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Report on the 2013 ANHS Member Meeting

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Dear Members of the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies,

With this first edition of HIMALAYA by our new editors, Sienna Craig and Mark Turin, ANHS begins another chapter in its distinctive history of research, scholarship, creative work, teaching, and service dedicated to Nepal and the Himalayan region. First, let me congratulate Sienna and Mark on this beautiful, newly designed HIMALAYA. The product of long hours of dedication and planning, the journal steps into a dynamic world of research, art, and connectivity. Join me in congratulating Sienna and Mark for creatively and skillfully guiding our journal to its new life with its parent association, ANHS. They need your support so consider submitting research articles, field reports, book reviews, creative works, or just get in touch to say Namaste!

Founded in 1971 by a small and committed group of scholars, ANHS began as the Nepal Studies Association, and less than a year later published its flagship newsletter, the Nepal Studies Association Newsletter, itself followed a decade later by the expanded Himalayan Research Bulletin (1981-2000). The US-based Association has gradually expanded to cover the entire Himalayan region, and now boasts an international membership of over 200 dedicated individuals and 30 institutions.

Like the serendipity that brought together that first group of scholars 40 years ago, recently a new generation of equally energetic members reinvigorated ANHS, leading to such exciting and rewarding developments as three Himalaya Studies Conferences (HSCs). A third HSC will convene at Yale University in March 2014.

We have also developed the Annual Kathmandu Conference on Nepal and the Himalaya, a summer event co-sponsored with ANHS, Social Science Baha, and the Britain-Nepal Academic Council, a competitive institutional development grant, and two annual ANHS awards (with increasing numbers of national and international applicants).

Last but not least, we are pleased to announce ANHS–Kathmandu, newly approved and funded through the Council of Academic Overseas Research Centers (CAORC). The CAORC approved center will provide all ANHS members with a range of research-related services, including networks of research assistants and language teachers, official document advice, a regular speakers series, and even housing lists. Please drop by ANHS-Kathmandu (new location TBA, but currently at Social Science Baha) next time you’re in town. Manohari Upadhyaya, the Center director, will be happy to meet you and will endeavor to assist you.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the HSC3 to be held at Yale University in March 2014. Many thanks go out to the organizing committee, skillfully led by Mark Turin and assisted by ANHS board members Geoff Childs, Arjun Guneratne, and Mahendra Lawoti. We expect well over 200 participants. Please remember to renew or initiate your ANHS membership in order to facilitate the registration process.

ANHS wishes all its members a joyful holiday season, and an auspicious New Year.

Sincerely,

Mary Cameron
President, ANHS