

International Training Programme 2009

Report



The Museum wishes to thank the following supporters for their generosity in helping to make the 2009 International Training Programme possible:

Mr and Mrs_Benjamin Rosen Linda Noe Laine Mrs Charles Wrightsman The British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial) Allen & Co, 'Recognising the work of Niall FitzGerald

THE WORLD COLLECTIONS PROGRAMME









A Partnership UK project

The University of Manchester The Manchester Museum The University of Manchester The Whitworth Art Gallery











Introduction

Twenty-two curators, archaeologists and specialists from ten countries participated in the International Training Programme between June 15 and July 24, 2009. This was the fourth year of the Programme, with participants from China, Egypt, India, Iraq, Turkey and Sudan invited again. Ghana, Mozambique, Palestine and Uganda sent participants for the first time. The majority of the participants' time was spent at the British Museum, with ten days on placements at six Partnership UK institutions:

Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales The Collection – Lincoln Glasgow Museums Manchester Museum/The Whitworth Art Gallery Tyne & Wear Archives and Museums

This year also saw the continued formal participation of other London institutions as part of the World Collections Programme: Tate, V&A, Kew Gardens and the British Library. Other museums and institutions hosted the curators for shorter visits, usually of one day, or part thereof.

Participants are exposed to various aspects of museum work, the brief sessions acting as an introduction to various specialist areas, which can then be followed up at a later date, whether while in the UK or after returning home. A key aspect is the emphasis upon the importance of collaboration in museum work, whether within an institution, domestically or internationally. Furthermore, the sharing of skills, experience and knowledge is of paramount importance, and one of the stated aims of the programme is to build a global network of colleagues. Appendix 1 provides an outline of the aims, objectives and legacy of the International Training Programme.







Session at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

Participants

The selection of candidates is inevitably one of the most difficult aspects of delivering the Programme. In response to the British Museum's stated International Strategy, several countries were originally identified as being key partners in the programme, since 2006: China, Egypt, Sudan, Turkey, Iraq and Iran. These countries continue to provide candidates, although the allocated candidates from Iran were unable to attend this year, due to travel permits being refused within Iran. British Museum staff conducted interviews in China and Egypt to identify candidates, while participants from India were selected in

collaboration with the British Council. The candidates from Sudan, Turkey, Palestine, Uganda, Iraq, Mozambique and Ghana were formally selected by institutions in those countries, following guidelines from the British Museum and input from British Museum colleagues. In many cases the selected persons were already known to British Museum staff, having collaborated on projects within their own institutions.

China

Lidan Jiao Government Official

State Administration for Cultural Heritage

Beijing

Zhan Wang Collections Department

National Museum of China,

Beijing

This position was generously supported by the

National Museum of China

Jing Zhao Assistant Research Fellow

Social Education and Promotion Department

National Museum of China,

Beijing

This position was generously supported by the

National Museum of China

Egypt

Hesham Mohammed Hussein Hamed Inspector of Archaeology, North Sinai

Supreme Council of Antiquities

Ahmed el-Laithy Inspector of Archaeology, Minia

Supreme Council of Antiquities

Wael Fathi Morsi Hamada Inspector of Archaeology, Saqqara

Supreme Council of Antiquities

Hayam Ahmed Mohammed Inspector of Islamic Antiquities, Cairo

Supreme Council of Antiquities
The Barakat Trust Fellow

Ghana

Gertrude Aba Mansah Eyifa Assistant Lecturer

Department of Archaeology

University of Ghana

This position was generously supported by the

Allen & Co

Joyce Dartey Assistant Lecturer

Department of Archaeology

University of Ghana

This position was generously supported by the

Allen & Co

India

Sayan Bhattacharya Programme Assistant,

Centre for Archaeological Studies in Eastern

India

Nilanjan Banerjee Special Officer and Administrator,

Rabindra Bhavana

The Charles Wallace India Trust Fellow

Iraq

Layla Mahmood Salih Salih Mosul Museum, Iraq

This position was generously supported by the British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude

Bell Memorial)

Salim Younis Hussien Inspector

Nineveh Inspectorate of Antiquities and

Heritage, Iraq

The Linda Noe Laine Fellow

Mozambique

Gilda Jorge Digitisation Officer

National Art Museum

Maputo

Antonio Ntimbanga Department of Education and Exhibition

National Museum of Ethnology

Maputo

Palestine

Haytham Deik Department of Archaeology

Birzeit University

Nourah Sammar Department of Archaeology

Birzeit University

Sudan

Aimen El Tayeb El Tayeb Sidahmed Curator

National Corporation for Antiquities and

Museums, Khartoum

Nimat Mohamed El Hassan Abdelrahman Curator

National Corporation for Antiquities and

Museums, Khartoum

Turkey

Fatma Sezin Dogruer Culture and Tourism Expert

Ministry of Culture and Tourism Assistant of the Director General Cultural Heritage and Museums

Ankara

Abdulmecit Ariguzel Photographer

Topkapi Sarayi Museum

Istanbul

Uganda

Diana Rwomushana Bank of Uganda Museum

This position was generously supported by the

Bank of Uganda

Funding and organisation

The British Museum has been committed to funding the direct costs of the International Training Programme since 2006, but external funds have covered the full costs in 2008 and 2009.

The World Collections Programme (WCP) provided a second year of funding for the programme, as the Training Programme reflected the aims of the WCP to foster bilateral links with institutions in Africa and Asia. The involvement of Tate, V&A, Kew Gardens and the British Library, particularly in the weekly seminars but also in tailored sessions for individuals, was the result of this collaboration. Generous donations from Mr and Mrs Benjamin Rosen and Mrs Jayne Wrightsman contributed towards the programme's costs in 2009.

In addition, several placements for individual countries and/or specialist areas are directly funded. The Barakat Trust funds the participation of an Egyptian curator specialising in aspects of Islamic culture, the Charles Wallace India Trust supported one of the Indian places, Linda Noe Laine sponsored the participation of an Iraqi curator, the British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial) supported an Iraqi curator and Allen & Co ('Recognising the work of Niall FitzGerald'), sponsored the participation of two curators from Ghana. The Altajir Trust generously agreed to sponsor two places for colleagues from Iran. It was not possible for the two selected participants to travel, but the Altajir Trust have kindly expressed an interest in supporting Iranian placements in 2010. Finally, several placements were partly funded by the workplace of the participant (The Bank of Uganda and the National Museum of China).

This funding allows the British Museum to cover all participants' costs: travel, visas, accommodation and subsistence, and to employ a full-time Programme Assistant. Accommodation is in shared self-catering flats at Schafer House (UCL Halls of Residence). Neal Spencer and Claire Messenger manage the curatorial, strategic and logistical aspects of the programme, with Terhi Nurmikko providing practical and administrative support. The success and efficiency of visa applications varies by country, though we have seen a marked

benefit in working closely with consular sections for each country. Delays in visa procurement occurred for candidates from both Mozambique and India.

The programme: London

The programme follows a simple model: three weeks at the British Museum, and ten days at one of six Partnership UK institutions, returning to London and the British Museum for the remainder of the six week programme. Approximately half of the programme at the British Museum is spent in one or more relevant collections department (for example, Sudanese curators in the Department of Ancient Egypt & Sudan), working with specialists relevant to their own museums, cultures and skills. The remainder of their time is spent on sessions with the whole group. This further fosters a sense of collegiality, and encourages the cross-pollination of ideas and approaches, and the sharing of experiences. These general sessions were scheduled for Monday, Tuesday morning and Friday.





Living & Dying Gallery (BM)

Joseph E. Hotung Gallery (BM)

Scheduled sessions involved a mixture of presentations, visits to galleries, storerooms, external exhibitions and other museums, but also hands-on and practical sessions. This last aspect is something that is difficult to organise for the whole group, and works best in their focused Departmental time, as the sessions can then be more tailored to their interest. Appendix 2 is a sample programme, to give an idea of the range of sessions offered to one individual, including exhibitions and galleries, collections management, conservation and storage areas, education, public programming and development of research projects.

Flexibility is sought throughout the programme, as despite asking the participants what their needs and interests are prior to arrival, it is often not clear (to them and us) what might be most beneficial. Thus individual schedules are constantly updated and modified during their time in the UK.

All of the sessions are intended as introductory, to expose the curators to various aspects of the Museum's work, the opportunities and problems in dealing with these areas, and enable individuals (and thus their institutions) to make contacts with experts in various areas. Time for discussion is always included, as the exchange of ideas between museum staff and the visiting curators, and between the participants, is one of the key aims of the programme.

Weekly Friday seminars, introduced in 2008, were developed further in 2009. Offering the opportunity to bring everyone together at the end of the week, the seminars provide a platform for discussing a variety of aspects of museum work. These took the form

of a series of short presentations, followed by discussion, along the following themes:

- (1) Developing museum buildings, problems and potential
- (2) Museums and communities
- (3) Museums and archaeology
- (4) Fundraising and commercial activities

The input of colleagues from several World Collections Programme institutions allowed the discussions to reflect a range of approaches to these areas. These institutions also arranged sessions for smaller groups of curators, concerning archive storage, photograph conservation and philatelic collections (British Library), photography (Tate, V&A), exhibitions planning (V&A) and Islamic material culture (V&A).

A new element of the programme was a morning of presentations, in which groups of 1-3 participants, each presented a 10 minute illustrated talk, prompted by the following task:

Subject: A new display of your culture at the British Museum

Using your knowledge of your own cultures, please develop a proposal for a small temporary exhibition on some aspect of your own cultures. The exhibition should be based on British Museum objects.

The presentations proved very engaging, with differing styles and approaches, but a wealth of new ideas. Participants were encouraged to be openly critical of current displays, and to feature ideas and approaches they had experienced during their six weeks in the UK. A list of the presentation topics emphasises their breadth and range:

- Tea culture in the Song Dynasty
- 'Beads speak' beads from Ghana
- Hanuman, the monkey god
- 'Spreading light and beauty' the Mishkah of Sultan Hassan
- The Makonde Mask
- The Voice of the Rickshaw
- Sacrifices and Offerings of Shang Peoples: Chinese Ritual Bronzes in the Shang Dynasty
- Sudanese Culture
- The ten-thousand shilling note from Uganda
- Venus in 360°
- The Zengids of Mosul
- The Nereid Monument a new display
- Ginger Reconsidering the display of human remains

Excursions to several other institutions in the London area were arranged, most notably the Horniman Museum, which offered the trainees the opportunity to see a sizeable museum whose audience profile, and strategies, are very different to that of the British Museum. Informal group visits were also made to Kew Gardens and the London Eye. A small number of receptions and evening events were organised. Most notably, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office arranged an evening reception at King Charles Street, kindly hosted by Sir Peter Ricketts, Permanent Under-Secretary and Head of the Diplomatic Service.







Horniman Museum

With regards the time spent in specific collections departments at the British Museum, curators were hosted by the Department of Ancient Egypt and Sudan (6), Africa, Oceania and the Americas (4), Middle East (4), Greek & Roman Antiquities (2), Asia (5) and Coins and Medals (1). Representatives in each of these departments (Neal Spencer, Julie Hudson, Jonathan Tubb/St John Simpson, Ian Jenkins, Jessica Harrison-Hall/Richard Blurton and Artemis Manolopoulou, respectively) developed and co-coordinated a programme tailored to the individual needs of the curators, which included presentations on Departmental research and projects, discussion groups and research time. In some cases, visits were arranged to other museums in the south-east, to see collections of particular relevance to individual curators, and meet specialists: Percival David Foundation of Chinese Art, Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, V&A, British Library, Palestine Exploration Fund, Brighton Museum & Art Gallery, Bath Museum of Far Eastern Art, Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, Pitt-Rivers Museum, Fitzwilliam Museum, Stonehenge, Avebury Heritage Site Museum (Wiltshire), Salisbury and Coventry cathedrals, Egypt Exploration Society, Powell Cotton Museum, Dartington Hall, October Gallery and the British Museum exhibition 'China: Journey to the East' at the Herbert Museum in Coventry. The tailored programme for the three Chinese curators can be seen in Appendix 2.

On arrival, each participant received a *Course Resources* guide detailing online resources relevant to the sessions they attended at the Museum, and a £100 bursary for purchasing academic books.

The programme: Partnership UK



The number of participating Partnership UK museums was increased to six this year: Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery participated for the first time, hosting two Palestinian and two Indian participants). Five other partner institutions continued to host trainees: Lincoln – The Collection (Egypt [2], Mozambique [2]), Tyne & Wear Museums (China [3], Uganda [1]), Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales (Sudan [2]), Glasgow Museums (Iraq [1], Turkey [1]) and Manchester Museum/Whitworth Art Gallery (Egypt [2], Ghana [2]). The British Museum met all costs with regards this part of the programme, which encompassed two days traveling, six working days and a weekend.





Demonstrations (BMAG)

Glasgow Museums





Archaeology (Cardiff)

Conservation (Manchester)

The programme at each of these institutions was developed in co-ordination with the British Museum, and again consisted of a series of non-prescriptive sessions on matters of museum and/or cultural heritage work. A particular strength of the partner museums' offerings is the ability to show the workings of a multi-museum organisation, the strong links to local histories, diaspora communities and local universities, and the benefits of partnerships with other museums (whether locally, nationally or abroad). Sample programmes for all six partners can be found in Appendices 3–8.



Lincoln



Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums

Evaluation

As with previous years, the programme was thoroughly evaluated, particularly with sessions at each museum, but also through the completion of evaluation forms, and the feedback of staff attending many sessions.

Participants were very happy with the programme and its organisation. Sessions on

conservation, exhibition/gallery planning and delivery and collections storage proved to be the most well received. Assessing how experience on the training programme might be applied once the participants return home brought some interesting responses, suggesting outreach and educational programmes were aspects which had particular impact:

'During the training I learnt many techniques that will help me to improve the quality of my work and also that of our museum...techniques on object handling and cleaning, or keeping collections in categorized storage...documentation, on how to display textiles and how museums in the UK work to involve schools and teachers in order to fulfill educational goals' (Antonio, Mozambique)

'For me, what I have learnt, and which I would like to apply at home is how to use objects in my museum to teach as well as making the museum more appealing to young visitors and families' (Joyce, Ghana)

'I was struck by the importance of education....Museums in the UK [also] communicate extremely well with the public, and do many things based on feedback from the public, including special displays and facilities for disabled visitors' (Lidan, China)





Music Gallery, Horniman Museum

Visit to Kenwood House with Frances Carey

The time at other museums was particularly appreciated:

'It was a good chance to see new ways of exhibiting, organising, displaying and interpreting collections' (Hayam, Egypt)

'[It] broadened [my] insight to museum work and also the opportunity to see how to apply local materials in my museum in terms of storage and installation' (Aba, Ghana)

'Yes it was very useful because every museum has its own view, and the more you see the more you learn' (Sayan, India)

'I learnt lots of things and gained good ideas about museum exhibition and conservation, that's really useful for our museum' (Wang, China)

'Time at other museums was useful because it was the time and opportunity to get detailed information about how a university museum works. Also, it enabled practical sessions in Conservation. (Joyce, Ghana)

Areas suggested for improvement revolved around practical, hands-on experience:

'Introduce some more hands-on training – in conservation, display, object handling, etc. and more interactive sessions.'
(Sayan, India)

'More time should be allocated for the participants to spend in Departments since that is where learning and practical sessions can be carried out (in small groups).'
(Joyce, Ghana)

Several participants also commented on the intensity of the course, and most commonly suggested improvement was arranging internet access:

'[the programme would benefit from increased] computer access and more free time' (Haytham, Palestine)

'There was not enough time allowed for library research, as well as access to internet resources being minimal' (Joyce, Ghana)

Identifying a dedicated space within which all the participants can work together and discuss ideas, outside the scheduled sessions, is a priority, though difficult given pressures on accommodation within the British Museum and other participating museums and galleries.

With the instigation of the programme in 2006, we hoped for fruitful professional relationships to develop between the curators from very varied backgrounds. This has materialised to an extent greater than we had hoped, and continues to flourish through virtual contact (we are aware of several 2006 participants still in contact with distant coparticipants).

'It brought to light the common problems that museums face and that my museum is not the only one with challenges. The biggest [benefit] of all are the contacts created and the ideas shared.' (Aba, Ghana)

'[Understanding] different concepts applied in the different museums of the world can improve the vision of a curator' (Fatma, Turkey)

'It is very good for me to learn about other countries and cultures. And in the future we can exchange our exhibitions! (Wang, China)

'There was an opportunity to learn how other organisations work and learn new ideas. It was a good opportunity to bond socially with people from diverse cultures' (Joyce, Ghana)

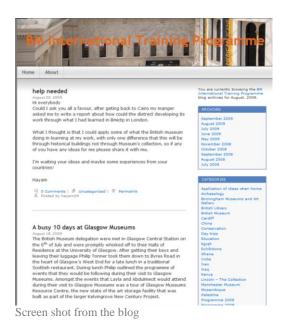
'I gained knowledge and experience, and it was great to study in a diverse environment with people from different countries' (Nourah, Palestine)

Feedback from the partner museums indicates that the ten-day placements were generally very successful, both for the trainees, but also in terms of staff development for the host museums. Previous years had seen 7- or 14-day placements, which proved to be too short or long, respectively

The group was rather sizeable this year, at twenty-two participants. Visits to smaller spaces such as Conservation and Scientific Research required the group to be split into three, and thus took up much more time. It become clear very early on that professional and social relationships, which cut across boundaries of individual jobs, backgrounds or nationalities, were developed. Enlarging the number of participants on the programme is likely to have a detrimental effect on the development of personal relationships, crucial towards creating a global network.

Providing the Partnership UK museums with detailed information on each participant's skills and research interests has not been easy, but is seen as a key area in improving the experiences of both the curators and host institutions, through focused tailoring of the programme to individuals' needs, and integrating the Programme with ongoing projects. The participants clearly derive the most benefit when they feel their activities are contributing towards the work of the host museums.

Maintaining relationships



A Programme blog has been maintained as a forum for continued interaction between the participants, and staff from the British Museum and other participating museums (http://bmtrainingprog.wordpress.com. Current and past participants have been actively encouraged to use this as a forum for sharing news of their projects, ideas and other information (including images, video and text).



Screen shot from the Facebook Group

An additional Web 2.0 element has now been introduced, with a closed Facebook group designed to facilitate communication between participants, British Museum staff and staff members from the Partnership UK Museums. Reading posts and contributing to the group wall are limited to only those invited or accepted by the group administrator. It is hoped that, as the blog is blocked in some countries such as China, the Facebook group would be another method of communication. The group currently has 17 members, including participants of and staff from participating museums. Thus far several participants have contributed to the group, through either photos or comments on 'walls', and also frequently comment on each other's 'walls'. In the future, participants from earlier years could also be added to the group, as well allowing future participants to join, allowing them to discuss the programme and gain valuable advice from those who have participated in previous years.

The next Training Programme will take place between June 21st and July 30th 2010, with the session at the UK Partner Museums between July 12th and 21st. The range of participating institutions and individuals are currently under consideration.

Neal Spencer <u>nspencer@britishmuseum.org</u>
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www.britishmuseum.org/the_museum/museum_in_the_world/curatorial_training_programme.aspx

Acknowledgements

There is insufficient space here to thank the scores of individuals who make the programme possible, whether in the British Museum, at Partnership UK museums, or in other institutions. Those who hosted sessions are included in the appendices. Nonetheless, the following individuals deserve particular thanks for their efforts in facilitating certain aspects of the programme, particularly its organisation and scheduling: Iain Watson, Jackie Bland and Alec Coles (Tyne & Wear Archives and Museums), Martin Bellamy, Philip Tonner and Mark O'Neill (Glasgow Museums), Frances Pritchard and Maria Balshaw (Whitworth Art Gallery), Karen Exell and Nicholas Merriman (Manchester Museum), Michael Tooby, Angela Gaffney, Melanie Youngs and Michael Houlihan (Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales), Dawn Heywood, Antony Lee, and Andrea Martin (Lincoln – The Collection), Zelina Garland, Toby Watley and Rita McLean (Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery).

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Janet Vitmayer and her team at the Horniman Museum, along with Melissa Appel, Beth McKillop, Marilyn Greene, Alice Sedgwick, Luisa Mengoni, and Yueh-Siang Chiang (V&A), Eimear Lughadha, Lauren Gardiner and Margaret Kemal-ur-rahim (Kew Gardens), Donald Hyslop, Synthia Griffin, Caroline Collier and Elinor Whyman (Tate), Cat Finlayson, Oliver Urquhart-Irvine, David Beech, Paul Carter, Mark Browne, Stephen Morgan, Alastair Morrison and Catherine Atkinson (British Library). Other colleagues who dedicated their time include Jaromir Malék (University of Oxford), Michael Lee (Museum of East Asian Art, Bath), Steph Mastoris (Head of Amgueddfa Genedlaethol y Glannau / National Waterfront Museum, Swansea), Lucilla Burn, Sally-Ann Ashton, Helen Strudwick, Julie Dawson and James Lin (Fitzwilliam Museum), Kate Newnham (Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery), Sarah Posey (Brighton Museum and Art Gallery), Stephen Quirke (Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology), David Walsh (Imperial War Museum), Alice Stevenson (Pitt Rivers Museum) and Patricia Spencer (Egypt Exploration Society) and Chris Kirby (Herbert Museum).

Finally, we are grateful to Richard Alford (The Charles Wallace Trust India), Ellen Griffiths Ulph (The Barakat Trust) and Richard Muir (Altajir Trust). Holly Tett co-ordinated arrangements for the reception at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, kindly hosted by Sir Peter Ricketts.

At the British Museum, particular thanks are due to Frances Carey, John Orna-Ornstein, Julie Hudson, Katherine Coleman, Christopher Spring, Heidi Cutts, Cynthia McGowan, Jan Stuart, Jessica Harrison-Hall, Richard Blurton, John Curtis, Sarah Collins, Vesta Curtis, StJohn Simpson, Jonathan Tubb, Katie Childs, Tania Watkins, Janet Ambers, Katie Childs, Lesley Fitton, Artemis Manolopoulou, Katie Eagleton, Lisa Galvin, Ian Jenkins, Justin Morris and Neil MacGregor.

Appendix 1: Aims, objectives and legacy

The following aims, objectives and desired legacy are modified and updated from those originally formulated at the instigation of the Programme in 2006.

Aims

- Disseminate best practice at the British Museum, to specialists from abroad.
- Use the British Museum (collections and staff) to provide an environment for cross-cultural dialogue and collaboration.
- Create, develop and enhance relationships with curators in foreign institutions, leading to future collaborations in areas of research, conservation, and the presentation of collections.
- Respond to the priorities of the British Museum international strategy.
- Increase understanding of countries that provide curators for the programme, both in terms of their institutional structures but also from a broader viewpoint; there will also be benefits in terms of British Museum and partner museums' staff development.
- Act as a conduit for Partnership UK museums to further international relationships.
- Help develop and build upon the British Museum's UK partnerships, through collaboration on the programme.

Objectives

- Deliver a programme (sessions, museum visits, seminars) in which selected curators from foreign institutions are immersed in the workings of the British Museum, experiencing approaches to the collections and the interpretation, presentation, conservation and management thereof. Methods of education and outreach through the collections will form a core element in the programme.
- Streamline international exchange programme to ensure consistency of delivery and increased efficiency in resource deployment; integrate programme with other British Museum activities, including collaborations abroad (exhibitions, fieldwork) but also other projects.
- Arrange for a placement in addition to the above, at a Partnership UK museum, to provide trainees with experience of different museum environments, particularly museums based at multiple sites.
- Supply course resources for further learning and reference in areas covered by programme, with a particular emphasis on internet resources.
- Further develop and refine programme in response to evaluation from participants, British Museum staff and Partnership UK museums' staff.

Legacy

- A network of colleagues in international institutions with first-hand experience of the British Museum and its partner institutions, and close links with curators in relevant fields. The British Museum website can host resources for trainees to use after attending the programme, and facilitate links between participating curators in different countries.
- Sustained contact, interaction and eventual collaborations between past participants, whether through the British Museum or independently.
- Improved research links with relevant countries, including collaboration in archaeological fieldwork.
- Constructive relationships with foreign governments' antiquities, culture and heritage departments, particularly in the area of reciprocal exhibitions, collaborative research and ongoing fieldwork.
- Enhanced international profile for British Museum, and participating Partnership UK museums. Emphasise the nature of Museum outreach aimed at international audience as well as UK communities, both for scholars and the general public.

Appendix 2: Sample programme from British Museum

Week 1

Monday June 15

Arrive UK, transfer to Schafer House.

Tuesday June 16

0930

Introduction to the training programme

Hartwell Room

Neal Spencer, Claire Messenger, Terhi Nurmikko

The British Museum: history and organisation

Participants' presentations

1400

Collection of staff passes

Free time

1600

Introduction to the Department of Asia Jessica Harrison-Hall, Jan Stuart

1800

Welcome reception

John Addis Gallery, Gallery 34

Wednesday June 17

0845-0930

Staff Breakfast

1000

Introductory tour of the galleries

Great Court Kusuma Barnett

1100-1400

Free time to tour the Museum

1400

North Entrance

Dr Clarissa von Spee

1400-1515

Chinese prints and the forthcoming Chinese Print exhibition

Department of Asia Dr Clarissa von Spee

1515-1630

Chinese Painting project, Chinese painting and the Stein Collection

Department of Asia Mary Ginsberg

Thursday June 18

0830

Leave Schafer House and travel to London Euston

0943-1042

Train to Coventry

1100

Visit BM UK Partnership touring exhibition CHINA: Journey to the East and to take part in their educational programme

The Herbert Museum in Coventry

Terhi Nurmikko, Chris Kirby, Rachel Mayson, Anne-Marie Sandos, Melanie Corner

1200

Overview on Herbert building and permanent galleries

Chris Kirby, Huw Jones, Natalie Heidaripour

1345-1500

School session

Robin Johnson, Rachel Mayson

1500

Leave Herbert Museum for tour of Coventry Cathedral

1631-1734

Train from Coventry to London Euston

1830 OPTIONAL

Museum Technology Night

Stevenson Lecture Theatre

Friday June 19

0930-1300

Sessions in the Department of Conservation and Scientific Research

0930

Meet at the Great Court

Janet Ambers

Meet David Saunders, Keeper of Conservation and Scientific Research

Library

General introduction - scientific work in the Museum

Library

Catherine Higgitt

Organic materials: GC/MS and HPLC

B2

Rebecca Stacey/Catherine Higgitt

Wood and plant identification/Scanning electron microscopy/tool patters

В3

Catherine Cartwright/Margaret Sax

Radiography

В7

Sue La Niece/Quanyu Wang

Pottery and stone analysis

B12

Michela Spataro/Roberta Tomber

X-ray fluorescence analysis, metals and glass

G9

Duncan Hook/Philip Fletcher

Conservation Science – overview, materials testing/display, environmental monitoring, preventive conservation

 G_5

Julianne Phippard/Sharon Penton/Marei Hacke

1430-1500

Presentations project

Model Room

1500-1700

Afternoon seminar: Developing museum buildings, problems and potential

Model Room

Speakers: Tracey Sweek and Alec Shaw (British Museum, Northwest Development);

Donald Hyslop (Tate Modern Capital Project), Steph Mastoris (Head of Amgueddfa Genedlaethol y

Glannau / National Waterfront Museum, Swansea)

Week 2

Monday June 22

Introduction to collections, conservation department and education services

The Horniman Museum, London

Margaret Birley - Keeper of Music

Finbarr Whooley - Assistant Director (Curatorial and Public Services)

Dr. Louise Bacon - Head of Collections Conservation and Care

Tuesday June 23

0955-1300

Session in the Department of Conservation and Scientific Research

0955

Introduction to the Conservation Group

Meetings Room, No.9 Montague Street

Kenneth Uprichard

Conservation of Oriental Art

Hirayama Studio

Valentina Marabini

Conservation of metal objects

Basement, no. 9 Montague St

Fleur Shearman

Conservation of paper and papyrus

Western Pictorial Art Studio

Bridget Leach

Conservation of stone objects

Stone Studio

Tracey Sweek

Conservation of ceramics and glass

Basement, no. 9 Montague St

Denise Ling

1400-1515

Jade Collections: gallery tour of BM's Jade gallery, view of Jade collections in storage, discussion of current research projects

Carol Michaelson

1515-1630

Jade and Scientific Research project into tools used to work jade.

Department of Asia Dr Margaret Sax

Wednesday June 24

Visit and tour the Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford

Thursday June 25

Visit and tour the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge

Friday June 26

1000-1200

Portable Antiquities Scheme and Treasure East Residence Meetings Room Mike Lewis, Roger Bland

1200-1300

Histories of the World

East Residence Meetings Room Jeremy Hill, Research Board Manager

1500-1700

Afternoon seminar: Museums and communities

Board Room

Speakers: Laura Phillips (Community Officer, British Museum), Marilyn Greene (V&A Museum), Synthia Griffin (Curator of Regeneration and Community Programmes, Tate)

Saturday June 27

1400

Visit to Kenwood House

Frances Carey, Senior Consultant for Public Engagement, British Museum Janet Vitmayer, Director of the Horniman Museum and Gardens

Week 3

Monday June 29

1000

The British Museum and its UK partnerships Hartwell Room John Orna-Ornstein

Presentations by

Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum of Wales, Cardiff

Birmingham Museums & Art Gallery

Glasgow Museums

The Collection, Lincoln

Tyne & Wear Museums, Newcastle

Manchester Museum

Whitworth Art Gallery

1400-1530

Hands-On Desk and Volunteers Programme at the British Museum

Hartwell Room (and visits to Hands-On Desks)

Kusuma Barnett

1530-1630

Schools Learning Programmes at the British Museum

Hartwell Room Richard Woff

1700

London Eye

Tuesday June 30

0930-1100

Photographic Studio visit

Asia Photographic Studio

John Williams

1130-1330

Introductory tour

British Library

Oliver Urquhart Irvine, Andy Stephen

1400-1530

Chinese Ceramics collection BM and Sir Percival David Collection tour of KEB

Department of Asia

Jessica Harrison-Hall

1530-1630

China 5 city tour discussion

Department of Asia

Jan Stuart, Jessica Harrison-Hall, Meixin Wang, Katie Childs

Wednesday July 1

0845-0930

Staff Breakfast

0930-1300

Visit and tour

V&A Museum.

1400-1630

Visit and tour

Victoria and Albert Museum.

Meet Dr Luisa Megoni at the main information desk at the V&A at 1400.

Thursday July 2

Bristol Museum and Art Gallery

Meet Kate Newnham at the main reception desk at the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery and see Chinese glass collections

The Museum of Far Eastern Art in Bath

Meet Michel Lee at the main reception desk at the Museum of Far Eastern Art in Bath to see Chinese collections

Friday July 3

0930-1100

Adult learning programmes at the British Museum

Board Room

Rosanna Kwok, Adult Learning, Department of Learning & Audiences

1100-1300

Handling heavy objects

King Edwards Basement: Egyptian stone collection

Emily Taylor, Mark Haswell

1500-1700

Afternoon seminar: Museums and archaeology

Board Room

Speakers: Jeremy Hill (Research Board Manager, British Museum), Alexandra Fletcher

(Domuztepe excavation, Turkey; curator in the Department of the Middle East, British Museum), Daniel Antoine (Curator of Human Remains, British Museum), Colin McEwan and Gabriel Ramón Joffré (Landscape, Site and Symbol in the Andes: Inca ushnus Project), Sue Whitfield (International Dunhuang Project, British Library).

1800

Reception at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Saturday July 4

Visit to Kew Gardens

Tour with Volunteer Guide.

Thursday July 16

0845

Annual Review Presentation

BP Lecture Theatre Neil MacGregor

0930-1030

Feedback on Partnership UK programme

Clore Centre Studio

1030-1300

Library Research Time

Department of Asia

1315-1400

Gallery talk on the Sir Percival David Collection

Sackler Rooms

Jessica Harrison-Hall

1400-1630

Library Research Time

Department of Asia

Friday July 17

0900-1630

Tour of airport cargo handling

Heathrow cargo terminal

International Shipping Agents Constantine

Moving and packing objects for travel

Constantine warehouses and offices International Shipping Agents Constantine

Saturday July 18

Stonehenge

Salisbury Cathedral

Avebury

Week 6

Monday July 20

1000-1200

Morning seminar: Fundraising and commercial activities

Sackler Seminar Rooms A & B

Speakers: Jennifer Suggitt (BM Corporate Development), Amanda Mayne (BM commercial exhibitions), Alice Sedgwick (V&A, Touring exhibitions)

1200-1300 OPTIONAL

Guided tour of the Ancient Egypt and Sudan Department Neal Spencer

1215-1300 OPTIONAL

Guided tour of the Prints and Drawings department Mark McDonald

1400-1630

Department of Exhibitions: designing an exhibition

Exhibitions Meeting Room

Carolyn Marsden Smith (Head of Exhibitions), Kirsten Forrest

Caroline Ingham (Senior Designer), Hannah Payne (3D Designer),

Paul Goodhead (2D Designer)

Tuesday July 21

Brighton Pavilion and Brighton Museum

Dr Sarah Posey

Jessica Harrison-Hall

David Beevers, Keeper of the Royal Pavilion

Helen Mears, Keeper of World Art

Wednesday July 22

0845-0930

Staff Breakfast

Details to follow

0930-1300

Teaching China initiative in Learning & Audiences

Department of Asia James Trapp, Susan Raikes

1400-1445 OPTIONAL

Guided tour of the Department of Prints and Drawings Mark McDonald

1500 and 1600

Guided tours of the Department of Coins and Medals Katie Eagleton, Artemis Manolopoulou

1900

The Proms at the Royal Albert Hall

Thursday July 23

1000

Presentations

Followed by Evaluation session

East Residence Meetings Room

1300 - 1430

Farewell lunch

Hartwell Room

Friday July 24

Depart UK.

Appendix 3: Sample programme for Partnership UK component (Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales)



Monday July 6

0930-1230

Travel from London to Cardiff

Meet staff and transport to accommodation at Seghennydd Rd Melanie Youngs

Tuesday July 7

1030-1100

Go to National Museum Cardiff Melanie Youngs

1100 - 1145

Short tour of the Museum Melanie Youngs

1145

Introduction to Amgueddfa Cymru Court Room Judith Ingram

1230-1330

Lunch with Directors and museum staff involved in the programme in the Court room. Delegates to present

1345-1630

Introduction to the Museum John Kenyon, Librarian

Wednesday July 8

0900 - 1100

Tour of Origins: In search of Early Wales and department of Archaeology Mark Redknap

1130 - 1300

Tour of Natural & Earth Science galleries (inc. Darwin and peregrine watch) and a look at the Respond project Grace Todd

1400 - 1700

Visit to the excavation site at Llanmaes, a Pre-historic and Romano–British settlement, feasting and burial complex. Archaeological processes taking place on site include excavation, finds processing and site recording. Ken Brassil and Melanie Youngs

Thursday July 9

0930-1630

Visit to St Fagans: National History Museum Melanie Youngs and Terhi Nurmikko

Friday July 10

1000-1100

Tour of the Art galleries Oliver Fairclough

1430-1630

Visit Cardiff Castle

Melanie Youngs, Terhi Nurmikko

Week 5

Monday July 13

0930-1630

Visit to Big Pit: National Coal Museum

Tuesday July 14

1000-1200

Helping to create a community exhibition on Llanmaes, the excavation site visited on Wednesday 8 July Ken Brassil.

Wednesday July 15

0930-1630

Travel back to London at 12.55, arriving at 15.07

Appendix 4: Sample programme for Partnership UK component (Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery)



Monday July 6

0930-1145

Travel from London to Birmingham

Arrive Birmingham New St station, with Claire Messenger Meet Zelina Garland at station on concourse.

1145-1500

Make way to accommodation at Burne Jones House, Bennett's Hill (5-10min walk)

1500-1700

Welcome and introduction to BMAG

Induction

Toby Watley, Head of Exhibitions & Interpretation

Office space, computer access.

Zelina Garland, Curatorial Services Manager

Passes and Fire Tour (Control Room staff)

Tuesday July 7

0930-1030

Welcome and introductions

Rita McLean, Head of Museums & Heritage Services

1030-1230

Tour of BMAG site: permanent galleries, community gallery

Zelina Garland/Oliver Buckley, Interpretation & Audience Development Manager Victoria Osborne, Curator Fine Art

1400-1500

Tour of Waterhall: Coloursplash exhibition

Tom Grosvenor, Exhibitions Officer

Tour of community gallery

Jose Forrest Tennant. Audience Development Officer

1515-1700

Tour of conservation studios, XRF identification and laser cleaning demonstrations.

Jane Thompson Webb (Head of Collection Services)

Deborah Cane (Collections Care Officer), Veronika Vlkova Antoniou, Conservator (Inorganic materials)

Wednesday July 8

1000 - 1100

Tour of Gas Hall: Matthew Boulton exhibition

Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery (BMAG)

Andy Horn, Exhibitions Manager

Fiona Slattery, Curator (Applied Art)

1130 - 1300

Photography Studio & Picture Library

David Rowan, Museum Photographer

1215-1345 OPTIONAL

Chinese textiles show & tell

AV Room

Deborah Cane, Collections Care Officer/Simon Cane, Head of Museum Operations

1400 - 1600

Works on paper

Print Room

Tessa Sidey, Curator, Prints & Drawings

Minisis Collection management system

Lucy Blakeman, Documentation Officer

1700

Art of Ideas – The Museum for the 21st century

Baskerville House

Debate organised by Arts Council, chaired by Rita McLean

Thursday July 9

1030-1230

Tour of warehouse and stores

Museum Collections Centre (MCC) Jeremy Ross, MCC Manager

1330-1600

Collections-based activities in stores

Adam Jaffer, Curator of World Cultures

1800-2000 OPTIONAL

Private View - Jonathon Shaw photography exhibition

New Art Gallery, Walsall

Friday July 10

1030-1200

Museum of the Jewellery Quarter (MJQ)

Guided tour of Smith & Pepper factory, new displays

Sarah Hayes, freelance consultant

1330-1630

Introduction to site

Soho House

Clare Parsons, Curator/Manager

Annette French, Deputy Curator/Manager

Saturday July 11

Free time to explore Birmingham - Ikon Gallery, Botanical Gardens, Bullring shopping centre, Markets

Sunday July 12

Optional visit to Stratford

Week 5

Monday July 13

0930-1630

Visit to Herbert Museum, Coventry

Art, local history galleries, *China – Journey to the East* exhibition. Adam Jaffer, Curator of World Cultures Fiona Slattery, Curator Applied Art)

Tuesday July 14

0930-1030

Capital projects – planning the new history galleries Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery (BMAG)

Toby Watley, Head of Interpretation & Exhibitions

1100-1200

Portable Antiquities Scheme

David Symons, Curator of Antiquities and Numismatics Duncan Slarke, PAS Liaison Officer (Staffs & West Midlands)

1230-1300

Meeting with Technical Display Officer (Colin Edmonds) and Documentation Officer (Lucy Blakeman)

1400-1630

Blakesley Hall, tour and BMAG Volunteers' Party Ann-Marie Hayes

Wednesday July 15

0930-1230

Public programmes

Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery Louise Taylor, Public Programmes Officer - Lifelong Learning

1230-1330

Lunch in Edwardian Tea Room – feedback on programme from trainees Zelina Garland

1400-1600

Travel to London from Brimingham New Street

Appendix 5: Sample programme for Partnership UK component (Glasgow Museums)

Glasgow museums

Monday July 6

0930-1400

Arrive to Glasgow Central Station.

Delegates will be met by Philip Tonner and taken to QM halls.

Tuesday July 7

0930-1130

Tour of Glasgow Museums Resource Centre Philip Tonner, Richard Sutcliffe.

1130-1200

Introduction to the Learning room Harry Dunlop

1400-1630

Collections Navigator Meeting room 1 Kirsten Riley

Wednesday July 8

1000-1200

Tour of Centre for New Enlightenment at Kelvingrove Michelle Berry

1400-1630

Introduction and tour Philip Tonner.

Thursday July 9

1000—1300

Collections Management: The Maryhill Inventory Project Celine Blair

1400-1500

MultiMimsy at Kelvingrove Philip Tonner

Friday July 10

0930-1000

Conservation

Glasgow Museum Resource Centre Polly Smith

1000-1030

Painting Conservation

1030-1100

Frames Conservation

1100-1200

Coffee with David Thomson et al followed by Preventative Conservation

1400-1630

MOT

Becky and Gretel

Week 5

Monday July 13

1000-1200

Research Meeting

Glasgow Museums Resource Centre Martin Bellamy

1200-1400

Disposal Meeting.

Open Museum Crawford McGugan.

Tuesday July 14

0930-1300

The Burrell Tapestries Project
The Burrell Collection
Helen Hughes

1300-1400

Lunch with Noorah Al Gailani, Curator of Islamic Civilizations

1400-1630

Follow up sessions

Martin Bellamy

Wednesday July 15

0930-1630

Participants depart Glasgow Central for London

Appendix 6: Sample programme for Partnership UK component (The Collection – Lincoln)



Monday July 6

0930-1200

Travel from London to Partnership UK museum, The Collection - Art and Archaeology of Lincoln

Arrival at Newark railway station

1400-1630

Go to University accommodation and shopping for food

Tuesday July 7

0930-1300

Introduction to the Collection and the Usher Gallery

1400-1630

Visit to Lincoln Castle

1630

Historic City Tour with Brian Taylor, City Guide

Wednesday July 8

0930-1300

LCC Strategic Collection Care: Archaeological Conservation Case Study

1400-1630

Optional: Life Drawing class in Usher Gallery

Thursday July 9

0930-1300

Stamford Museum

1400-1630

Burghley House, stately home and gardens

Friday July 10

0930-1300

Curators' Presentations

1300-1400

Lunch with senior staff in heritage service

Week 5

Monday July 13

0930-1300

Tour of the Archaeology store

1400-1630

Flexible sessions, e.g. education sessions or visit an excavation

Tuesday July 14

0930-1630

Day out to Creswell Crags, prehistoric cave dwelling site with rock art

Wednesday July 15

0930-1630

Travel from The Collection - Lincoln to London

Appendix 7: Sample programme for Partnership UK component (Manchester Museum - The Whitworth Art Gallery)

The University of Manchester The Manchester Museum The University of Manchester The Whitworth Art Gallery

Week 4

Monday July 6

Travel from London to Partnership UK museum, The Manchester Museum

Arrival and orientation

Karen Exell

1400-1500

Tour of the Museum

Karen Exell

1500-1600

Living Cultures

Stephen Welsh

Tuesday July 7

0915-1000

Director's Update and Introduction Nick Merriman, Director

1000-1115

Outreach/Collective Conversations Gurdeep Thiara

1130-1230

The Volunteer Programme

Adele Finlay/Kate Clancy

1400-1500

Documentation on KE EMU Malcolm Chapman

1500-1600

New Media

Steven Devine

Wednesday July 8

1000-1200

Exhibition Installation Stephen Booth

1300

Lunch with staff from Primary Learning/Magpie Arts Festival Helena Tomlin

1400-1600

Conservation

Sam Sportun

Afternoon

Magpie Arts Festival

Thursday July 9

1000-1115

Secondary Learning

Louise Sutherland

1130-1230

Public Programmes

Anna Bunney

1400-1500

Entomology

Dmitri Lugonov

1500-1600

MAJAs/Certificate in Egyptology

Joyce Tyldesely

Friday July 10

At Whitworth Art Gallery

1000-1230

Welcome to Whitworth Art Gallery

Maria Balshaw

Tour of the Gallery and opening up the collections online

Frances Pritchard and Dominique Heyse Moore

1330-1630

Getting the most out of storage and display systems on a limited budget

Nicola Walker

Managing loans

Gillian Smithson

Saturday July 11

Trip to Liverpool, including visits to World Museum, International Slavery Museum, and National Conservation Centre

Karen Exell, Frances Pritchard

Sunday July 12

1400-1800

Manchester International Festival presents Maria Abromovic

Week 5

Monday July 13

1330-1630

Planning in-house exhibitions Heather Birchall, Dominique Heyse Moore

Tuesday July 14

1000-1230

Learning and Interpretation programmes, podcasting, etc Leanne Manfredi, Andrew Vaughan, Nova Lee, Sally Olding

1400-1600

Joint feedback session at The Manchester Museum Karen Exell, Frances Pritchard, Gurdeep Thiara

Wednesday July 15

Travel from The Manchester Museum to London

Appendix 8: Sample programme for Partnership UK component (Tyne & Wear Archives and Museums)



Monday July 6

0930-1400

Arrival in Newcastle

1400-1630

Travel to accommodation - Newcastle City Centre Location of shops for food and essentials

Guided walking tour of Newcastle with Tour Guide

1800

Dinner with Assistant Director and guests

Tuesday July 7

0930-1300

Introduction to Assistant Director Iain Watson

Tour of Discovery Museum

1400-1630

Expectations Session

Tour of Great North Museum (GNM)

Wednesday July 8

0930-1630

Sessions arranged with the Learning Team and Culture Shock Project Team.

Thursday July 9

0930--1630

Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens Or

Great North Museum

Friday July 10

0930-1630

Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens Or

Great North Museum

1800

Exhibition opening - Making History, Sunderland

Dinner with Assistant Director and guests

Saturday July 11

0930-1630

An escorted trip to Hadrian's Wall

Sunday July 12

0930-1630

Beamish Open Air museum

Oi

Tynemouth Priory and Seafront

Week 5

Monday July 13

0930-1300

Shipley Art Gallery, Gateshead

1400-1630

Alternative tour of GNM

Tuesday July 14

0930-1300

Evaluation discussion session

1400-1630

Tour of Laing Art Gallery

Wednesday July 15

1630

Depart Newcastle and return to London