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
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.

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*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Institution/Location</th>
<th>Supporting Organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Joyce Dartey</td>
<td>Assistant Lecturer</td>
<td>Department of Archaeology, University of Ghana</td>
<td>This position was generously supported by the Allen &amp; Co</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>Sayan Bhattacharya</td>
<td>Programme Assistant</td>
<td>Centre for Archaeological Studies in Eastern India</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nilanjan Banerjee</td>
<td>Special Officer and Administrator</td>
<td>Rabindra Bhavana</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Charles Wallace India Trust Fellow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>Layla Mahmood Salih Salih</td>
<td>Mosul Museum, Iraq</td>
<td></td>
<td>This position was generously supported by the British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Salim Younis Hussien</td>
<td>Inspector</td>
<td>Nineveh Inspectorate of Antiquities and Heritage, Iraq</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Linda Noe Laine Fellow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>Gilda Jorge</td>
<td>Digitisation Officer</td>
<td>National Art Museum, Maputo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Antonio Ntimbanga</td>
<td>Department of Education and Exhibition</td>
<td>National Museum of Ethnology, Maputo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>Haytham Deik</td>
<td>Department of Archaeology</td>
<td>Birzeit University</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nourah Sammar</td>
<td>Department of Archaeology</td>
<td>Birzeit University</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>Aimen El Tayeb El Tayeb Sidahmed</td>
<td>Curator</td>
<td>National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums, Khartoum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

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 360º  
- 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.
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.
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.

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)

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 co-participants).

‘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](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).
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 21\(^{st}\) and July 30\(^{th}\) 2010, with the session at the UK Partner Museums between July 12\(^{th}\) and 21\(^{st}\). The range of participating institutions and individuals are currently under consideration.

Neal Spencer  
nspencer@britishmuseum.org  
Claire Messenger  
cmessenger@britishmuseum.org  
Terhi Nurmikko  
tnurmikko@britishmuseum.org

International Training Programme  
The British Museum  
London WC1B 3DG  
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).

Further thanks are due to Paul Bellamy (UK Visa, Tehran), Ian Cramman (UK Visa, Cairo), Jimmy Price (UK Visa, Khartoum), Emma Johnson(UK Visa, Amman), Steve Brown (UK Visa, Jerusalem), Nadja Qaisi (CBRL, Amman), Hisham el-Eithy and Sabri Abd el-Aziz (Supreme Council of Antiquities, Egypt), Abdel Rahman Ali (Sudan National Museum), Dr Amiteshwar Jha (Indian Institute for Research in Numismatic Studies), Dong Qi (National Museum of China, Beijing), Harriet Crawford and Joan Porter MacIver (British Institute for the Study of Iraq), Juma Yusuf Walusimbi (Bank of Uganda), Helen Jenkins (Schafer House, UCL), and Paul Williamson and David Brown (Constantine).

Janet Vitmayer and her team at the Horniman Museum, along with Melissa Appel, Beth McGillop, 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
   B3
   Catherine Cartwright/Margaret Sax

Radiography
   B7
   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
G5
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
International Training Programme 2009

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

1700
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 Birmingham New Street
Appendix 5: Sample programme for Partnership UK component (Glasgow Museums)

Glasgow

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)

**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 Tyldesley

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
Or
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