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I. LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The past months have seen continued growth of the Nepal Studies Association, and our organization is becoming a model for other specialist groups in Asian Studies. The Himalayan Research Bulletin remains our essential identity, and for that we recognize the contributions of its editors and the support of Cornell University. As a graduate of that institution, I am gratified to see commitment to South Asia along with Cornell's renowned Southeast Asia program.

As co-chairman for the annual meeting of the American Committee for South Asian Art which was recently held in Denver and Boulder, I was sorry that none of the many papers presented developed a Himalayan subject, yet it was encouraging to remember that our own association brings specialists from many disciplines together for a broad and stimulating approach to regional studies. Our next opportunity to meet comes with the annual NSA meeting that is to be held in conjunction with the 12th Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin. The dates are November 4-6, 1983 and our members may register by writing to the South Asian Area Center at 1242 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53706. The meeting was a great success last year and I urge you to attend!

With publication of Nepal Mandala by Mary Shepherd Slusser (Princeton University Press, 1982), Himalayan Studies has an important new source of information that combines Nepalese and western scholarship in a way that charts encouraging directions for future research. Implications of this landmark work will be discussed in Madison in a special round table session.

As for me, I will take my students around the world this summer to study Buddhist Arts and Culture, with Ladakh as our final destination. And with support from the American Institute for Pakistan Studies, I will spend spring and summer of 1984 tracing Central Asian and Islamic elements that are found in Himalayan temple design as they occur in northern Pakistan.

My very best wishes to all our members,

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