

NEPALI ACADEMICS IN AMERICA (NACA) SECOND ANNUAL VIRTUAL CONFERENCE April 15-16, 2022			
DAY 1 (APRIL 15, 2022)			
7:45 pm - 8:00 pm ET (5:30 am - 5:45 am NST, April 16)	INTRODUCTION TO NACA AND WELCOME Udaya Wagle (NACA President) Krishna Paudel (Conference Chair)		
8:00 pm - 8:55 pm ET (5:45 am - 6:40 am NST, April 16)	KEYNOTE SPEECH Binod Tiwari , Professor and Associate Vice President of Research, Cal State University, Fullerton, California <i>Lessons Learned from Past Earthquakes - Resilience, Recovery, and Renewal</i>		
8:55 pm – 9:00 pm ET (6:40 am - 6:45 am NST, April 16)	BREAK		
	Concurrent Session 1 (1-A1)	Concurrent Session 2 (1-B1)	Concurrent Session 3 (1-C1)
9:00 pm – 9:55 pm (6:45 am - 7:40 am NST, April 16)	YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP Organizer/moderator: Arun KC (Save the Children) Session description: This organized session brings four innovative youths who will share their business cases and opportunities for youths within the country for economic resilience building.	ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT Organizer/moderator: Keshav Bhattarai (University of Central Missouri) Session description: This session includes four presentations related to fertilizer subsidy and its impacts, aerosol impact, canopy temperature on wheat yield, and child labor issues in the Nepali carpet industry.	BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY I –THE COMPOSITION, STRUCTURE, AND INTERACTIONS OF CELLULAR MOLECULES Organizer/moderator: Samagya Banskota (Harvard University) Session description: In this session, three talks related to protein synthesis in memory formation, in silico modeling screening for novel protein binders, and the role of nucleic acid phase separation are featured, respectively.
9:55 pm – 10:00 pm ET (7:40 am - 7:45 am NST, April 16)	BREAK		
	Concurrent Session 1 (1-A2)	Concurrent Session 2 (1-B2)	Concurrent Session 3 (1-C2)
10:00 pm –10:55 pm ET (7:45 am - 8:40 am NST, April 16)	HOW TO LAND A TENURE TRACK JOB Organizer/Moderator: Krishna Paudel (USDA ERS) Session description: Four panelists representing economics who have recently landed a tenure track job in U.S. universities share their experiences of successfully landing a faculty job.	NATURAL DISASTER I: HIMALAYAN GLACIERS, DISASTER RISKS, AND RESILIENCE Organizer/moderator: Milan Shrestha (ASU) Session description: The four presenters in this session provide a holistic and interdisciplinary look at the coupled nature of natural and social systems of the glacial hazards and risks.	ICEBREAKER SESSION I <u>Moderator:</u> Alok Bohara, PhD , University of New Mexico

DAY 2 (APRIL 16, 2022)			
9:00 am – 9:55 am ET (6:45 pm - 7:40 pm NST, April 16)	<p>KEY SESSION ON HEALTH: THE CRITICAL ROLE OF HEALTH EQUITY IN THE POST-DISASTER WORLD Organizer/Moderator: Jackie Bhattarai (Johns Hopkins University)</p> <p>This session brings four accomplished individuals in medical fields who understand Nepal's health care situation pre and post COVID-19 pandemic. They define key constructs in health and health equity, summarize the importance of health equity to promote recovery in a post-disaster world, and brainstorm ways to promote health equity in their work, following examples of existing health equity initiatives discussed by the panelists.</p>		
9:55 am – 10:00 am ET (7:40 pm - 7:45 pm NST, April 16)	BREAK		
	Concurrent Session 1 (2-A1)	Concurrent Session 2 (2-B1)	Concurrent Session 3 (2-C1)
10:00 am – 10:55 am ET (7:45 pm - 8:40 pm NST, April 16)	<p>NEPAL'S FORESTRY AT A CROSSROAD Organizer/moderator: Dinesh Paudel (Appalachian State University)</p> <p>Session description: The panelists in this session focus on four main questions of forest management in Nepal and the Himalayan region: 1) impacts of the changing land-use practices in forest management, 2) contented institutional and policy processes, 3) commercial utilization and livelihood implications and 4) scientific forestry programs and the implications of forestry science in forest management in Nepal.</p>	<p>BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY II – FRONTIERS IN NEUROSCIENCE Organizer: Samagya Banskota, Harvard University); Moderator: Ananta Acharya (Corteva)</p> <p>Session description: The three papers in this session cover new ideas in neuroscience, from biological mechanisms related to stress and energy homeostasis to using single-cell RNA-sequencing to identify sensory neural circuits and to ultrasound-based drug delivery techniques to the brain, respectively.</p>	<p>AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS Moderator: Madhav Regmi (New Mexico State University)</p> <p>Session description: Papers in this session look at cooperative membership on market performance, solar irrigation, water conservation adaptation in Nepal.</p>
10:55 am – 11:00 am ET (8:40 pm - 8:45 pm NST, April 16)	BREAK		
	Concurrent Session 1 (2-A2)	Concurrent Session 2 (2-B2)	Concurrent Session 3 (2-C2)
11:00 am – 11:55 am ET (8:45 pm - 9:40 pm NST, April 16)	<p>NATURAL DISASTER II: MONITORING, ASSESSMENT, & UNCERTAINTY Moderator: Milan Shrestha (ASU)</p> <p>Session description: Extreme weather events such as floods and snow ablation impact Nepal severely. Three papers in this session cover those issues.</p>	<p>WATER RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY Organizer/moderator: Rabin Bhattarai (UIUC);</p> <p>Session description: This session includes papers on risk informed water infrastructure, satellite-based precipitation estimates, flood hazard mapping, and ways to remove nutrients from agricultural runoff.</p>	<p>ECONOMICS OF NEPAL Organizer/Moderator: Gaurab Aryal (University of Virginia)</p> <p>Session description: Papers in this session deal with inflation forecasting, judicial productivity, political mobilization, and optimal political career dynamics.</p>
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm ET (9:45 pm - 10:15 pm NST, April 16)	LUNCH BREAK		
	Concurrent Session 1 (2-A3)	Concurrent Session 2 (2-B3)	Concurrent Session 3 (2-C3)
12:30 pm – 1:25 pm ET (10:15 pm - 11:10 pm NST, April 16)	<p>ASSOCIATION OF NEPALESE MATHEMATICIANS IN AMERICA (ANMA) ACTIVITIES Organizer: ANMA Moderator: Kedar Nepal (Mercer University, Georgia)</p>	<p>IMPACT OF COVID-19 Organizer: Anil Giri (USDA ERS) Moderator: Ram Acharya (New Mexico State University)</p>	<p>BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY III – DRUG DISCOVERY: TARGET, DESIGN AND DELIVERY. Organizer: Samagya Banskota (Harvard University); Moderator: Roshan Shrestha (National Cancer</p>

	<p>Session description: This session provides an overview of the past and current activities of ANMA in promoting mathematical research and innovative pedagogies in Nepal. The panel will also discuss how ANMA is helping the Nepal government in disease modeling to curb COVID transmission in Nepal and how that has opened doors for future collaborations.</p>	<p>Session description: This session analyzes the impact of COVID-19 on different sectors in Nepal and the United States.</p>	<p>Center)</p> <p>Session description: Papers in this session cover (i) target discovery for antifungal drugs, (ii) development of adoptive T-cell therapy to treat lymphoma; and (iii) efficient delivery of genome editors in vivo.</p>
<p>1:25 pm – 1:30 pm ET (11:10 pm - 11:15 pm NST, April 16)</p>	<p>BREAK</p>		
	<p>Concurrent Session 1 (2-A4)</p>	<p>Concurrent Session 2 (2-B4)</p>	<p>Concurrent Session 3 (2-C4)</p>
<p>1:30 pm – 2:25 pm ET (11:15 pm - 12:10 am NST, April 17)</p>	<p>INRASTRUCTURES, LIVELIHOODS, AND WELLBEING Moderator: Tej Gautam (Tuskegee University)</p> <p>Session description: This session brings a mix of papers in social sciences, including the effects of remittance on timber import, how COVID-19 has impacted livelihood in forest resource-dependent communities in Nepal, and the infrastructure situation on the Nepal-India border. The session also has a paper on music and wellbeing.</p>	<p>TRANSITIONING FROM FACULTY TO ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE JOB Organizer: Krishna Paudel (USDA ERS)</p> <p>Session description: We will hear from four individuals who have either recently taken an administrative job or have been in an administrative job for a long time on the pros and cons of academic administrative jobs.</p>	<p>ICEBREAKER SESSION II</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Gyan Neupane, PhD, Arizona State University</p>
<p>2:30 pm – 3:30 pm ET (12:15 am - 1:15 am NST, April 17)</p>	<p>CONFERENCE WRAP-UP GENERAL ASSEMBLY ANNUAL REPORT</p>		