2011 Best Photo in South Asia
Office of International Programs Photo Contest
SAI Sponsored Prize

Woman in Red Sari
Sophia Angelis, 2013

Sophia participated in a SAI sponsored internship at the Bandra East Community Center in Mumbai, India during the summer of 2011.
Dear Friends,

Since its inception in 2003, Harvard’s South Asia Initiative (SAI) has sought to catalyze intellectual exchange among faculty and students in different parts of Harvard, and between the University and the South Asia region. Thanks to a growing sense of community, I am happy to report several significant achievements during this past academic year.

While Harvard’s engagement in South Asia goes back almost a century, Harvard has only recently broadened its intellectual reach to embrace several areas of contemporary and interdisciplinary interest, without losing sight of the importance of culture, tradition and history. Senior faculty from across the University currently head efforts in Water, Urbanization, and Social Enterprise, for example. Each of these efforts is comprised of seminar series drawing on University-wide and regional expertise, staged in Cambridge, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. SAI also sponsors a seminar ‘deep dive’ into Pakistan. Finally, the South Asia without Borders series is an umbrella effort dedicated to the scholarship in the Arts, Humanities and the interpretive Social Sciences.

Most recently we have added a series of roundtables on Health and Medicine, featuring researchers from Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard Kennedy School and Harvard Business School. In general, the governance structure of SAI is such that it will endeavor to be responsive to embrace demand from the Harvard community. Equally, we will create a mechanism to ensure that series that have outlived their usefulness will be retired. This, we feel, will guarantee dynamism over the years.

The number of students at Harvard studying the South Asian region is growing each year. These students hunger for an understanding of its culture, economy and development trends. It is worth emphasizing that our regional presence in Bangladesh, India and Pakistan is an important component of our strategy. The ‘feet on the street,’ as it were, allows us to build links with numerous important institutions in the region, and to facilitate productive exchange between Harvard citizens and those of the region. The combination of regional and on-the-ground work distinguishes SAI from numerous other India or South Asia focused US University efforts.

The number of students at Harvard studying the South Asian region is growing each year. These students hunger for an understanding of its culture, economy and development trends. This year, SAI supported 58 students in enriching their academic experience with field work in South Asia through internships, independent projects and volunteer work, up from 45 in 2011. SAI also funded seven faculty members to travel to the region for their research. The new and unique university-wide course, “Contemporary South Asia: A Survey of Intractable Problems and Innovative Solutions” which I taught last fall, focused on South Asia’s long term problems and their possible entrepreneurial solutions. The course attracted just shy of fifty undergraduate and graduate students from across the University and MIT. Interdisciplinary teams of students worked on projects that addressed some aspect of an important social problem in South Asia, for example pioneering markets for educational loans in India and Pakistan, and creating mobile technology-enabled libraries to help bring literacy to non-urban South Asian populations.

The Omalkar Foundation has provided a grant to the latter team, as well as to a team building low cost surgical implants for use in South Asia and the developing world, a validation of the practical value of such efforts. The team, anchored by School of Engineering and Applied Sciences Professor Conor Walsh at the Walsh laboratory, includes students from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS), Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) and Harvard Business School (HBS).

Harvard displayed heightened interest in South Asia this year, as President Drew Faust and Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) Dean Julio Frenk visited India and met with relevant stakeholders from the region. President Faust’s inaugural visit to Mumbai and Delhi was a landmark event in strengthening ties between Harvard and India. The President also met with the Indian Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh. At the University of Mumbai, she spoke about the challenges of higher education in a rapidly growing country and the significance of liberal education. She also attended the SAI Education Symposium. Held in New Delhi, the Symposium brought together experts from Harvard, Delhi University, BRAC University (Dhaka), Shiv Nadar University (Uttar Pradesh, India), and the Independent University of Bangladesh, to discuss innovative ways to enhance quality and access to universal education.

Later in the year, Dean Julio Frenk met with the Government of India Planning Commission’s high level expert group on universal health coverage and highlighted the significance of private healthcare in India. Last September, SAI was honored to host the eleventh Indian President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam for the Annual Mahindra Lecture Empowering A Billion, where he addressed the world’s most pressing development challenge, and called for ways in which creative leadership can help empower the world’s disenchanted.

Recently, SAI was reviewed by an external panel of eminent academic experts. This invaluable assessment confirmed that we were on a promising trajectory. To my mind, this confirms that a University wide community is being built. Equally, it afforded us a look at areas in which we can improve. With the support of the Provost’s office, we are speedily moving towards these goals.

This month, our annual symposium focuses on Health in South Asia. Over two packed days, we are bringing together faculty across Harvard – HMS and HSPH of course, given the topic, and also HKS, HBS, FAS and MIT – and policy makers from South Asia. A range of health issues facing marginalized populations to modern technological solutions to health problems developed by academics and entrepreneurs, to talk by Partners-in-Health cofounder Dr. Paul Farmer and Bangalore’s pediatric cardiac surgeon Dr. Devi Shetty.

As an indication of the vibrant nature of discourse on campus, immediately prior to this event will be an exploration of diplomacy and entrepreneurship in turbulent times in Pakistan, and running in parallel will be an event for US high school teachers interested in teaching about India. SAI’s support of the latter represents the kind of outreach that is of increasing interest to the Harvard community.

In our task of engaging faculty and students to deepen the teaching and research on global issues relevant to South Asia, SAI is grateful for the support and guidance of its Steering Committee, the Founder’s Club members – a group of philanthropists who support SAI’s efforts – the broader community at Harvard and alumni and partners in the region. Earlier this month, we were privileged to announce the addition of a new Founders Club member, Mr. Arif Naqvi, Founder and CEO of Abraaj Capital in Dubai.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize the sterling efforts of the SAI team. They – Associate Director Meena Hewett and her team in Cambridge, Mumbai, Lahore and Dhaka – have launched us on an exciting journey of community building. SAI remains committed to enriching the intellectual experiences among students who study South Asia at Harvard and connecting the University with the region.

Regards,
Tishna Khanna
Director, South Asia Initiative
Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, Harvard Business School
ABOVE US
MISSION
The South Asia Initiative (SAI) at Harvard University engages faculty and students through interdisciplinary programs to advance and deepen the teaching and research on global issues relevant to South Asia.

GOALS
As a catalyst and bridge between faculty and students at Harvard and experts from the region, the South Asia Initiative’s goals are to:

• Facilitate scholarly exchanges among Harvard faculty and students, international South Asia specialists, visiting academics, and public figures from South Asia.
• Sponsor lectures and conferences at Harvard and in the region by distinguished academic, governmental, and business leaders whose work contributes to a better understanding of the challenges facing South Asia.
• Support Harvard students with grants for language study, research, and internships in South Asia.
• Build a community of stakeholders committed to building scholarship on South Asia at Harvard and in-region.

ADMINISTRATION
Tarun Khanna, Director of South Asia Initiative and Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, Harvard Business School
Meena Sonea Hewett, Associate Director
Nora Maginn, Staff Assistant
Namrata Arora, Associate Director, SAI India Office
Muhammad Ali, Program Coordinator, SAI Pakistan Office
Maria May, Program Coordinator, SAI Bangladesh Office

FOUNDBERS CLUB
Syed Babar Ali, AMP ’73
Jo Froman and Mark Fuller, AB ’75, MBA ’78, JD ’79
Meera and Vikram Gandhi, MBA ’89, ExEx ’00
Mala Haarrman, AB’91, MBA
Arif Naqui
Amuradh and Anand Mahindra, AB’77, MBA ’81
Karen Mehra, AB ’82 and Sanjeev Mehra, AB’82, MBA ’86
Victor Menezes
Nirva and Pareesh Patel, MBA ’00
Dalip Pathak
Anupa and Rajiv Sahney
Sribala Subramanian and Arvind Raghunathan
Parul and Gaurav Swarup, MBA ’80
Arshad Zakaria, AB’85, MBA ’87

STEERING COMMITTEE
David Bloom, Clarence James Gamble Professor of Economics and Demography, Harvard School of Public Health
Jennifer Leaning, FXB Professor of the Practice of Health and Human Rights, Harvard School of Public Health, Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School
John Briscoe, Professor of the Practice of Environmental Health, Harvard School of Public Health; Gordon McKay Professor of the Practice of Environmental Engineering, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
Rahul Mehrotra, Professor of Urban Planning and Design, Chair of the Department of Urban Planning and Design, Graduate School of Design
Nicholas Burns, Professor of the Practice of Diplomacy and International Politics, Harvard Kennedy School
Venkatesh Narayanamurti, John A. and Elizabeth S. Armstrong Professor of Engineering and Applied Sciences and Professor of Physics, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Director of the Science, Technology and Public Policy Program at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School
Diana Eck, Professor of Comparative Religion and Indian Studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Member of the Faculty of Divinity, Harvard Divinity School
Rohini Pande, Mohammed Kamal Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School
Tarun Khanna, Director of the South Asia Initiative; Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, Harvard Business School
Parimal G. Patil, Professor of Religion and Indian Philosophy, Chair of the Department of South Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Asim Khwaja, Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School
Diana Sorensen, Faculty of Arts and Sciences Dean of Humanities; James F. Rothenberg Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures, Professor of Comparative Literature, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
William Kirby, Spangler Family Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School; T.M. Chang Professor of China Studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
HIGHLIGHTS OF 2011-2012

SUMMER 2011

The Dialogue on Education Reform in Pakistan event, co-sponsored by SAI, the Education Support Program of the Open Society Foundation, Pakistan Office; the Institute for Development and Economic Alternatives (IDEAS); Pakistan, the Center for Economic Research, Pakistan, is spearheaded by Aamir Khanwaja, HLS, and Ali Cheema, Fullbright Fellow at HKS and LUMS faculty.

Over 300 past, present, and future students from across Harvard's campuses attend the One Harvard, Young Harvard event in Mumbai to discuss issues relevant to studying at Harvard.

Seven Harvard faculty meet to discuss salient issues that relate to healthcare and medicine in South Asia in August of 2011. Professors from Harvard School of Public Health, meet with World Bank Institute representatives to brainstorm ideas for a global inclusive innovation event to be held in the near future.

SAI organizes a learning tour from September 21 to 23 for a delegation from the state of Maharashtra, including Dr. Rajendra Tope, Minister for Higher and Technical Education and Rangan Verulkar, the Vice Chancellor of Mumbair University.

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, 11th President of India, delivers the annual Harish C. Mahindra Lecture on September 27. Dr. Kalam also participates in an event at the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and a student-led event at the Harvard Law School.

35 Students gather at the SAI Internship Open House in October to learn about the SAI Internship and Grant Programs. Past participants present on their experiences in the region.

In November, SAI and the Harvard President’s Office bring together 50 students from across the University to meet with Professor Drew Gilpin Faust in preparation for her trip to India in January, 2012.

SAI serves as the Administrative unit of the Harvard Pakistan Student Group, one of the first university-wide student organizations. Maria May, located in Dhaka, joins SAI as a coordinator to increase our presence in Bangladesh.

FALL 2011

SAI hosts a delegation from the city of Bangalore, India, during Summer 2011.

SAI’s Annual Conference "War on Poverty" is held on topics related to Global Health, Pakistan, Social Enterprise, South Asia Without Borders, Urbanization, and Water & Climate Change.

A half day discussion is held on Examining the Preservation and Sustainability of Myanmar’s Resources, with experts from Harvard, Johns Hopkins, and Tsitsi discussion what’s next for Myanmar.

WINTER 2012

Harvard goes to India in January, as Harvard President Drew Gilpin Faust embarks on her first trip to the region. Four Harvard faculty travel to India and participate in SAI’s Conference Higher Education in South Asia: Enhancing Quality and Access with Innovative Solutions, held in New Delhi, in January.

In January, a SAI partnered Harvard alumni event is held in Dhaka, Bangladesh. SAI staff and affiliate students are present along with an audience of 75 alumni and friends of SAI.

12 Harvard faculty, from Harvard Business School, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Harvard Kennedy School, and Harvard School of Public Health, join 18 faculty from around the region to discuss problems and solutions related to health.

SPRING 2012

The SAI Seminar Series concludes for the academic year. 34 Fall & Spring Seminar Series events were held on topics related to Global Health, Pakistan, Social Enterprise, South Asia Without Borders, Urbanization, and Water & Climate Change.

A joint event by the Council on Foreign Relations and SAI on Innovation in India: Prospects for the Future and Opportunities for America is held in New York, featuring Tarun Khanna and Natarajan Chandrasekar, CEO of Tata Consultancy Services.

18 faculty across Harvard schools and representatives from the World Bank Institute meet to discuss five country Summit on Inclusive Innovation in summer 2012.

SAI by the Numbers

712 students and Harvard community members have attended the South Asia Initiative 2011-2012 seminar series events this academic year.

500 people attended the three events with Dr. Abdul Kalam, 11th President of India, on September 27 and 28.

58 students received funding from SAI this year to participate in internships and conduct research on or about the South Asia region.

34 Seminar Series events were held on topics related to Global Health, Pakistan, Social Enterprise, South Asia Without Borders, Urbanization, and Water & Climate Change.

16 student groups across Harvard’s schools focus on South Asia. SAI is the administrative unit for the Harvard Pakistan Student Group, a university wide endeavor.

7 Harvard faculty members received funding from SAI to conduct research in or about the region.

3 major conferences or symposiums were held this year, including the annual Mahindra Lecture, a Higher Education in South Asia conference held in Delhi, and a Health in South Asia Symposium held at Harvard in April.
Friday, October 7, 2011
Public Health Response to the Epidemic of Non-Communicable Diseases in South Asia
Seetha Reddy, Director of the Public Health Foundation of India and a Professor at the Harvard School of Public Health
Chaired by Richard Cash, Senior Lecturer on Global Health, Harvard School of Public Health

Tuesday, October 18, 2011
Project Prakash: Combining Service and Science
India is home to nearly 30% of the entire blind population of the world. Many of India’s blind are children with congenital anomalies of the eye. In one study, 50% of these cases, the blindness is treatable or preventable. However, most children never receive medical attention. The challenges of poverty, compounded by the visual handicap, exact a grim toll. Project Prakash seeks to address this need. In conjunction with collaborating with hospitals, the Project has launched outreach initiatives that screen children in villages and identify those whose blindness can be treated. To date, over 700 children have been screened.
Pawan Sinha, Professor, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, MIT
Chaired by Venkatesh Murthy, Professor of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Harvard University

Tuesday, December 6, 2011
Obesity and Health in South Asia: Discussion on Strategies to Prevent Diabetes and Cancer
Robert Paulberg, Adjunct Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School; Betty Frohfyf Johnson Professor of Political Science, Wellesley College
Walter Willett, Fredrick John Senior Lecturer of Epidemiology and Nutrition; Chair, Department of Nutrition, Harvard School of Public Health
Chaired by Aditi Hazra, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School

Tuesday, March 6, 2012
Linked Lives: Intergenerational Influences on Health
S.V. Subramanian, Professor of Population Health and Geography, Harvard School of Public Health
Chaired by Christopher Duggan, Associate Professor, Department of Nutrition, Harvard School of Public Health

Tuesday, March 13, 2012
Demystifying Pakistan
Saadia Toor’s scholarship revolves around issues of culture, nationalism, gender, sexuality, state formation, and international political economy. Her recent book, entitled The State of Islam: Culture and Cold War Politics in Pakistan, tells the story of the Pakistani nation-state through the lens of the Cold War, and more recently the War on Terror, in order to shed light on the domestic and international processes behind the rise of militant Islam across the world.
Saadia Toor, Associate Professor of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work, College of Staten Island, The City University of New York
Co-sponsored with the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard University

Tuesday, April 11, 2012
Challenges of Newborn Hypothermia in South Asia
Luke C. Mullany, Associate Professor, Department of International Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Karsten Lunze, Senior Fellow, Primary Care Academic Fellowship Program, Boston University School of Medicine
Naganand Murty, Co-Founder and President, Embrace
Kristian R Olson, Clinician Educator Service, MGH Associate Director
Co-sponsored with the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard University

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Saadia Toor, Associate Professor of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work, College of Staten Island, The City University of New York
Chaired by Diane L. Moore, Senior Lecturer in Religious Studies and Senior Fellow at the Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard Divinity School
Co-sponsored with the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard University

Wednesday, October 5, 2011
Progressives and ‘Perverts’: Partition Stories and Pakistan’s Future
Kamran Asad Ali, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology
University of Texas at Austin
Chaired by Shahab Ahmed, Associate Professor of Islamic Studies, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University
Co-sponsored with the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard University

Monday, November 14, 2011
Environmental History and the Creation of Pakistan
David Gillmartin, Professor, Department of History, North Carolina State University
Chaired by Ali Asani, Professor of Indo-Muslim and Islamic Religion and Culture, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University
Co-sponsored with the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard University

Monday, March 19, 2012
Thinking with the Heart: A Language of Justice after the 1971 War of Bangladesh
Vazira Zamindar, Harris-Nickachos Chair in Peace Studies, Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict, Professor of History in the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, Arizona State University
Chaired by Asad Ahmed, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard University

Monday, December 6, 2011
Fitness across several schools at Harvard lead the SAI Seminar Series, which support cross-boundary inquiry through issue-based tracks. The goal of these events are to broaden and deepen scholarship in the areas of Global Health, Pakistan, Social Enterprise, South Asia without Borders, Urbanization, and Water & Climate Change. SAI has had several book talk events. Additionally, SAI has held several film screenings covering critical issues of South Asia.
URBANIZATION

Friday, November 18, 2011
A Strategic Basin Assessment of the Ganges: New Insights into an Old Basin
N. Harishchandra Rao, Senior Environmental Specialist, The World Bank
Chaired by John Briscoe, Gordon McKay Professor of the Practice of Environmental Engineering, SEAS

WATER AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Tuesday, September 27, 2011
Annual Mahindra Lecture 2012: Empowering Three Billion
The 2011 Annual Harish C. Mahindra Lecture was delivered by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, 11th President of India. His lecture entitled “Empowering Three Billion” focused on Dr. Kalam’s vision for India by 2020. Dr. Kalam visited and public engagement was well-attended with auditors filled to capacity, requiring use of overflow space.

CONFERENCE AND SPECIAL EVENTS

July 15 and 16, 2011, Harvard University
Dialogue on Education Reform in Pakistan
This event brought together over 30 academics, civil servants, politicians, journalists, and representatives from civil society, private sector, and donor agencies to seek ways of operationalising the “Right to Education Act.”

Thursday, September 21, 2011

BOOK TALKS AND FILM EVENTS

Monday, October 24, 2011
Dead Reckoning: Memories of the 1971 Bangladesh War, Sarmila Bose
Chaired by Richard Cash, Senior Lecturer on Global Health, Department of Global Health and Population, Harvard School of Public Health
Comments by Dina Mahmud Siddiqi, Visiting Associate Professor, Women and Gender Studies Program, Hunter College, CUNY

Thursday, November 3, 2011
Special Film Event
Meher Jaan: A Story about Loving the Other
Rubaiyat Hossain, Film Director
Jyoti Pilu, Professor of Sociology, Simmons College
Rakshanda Saleem, Assistant Professor of Counseling and Psychology, Lesley University
Elena Choobary, Associate Professor Women’s Studies, UMass Boston
Co-sponsored by Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights and UMass Boston; and the CARR Center for Human Rights Policy, HKS

Friday, April 13, 2012
India: A Portrait, Patrick French
Chaired by Tarun Khanna, Director of SAL & Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, Harvard Business School

FACULTY GRANTS

The South Asia Initiative funds research and travel grants for Harvard University Faculty working in fields related to South Asia. The purpose of these grants is to promote South Asian studies across the university and to stimulate disciplinary and interdisciplinary research.

Asad Ahmad, Assistant Professor, Social Anthropology Program, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Research project on the Pakistan People’s Party

Jackie Bhabha, Executive Director, Harvard University Committee on Human Rights Studies, Jeremiah Smith, Jr. Lecturer on Law, Harvard Law School; Director of Research, FKB Center for Health and Human Rights, Harvard School of Public Health
Identifying critical success factors that have enabled 1200 girls from socioeconomically and educationally deprived backgrounds in India to successfully pursue tertiary education.

Richard Delacy, Preceptor in Hindi and Urdu, Department of South Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Production and reception of vernacular literature in Hindi in South Asia in the post-liberalization period

David Jones, A. Bernard Ackerman Professor of the Culture of Medicine, A. Bernard Ackerman Professor of the Culture of Medicine, Department of the History of Science, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Health Policy for an Anticipated Epidemic: The History of Cardiovascular Health Policy in India

Rahul Mehrotra, Professor of Urban Design and Planning and Chair of the Department of Urban Planning and Design, Harvard Graduate School of Design
Graduate School of Design Urban India Lab, Urban India Atlas Project

Mark Tushnet, William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Law, Harvard Law School
Funding for Conference on “Constitutional Development, Economic Change, and Democratic Stresses in South Asia” at Harvard University

Richard Wolf, Professor of Music and Ethnomusicology, Department of Music, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Investigating music-language relationships in the performance of Tiqiq, Kyrra, and Xalhí bardic on their long-necked lutes
The South Asia Initiative engages with students from across all schools at Harvard in a myriad of ways, including sponsoring student seminar events, funding student internships and research, and serving as a connector for the 16 student groups at Harvard that focus on South Asia.

**STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

- Dharma: Hindu Student Association, Harvard College
- Harvard Bhangra, Harvard College
- Harvard College in Asia Program, Harvard College
- Harvard India Student Group, University Wide
- Harvard Pakistan Student Group, University Wide
- Harvard Sangat, Harvard College
- Harvard South Asian Association, Harvard College
- South Asia Student Association, HGSE
- India Caucus, HLS
- South Asia Caucus, HKS
- South Asia Law Students Association, HLS
- South Asian Student Association, HSPH
- India GSD, GSD
- South Asia Men's Collective, Harvard College
- South Asian Dance Company, Harvard College
- Harvard South Asia Student Association
- Harvard College
- Harvard South Asian Association, Harvard College
- Harvard Pakistan Student Group, University Wide
- Harvard Bhangra, Harvard College
- Students at the SAI Student Group Mixer

**STUDENT SEMINARS**

- **Wednesday, September 28, 2011**
  **Leadership, Youth & Global Engagement: Insights from India’s 11th President**
  Distinguished Guest, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, 11th President of India
  Chaired by Prerna Singh, Associate Professor of Government, Harvard University
  Co-sponsored with the Program on the Legal Profession, Harvard Law School, the South Asia Business Association, South Asia Association, the Harvard India Student Group, and the Harvard Pakistan Student Group

**SPONSORED CULTURAL EVENTS**

- **Tuesday, September 20, 2011**
  **Welcome Back to School, Samosas, Social and Film Screening of “I am Kalam”**
  Organized by the Harvard Pakistan Student Group
  Serving as the administrative unit to the Harvard Pakistan Student Group, SAI meets frequently with the group’s leadership to coordinate events relevant for students both from the region and those whose areas of interest and research draw them to Pakistan. SAI has been able to reach a broad community through this partnership with HPSG in focusing on providing both a social and academic resource for students at Harvard.

- **Friday, October 28, 2011**
  **Diwali Celebration**
  Organized by the Harvard India Student Group

**CO-SPONSORED STUDENT EVENTS**

- **November 8, 2011**
  **A Student Conversation on Pakistan with Professor Roberto Mangabeira Unger**
  This conversation was structured around the basic development strategy of Pakistan, the desirable institutional model, political as well as economic, that would support this strategy and be supported by it, the educational imperative and how to address it, Pakistani position in the world in particular, its relation to the United States, India, and China.

- **January 15-22, 2012**
  **2012 Harvard Conference: Technology and Social Justice**
  Harvard College in Asia Program
  Friday March 2, 2012
  **The New Vote: Women and Youth in Pakistan’s Political Future**
  Fauzia Kasuri is a founding member and Women’s Wing president of the political party Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf [Justice Movement] Shireen Kumar ‘11 HKS, and Asad Ahmed, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Harvard University
  Co-sponsored by the Harvard Women’s Law Association, the South Asian Law Students Association, the HKS Pakistan Caucus, the Harvard College Pakistan Student Association and the Harvard Pakistan Student Group
  March 24-25, 2012
  **Harvard India Conference India: The Next Frontier**
  Key Note Speakers include:
  Vijay Amritraj, Sports star and Philanthropist
  Bharat Desai, Chairman, Syntel Inc.
  Abhinav Deo, Director, Delhi Belly
  Ritchie Siddhwa, Producer, Zindagi Na Milega Dobara
  Sponsored by the South Asia Business Association
  Wednesday, April 4, 2012
  **Jari Mari: of cloth and other stories**
  Directed by Surabhi Sharma
  Film Screening of Q & A with the film director
  Co-sponsored with the Harvard Divinity School South Asia Student Group
SAI offers research and internship grants to graduate and undergraduate Harvard students. This year, SAI partnered with 34 in-region organizations to offer internships in fields of development, education, healthcare, government and legislation among others.

Undergraduate Student Research Grants

Angela Frankel, ’14, Bangalore, India, Summer School Study Abroad in Bangalore
Kathleen Goodwin, ’13, New Delhi, India, Senior thesis research project: An ethnography of the survivors of the 1983 Delhi Riots
Radhika Jain, ’14, New Delhi and Kolkata, India, Shots for Shote: Vaccinates Children in India
Sivakumar Sundaram, ’13, Chennai, India, Research on mental healthcare in Chennai, tentative affiliation with The Banyan, an NGO involved with mental health
Tara Suri, ’13, Kolkata and Sangli, India, How U.S. HIV/AIDS legislation has impacted India’s prostitutes’ health and rights

Undergraduate Student Internship Grants

Vishal Arora, New Delhi, India, Asia
Owen Aman, Islamabad, Pakistan, Pakistan Poverty Alliatiion Fund
Rohit Chaki, Gangtok, India, Taktsie International School
Sarah Choudhury, Dhaka, Bangladesh, BRAC and International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research
Louis Cid, New Delhi, India, Center for Study of Developing Societies
Virginia Fahs, Mumbai, India, Society for Promotion of Area Resource Centers
Sophia LaJaunie, Gangtok, India, Taktsie International School
Jenna Louie, Ahmadabad, India, YUVA Unstoppable
Rena Mei, Mumbai, India, St. Jude Child Care
Nishin Nathwani, New Delhi, India, Project Dharma
Grace O’Neale, Bulandshahr, India, Vidyasayan, Shiv Nadar Foundation
Shalini Pammal, Bangalore, India, Samhita Academy
Kathleen Pierre, New Delhi, India, Parliamentary Research Services (Harvard Institute of Politics Funded Internship)
Allison Rosenberg, New Delhi, India, Tata Energy and Resources Institute
Annie Ryu, Chikkamagalur and Bharananganam, India, Parivarthan
Jordan Sussex, Mumbai and Chennai, India, Colombo and Batticaloa, Sri Lanka, Foundations for Joy
Maria Shen, Colombo, Sri Lanka, Foundations for Joy
Muhammad Hassan Taahir, Lahore, Pakistan, Valley Irrigation International
Jeannier Tse, Almedabad, India, Friends of Women World Banking

In October, students were invited to the SAI Internship Open House to hear about research and internship experiences from past grant recipients.

Sri Lanka, Foundations for Joy

Student

Total Number of Student Grants:

Undergraduate Internship Grants 19
Graduate Research Grants 5
Graduate Internship Grants 6
Graduate Student Associates 7
Omidyar Recipients 7

Total Grant Amount: $150,133

Graduate Student Research Grants

Charles Carstens, Study of Religion, GSAS
Supotra Das Gupta, Study of Religion, GSAS
Adhore Dunyapala, Buddhism Studies, HDS
Mahmuz Islam, Public Policy, GSAS
Caroline James, Architecture, GSAS
Ambika Kamath, Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, GSAS
Ateya Khorakwila, Architecture, Landscape, and Urbanism, GSAS
Iam MacCormack, Study of Religion, GSAS
Daniel Majchrowicz, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, GSAS
Tyler Neill, South Asian Studies, GSAS
James Reich, Study of Religion, GSAS
Anitha Sivasankaran, Economics, GSAS
Stephanie Spray, Anthropology, GSAS
Gihanadu Surendran, History, GSAS
Naseem Surhio, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, GSAS
Anand Vaidya, Social Anthropology, GSAS

Graduate Student Internship Grants

Sumona Chakravarty, Art Design and the Public Domain, GSAS, India
Jared Katzoff, Urban Planning and Business Administration, GSAS, IIMR Research Foundation
Madhav Khosla, Government, GSAS, Centre for Public Research
Sujoyini Mandal, Public Policy, HKS, Integrated Child Development Services
Daniel McMann, Johns Doctorate, HLS, Supreme Court of Pakistan

Special Grants

Prasad Fellows

The following undergraduate students were awarded grants through the Chandni and Mukesh Prasad ’93 Gift to interns for research and internships related to non-profit development:
Louis Cid, 2014
Virginia Fahs, 2014
Sophia LaJaunie, 2014
Jenna Louie, 2014
Rena Mei, 2013
Grace O’Neale, 2014
Jeannier Tse, 2014

The following undergraduate students were funded through the Asia Center grant William H. Overholt ’68 Undergraduate Research Fund in Honor of Ezra F. Vogel, which is awarded through the South Asia Initia-

Kathleen Goodwin, 2013
Radhika Jain, 2014
Rohit Chaki, 2014
Sarah Choudhury, 2013

SAI partnered with 34 in-region organizations to offer internships in fields of development, education, healthcare, government and legislation among others.

VidyaGyan, Shiv Nadar Foundation
Bulandshahr, India,

2013

Graduate Research Grants 16
Graduate Internship Grants 6
Graduate Student Associates 6
Omidyar Recipients 7

SAI partnered with 34 in-region organizations to offer internships in fields of development, education, healthcare, government and legislation among others.

Shots for Shots: Vaccinates Children in India

2013

2014

2014

2014

2014

2013

2014

2014

2014

2014

2013

2014

2013

2013

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OMIDYAR GRANT FOR INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

Student groups of three or more Harvard students were invited to apply for the “Innovative Solutions” grant, made possible by the Omidyar Network Fund, to pursue projects developed in collaboration with but not limited to the Fall 2011 survey course Contemporary South Asia: A Survey of Intractable Problems and Innovative Solutions, taught by SAI Director, Tarun Khanna.

Awarded projects:

GIFT Global Innovation for Translation, Grant Award $18,000
The goal of this project is to establish an incubator organization that supports Harvard students from different schools to undertake a multidisciplinary collaboration focused on innovating in the area of medical technologies relevant to South Asia and ultimately expand to include other global markets. A pilot program this summer will involve three to four students going to Bangalore, India with the focus for the 3 months being on identifying and screening needs. A subset of the needs will then be fed back into E227 Medical Device Design Class and the BioDesign Lab at Harvard for product realization. Apart from having the potential to initiate research and design projects with the potential to improve the quality of life of people in the region, the program will also provide a unique educational experience for the students, by training them in the area of medical technology innovation in emerging economies.

MOBILIZE!, Grant Award $20,000
MOBILIZE! is a digital, mobile library in India. Starting in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh, MOBILIZE! Digital Library Vehicles will implement services throughout rural India to support education. Given the current inequality of education in India, the need for change is unquestionable. We will provide this change by harnessing the best materials and practices to increase and equalize access to education.

Group Members:
Nisha Deolalikar, Undergraduate Student, Harvard College
Karlie Fox-Knudtsen, Masters Student, GSAS
Jenna Louie, Undergraduate Student, Harvard College
Viroopa Volla, Undergraduate Student, Harvard College
Faculty Advisor: Tarun Khanna, Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor, Harvard Business School

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

The goal of the SAI Graduate Student Associates is to establish a community of peers and support original and independent research in South Asia. The GSA program is headed by Parimal Patil, Professor of Religion and Indian Philosophy, Chair of the Department of South Asian Studies, and SAI Steering Committee member.

2011-2012 GSAs participated in monthly workshops in which they each presented their thesis research, had the opportunity to meet with SAI affiliated faculty, and organized an end of year conference to showcase their research.

2011 – 2012 Graduate Student Associates
Sai Balakrishnan, Urban Planning, GSD
Namita Vijay Dharia, Department of Anthropology, FAS
Sadaf Jaffer, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, FAS
Bilal Malik, Culture, Communities and Education, HGSE
Shankar Nair, Study of Religion, FAS
Harpreet Singh, Committee on the Study of Religion, HGSE
Namita Wahi, Doctorate of Juridical Sciences, HLS

The duties of a SAI Graduate Student Associate include:
- Mentoring undergraduate students in areas of South Asian studies
- Contributing to the Harvard University community by presenting research through a workshop, lecture, or event
- Interviewing future applicants to the SAI Graduate Student Associate Program
- Organizing a mini workshop at Harvard with students from peer institutions

Current and future GSAs Namita Wahi and Mariam Chughtai at a SAI event.

2012-2013 Graduate Student Associates
Mariam Chughtai, Education Policy, Leadership, and Instructional Practice, HGSE
Bridget Hanna, Anthropology, GSAS
Bilal Malik, Culture, Communities and Education, HGSE
Benjamin Siegel, History, GSAS
Anand Vaidya, Social Anthropology, GSAS
Namita Wahi, Doctorate of Juridical Sciences, HLS

2011-12 GSA, Harpreet Singh

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Current and future GSAs Namita Wahi and Mariam Chughtai at a SAI event.
In Region

BANGLADESH

January, 2012

SAI in Bangladesh

Meena Hewett, Associate Director of SAI, along with Maria May, SAI’s Coordinator in Bangladesh, held several meetings during January, 2012, including meeting with Kamal Quadri, CEO of BKash, Bangladesh’s first mobile money company, as well as BRAC’s Education Program, which operates the largest non-profit school system in the world, with 1.2 million students enrolled. Meena also met with Richard Cash, Senior Lecturer at Harvard School of Public Health and visiting professor at the BRAC School of Public Health, and the Public Health Foundation of India, and Jon Rodhe, a development expert who has worked in Bangladesh for several decades.

January 20, 2012

Harvard Alumni Club Event

Independent University of Bangladesh, Dhaka

At an event organized by Omar Rahman at the Independent University of Bangladesh, Meena Hewett presented the work of SAI to a group of Harvard alumni and Bangladesh dignitaries. Dr. Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury, RI Bikram, Advisor to the Honourable Prime Minister, was the guest of honor. Professor Richard Cash, HSPH, was also on hand to speak about Harvard and its role in the research work being done in Bangladesh.

March, 2012

Harvard Alumni Event

Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhaka

In early March, members of Dhaka’s Harvard community met at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka. Shazad Hosen Khan, an emerging Bengali artist, was present to discuss his work on exhibition. Attendees included Ferdous Begum, former Director General for Bangladesh TV and several alumni working in development.

INDIA

August 5, 2011

One Harvard, Young Harvard Alumni Event

India Habitat Center, Delhi

Supported by the Harvard Club of India, the South Asia Initiative, and the Harvard India Student Group.

Over 100 past, present, and future students from across Harvard campuses were in attendance. Students from both the undergraduate and graduate schools, representing 12 Harvard schools in total, came together to discuss issues relevant to studying at Harvard.

August 3, 2011

Landscape Of Pluralism: An Illustrated Lecture on Architecture in India Since 1990

National Centre for Performing Arts, Mumbai

Rahul Mehrotra, Chair of Urban Planning and Design at Harvard Graduate School of Design and SAI Stirling Committee member, launched his book Architecture in India Since 1990 at an event co-sponsored by SAI and the Asia Society, in partnership with the National Centre for Performing Arts. Over 200 people were in attendance.

January 18, 2012

Linklaters India Internship Program and SAI Roundtable

Mumbai

SAI staff met with 11 students participating in the Linklaters India Internship Program coordinated by the Program on the Legal Profession, at the Harvard Law School. The program provides students the opportunity to receive hands on experience interning in Indian law firms and legal departments. During the winter term, students travel to Mumbai to work in law firms and conduct research on topics of their proposal.

January 18 – 24, 2012

Harvard Goes to India

President Drew Gilpin Faust visited India for the first time in January, 2012. She spent time in Mumbai, Agra, and Delhi, participating in several alumni and public events, some of which were organized by the South Asia Initiative. President Faust delivered the opening remarks at the SAI symposium Higher Education in South Asia: Enhancing Quality and Access through Innovative Solutions. In addition to these public engagements, in a private meeting organized by SAI, President Faust met with faculty and vice-chancellors from academic institutions across India, including the India School of Business, XLRI School of Business and Human Resources, and Symbiosis International University.

January 24, 2012

SAI visit to VidyaGyan

Uttar Pradesh

SAI staff members had the opportunity to visit VidyaGyan, a residential school for high achieving youth at the bottom of the pyramid. It is a part of the Shiv Nadar Foundation. The school is a SAI partnered internship site, and Harvard College undergraduate, Grace O’Neal, will be traveling to the school this summer to participate in a SAI funded internship.

Mumbai, February 15, 2012

Planning for Mumbai – The Development Plan Workshop for Greater Mumbai

Former Prince of Wales Museum, Mumbai

Co-sponsored by the Harvard University Graduate School of Design, and the Urban Design Research Institute.

Panelists spoke on three broad topics—Transportation, Governance, and Urban Form—and were chaired by Shirish Patel, Cyrus Gardzir, and Rahul Mehrotra, respectively. Over 200 guests from the design, planning, business and community activism space were in attendance.

March 16, 2012

Chronic Diseases: An Emerging Threat to Health and the Economy

Taj Land’s End, Bandra, Mumbai

Co-sponsored by SAI, HBS, and HSPH.

HSPH Dean Julio Frenk, on his inaugural trip to India, delivered the introductory remarks, stressing the importance of the organization of healthcare systems in determining the trajectory of economic growth. Other participating faculty included David Bloom, Professor of Economics and Demography, HSPH; David Hunter, Dean of Academic Affairs, HSPH; S.V. Subramanian, Professor of Population Health and Geography, HSPH; and Kasisomaya Viscanathan, Associate Professor of Society, Human Development and Health, HSPH. Additional panelists included Prakash Gupta, Director, Health and Public Policy Institute, for Public Health and Swati Piramal, Director, Piramal Healthcare.

Conference participants sat in the newly inaugurated Taj Land’s End “Classroom”, created in the style of a Harvard Business School room. This space will be the site of future SAI events.

Additional panelists from the region included Mansoor Ahmed, Senior Advisor, BRAC University, Bangladesh; Meinakshi Gopinath, Principal, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi; Pratap Bhanu Mehta, former Director General for Bangladesh TV and several artist, was present to discuss his work on exhibition. Attendants included Alliance Francaise de Dhaka event.

In Region

This academic year saw enormous growth in South Asia Initiative’s activity in the region. Two key Harvard administrators, President Drew Gilpin Faust and Dean Julio Frenk, visited India for the first time, while SAI instated two coordinators to head SAI activities in Bangladesh and Pakistan, respectively. Various Harvard faculty travelled to the region to participate in SAI supported events, and several additional cultural events were held throughout the year.

January 23, 2012

Higher Education in South Asia: Enhancing Quality and Access through Innovative Solutions

India Habitat Centre, Delhi, India

With a focus on gathering multiple perspectives, the South Asia Initiative at Harvard University assembled leaders from the academic, government, and private spheres to discuss innovative approaches being adopted to enhance quality and increase access to higher education across the region.


Pratap Bhanu Mehta, Howard Gardner, Manzoor Ahmed, and Meinakshi Gopinath participated in a panel discussion on issues of higher education in South Asia and beyond.

Over 100 past, present, and future students from across Harvard’s campus were in attendance. Students from both the undergraduate and graduate schools, representing 12 Harvard schools in total, came together to discuss issues relevant to studying at Harvard.

Maria May, center, with other Harvard alumni at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka event.

Dinesh Rahman, Vice Chancellor of the Independent University, Bangladesh speaks at the Harvard Alumni Event in Dhaka. In the foreground, HSPH Professor, Richard Cash, listens to the talk.

Rahul Mehrotra, SAI’s guest of honor.

Harvard President, Dr. Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury, Bir Bikram, Harvard alumni and Bangladesh dignitaries.

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December 20 and 21, 2011
Dialogue on Private Education in Lahore, Pakistan
Forman Christian College, Lahore

Sponsored by SAI, the Center for Economic Research in Pakistan, HKS, and Pomona College

This was the second in a series of Dialogues on Education in Pakistan. The first of which was held at HLS in July 2011 to discuss education more broadly. The objective of this Dialogue was to generate a broad consensus-based agenda around how best to interface with, support, and enable the success of the low-cost private education sector.

Summer 2012
Social Development in Pakistan
Harvard Campus and LUMS campus in Lahore, Pakistan

Taught by Harvard Summer School Professor Maggie Ronkin, this course uses video to link U.S. and Pakistan-based participants with Pakistani leaders and change-makers. Pakistani experts, advocates, and change-makers share their strategies for countering inequality and injustice in real-time video conferences. Through conversations with these guests, students will gain grounded insights on culturally attuned and sustainable practices of poverty alleviation and, broadly, on a dynamic human-centered development story. Three-hour modules will focus on poverty alleviation, and enable the success of the low-cost private education sector.

South Asia Initiative Summer Movie Nights
Summer 2011

SAI invited members of the Harvard and the surrounding community to the Summer Movie Nights Series for to view films related to South Asia, including "Monsoon Wedding," "Train to Pakistan," "Water," "In the Name of God," and "Salaam Bombay!"

Paralel Connections
Spring 2012

SAI co-sponsored the art exhibit "Parallel Connections: South Asian Visual & Performing Arts and Their Healing Touch," which ran through the Spring at Harvard University. The show features photography, contemporary art, and traditional folk art forms such as Madhubani, Warli, and Patachitra. In conjunction with the art exhibit, two panels were held, including a discussion on "Music and Dance in South Asian Art" and a discussion on "The Healing Touch of South Asian Visual Art." Co-sponsored by SAI, LearnQuest and the Government of Orissa

Holy India: Religion in the Modern Subcontinent
April 27, 2012

Sponsored by Educators for Teaching India, in conjunction with the Windsor School, Phillips Academy, and the Groton School
Hosted by the South Asia Initiative
Keynote Speaker: Diana Eck, Professor of Comparative Religion and Indian Studies and Frederic Wrentham Professor of Law and Psychiatry in Society, FAS, Harvard University

SAI hosted this annual conference which provides outreach and education on the teaching of India in public and private schools. This is the fourth conference that SAI has sponsored for the group, which was established in 2008 by a group of secondary school teachers dedicated to deepening knowledge of India and exploring India’s role in school curricula.

A Weekend of Ram Vaidyanathan and Shujaat Khan
Saturday and Sunday, November 12-13, 2011
Presented by MITHAS (MIT’s Heritage of the Arts of South Asia)

A student studies near the Paralel Connections art exhibit.

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South Asia Initiative Summer Movie Nights

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FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012: BUDGET STATEMENT

INCOME = $805,000

- Provost Funds = $350,000 (43%)
- Current Use Gift = $445,000 (56%)
- Endowment Income = $10,000 (1%)

EXPENSE = $805,000

- Program Support = $152,000 (19%)
  Includes faculty led seminars, faculty grants, conference, and special events
- Student Support = $135,000 (17%)
  Includes Undergraduate and Graduate research, study, and internship grants
- Regional Support = $85,000 (11%)
  Includes regional coordinators and programs
- Administrative Support = $433,000 (54%)
  Staff and infrastructure

SAI in the News: The Headlines

Visit links below or southasiainitiative.harvard.edu for full articles

Ratan Tata inaugurates Harvard’s classroom
Kelpana Pathak & Swaraj Baggonkar
March 10, 2012

Harvard Business School’s new classroom in Mumbai
March 2, 2012
articles.timesoffindia.indiatimes.com/2012-03-02/news/31116475_1_hbs-classroom-dean-nitin-nohria

Into India
harvardmagazine.com/2012/03/into-india

Harvard Alumni Club Event at Independent University of Bangladesh, Daily News
January 23, 2012

Harvard President Stresses on Culture of Global Learning, Times of India
January 21, 2012
articles.timesoffindia.indiatimes.com/2012-01-21/mumbai/30650266_1_higher-education-drew-gp-fin-jairst-first-chancellor

Harvard’s India Connection, The Wall Street Journal
January 20, 2012
blogs.wsj.com/indiarealtime/2012/01/20/harvards-indian-connection/

Faust visit spotlights Harvard’s growing ties to South Asia, The Financial
January 20, 2012
finchannel.com/Main_News/B_Schools/102135_Faust_vis-

At Harvard, engagement comes through student groups, lectures, conferences, and faculty research. In India, there are faculty research projects, student internships, and alumni activities, among others. There has been a flurry of activity on the Harvard campus recently. A.P. Abdul Kalam, a renowned scientist who was India’s 11th president, visited to deliver the annual Mahindra Lecture. Khanna’s new Gen Ed course on South Asia’s long-term problems and their possible entrepreneurial solutions attracted students from across the University last semester. Khanna said he expects the University’s involvement in the region to continue to increase ‘very dramatically.’