



First Annual Himalayan Policy Research Conference Nepal Study Center

Thursday, October 19, 2006, Madison Concourse Hotel and Governors' Club, Pre-conference Venue of the 35th South Asian Conference at the University of Wisconsin--Madison, (October 19-22, 2006)

Department of Economics, The University of New Mexico, 1915 Roma Ave NE, MSC05 3060, Rm. 1019 Albuquerque, NM 87131
<http://nepalstudycenter.unm.edu>, Ph: 505-277-5903, nsc@unm.edu

Program Outline

AR: Assembly Room (1st floor)
CR: Conference Room #4 (2nd floor)

Welcome (8:15-8:25am, Room AR)

Session 1A: Health, Gender, and Trafficking, 8:30 AM – 10:10 AM (Room AR)

Chair: Jeffrey Drope, University of Miami

1. Investigation of pre-clinical damage of lens from smoke exposure in Nepalese women
Amod Pokharel, University of California at Berkeley
2. The psychological consequences of internal migration
Amod Pyakuryal, University of Akron
3. Sex trafficking in Nepal: survivor characteristics and long term outcomes
Mary Crawford, University of Connecticut
Michelle Kaufman, University of Connecticut
4. Sex for sale: an investigation into the status of Nepali women as a root cause of sex trafficking
Michelle Kaufman, University of Connecticut
Mary Crawford, University of Connecticut

Discussants: Vijaya R. Sharma, U. of Colorado (1); Michelle Kaufman, University of Connecticut (2); Amod Pokharel, University of California at Berkeley (3); Mallika Shakya, World bank (4);

Session 1B: Environment, 8:30 AM – 10:10 AM (Room CR)

Chair: Joel Heinen, Florida State University

1. Urban Sprawl in Kathmandu Valley of Nepal from 1964-2003: a challenge for urban policy makers and planners
Keshav Bhattarai, Central Missouri State University
2. On the evaluation of an environmentally damaging project
Biswo Poudel, University of California at Berkeley
3. Assessing vulnerability to multiple environmental stressors: a policy perspective in adapting to climate change in Nepal
Netra Chhetri, Arizona State University
Ambika Adhikari, Arizona State University

Discussants: Ambika Adhikari, Arizona state University, (1); Netra Chhetri, Arizona State University (2); Keshav Bhattarai, Central Missouri State University (3)

Session 2A: Education and Democratization, 10:15 AM – 11:55 AM (Room AR)

Chair: Mary Crawford, University of Connecticut

1. A pedagogical experiment on liberal democracy in South Asia
Jeffrey Drope, University of Miami
2. Civic literacy and democratization in Nepal
Khadga K.C., Nagasaki University, Japan
3. Reflections on the state of democratic transition process in South Asia
Pramod Kantha, Wright State University
4. Development and discontentment in South Asia (with special reference to North-East India)
Ajailiu Niumai, University of Hyderabad, India

Discussants: Kamal Upadhyay, University of New Haven (1); Gyan Pradhan, Westminster College (2); Mallika Shakya, World Bank (3) Pramod Kantha, Wright State University (4)

Session 2B: Resource Conservation, 10:15 AM – 11:55 AM (Room CR)

Chair: Keshav Bhattarai, Central Missouri State University

1. On the implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Nepal and its implications for regional waterfowl conservation
Joel Heinen and Jay Sah, Florida International University
2. Issuing annual permits for harvesting thatch grass as compensation to local people in Nepal: does this policy have effects on conservation attitude?

Jay Sah and Joel Heinen, Florida International University

Discussants: Biswo Poudel, University of California at Berkeley (1); Netra Chhetri, Arizona State University (2)

Lunch Break: 12:00 Noon – 1:20 PM

Introduction to Nepal Study Center: 1:20 PM – 1:45 PM

Session 3: Politics, Democracy, and Conflict I, 1:50 PM – 3:05 PM (Room AR)

Chair: Saurav D. Bhatta, University of Illinois at Chicago

1. Relative deprivation and civil conflict in Nepal
Karen Macours, Johns Hopkins University
2. Understanding Nepali conflict: between new wars and old wars
Chandra D. Bhatta, London School of Economics
3. The plight of the forgotten ones: civil war and internal displacement in Nepal
Prakash Adhikari and Mani Nepal, University of New Mexico

Discussants: Khadga K.C., Nagasaki University, Japan (1); Karen Macours, Johns Hopkins University (2) Chandra D. Bhatta, London School of Economics (3)

Session 4: Politics, Democracy, and Conflict II, 3:10 PM – 4:25 PM (Room AR)

Chair: Pramod Kantha, Wright State University

1. Spheres of exclusion in democratizing Nepal
Mahendra Lawoti, Western Michigan University
2. Rising ethno-cultural nationalism in Nepal: postmodern delusion or democratic illusion?
Nanda Shrestha, Florida A & M University
Dev R. Dahal, Tribhuvan University, Nepal
3. Comparative study of federation proposals for Nepal
Vijaya R. Sharma, University of Colorado at Boulder

Discussants: Nanda Shrestha, Florida A & M University (1); Prakash Adhikari, University of New Mexico (2); Mahendra Lawoti, Western Michigan University (3)

Coffee Break: 4:25 PM – 4:40 PM (Room AR)

Session 5: Development and Poverty Alleviation, 4:40 PM – 5:55 PM (Room AR)

Chair: Alok K. Bohara, University of New Mexico

1. Determinants and consequences of chronic vs. transient poverty in Nepal
Saurav D. Bhatta, University of Illinois at Chicago
Suman Sharma, Tribhuvan University, Nepal
2. Growth, poverty, and income distribution in Nepal: an interactive approach
Mukti Upadhyay, Eastern Illinois University
Gyan Pradhan, Westminster College
3. Nepal and Bhutan: development strategies and growth
Dharmendra Dhakal, Tennessee State University
Gyan Pradhan, Westminster College
Kamal Upadhyaya, University of New Haven

Discussants: Mukti Upadhyay, Eastern Illinois University (1); Amod Pyakuryal, University of Akron; (2) Saurav D. Bhatta, University of Illinois at Chicago (3)

Conference concludes at 5:55 P.M