

# NACA 2022 Agenda

## Day 1 – April 15, 2022

Times are Eastern Time (ET) *Nepal Standard Time (NST)*

7:45 pm - 8:00 pm ET (5:30 am - 5:45 am NST, April 16)	<b>INTRODUCTION TO NACA AND WELCOME</b> <b>Udaya Wagle, PhD</b> , NACA President <b>Krishna Paudel, PhD</b> , Conference Chair		
8:00 pm - 8:55 pm ET (5:45 am - 6:40 am NST, April 16)	<b>KEYNOTE SPEECH</b> <b>Binod Tiwari, PhD</b> , Professor and Associate Vice President of Research, California 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		
	<b>Concurrent Session 1 (1-A1)</b>	<b>Concurrent Session 2 (1-B1)</b>	<b>Concurrent Session 3 (1-C1)</b>
9:00 pm – 9:55 pm (6:45 am - 7:40 am NST, April 16)	<b>YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP</b> <u>Organizer / Moderator:</u> <b>Arun KC, PhD</b> , Save the Children <u>Panelists:</u> <b>Rajendrajung Rayamajhy</b> , Hightech Agrivision Pvt. Ltd <b>Januka Dahal</b> , Tribhuvan University <b>Rajedgra Gautam, PhD</b> , SAMRIDDHI <b>Ram Kumar Chauhan</b> , Global Hatchery Pvt. Ltd	<b>ENVIRONMENT &amp; DEVELOPMENT</b> <u>Organizer / Moderator:</u> <b>Keshav Bhattarai, PhD</b> , University of Central Missouri (UCM) <u>Presenters:</u> <b>Jayash Paudel, PhD</b> , University of Oklahoma <i>Fertilizer subsidy and agricultural fires: a cautionary tale</i> <b>Hari Bahadur K. C.</b> , Tribhuvan University <i>Impact of aerosol on lightning activities along with other climatic parameters over the rugged terrain of Nepal</i> <b>Dila Ram Bhandari</b> , Tribhuvan University & <b>Keshav Bhattarai, PhD</b> , University of Central Missouri (UCM) <i>Prevalence of child labor in Nepali carpet and garment industries</i> <b>Sushil Thapa, PhD</b> , University of Central Missouri (UCM) <i>Canopy temperature affects wheat yield in a water-limited environment</i>	<b>BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY I –THE COMPOSITION, STRUCTURE, AND INTERACTIONS OF CELLULAR MOLECULES</b> <u>Organizer / Moderator:</u> <b>Samagya Banskota, PhD</b> , Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard <u>Presenters:</u> <b>Prerana Shrestha, PhD</b> , Stony Brook <i>Spatiotemporally resolved protein synthesis as a molecular framework for memory consolidation</i> <b>Anjela Manandhar, PhD</b> , Temple University <i>Targeting SARS-Cov-2 Mpro – In Silico Modeling and In Vitro Screening</i> <b>Anisha Shakya, PhD</b> , Institute for Basic Science, South Korea <i>Membraneless Organization: Role of Nucleic Acid Phase Separation</i>

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)	<p><b>HOW TO LAND A TENURE TRACK JOB</b></p> <p><u>Organizer / Moderator:</u> <b>Krishna P. Paudel, PhD</b>, United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service (USDA ERS)</p> <p><u>Panelists:</u> <b>Prerana Shrestha, PhD</b>, Stony Brook <b>Rabin Bhattarai, PhD</b>, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign <b>Rajan Parajuli, PhD</b>, North Carolina State University <b>Bhikhari Tharu, PhD</b>, Spelman College</p>	<p><b>NATURAL DISASTER I: HIMALAYAN GLACIERS, DISASTER RISKS, AND RESILIENCE</b></p> <p><u>Organizer / Moderator:</u> <b>Milan Shrestha, PhD</b>, Arizona State University</p> <p><u>Presenters:</u> <b>Alton B. Byers, PhD</b>, University of Colorado at Boulder <i>Three Recent and Lesser-Known Glacier-Related Flood Mechanisms in High Mountain Environments</i> <b>Mohan B. Chand, PhD</b>, Nepal Glaciological Society <i>Evaluating Trajectory of Moraine-dammed Glacial Lake, Nepal Himalaya</i> <b>Rijan B. Kayastha &amp; Rakesh Kayastha</b>, Kathmandu University <i>Comparative Study of Hydrology and Icemelt in Three Nepal River Basins</i> <b>Basanta R. Adhikari, PhD</b>, Tribhuvan University <i>Understanding of cascading hazards for sustainable risk reduction in the Nepal Himalaya</i></p>	<p><b>ICEBREAKER SESSION I</b></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Alok Bohara, PhD</b>, University of New Mexico</p>

## Day 2 – April 16, 2022

9:00 am – 9:55 am ET (6:45 pm - 7:40 pm NST, April 16)	<p><b>KEY SESSION ON HEALTH: THE CRITICAL ROLE OF HEALTH EQUITY IN THE POST-DISASTER WORLD</b></p> <p><u>Organizer / Moderator:</u> <b>Jagriti 'Jackie' Bhattarai, PhD</b>, Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation Psychology and Neuropsychology, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine</p> <p><u>Panelists:</u> <b>Smita Sharma, MS</b>, Clinical Services Manager, Primary Health Care <b>Samir Gautam, MBBS</b>, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Johns Hopkins School of Medicines <b>Upendra Kafle, MD</b>, Interventional Pulmonologist, Kaiser Permanente <b>Anup Subedee, MD</b>, Infectious Disease Specialist, PHECT-Nepal Kirtipur Hospital</p>
---	---

<p>9:55 am – 10:00 am ET (7:40 pm - 7:45 pm NST, April 16)</p>	<p>BREAK</p>		
	<p><b>Concurrent Session 1 (2-A1)</b></p>	<p><b>Concurrent Session 2 (2-B1)</b></p>	<p><b>Concurrent Session 3 (2-C1)</b></p>
<p>10:00 am – 10:55 am ET (7:45 pm - 8:40 pm NST, April 16)</p>	<p><b>NEPAL'S FORESTRY AT A CROSSROAD</b> <u>Organizer / Moderator:</u> <b>Dinesh Paudel, PhD</b>, Appalachian State University <u>Panelists:</u> <b>Conghe Song, PhD</b>, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill <b>Rajan Parajuli, PhD</b>, North Carolina State University <b>Prabin Bhusal, MS</b>, Institute of Forestry, Nepal <b>Dinesh Paudel, PhD</b>, Appalachian State University</p>	<p><b>BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY II – FRONTIERS IN NEUROSCIENCE</b> <u>Organizer:</u> <b>Samagya Banskota, PhD</b>, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard <u>Moderator:</u> <b>Ananta Acharya, PhD</b>, Corteva Agriscience <u>Presenters:</u> <b>Abha Rajbhandari, PhD</b>, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai <i>Brain and Body interactions in stress-associated fear and energy metabolism</i> <b>Brikha R. Shrestha, PhD</b>, Harvard Medical School <i>Sound Stimulus Representation in Neural Circuits: From Genes to Behavior</i> <b>Muna Aryal, PhD</b>, Loyola University of Chicago <i>Noninvasive, Targeted Drug Delivery for Neurological Diseases and Disorders</i></p>	<p><b>AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS</b> <u>Moderator:</u> <b>Madhav Regmi, PhD</b>, New Mexico State University <u>Presenters:</u> <b>Huma Neupane, PhD</b>, IAAS, TU and <b>Krishna P. Paudel, PhD</b>, United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service (USDA ERS) <i>Impact of cooperative membership on market performance of goat farmers: an endogenous switching model</i> <b>Kashi Kafle, PhD</b>, Texas A&amp;M University <i>Solar irrigation in Nepal: Equity in energy access and implications for fossil fuel use</i> <b>Dependra Bhatta, PhD</b>, Louisiana Department of Health, <b>Krishna P. Paudel, PhD</b>, USDA ERS, &amp; <b>Kai Liu, PhD</b>, Zhongkai University of Agriculture and Engineering <i>Factors Influencing Water Conservation Practices Adoptions by Nepali Farmers</i> <b>Krishna L. Poudel, PhD</b>, Missouri Department of Natural Resources &amp; <b>Tom Johnson, PhD</b>, University of Missouri <i>Determinants of Water Resource Adaptation in Nepal: a Logistic Regression Analysis</i></p>

<p>10:55 am – 11:00 am ET <i>(8:40 pm - 8:45 pm NST, April 16)</i></p>	<p>BREAK</p>		
	<p><b>Concurrent Session 1 (2-A2)</b></p>	<p><b>Concurrent Session 2 (2-B2)</b></p>	<p><b>Concurrent Session 3 (2-C2)</b></p>
<p>11:00 am – 11:55 am ET <i>(8:45 pm - 9:40 pm NST, April 16)</i></p>	<p><b>NATURAL DISASTER II: MONITORING, ASSESSMENT, &amp; UNCERTAINTY</b> <u>Moderator:</u> <b>Milan Shrestha, PhD</b>, Arizona State University <u>Presenters:</u> <b>Prajwal Panday, PhD</b>, Nichols College <i>Observations of winter ablation on glaciers in the Mount Everest region in 2020–2021</i> <b>Sanam Aksha, PhD, &amp; Shirish Bhat, PhD</b>, University of Central Florida <i>Flood hazard susceptibility assessment in a data-scarce mountainous watershed in Nepal</i> <b>Bicram Rijal</b>, Simon Fraser University <i>Recurrent natural disasters and extreme weather events signal precarity and uncertainty in the Anthropocene</i></p>	<p><b>WATER RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY</b> <u>Organizer / Moderator:</u> <b>Rabin Bhattarai, PhD</b>, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign <u>Presenters:</u> <b>Vishnu Pandey, PhD</b>, Tribhuvan University <i>Water sufficiency assessment for risk-informed water infrastructure planning in the East Rapti Watershed Nepal</i> <b>Rocky Talchabhadel, PhD</b>, Texas A&amp;M University <i>Evaluating the Potential of Using Satellite-based Precipitation Estimates in the Himalayan River Basins of Nepal</i> <b>Saraswati Thapa</b>, Tribhuvan University <i>Flood hazards mapping in Nepal</i> <b>Rabin Bhattarai, PhD</b>, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign <i>A novel system to remove nutrients from agricultural runoff</i></p>	<p><b>ECONOMICS OF NEPAL</b> <u>Organizer / Moderator:</u> <b>Gaurab Aryal, PhD</b>, University of Virginia <u>Presenters:</u> <b>Rajan Krishna Panta, PhD</b>, Nepal Rastra Bank <i>Inflation forecasting in Nepal: a univariate time-series approach</i> <b>Shikha Basnet Silwal, PhD</b>, Washington and Lee University <i>Multi-court judging and judicial productivity in a career judiciary: Evidence from Nepal</i> <b>Vinish Shrestha, PhD</b>, Towson University <i>Mass education and political mobilization: evidence from Nepal</i> <b>Avidit Acharya, PhD</b>, Stanford University <i>Optimal political career dynamics</i></p>
<p>12:00 pm – 12:30 pm ET <i>(9:45 pm - 10:15 pm NST, April 16)</i></p>	<p>LUNCH BREAK</p>		

	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><b>ASSOCIATION OF NEPALESE MATHEMATICIANS IN AMERICA (ANMA): SHARING EXPERIENCES AND EXPERTISE WITH NEPALI UNIVERSITIES, NEPAL-BASED ACADEMIC PROFESSIONALS, AND NEPAL GOVERNMENT</b></p> <p><u>Organizer:</u> <b>ANMA</b></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Kedar Nepal, PhD</b>, Mercer University, Georgia</p> <p><u>Presenters:</u> <b>Kedar Nepal, PhD</b>, Mercer University <b>Shree Ram Khadka</b>, Tribhuvan University <b>Anjana Pokharel</b>, Tribhuvan University <b>Khagendra Adhikari</b>, Tribhuvan University <b>Ramest Gautam</b>, Tribhuvan University</p>	<p><b>IMPACT OF COVID-19</b></p> <p><u>Organizer:</u> <b>Anil Giri, PhD</b>, USDA ERS</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Ram Acharya, PhD</b>, New Mexico State University</p> <p><u>Presenters:</u> <b>Anil Giri, PhD, Dipak Subedi, MS, &amp; Kathy Kassel, BS</b>, USDA ERS <i>Impact of coronavirus food assistance program and paycheck protection program on U.S. Producers</i> <b>Satis Devkota, PhD</b>, University of Minnesota Morris <i>Spatial analysis of COVID-19 and its impact on Nepali economy</i> <b>Shriniwas Gautam, PhD</b>, Notre Dame University <i>COVID-19, returnee migrants, and options for their reintegration in agricultural communities in Nepal</i></p>	<p><b>BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY III – DRUG DISCOVERY: TARGET, DESIGN AND DELIVERY</b></p> <p><u>Organizer:</u> <b>Samagya Banskota, PhD</b>, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Roshan Shrestha, PhD</b>, National Cancer Center</p> <p><u>Presenters:</u> <b>Abhishek Chhetri, PhD</b>, Duke University <i>The mechanism of (1(3)-β-D-glucan synthase in fungal cell wall biosynthesis</i> <b>Sandhya Sharma</b>, Baylor College of Medicine <i>Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV) Specific T-Cells with Broader Target Antigen Repertoire for the Treatment of Ebv+ Malignancies</i> <b>Samagya Banskota, PhD</b>, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard <i>Therapeutic in vivo base editing with minimal off-target activity via RNP delivery</i></p>
1:25 pm –1:30 pm ET (11:10 pm - 11:15 pm NST, April 16)	BREAK		

	Concurrent Session 1 (2-A4)	Concurrent Session 2 (2-B4)	Concurrent Session 3 (2-C4)
1:30 pm – 2:25 pm ET (11:15 pm - 12:10 am NST, April 17)	<p><b>INTRASTRUCTURES, LIVELIHOODS, AND WELLBEING</b></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Tej Gautam, PhD</b>, Tuskegee University</p> <p><u>Presenters:</u> <b>Ram Adhikari, PhD</b>, University of Tennessee <i>The effect of foreign remittance on timber imports: Evidence from Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Bhawana Shrestha</b>, Kathmandu University <i>LISTEN, (श्रवण): Envisioning a transformative living model for critical self-reflection to foster emotional intelligence</i></p> <p><b>Prince Tomar</b>, Talinn University, Estonia <i>Toward the dust: Life around the Un-dead Infrastructures of the Indo-Nepal border</i></p>	<p><b>TRANSITIONING FROM FACULTY TO ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE JOB</b></p> <p><u>Organizer:</u> <b>Krishna P. Paudel, PhD</b>, USDA ERS</p> <p><u>Panelists:</u> <b>Devi Gnyawali, PhD</b>, Virginia Tech <b>Bijay Karki, PhD</b>, Louisiana State University <b>Dev Shrestha, PhD</b>, University of Idaho <b>Udaya Wagle, PhD</b>, Western Michigan University</p>	<p><b>ICEBREAKER SESSION II</b></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Gyan Neupane, PhD</b>, Arizona State University</p>
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm ET (12:15 am - 1:15 am NST, April 17)	<p>CONFERENCE WRAP-UP GENERAL ASSEMBLY ANNUAL REPORT</p>		