

Regular Meeting of Executive Committee of ANHS

Secretary Debarati Sen presiding officer

Held over the phone on April 25, 2018

Evening meeting

Present (3): Debarati Sen, Jana Fortier, Steve Fomar

Not Present: (3): Heather Hindman, Mona Bhan, David Citrin, Galen Murton, Pasang Sherpa, ,
Jessica Birkenholtz, Rupak Shrestha

Minutes of EC Meeting

The minutes of the last Meeting were read and approved at this meeting.

Motions

“Whereas, it is the duty of the ANHS Executive Council to consult with the ANHS membership about significant actions being undertaken by the ANHS EC; whereas senior ANHS members have requested that we discuss the proposed Kathmandu Research Center (KRC) relocation with the members during the annual members meeting; whereas, the KRC EC Board is opposed to the relocation plan; we MOVE that 1) KRC remain in its current location; 2) that KRC continue to be funded at 2017 budget allocation levels for KRC; and, 3) we discuss the relocation plan with the ANHS members at the upcoming annual meeting.”

The motion passed with 4 votes in favor, 1 abstention, and no votes against the motion. There were 4 EC members who did not send in a vote or have a proxy vote on their behalf by the voting deadline. Our by-laws state that in such situations, a majority of the votes recorded "shall be considered to constitute the official decision of the Council."

Issues

The meeting only had one issue which was to go over whether or not to move KRC to a new location in the Social Science Baha (SSB). The reasons were discussed in favor of moving and in favor of remaining at the current location. Various documents were considered and all EC members had a copy of these documents. These included:

MOU between ANHS and KRC from 2017 (attached)

MOU between ANHS and SSB from 2013

KRC Director's report of activities for 2017 (attached)

KRC EC letter to the ANHS EC, April 25, 2018 (attached)

KRC Development Committee's Discussion Document, Nov 2017 (attached)

CAORC Membership criteria

CAORC membership application from 2013

ANHS Constitution

Various emails from ANHS general members after they learned of the plan to shut down KRC

Meeting adjourned at 8pm.

Memorandum of Understanding for Collaboration between the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies (ANHS US) and the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies Kathmandu Center (ANHS-KRC), Kathmandu, Nepal

The Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies (ANHS) United States and the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies Kathmandu Center (ANHS-KRC) hereby agree to cooperate and collaborate in activities that seek to promote and enhance social sciences and contribute to academic environment in Nepal and the Himalayan region.

Terms of the Agreement:

1. The two institutions agree to seek ways to promote and enhance the social sciences in Nepal and the Himalayan region by working together in:
 - a) Organizing lectures, workshops, seminars and conferences.
 - b) Exploring the possibilities and avenues of collaboration in conducting research.
 - c) Exchanging research fellows between ANHS US and ANHS-KRC; and
 - d) Printing, publishing and dissemination of relevant literatures.
2. In keeping with the spirit of this MOU, ANHS US and ANHS-KRC agree to the following:
 - a) The ANHS-KRC, located at Kathmandu 4, Baluwatar, shall work as the liaison office for ANHS US in Nepal and serve as a link between the scholars based in the USA, ANHS members, and the local community of scholars and researchers.
 - b) To meet the objectives stated in (a), ANHS US has hired an ANHS KRC Director, who will be based at the ANHS KRC office at Baluwatar, Kathmandu-4 to look after ANHS activities in Nepal, and assist US scholars and ANHS members in conducting research;
 - c) The ANHS-KRC Director shall assist said scholars in the utilization of resources located at ANHS-KRC, including the library and the scholar's room.
 - d) ANHS US shall provide a sum not exceeding US\$ 25,000 (Twenty-five thousand US dollars) to ANHS KRC annually to cover its annual rent, the director's salary, honorariums for scholars used for giving lectures, lecture hall rental charges, costs for the services of a part time accountant and a lawyer, the services of a part-time office helper, the costs of utility bill, furniture, computers, photocopying, and printing, and essential local transportation costs for staff.
3. ANHS KRC will receive income generated from the sale of ANHS publications in Nepal and the fees collected from new memberships into its account, and properly maintain records and report to ANHS in a timely manner.
4. The MOU is valid for two years from the date of signing of the agreement by both parties and may be renewed with mutual written consent. The terms of the agreement may also be modified with mutual written consent.

[Signatures omitted]

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KRC EC Discussion points and Motions Passed by the Executive Board of the Kathmandu Research Center

Director M. Upadhyay

“Preamble: The KRC is a self-governing NGO registered with the Social Welfare Council of the Government of Nepal, and is vested with the authority of its Constitution to make decisions in the best interest of KRC. With the purpose of reviewing the best interests of KRC in light of an abrupt decision by the ANHS EC to significantly alter the mission, strategic goals, and programming at KRC, we have met to consider the facts before us, and to vote to remain at Baluwatar for the foreseeable future.

We have discussed the following facts: 1) In light of the fact that the plan approved by the ANHS EC to relocate KRC back to SSB, has been opposed for many good reasons by the ANHS members and some of the EC members as evidenced by the comments made by ANHS members and some EC members in the KRC Discussion document;

2) It was evident from the email exchange among quite a few members from the general membership and some EC members that ANHS members regard this as a lack of transparency and consultation, and have made their views on this known by asking that the plan be discussed at the next general members meeting. To date, the ANHS president nonetheless has confirmed that they plan to move ahead with the relocation plan; 3) the ANHS EC has failed to involve the KRC in this decision-making, and in fact has made decisions about KRC, that they have no legal authority to make, such as our location and the disposition of our property, like our library, furniture, and computer equipment etc.; 4) this upheaval could be easily avoided by answering in the affirmative that the relocation plan will be terminated unless and until the ANHS members and KRC EC are consulted on the matter. The KRC EC is willing and eager to participate in such discussions, as the ANHS sees fit.

Furthermore, we firmly assert that the property currently located in our Baluwatar office belongs to KRC and not to ANHS, per the KRC Constitution. We also firmly assert through visual inspection of the office and monthly reports, that the KRC director has fulfilled all requests made of him by the ANHS EC, and has provided outstanding service to all parties involved. Finally, we have planned for important summer 2018 activities, including one Fulbright-funded program, that will enhance the reputation of KRC throughout Nepal, will improve ANHS’ grant competitiveness, and for which the ANHS will be proud. However, the summer 2018 programming will be negatively affected by the relocation plan.

MOTION 1: We move to remain at our current Baluwatar office, to retain our current EC members, and to retain our current director and board chair.

MOTION 2: If in the event that the ANHS EC declines to continue funding KRC at its current location in Baluwatar, we move to donate all of KRC’s property, including its library, to a Nepali educational institution, to terminate our Baluwatar lease, to maintain KRC as a self-governing NGO registered with the Social Welfare Council of the Government of Nepal, and to seek funding for our operations from other sources. These actions, by definition and by law, will prohibit the ANHS EC to make any further decisions about the Nepali NGO “KRC,” up to and including using its name at any other location, on the ANHS website, or in any other advertising.”

Report by Manohari Upadhyaya of Select Activities at KRC 2017

Jan. 10: KRC helped Mr. Gendun Gyatso, a PhD candidate from Jawaharlal Nehru University, to apply for ANHS membership and facilitated in the fee deposit process.

Jan. 11:

- Meeting with Ben Linder, a CAORC Multi-Country Grant recipient, at KRC.
- Meeting with Karoline Follestad, a masters student from Norway, at KRC. Discussed ideas around KRC affiliation to conduct her research in Nepal, and the Study Visa provisions from TU. KRC has provided her a letter of Institutional Affiliation to go with her visa application.

Jan. 12: Met with Sagar Lama, a Nepali student, at KRC office and elaborated to him the process to apply for ANHS Student Membership. KRC also facilitated for him pay for the membership through KRC bank account, successfully.

Jan. 17: Provided KRC's Institutional Affiliation letter and consultation regarding Study Visa to carryout research work in Nepal to Ms. Minna Lyytikäinen, a PhD candidate from the Department for Political and Economic Studies, University of Helsinki, and an ANHS member.

Jan. 18: Meeting with Natasha Wozniak, an ANHS member, at KRC

Jan. 23: Wrote to Mr. Wyman tang, a member of ANHS from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, a response letter to his request for ways to find out how one of his friends, who is a TV journalist in Hong Kong, could cover the reconstruction work in the UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the Kathmandu valley. KRC provided him with information to contact the concerned officials at the Dpt. of Archeology in Kathmandu and Bhaktapur.

Jan. 25: Helped Ms. Olivia Molden, an ANHS member, in finding home stay in Patan area through our mutual contact at the Dragon's program.

Jan. 30: Meeting with Santosh Chandra Khatiwada, recipient of Asian Student Membership Scholarship at KRC.

(Most of the month of January was also featured with meetings with the current EC members of KRC and a number of potential candidates for nomination in the "future EC" of KRC.)

Ongoing work / work-in-progress:

- More consultation meetings with potential candidates for KRC nomination. Complete this process by mid January, 017.
- Finalize the list of the new EC of KRC. Calling an EC meeting and general assembly meeting of KRC to nominate and endorse the new EC.

Feb. 02: Submitted JSTOR® INSTITUTIONAL PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT to ANHS.

Feb. 04: Participated in a fundraising event for Meeteri Chhatrabritti Kosh at Banepa High School (for Scholarship)

Feb. 06:

- Helped Jana Fortier with questions related to SLC Exams in Nepal.
- Began planning a talk program by Natasha Wozniak, an ANHS member and former Fulbright Scholar for March 4th or 9.
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Feb. 18: Translated research materials from English to Nepali for Nathan Cook, an ANHS member.

Feb. 19: Helped [Jocelyn Powelson](#), an ANHS member, find a Nepali language teacher

Feb. 21: Gave a talk presentation on Political History of Nepal Since 1990 to SIT students and faculty in Kathmandu.

Feb. 24: Gave a talk presentation on Hinduism and Political Economy in Nepal to SIT students and faculty in Kathmandu.

Feb. 26: Provided support to Minna Lyytikäinen, an ANHS member, in finding potential research assistants for her research in Nepal.

(Parts of this month was also featured with meetings with some of the key authorities at the Social Welfare Council for the renewal of the Council's endorsement to KRC's affiliation with SWC; and meetings with current EC members of KRC and some of the potential candidates for nomination in the EC of KRC. The formation of the new EC of KRC is likely to be accomplished by the middle of this month)

Ongoing work / work-in-progress:

- Formation of KRC's new EC
- Obtaining of SWC's new affiliation certificate of KRC.
- Organizing a talk program by Natasha Wozniak at Fulbright Hall on March 13th.
- Organizing a talk program by Dr. Walter Winkler on April 10 (possibly with SSB, at Yalamaya Kendra).

(Note: Regular office work and weekends and holidays have not been mentioned in the list above)

March 1: Meeting with Natasha Wozniak, a former Fulbright scholar and the president of "Sangasangai", an NGO in the US and Nepal, and discussed about the possibility of her giving a talk program on "Rebuilding after the Earthquake in Nepal Experience".

March 6: Helped/facilitated Ms. Shanta Budhamagar, a Nepali student, become a member of ANHS.

March 8: Finalized a talk program by Dr. Walter Winkler titled to be held at Yalamaya Kendra on April 10 which will be jointly hosted by KRC and the Social Science Baha.

March 10: Obtained a two year extension on KRC's Institutional Affiliation with the Social Welfare Council (SWC).

March 13: Jointly hosted a talk presentation by Ms. Natasha Wozniak on "Effective Rebuilding Through Cultural Understanding" with Fulbright Nepal at Fulbright hall.

March 28: EC meeting of KRC. The meeting took a decision to hold the next meeting to form a new EC on April 6.

(Parts of this month was also featured with meetings with some of the key authorities at the Social Welfare Council for the renewal of the Council's endorsement to KRC's affiliation with SWC; and meetings with current EC members of KRC and some of the potential candidates for nomination in the EC of KRC. The formation of the new EC of KRC is scheduled to be on April 6)

Ongoing work / work-in-progress:

- Formation of KRC's new EC with 7 members on April 6.
- Organizing a talk program by Dr. Walter Winkler on "Everybody Has a Story: New Approaches to Story Analysis in Far Western Nepal" on April 10 at Yalamaya Kendra jointly with the Social Science Baha.
- Prepare and send a draft MoU between KRC and ANHS to ANHS.

(Note: Regular office work and weekends and holidays have not been mentioned in this report)

April 7: Provided support to Mr. Deep Chapagain, a Nepali student researcher, obtain ANHS membership.

April 8: Participated in a presentation on HiMAP and NSF work at USAID, Nepal by Dr. Alton Byers. Senior Research Associate, Institute for Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR) at University of Colorado at Boulder, and Co-Manager, High Mountains Adaptation Partnership (HiMAP) on Wednesday at 11 am. Also got acquainted with the US Embassy Communication Officer.

April 9:

- Worked with the NIBL to setup the change of KRC account's signatories, successfully.
- Meeting with Dr. Walter Winkler to plan for the talk program scheduled for April 10.

April 10: Organized a talk program by Dr. Walter Winkler on "Everybody Has a Story New Approaches to Story Analysis in Far Western Nepal" at Yalamaya Kendra, Patandhoka. This event was jointly organized by ANHS-KRC and the Social Science Baha.

April 13: Meeting at KRC office with Mr. Dane Carlson, recipient of CAORC Multi-Country Grant and Fulbright Fellowship to conduct his research study in Nepal in 2017-018 regarding possible collaboration with KRC for his project.

April 19: Helped Dr. Christie Lam, ANHS member and Associate Professor of G30 Human Sciences Program, School of Human Sciences, Osaka University, is looking to employ a Research Assistant for her project in Nepal. The focus of her research is "Post- disaster reconstruction challenges in Nepal" and the research assistant is required for the duration of one month.

April 24: Initiated by the ANHS President, KRC began the process to organize a workshop on "How to Give Conference Papers" before the Kathmandu Conference and a workshop/seminar on "Research Methodology", both for Nepali students, before or after the Kathmandu the conference. KRC is in active communication with Dr. Luke Wagner and Mr. Deepak Thapa, Director, SSB.

April 25: Provided ANHS with information and updates on the materials related to KRC, i.e. "types of activities", "list of services" being planned to go to the updated ANHS website.

April 27: Initiated by Galen Murton, KRC began communicating with Mr. Brot Coburn, a former Peace Corps Volunteer in Nepal and the author of "Nepali Ama", around developing bilateral collaboration between his project in Nepal and KRC.

April 30: Meeting with Dr. Christie Lam at KRC office to discuss about her project in Nepal and to identify ways for collaboration with other organizations to share findings of her project.

Ongoing work / work-in-progress:

- Prepare and send a draft MoU between KRC and ANHS to ANHS.
- Provide Dannah Dennis, ANHS member and a PhD candidate in Anthropology at the University of Virginia with KRC institutional affiliation, who has been awarded a grant to conduct her research in Nepal under the NEH and CAORC in May-August 2018.
- Follow up on other ongoing preparatory work for the two workshops before and after the Kathmandu Conference.

Follow up with UW-CYIP for sending the UW-CYN students' fieldwork papers to KRC

May 1: Contacted Mr. Brot Coburn, Coordinator, University of Colorado-Nepal Study Program upon Mr. Galen Murton's recommendation and discussed matters of interest for both the Colorado University program and KRC.

May 8: Contacted Mr. Yamal Rajbhandari, Assistant Director, USEF Nepal regarding the availability of some of the Fulbright scholars to participate and/or facilitate one or both of the two pre-and-post Annual Kathmandu Conference.

May 9: Meeting with Social Welfare Council authorities to discuss ANHS-KRC annual budget and how to incorporate category-wise expenses in the ANHS-KRC proposal to SWC (This is for the SWC's endorsement to the future MoU between ANHS (US) and KRC).

May 10: Discussed Ideas regarding the holding of the two events by KRC before the Annual Kathmandu conference, i.e. a workshop on "How to Give Conference Papers" and the "Research Methodology Seminar" with Drs. Folmar and Luke Wagner, and Deepak Thapa of SSB.

May 10: Meeting with Prof. Barbara Engebretsen, WSC, Nebraska, also a Fulbright scholar in Nepal; Discussed ideas around mutual cooperation between WSC, Nebraska and KRC in the future.

May 19:

- (a) Meeting at KRC with Ms. Jennifer Bradley, ANHS member and a graduate student from the US, who has been working in the rebuilding projects in the Langtang area of Nepal after the 2015 earthquake. Currently, Ms. Bradley is looking to find ways to narrow-down the topic and the focus of her research along gender divisions and its impact on women in Nepal. Jennifer plans to study cultural anthropology in the future, with a regional focus in Nepal and the surrounding South Asia area.

KRC also introduced Ms. Bradley to Dr. Bandita Sijapati, Director, SECELAM, and Mr. Deepak Thapa, Director of the Social Science Baha, in connection with her proposed research in Nepal.

- (b) Meeting with Mr. Dane Carlson at KRC; discussed ideas surrounding his applying for a government permit to access upper Mustang district for his forthcoming research with Fulbright. Some of the things discussed with him were ways how KRC could help/support his project by providing institutional affiliation. Mr. Carlson is also considering KRC's proposal to him to help/support the two activities KRC is trying to hold before and after the Annual Kathmandu Conference.

KRC also wrote to Dr. Alton Byers introducing Ms. Bradley, and asking for his support to Ms. Bradley in her research.

May 22: Met with Mr. Brot Couburn, a former PCV and a writer and the coordinator of University of Colorado at KRC and discussed ideas around supporting each other for mutual institutional interests.

May 26: Helped Dr. Jessica V. Birkenholtz, ANHS (US) member, get the permission to reprint one of the cartoons published in the daily Kathmandu Post and the Kantipur on August 21, 2005, from the publishers and the cartoonist, Mr. Durga Baral (Vatsyayan). This cartoon is to be reprinted in Dr. Birkenholtz's forthcoming book on the "Swasthani Brata Katha Tradition" being printed by the Oxford University Press.

May 27:

- Identified and recommended one of the most appropriate agencies, i.e. **Himalayan Research Expeditions** for Dr. Lauren Leve, an ANHS Member, to support her in her attempt to conduct a year-long scientific study on the Gokyo Lake in the Mount Everest region that is due to begin this summer, and also introduced Dr. Dhanajay Regmi, the Director of the organization so that both teams could work together.
- KRC director gave a talk on "Modern Political History of Nepal since 1990 and the Maoist Civil War in Nepal" to University of Colorado students and the faculty at Boudhanath, Kathmandu.

Ongoing work / work-in-progress:

- Follow up with SWC-Nepal to get their consent on the budget allocation criteria in the KRC budget proposal on ANHS and KRC MoU.

- Follow up on other ongoing preparatory work for the two workshops before and after the Kathmandu Conference.
- Follow up with UW-CYIP for sending the UW-CYN students' fieldwork papers to KRC.

(Note: Regular office work and weekends and holidays have not been mentioned in this report)

June 8: Met with Barbara Engebretsen, Professor - Exercise Physiology and Public & Global Health, Wayne State College, NE, USA, at KRC and discussed about the possibility of KRC providing language instructions to WSC students in Kathmandu. KRC has agreed to provide 4-day intensive language instructions to WSC students in Nepal in 2018. KRC EC will meet soon to consider a draft MoU which will be shared with ANHS as soon as possible.

June 9: Helped finalize the collaboration between Himalayan Research Expeditions and Dr. Lauren Leve's team that intends to conduct a year-long research project on the Gokyo Lake in the Everest region.

June 13: Helped SIT Nepal (Tibetan Studies Program) re-new their institutional membership of ANHS.

June 15: Met with Dr. Alton Byers at KRC and discussed around ideas for future collaboration with any KRC and HiMAP project.

June 23: Submitted two overdue reports to ANHS consisting of the factual details of KRC run activities in Nepal in 016/017 and a list of Visitors to KRC office in 2016.

June 24: KRC began working to draft a MoU between KRC and WSC, Nebraska for a language training and cultural orientation to WSC students in 2018.

Ongoing work / work-in-progress:

- Coordination work between, ANHS-KRC, SSB, Dignity Initiative (DI), Khyam Bishwakarma (DI), Madhusudan Subedi (TU), Luke Wagner (Yale), and Steven Folmar (Wake Forest College) for the two events, i.e. a 1-day workshop on How to Give Conference Papers, and a 2-day workshop on Academic Research / Research Methodology is ongoing throughout this month until the 3rd week of July.
- Follow up on the MoU with WSC and get it endorsed by the EC of KRC.
- Finalize the draft MoU with ANHS and share it with EC of KRC and ANHS.
- Follow up with SWC-Nepal to get their consent on the budget allocation criteria in the KRC budget proposal on ANHS and KRC MoU.

July 1: Preparation of a draft MOU between ANHS-KRC and the Service Learning Program of the Wayne State College, Nebraska. Shared this document with WSC representative, Dr. Barbara Engebretsen who agreed to the terms and conditions of this MOU and decided to take it to the next level at WSC for their approval.

- Also, shared this document with ANHS President for ANHS's consent on it.

July 6: Met with Dr. Sam Staddon, ESRC Global Challenges Research Fund Fellow, University of Edinburgh. Dr. Staddon is interested in doing a research in Nepal around issues of social equity and participatory monitoring widely, including in terms of programs, practices, policies and debates. Dr. Staddon is also interested in bringing groups of her students to Nepal for a short study period in the future and hopes to work with KRC for the same and other projects of UoE.

July 9: Met with Khyam Bishwakarma and J.B. Bishwakarma, Chair and EC members of Dignity Initiative respectively at the DI office to discuss about ideas around the two-day workshop on Research Methodology planned to be hosted jointly by ANHS-KRC and DI on July 22 and 23. This meeting also finalized the list of participants who were informed to register for the workshop as early as possible.

July 10: Meeting with Luke Wagner and Sanju Koirala at SSB to finalize selection of the participants for the 1-day workshop.

July 14: Shared the draft MOU between KRC and WSC with members of KRC's EC for their endorsement. The EC of KRC approved the draft MOU and authorized the Chair of the organization to further negotiate with relevant departments/agencies to bring it to conclusion, in time.

July 16: Helped host a one-day workshop on "How to give conference papers" by Mr. Luke Wagner, a graduate student at Yale, at Social Science Baha. This was the 2nd workshop with the same theme which was once again organized jointly by ANHS-KRC and SSB. Though, the number of applicants was high, the turnout was only 10 this year, the workshop was a success, nevertheless.

July 22-23: Helped host a two-day workshop at Dignity Initiative, an NGO in Kathmandu on "Research Methodology" with a special focus on addressing some of the prominent Dalit issues faced by researchers in Nepal. This workshop was facilitated by Dr. Steven Folmar and assisted by Mr. Luke Wagner. The event was hosted jointly by ANHS-KRC and the Dignity Initiative and was attended by 25 participants.

July 24: KRC Director attended a reception hosted by Fulbright Nepal for the newly arrived American Fulbright scholars in Nepal and the new Fulbright nominees from Nepal to the US.

July 26-28: Participated in the Annual Kathmandu Conference on Nepal and the Himalaya organized by the Social Science Baha and sponsored by ANHS and BNAC, among others.

- Meeting with Dr. Steven Folmar and Dr. Tom Peterson, Director, Fulbright Nepal; discussed ideas around developing a program in 2018 involving KRC and other organizations. We agreed to continue discussion about the specifics of this program.

Ongoing work / work-in-progress:

- Follow up with the CYIN program, Banaras, for the UW-Madison for the students' fieldwork papers.
- Follow up with SWC-Nepal to get their consent on the budget allocation criteria in the KRC budget proposal on ANHS and KRC MoU.

Aug. 3: Meeting with Luke Wagner at KRC to discuss his current research interest in Nepal for 2018, i.e. "Movement for the restoration of a Hindu State in Nepal" and shared ideas around it.

- Also provided Luke with reading materials related to his subject of research in Nepal.

Aug. 7: Meeting with Kriparam Bishwakarma, a college teacher in Dailekh district at KRC office to discuss about his ongoing Ph.D. research from KU and how he could benefit from ANHS-KRC services once he becomes a member.

Aug. 11. Met with Mitchael Smith, Program Coordinator, Where There Be Dragons Program, Nepal, at KRC and discussed about ideas for projects of mutual interests for KRC and the Dragons program.

Aug. 17: Met with Dane Carlson at KRC where he checked out some books relevant to his ongoing project in Nepal from the library.

- Dane was also given an institutional affiliation letter advised on obtaining remote area permit from the Nepal Government.

Aug. 22: Provided Paul Halman, ANHS member and PhD student from The University of Queensland, Australia with information on KRC services available to ANHS members. Paul is planning a research trip to Nepal in mid 2018 and hopes to use KRC services for his research in Nepal.

Aug. 23: Learned from the CYIP of the University of Wisconsin, Banaras that the long anticipated fieldwork papers of the CYN students are nowhere to be found in the program house in Banaras!

Aug. 25: Sent a proposed draft copy of the MoU between KRC and ANHS for ANHS's consideration and endorsement for finalization and signing of the MoU.

Ongoing work / work-in-progress:

- Follow up with SWC-Nepal to get their consent on the budget allocation criteria in the KRC budget proposal on ANHS and KRC MoU.
- Follow up on Divyabhumi Multiple College to set a time for their students' and faculty's visit to KRC office this month.

Sept. 7: Provided information on KRC's functions along with accommodation details available at KRC for its members to Professor Pigg of the Simon Fraser University, Canada. Prof. Pigg is currently on a research/writing project and has booked the Scholar's room at KRC for a period between November 24th 2017 and January 15th 2018.

Sept. 8: The KRC director gave a talk/presentation on "Hindu Traditions in Nepal" to the students and faculties of the "Himalayan Studies" program students of the School for International Training/Nepal.

Sept. 14: Cleared ANHS due of Rs. 10,000 with Softnep through KRC budget for maintaining ANHS webpage for the last fiscal year.

Sept. 15: Provided information on translators in Kathmandu to translate some research documents for Dr. Steven Folmar.

Sept. 19: KRC began conversation with the University of Vermont officials who are trying to put together a program comprising a group of 15 students and some faculty members to Nepal in Dec 26 - Jan 15, 2018, and are discussing the extent of KRC's involvement and the criteria for such engagement.

Sept. 29: Helped with information and encouraged Ms. Chungla Sherpa, a graduate student at the Department of Forestry, Pokhara Campus, to acquire the Asian Student Membership of ANHS. Ms. Sherpa will likely pay her membership fees when the banks open after the Dashain holidays.

Ongoing work / work-in-progress:

- Follow up on the development of the 3-week program of the University of Vermont.
- Follow up on Divyabhumi Multiple College to set a time for their students' and faculty's visit to KRC office after the Dashain holidays.
- Follow up with SWC-Nepal to get their consent on the budget allocation criteria in the KRC budget proposal on ANHS and KRC MoU this month.

(Note: Regular office work and weekends and holidays have not been mentioned in this report)

Oct. 3: Provided Kriparam Bishwakarma, a Lecturer at Athbisa Education Campus, Dailekh District, with information and helped him acquire ANHS Asian Student Membership locally from Nepal.

Oct. 6: Began working with Dignity Initiative (DI), an NGO, working in the Dalit issues in Nepal whom KRC had co-hosted a two-day workshop with in Kathmandu in July, along the idea to host a number of research methods workshops for under / graduate students in Nepal with grants from the Fulbright Commission.

Oct. 11: Provided Samyog Regmi information and helped him acquire ANHS Asian Student Membership locally from Nepal.

Oct. 16: Compiled and sent the translated documents for a research project of Dr. Steven Folmar from Nepali to English.

Oct. 27: Work in progress regarding finding citation information and consent from Mr. Yogesh Raj (the author of the article being cited) for Dr. Jessica Birkenholtz's forthcoming book on "Swasthani Brata Katha".

Oct. 31:

- Participated in a Lecture Titled "Health Care in Rural Nepal in Times of Change" which was part of a Fulbright Monthly Public Lecture and Policy Discussion Series to Celebrate the 70th Anniversary of US-Nepal Relations at Patan Hospital. The speakers were: **Mr. Mark Arnoldy**, CEO, Possible; **Dr. Bhagwan Koirala**, Cardiothoracic surgeon, professor and Social worker; and **Dr. Shrijana Shrestha**, Dean, School of Medicine, Patan Academy of Health Sciences, and moderated by Dr. Thomas Robertson, Director, Fulbright Nepal. This event was jointly organized by the Fulbright Nepal and the Patan Academy of Health Sciences at Patan Hospital, Kathmandu.
- Consultation meeting with Mr. Khyam Bishwakarma, President of DI, where writing a joint proposal for the Fulbright Nepal's under the Specialists' Program was discussed.

Ongoing work / work-in-progress:

- Work on to scheduling at least one or two talk programs in November.
- Follow up on the development of the 3-week program of the University of Vermont.
- Follow up with SWC-Nepal to get their consent on the budget allocation criteria in the KRC budget proposal on ANHS and KRC MoU this month.
- Follow up / work towards finishing the joint proposal for Fulbright Nepal with DI
- Follow up with Paul Halman for his proposed research project in Nepal.
- Follow up with the Divyabhumi Multiple College for their students / faculty's proposed visit to KRC.

(Note: Regular office work and weekends and holidays have not been mentioned in this report)

Nov 2: Meeting with Mr. Khyam BK, President, Dignity Initiative, Kathmandu, regarding finalization of the proposal for the US Fulbright Specialist Program in mid-018.

Nov. 7: Sent a rough estimate to organize in-country activities including travel and other logistics to run a 3-weeks Service Learning program for the University of Vermont.

Nov 15: Provided Ms. Krista D. Nixon, a Graduate Student at International Studies Program at East Carolina University and ANHS member with relevant information about KRC services to support her thesis writing.

Nov. 18: KRC submitted a proposal to Fulbright Nepal to run Research Methods Workshops in Pokhara, Bhairahawa and Biratnagar under US Fulbright Specialist Program in collaboration with the Dignity Initiative, Kathmandu.

Nov. 27: Prof. Stacy Pigg begins her stay at KRC Scholar's room.

Ongoing work / work-in-progress:

- Follow up on the development of the 3-week program of the University of Vermont.
- Follow up with Paul Halman for his proposed research project in Nepal.

Dec. 4: The EC of KRC meets. The meeting decides to call for volunteers to help organize the KRC library as soon as possible.

Dec. 7: Meeting with Dr. Bhupa Prasad Dhamala, Executive Director, Center for International Relations (CIR), Tribhuvan University. Shared ideas around how CIR and KRC could be supportive to each other for research by ANHS scholars in the future.

Dec. 11: Participated in the Mahesh Chandra Regmi Lecture Series delivered by Prof. David Holmberg on "Ethnography, History, Culture Enduring Oppositions and Creative Dynamism in Nepal" organized by the Social Science Baha.

Dec. 15: Visit to KRC by Prof. Koshraj Neupane of TU. Ideas around supporting KRC programs and events by his department were discussed.

Dec. 21: Provided information regarding acquiring permits from the ethics committee in Nepal for foreign researchers conducting research work in Nepal.

Dec. 28: Meeting with Prof. Andrea Nightingale, an ANHS member to discuss ideas surrounding possible collaborations for future SLP (Service Learning Programs) and Dr. Nightingale's giving a talk program hosted by KRC in the near future.

Dec. 31: Meeting with Ms. Leigh Williams, Coordinator, Service Learning Program, University of Vermont, at KRC office to exchange ideas regarding the running of SL programs in Nepal and possible collaboration with KRC.

Ongoing work / work-in-progress:

- Interview the interested volunteers to organize the KRC library and select one or two volunteers for the job.
- Follow up with Paul Halman for his proposed research project in Nepal.
- Meeting with Dr. *Nayna Jhaveri*, Resource Tenure Specialist for Tetra Tech ARD to discuss / share ideas around her research in Nepal in 2018.
- Meeting with Dr. Galen Murton, ANHS member and Assistant Professor at James Madison University to share ideas around student programs for JMU in Nepal in 2019.

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Discussion Points, Nov. 2017
KRC Development Committee

Based upon comments offered at the Boulder meeting of the Himalayan Studies Conference, it seemed important to consider the role and situation of the Kathmandu Research (Resource) Center (KRC). We would like to divide this into three sections: possible affiliations and services outside of Kathmandu, the space of the KRC, and the staffing of the KRC. Heather has spoken with CAORC and none of these options would endanger our CAORC status, in fact the new director, Rick Spees, believes that a change would be good.

More non-Nepal Services

For some time, ANHS's members who do not work in Nepal have not received the kind of services that we are able to offer in Nepal. In considering what is best for the organization and fairest to our members, we need to think about how our resources are allocated in relation to our membership. Other CAORCs operate in a multinational environment, such as the American Research Institute of the South Caucasus. ARISC has only been around for a dozen years and has been a CAORC for less than that, but manages to offer support for their members in three different countries, without having formal offices in all those places. This is not a proposal to open offices in all of the locations ANHS members work, but we would like to establish contacts and facilities that would support members as they sought visas, language teachers and affiliations in their research locations. To give a sense of the scale of this phenomenon, currently 125 members of ANHS list Nepal as their research location, while 62 list India, 49 list Tibet, 20 list Bhutan and 3 list Pakistan.

In speaking with institutions across the Himalayas, some groups are willing to help ANHS members in providing services and contacts because it is part of their own mission and for the expansion of awareness it will provide. Other institutions hope for something more tangible, varying from conference co-sponsorship and member talks to financial compensation. We have spoken with other ORCs in the region who welcome this kind of relationship and are happy both to have us establish our own relationships and to utilize them as experts when possible.

Over the long-term, we think it is important balance our resources across the Himalayas and places of our members' interests more equitably. In 2016, 41% of ANHS's total expenses went to operating the Kathmandu office (versus 22% for the journal and 37% for general operations).

According to the KRC Director's reports, approximately 28 people (some ANHS members, others not) have had contact with KRC over the last 12 months, not including those who attended lectures or the summer conference. Most of these were requests for information, or other activities that were conducted by email, not requiring an in-person visit. It is our thinking that similar services could be offered in other locations in the Himalayan region.

While there is much to be gained from a face-to-face presence and a full-time office for ANHS in Nepal, the costs may be too high. We believe that through some cost savings in Nepal, it is possible to provide similar informational and support services in locations like Bhutan, Ladakh, Sikkim, Darjeeling, the sites of the Tibetan diaspora, etc.

Space

Currently, we spend approximately \$3000 per year in rent for our space in Baluwatar, as well as \$400 in office expenses. Our location includes a front office, a library, a scholar's room (hostel-like), a small room that could be used for meetings (5-8 people) and a rudimentary kitchen, as well as access to the roof. Currently, we are unable to host lectures in the KRC space, although we have offers to share space for lectures with Fulbright, SSB and the Heidelberg Program, in exchange for co-sponsorship and some financial recompense (at times).

Keeping the office as is

Benefits	Drawbacks
Office rentable by NGOS	No lecture space
Scholars room available at low price	Little foot traffic
Small library	Little use of library; library incomplete
Gives us a base in Kathmandu	Rent will increase 10% next year

Space sharing

We could also consider sharing space with another educational institution in Kathmandu. This could mean an office that we have access to only a few hours a week, a room within a larger entity, or another configuration. This is how KRC began. The costs and benefits of such a space-sharing arrangement would depend upon what organization or office was involved as well as how much time/space ANHS wanted to utilize. Heather has spoken with a few groups in Kathmandu who suggest they would be willing to enter into such an agreement, thus it is a viable option. Again, it is difficult to delineate the costs and benefits before deciding which group and what relationship. The KRC ad hoc subcommittee has discussed these options and is willing to present options to the EC if this is the direction that is most appealing.

No office

We could also close the office entirely. We would want to have a mailing address and work with someone to be sure at least minimal services are provided to retain our CAORC status. Although a physical location is not required, it is important for us to have an in-country presence, even if only by email. I hope the benefits/drawbacks of this are clear.

Staffing

Currently we spend about \$8000 per year for the Director's (Manohari's) salary. This is somewhat more than researchers at SSB are paid, as a comparison. In addition, we spend per year \$300 for Director and EC travel and \$200 for our KRC (Nepal only) website. While some of these expenses may remain in new staffing situations, others will not.

Keep full-time director in-country (status quo)

Benefits	Drawbacks
Manohari has good connections	Manohari has been asking for a raise for several years
ANHS has a full-time presence in Nepal	Expense of full-time salary when members call upon this service rarely
Some members find Manohari very receptive to requests such a help with permits, photo permissions and other bureaucratic services	Other members have not had as positive experiences
	Could use savings to reconfigure services and/or offer services outside Nepal

Significant Change to Staffing

Another option is to change our staffing arrangement. This is more difficult to provide a cost/benefit analysis as it would depend upon what options we pursued. Note that a number of these roles could be combined, especially if we saved money on our current staffing or received additional funding from elsewhere, which some of these would offer. This might include:

- Offering Manohari a fee-for-services type of contract where members (or ANHS) paid for individual help, based upon the time required. It is unclear if this is something he would assent to, although he does currently have other paid jobs.

- Hiring a different type of staff, perhaps a part-time secretary/administrative position, who would merely be responsible for budgeting and responding to requests, which would perhaps have to be forwarded elsewhere.

- Hire someone responsible only for programming. There are quite a few things that ANHS has sought to bring to KRC that have not happened for a variety of reasons. New staffing may facilitate this, and most are revenue generating activities.

- Hire someone who would be responsible for working with study abroad programs, educational groups and others groups. This might involve organizing lectures or creating short-term courses for those visiting Nepal.

- Hire someone (could be same as above) who would work to establish a language program. This would include creating the infrastructure that would allow ANHS to receive FLAS funding for students. This is also worth considering as AIIS does not offer many North Indian languages and Cornell is having difficulty with their Nepali language program. Many members who took our language survey in August 2017 suggested that they would be very interested in summer courses in Nepal or Tibetan hosted by ANHS.