging discussions about the breadth of activities through which Pakistanis are addressing contemporary social and political problems, and reshaping their society.

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It is the translation of the magnus opus of Gendun Chopel (1903-1951), regarded as the greatest Tibetan au-
thor of the twentieth century. A former 
Buddhist monk, Gendun Chopel spent 
1934-1945 traveling throughout South 
Asia, including Sri Lanka. Gains of 
Gold is an account of his journey, with 
detailed descriptions of South Asian 
history, geography, and culture. It 
includes a scathing account of Euro-
pean colonialism, a lengthy descrip-
tion of Islam, and the first Tibetan 
exploration of the compatibility of 
Buddhism and science. Gendun Chopel 
was also a distinguished painter, 
producing dozens of watercolors that 
he intended as illustrations for Gains of 
Gold. Most of these have been lost, but 
those that have survived were 
published last year in Lopez's 

She also taught a course for the 
Winter 2014 Theme Semester, India in the World called "Women, Politics and Society," which is now 
the permanent course she is teaching in 
Women's Studies.

Fernandez is currently serving on the 
Fulbright National Selection Commit-
tee for undergraduate and graduate 
research and study in India.

Over the past year, Nachiket 
Chanchani, Assistant Professor of 
History of Art and Asian Languages 
and Cultures, developed and taught 
four new courses: "Art of Yoga;" 
Himalayas: An Aesthetic Exploration; 
"Ocean of Stories: Telling Tales in 
the Indian Subcontinent;" and "Home 
and the World: Introduction to South 
Asian Art." His forthcoming 
essays include, "The Jageshwar Valley: Where Death is Conquered" in Archives of Asian Art 
and "Toward a South Asian Art. His forthcom-
ing paper, "Where Death is Conquered" in 
the Journal of the International 
Hindu Studies, is due to be published 
in July 2015.

Stephen Rush, Professor and 
Interim Chair of Performing Arts 
Technology, this summer admin-
istered and guided a group of 
students on the U-M Varanasi 
India Program, and helped lead a 
seminar program. This summer marked 
the ninth student group that he has 
guided, which has resulted in over 
150 students traveling and studying 
in India.

Recently, Leslie Fernandes, 
Glenda Dicker-
son College Professor of Women's Stud-
ies and Political Science, published 
and edited the Routledge Handbook of 
Gender in South Asia (2014).

Minralini Sinha, Alice Freeman 
Palmer Professor of History, served an apprenticeship year as Vice 
President of the Association of Asian 
Studies (AAS), which ended after 
the annual AAS conference in Phila-
delphia, in March 2013, when she 
began her term as President. Sinha is 
honored and excited to have this 
opportunity to build on and extend 
many of the initiatives begun by her 
predecessors.

She is committed to AAS's global 
outreach initiatives, and is fortu-
nate enough to see the AAS-in-Asia 
initiative — conceived at the annual 
AAS conference in Hawaii in 2011 for 
hosting a series of mini-conferences 
in different locations in Asia in partner-
ship with local institutions — come to frui-
tion during her presidency. She opened the inaugural 
AAS-in-Asia conference in Singapore 
in July 2014, organized with the 
AAS's local partners, the Asian 
Research Institute and the National 
University of Singapore. The confer-
ence — there were some 500 people 
from 30 different countries registered 
for the conference — exceeded all 
easpects in many ways. The 2015 
AAS-in-Asia will be held in Taipei and 
the 2016 in Kyoto. Sinha's hope is 
that there will be an AAS-in-Asia in 
South Asia in 2017.

Sinha also looks forward to what 
she thinks is one of the more pleasant 
duties of the President, visiting and 
addressing the annual conferences of 
the several regional AAS affiliates 
in North America. She attended the 
Asian Studies Conference Japan 
(AISC), the only international AAS 
affiliate, in Tokyo and will be starting 
on her other visits this fall. In the 
meanwhile, Sinha continues to work 
with the AAS officers and the AAS 
secretariat on various initiatives for 
the memberships and for outreach.

Jeff Wilson, Department of 
Earth and Environmental Sciences, 
spent February 2014 in India 
researching dinosaurs and other 
continental vertebrates from the Late 
Cretaceous period (ca. 67 million 
years ago). Jeff and colleagues con-
ducted field work in Madhya Pradesh 
and museum collections research at 
the Indian Museum/Geological Survey 
of India in Kolkata. Jeff and colleague 
Bandana Samant established a formal 
research collaboration to better under-
stand how India's bucked animals 
responded to its dynamic geological 
and geographic history.

Jeff Wilson

Stephen Rush

Minralini Sinha

Jeff Wilson

Stephen Rush

Minralini Sinha

V.K. (Sagi) Ganeshanan-
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**Introductions: New CSAS Faculty Associates**

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**Manan Desai**

After receiving his PhD in English at the University of Michigan in 2011 and spending time at Syracuse University as an Assistant Professor in the Department of English, Manan Desai is returning to U-M as an Assistant Professor in American Culture. Desai began working on a book manuscript titled *The United States of India* while at Syracuse University. He has served on the board of directors for the South Asian American Digital Archive (SAADA), since 2010, where he has helped build collections to the South Asian diaspora. Desai is interested in postcolonial studies, Asian American studies, and twentieth century American literature.

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**Tarifa Faizullah**

In Fall 2014, Tarifa Faizullah joins the University of Michigan’s Helen Zell Writers’ Program as the Delbanco Visiting Professor of Creative Writing in Poetry. She is also a writer-in-residence for InsideOut Literary Arts and co-edits the Organic Weapon Arts Chapbook Press & Video Series with Jamaal May. She is an accomplished writer, with many awards and honors to her credit, including the 2012 Crab Orchard Series in Poetry First Book Award, a 2009 Calvin Award, the APR INTRO Journals Project Award, and a Copper Nickel Poetry Prize. We are very excited to welcome her to U-M!

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**Madhumita Lahiri**

Madhumita Lahiri joins the University of Michigan as an Assistant Professor in the Department of English. She has a BA from Yale and a PhD from Duke University. Prior to joining the University of Michigan she was an Assistant Professor at the University of Warwick, in the Department of English and Comparative Literary Studies. Before that she held a postdoctoral fellowship at the Centre for Indian Studies in Africa at the University of the Witwatersrand, and a Mellon postdoctoral fellowship at Brown University.

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**Md: What is one thing you are excited to do at U-M as an assistant Professor Mistry?**

**ML: I’m delighted to be joining the University of Michigan, where I look forward to collaborating with colleagues in the English department as well as South Asian studies scholars across the university. I know several people who have spent time in various capacities, and so I’ve been hearing wonderful things about the university and its programs.**

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**CSAS: What is one thing you are looking forward to doing as the Nicholas Delbanco Visiting Professor of Creative Writing in Poetry?**

**TF: I’m looking forward to any number of possibilities and opportunities that might arise to do better work with more heart. Cross-disciplinary conversation is something I’m particularly interested in, as well as being ingrained by the work my students and colleagues are doing. I believe that everything affects everything else, so I’m looking forward to seeing the way my work is affected by being at the University of Michigan as I continue to work on my memoir and second book of poems.**

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**CSAS: You work has taken you to a variety of different places. What draws you to Michigan?**

**TF: I haven’t had the opportunity to explore much of the greater state of Michigan yet, but here are a few things: the largeness of the sky, the flatness of the land, which reminds me so much of where I grew up in West Texas. The openness of folks here, how they are kind rather than nice, 24-hour access to chili cheese fries. A deep and abiding love of the arts, and a desire to make space for it. Detroit, where I live, is one of our oldest and most ancient cities: I’m drawn to its power.**

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**CSAS: What are you most looking forward to doing as the Nicholas Delbanco Visiting Professor of Creative Writing in Poetry? Do you have specific plans for what you would like to accomplish during your time at U-M?**

**TF: I’m looking forward to any number of possibilities and opportunities that might arise to do better work with more heart. Cross-disciplinary conversation is something I’m particularly interested in, as well as being ingrained by the work my students and colleagues are doing. I believe that everything affects everything else, so I’m looking forward to seeing the way my work is affected by being at the University of Michigan as I continue to work on my memoir and second book of poems.**

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**ML: I have two current projects that would be of particular interest to scholars and enthusiasts of South Asia. The first examines the adoption of sound technologies in Indian commercial cinema in the 1930s, arguing that the eventual mixed Hindustani of what we now know as Bollywood film was part of a political and social consensus-making project to forge a common language for the entirety of the subcontinent—a utopian dream which the technology of the cinema, then radically new, seemed particularly well poised to accomplish. My second project concerns postcolonial interventions of the discourses of Pan-Asianism of the early 20th century considering how artists, intellectuals, and writers from Japan, China, and the Indian subcontinent worked together and learnt from one another in the attempt to form a new Asian novel. The book manuscript that I am completing.**

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**Ritesh Mistry**

Ritesh Mistry received his PhD from the UCLA School of Public Health and completed his post-doctoral training at the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center. He is currently an Assistant Professor in the University of Michigan School of Public Health, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education. He has spent a significant amount of time and research focusing on South Asia. As such, we are very pleased to welcome him as a CSAS faculty affiliate.

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**Professor Mistry has conducted studies in the U.S. and internationally in areas of tobacco use, physical activity, food choice, and health care utilization. Among his many accomplishments, he was a recipient of a Fulbright Nehru Senior Scholar Award to study the tobacco control policies of India’s tobacco control policy and adolescent tobacco use. Professor Mistry is giving a talk on CSAS’ scholarly lecture series on January 30, 2015 at 4:00 pm (School of Social Work Building, Room 1636). The talk is titled “South Tobacco Control in India.” We look forward to the contributions he will make to the center.”**
The Global Information Engagement Program

Joyojeet Pal and Kelly Kowatch

This past summer, 19 University of Michigan students traveled to locations across India to work with farmers, community leaders, nonprofits and other civic-minded organizations to tackle information challenges and implement socially impactful solutions with wide-ranging applications. Students from the School of Information (UMSI), Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, Health Informatics program, School of Public Health, and Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning teamed up to address various issues facing Indian citizens, leading one group to help create India’s first accessible website for the disabled Indian citizens, leading one group to help create accesshub.org to address shortcomings in accessible information engagement.

GIEP project offers up-to-date disability news, a discussion board, and a Web mapping and data visualization tool with its tech team to integrate the application into the program. The website offers up-to-date disability news, a discussion forum, a localized disability service search facility, and policy information at state, territory and national levels.

The project was developed by one of six teams participating in UMSI’s inaugural Global Information Engagement Program (GIEP) (https://www.siumich.edu/global-information-exchange-program), an innovative approach to learning that brings together nonprofit, research and educational organizations to create projects addressing information problems across multiple domains.

The program is directed by Joyojeet Pal and Kelly Kowatch in the School of Information. Each GIEP project allows students to engage international communities through application development, needs assessment, product design, information management and other skills obtained while studying for graduate degrees. In addition to AccessHub, the following projects comprised GIEP’s 2014 session:

- Human Rights Advocates Connect partnered with the Alternative Law Forum in Bangalore. ALF (trac.in) includes a directory of lawyers, a legal material archive and a forum for lawyers to connect and respond to one another’s queries. These resources allow citizens to find legal professionals to aid with human rights concerns and give professionals opportunities to consult with each other and develop cases.
- Visualizing India’s Cities built reliable urban metrics for Indian settlements. Students developed a Web mapping and data visualization tool called the Indian Institute for Human Settlements and helped create a database that provides researchers access to demographic and economic data and a way to visualize the information in real time. The website is currently privately hosted, with updates posted on umsigiepurbaninformaticsportal.wordpress.com.
- Data Driven Healthcare created a tool to improve quality of care in hospitals. Students partnered with Indian healthcare providers ReWell Hospitals, QuantiFlx and Apollo. Investments to understand global data management standard applicability to Indian healthcare, and to propose modifications. More information at giepbewell.weebly.com.
- Hampi Arts Initiative surveyed, documented and architected Hampi region arts and crafts with the goal of educating the community about Hampi’s rich cultural heritage. These students collaborated with Jaaga Trust, an entrepreneurial, activist, designer and artist community in Bangalore. More information at teamhampi.weebly.com.
- Harvesting Knowledge: aided Digital Green, a New Delhi nonprofit committed to improving rural livelihoods, health and nutrition by training local farmers to facilitate discussions on agricultural techniques. Students developed a prototype to grow the organization’s training efforts and worked with its tech team to integrate the application into Web services. More information at harvestingknowledge.wordpress.com.

Multidisciplinary Action Project Sponsored by Equitas in Tamil Nadu

Karen Lewis

The Multidisciplinary Action Project (MAP) at the Ross School of Business is a critical component of the Ross MBA program. Interested first-year Ross MBA students dedicate themselves to MAP for seven weeks each spring as a requirement of the MBA core curriculum. The MAP projects selected have proven to be fantastic corporate, entrepreneurial, and nonprofit projects both domestic and internationally. The MAP projects require analytical rigor, critical thinking, teamwork, and are guided by faculty advisors.

The kinds of projects selected are examples of how Ross has built bridges between academia and the business world.

This year’s C.K. Prahalad MAP team was sponsored by Equitas. Equitas operates as one of the most efficient and fastest growing microfinance institutions in India with a goal of extending micro credit to low-income households that are under-served by mainstream banking channels. The primary objective of Equitas is to make credit products available at a reasonable cost in a transparent manner.

The MAP team’s main objective was to conduct a study to identify the financial services requirements of the base of the pyramid customers in Tamil Nadu.

In order to satisfy this objective, the MAP team formulated a structured interview questionnaire that was conducted in the urban and semi-urban areas of Tamil Nadu. From the questionnaire, the MAP team concluded that financial services must take into consideration the voice of the customer, and that major barriers to utilization of financial services included convenience, access, trust, and consumer education.

Ross School Initiatives in India

Liz Muller

In August 2014, the Ross School of Business, through a collaboration of India Initiatives and Global Initiatives, launched its first-ever short course in India, The Ross August Course in India, also known as Strategy 320: Doing Business in India, enables undergraduates from all U-M schools with an interest in Indian culture or international business development to travel to multiple cities in India for two weeks of intensive study and exploration. 22 undergraduates joined the course for August 2014.

This action-based course, led by Professor Anuradha Nagarajan, involved extensive exploration of businesses in India and a broad array of lectures, company visits, cultural visits, interactions with local alumni and students, and group projects. During the Winter 2014 semester prior to departure, students attended three required course meetings, in which they built leadership skills, established goals for their trip, gained insights into Indian culture, prepared for travel, and connected with their fellow India course teammates. Once students arrived in India, classroom instruction familiarized them with Indian cultural attitudes, economics, politics, history, and social issues. Lectures and site visits provided insights into India as both a source for talent acquisition and idea generation and as a market with a large and increasingly upwardly mobile population. Visits to government institutions, manufacturing plants, outsourcing firms, and multinational companies enabled students to see first-hand the standard practices of Indian businesses, speak directly with Indian business leaders, and learn about Indian entrepreneurial strategies to expand and succeed within a developing country.

Participants took trips to nearby cities and historic or culturally important sites. During free time, students were able to explore local shops and markets, participate in cultural events, and enjoy outdoor activities. Lastly, students were able to have interactions with students from Indian universities as well as local residents, which helped broaden their cultural understanding immensely and in a way that only total immersion can lead to.

“MAP was a fantastic experience and really the highlight of my first year at Ross. Working with a microfinance organization in India really showed the power of positive business in action. The company had a core mission for alleviating the burdens of the poor and under-banked communities. In addition to applying concepts from core classes such as statistics, finance, and strategy, this project really taught me about the power of passion and leadership in achieving a company’s vision.” – Claire Van Horn / MBA ’15

MAP TEAM: Hugh Manahan, Jenny Simonson, Shawn Tydaska, Claire Van Horn
Fardia Begum will be a second-year Ph.D. student in the Department of History. She was the recipient of a 2013-14 FLAS fellowship for Urdu, and spent this summer learning Bengali at the American Institute of Indian Studies in Kolkata, India, and visiting archives and libraries. Much of her time was spent reading the biographies, essays, and letters of the Bengali feminist, writer, and educator Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain, who opened the first school for Muslim girls in Calcutta in the early twentieth century. Fardia is currently interested in the role Hossain played in the Urdu-Bengali debates of the early twentieth century.

Jillian Gross, a Ph.D. student in the School of Social Work, received a summer FLAS fellowship to study elementary Hindi at the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s South Asian Summer Language Institute (SASLI). The group she studied with was diverse and made up of 19 students from across the country. The intensive course has given her a grounding in reading, speaking, and writing in Devanagari script. This will be of immense value to her as she engages in the study of community colleges in India.

Nishita Tripathi, a Ph.D. student in the Anthropology Department and recipient of a 2013-14 FLAS fellowship for Urdu, recently finished seven weeks of preliminary field research in Kashmir, India, where she was examining political-economic transformations caused by the on-going conflict. Nishita also spent time at the Jammi and Kashmiri Bank, her primary fieldsite, along with various indigenous business communities (shawl weavers and apple producers mainly). During this time, she also worked on her Kashmiri language skills. She will be returning to Kashmir late next year to carry out long-term dissertation research.

Sarah Cunningham, an LSA student, received a 2013-14 FLAS fellowship for Urdu this summer. She completed a Critical Languages Scholarship for Urdu study in Lucknow, India. She is now turning her attention to public health work, and is currently researching the effect of the rural-urban shift on adolescent stress levels for her undergraduate honors thesis. Sarah is currently applying to graduate schools to pursue a degree in public health, focusing on international epidemiology.

Zunaira Jilani, an LSA student, received a 2013-14 FLAS fellowship recipient for Urdu, in a senior double majoring in International Studies of Global Health and Psychology. She is currently working in a psych research lab on a project exploring the relationship between personality traits and multidimensional spirituality. This coming year she will be writing an honors thesis examining the role of different dimensions of spirituality in predicting psychological maladjustment, such as depression and anxiety, using hope as a mediator. This past year she received the Anne Rudo Memorial Award which is a $1,000 scholarship to conduct research in the field of Psychology, which she hopes to use to present research at conferences. Zunaira’s plans consist of completing the Act-Collaborated Degree Program to achieve a Bachelors in Psychology and apply to Ph.D. programs in either Public Health or Clinical Health Psychology.

Mohammad Hanif, with Furina Mi, received a 2013-14 FLAS fellowship for Urdu. He plans to graduate and hopes to go on to start a non-profit organization.
Summer in South Asia Fellows 2014

The Summer in South Asia (SISA) Fellowship Program was established in 2006 with a generous endowment from an anonymous donor. Each summer, the SISA sends select undergraduate students to India to conduct their own research projects, in conjunction with an institution—usually an NGO—in India. Including this year’s fellows, the program has now supported 56 students to go to India on projects they devise and execute.

This year we had an impressive group of 30 applicants. After a rigorous review process, a faculty selection committee chose the eight students below. Please join us on October 24, in 1636 School of Social Work Building at 4pm, for a symposium where the fellows will present their research findings.

### Summer in South Asia Fellows 2014

- **Ariazi, Alexa, Junior, LSA**
  - Lelia Shalini. The NGO arose out of the Indian feminist movement that blossomed in the early 1990s in response to the growing attention given to gendered violence such as dowry death. She analyzed how this history influences the organization’s mission and interactions with the community.

- **Bernier, Brianna, Engineering**
  - Lynda Lopez, Junior, LSA, India. Lynda worked with a youth-oriented NGO called Viva Unstoppable.
  - She worked at Viva’s headquarter in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Her primary work was under the program associate where she directly worked in the already existing partnerships with government funded schools. Through this position, she worked to supplement her social research project and senior thesis by analyzing how international NGOs operate and remain sustainable in a place with high levels of poverty.

- **Brielle, Man Kuan, LSA**
  - Working in Dharmsala, India with the environment/waste management organization Waste Warriors. Openly discarded waste is a widespread problem across India. Man Kuan learned about waste management systems that strive to reduce the social stigma attached to waste in order to improve the quality of life of those who work in the waste industry. Her main goal was to focus on waste workers in Dharmsala who make their living by picking waste and to assess how the NGO has made a difference in their lives.

- **Ceroni, Lucia, Sophomore, Nursing**
  - Brianne Labeille-Hahn, Junior, Engineering, Brianna Labeille-Hahn worked alongside BLUElab India, a multidisciplinary student organization at the University of Michigan dedicated to co-designing sustainable, appropriate technology with the communities in and around the city of Kalol in Gujarat, India. BLUElab India is focused primarily on solutions to health problems that are caused by lack of potable water.

- **Ceroni, Lucia, Sophomore, Nursing**
  - Lydita Kolaric, Junior, LSA. Lydita worked with a youth-oriented NGO called Viva Unstoppable.
  - She worked at Viva’s headquarter in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Her primary work was under the program associate where she directly worked in the already existing partnerships with government funded schools. Through this position, she worked to supplement her social research project and senior thesis by analyzing how international NGOs operate and remain sustainable in a place with high levels of poverty.

- **Ceroni, Lucia, Sophomore, Nursing**
  - Emily Preus, Junior, LSA. Emily worked with Jeevika Development Society for approximately eight weeks, in Kolkata, India. Jeevika is an organization dedicated to furthering women’s rights—particularly the rights of women in poverty—through research and the provision of resources. She collaborated with Jeevika to run a survey about the marriage of young girls in India and investigated the ties between these marriages and the stigma of female sexuality. The survey was conducted within the communities outside of Kolkata that Jeevika works closely with.

### Upcoming CSAS Events

- **September 19, 2014**
  - Mary John, Senior Fellow, Center For Women’s Development Studies “Feminist Trajectories in the History of Thought: Perspectives from India” 4:00 pm • Room 1644
  - School of Social Work Building

- **September 24, 2014**
  - Daisy Rockwell, writer and artist "Translation, Bilingualism and Hinglish" 3:00 pm • Room 1636
  - School of Social Work Building

- **October 3, 2014**
  - Arvind Rajagopal, Professor of Media and Communication, New York University “Cold War Communication and the Cold War: An Indian History of a Global Form” 4:00 pm • Room 1636
  - School of Social Work Building

- **October 7, 2014**
  - Anundhati Roy, writer and political activist “The Half Life of Care” The Jean Yikes Woodhead Lecture 5:00 pm • Rackham Amphitheatre (fourth floor), 915 E. Washington St. Co-sponsored by the Institute for the Humanities

- **October 24, 2014**
  - Richard Wolf, Professor of Music and South Asian Studies, Harvard University “The Voice in the Drum: South Asian Musicology” 4:00 pm • Room 1636
  - School of Social Work Building

- **November 14, 2014**
  - Hisham Dadi, Associate Professor of Art History and Visual Studies; and of Art, Cornell University “Urdia Cinema During the 1940s and 50s” 4:00 pm • Room 1644
  - School of Social Work Building

- **February 9, 2015**
  - Vikram Chandra, writer “Geekam Sublime”, The Marc and Constance Jacobson Lecture 5:00 pm • Rackham Amphitheatre (fourth floor), 915 E. Washington St. Co-sponsored by the Institute for the Humanities

- **March 13, 2015**
  - Vinay Gidwani, Associate Professor of Geography, University of Minnesota “The Work of Waste: Inside Urban India’s Infra-Economy” 4:00 pm • Room 1636
  - School of Social Work Building

- **April 3, 2015**
  - U-M Pakistan Conference Room 1636 School of Social Work Building

All events are free and open to the public. A complete and updated list can be found on our website, www.umichcsas.com.
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