



# ICOM-CC Education and Training in Conservation Working Group and National Research Laboratory for Conservation, Lucknow, India



Working Group Interim Meeting  
5th & 6th December 2016  
at NRLC, Lucknow



**International Council of Museums Committee for Conservation (ICOM-CC)** is the largest of the International Committees of ICOM and aims to promote the conservation of culturally and historically significant works and to further the goals of the conservation profession. The Working Group **Education and Training in Conservation** is part of the 21 Working Groups in ICOM-CC and aims to represent those interested in and/or involved in education and training in conservation throughout the world.

The **National Research Laboratory for Conservation (NRLC)** is a governmental institution comprising a team of professionally trained conservation scientists and conservators. NRLC aims to develop conservation of cultural property in India and has outreach beyond the Indian borders. To achieve this end, NRLC carries out research in materials and methods of conservation and diagnostic investigations, imparts training in preventive and curative conservation, disseminates knowledge in conservation and related areas through library and information services, provide technical assistance in the development of conservation facilities.



### Conservation, Education and Training in India: preparing a road map for the future

This two-day ICOM-CC Education and Training Working Group Interim Meeting will gather relevant interested parties in the education and training of conservators in Indian museums and collections. The meeting will provide a platform for the main stakeholders, both national and foreign, involved in training conservators in India to meet and discuss the current situation with Indian museum directors, curators and conservators. The two day event will consist of keynote speakers and a discussion panel on the first day. The second day will consist of an expert meeting to discuss future steps in the training of conservators in India.

#### CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

Those wishing to participate with a presentation should email [k.seymour@sral.nl](mailto:k.seymour@sral.nl) by 1st October 2016.

The meeting will be hosted at NRLC's training centre in Lucknow on the 5th and 6th December, 2016. Pre-registration is obligatory and numbers will be limited to 75 participants.



India is a country with a rich and diverse culture and a population of c.1.2 billion. Collections in which cultural heritage objects are housed reflect this and are vast. Graduate numbers in the **Conservation of Cultural Heritage** are currently inadequate to deal with the care of such an enormity of material. Conservation departments in museums are small and job vacancies are often not filled. The need for more graduates is great and emphasis should be on setting up additional conservation based degrees at other institutions. Teachers with the capacity to instruct on conservation related courses are lacking and need to be available before new courses can be set up. Teaching teachers to give them the skills to disseminate conservation training is paramount. Highlighting this aspect will be one of the key topics to be discussed at the December 2016 ICOM-CC interim meeting.

The future road map entails training management, curators, conservators and technicians at different levels to reflect the current situation in India. Academically trained conservators with a balanced knowledge and understanding of sciences and humanities as well as conservation principles will become the decision makers and conservation leaders. They will work in tandem with managers and curators to establish best practice and policies for museum objects. They will supervise technicians and other interested parties to carry out supervised appropriate work. Training future generations requires standards and guidelines to be established and put into play. The future road map will be inclusive of all relevant interested parties but should be managed by a central body. This meeting will establish a guide and plan for this map.

**Organising Committee:** Kate Seymour (ICOM-CC Coordinator Education & Training Working Group)  
Dr B. V. Kharbade (Director General, NRLC)