I. Program Outline
(Version 10, October 4, 2007)

AR: Assembly Room
CR: Caucus Room

Welcome (8:15 – 8:25am, Room AR)

Session 1A: Discrimination, Exclusion and Political Participation, 8:30 AM – 9:45 AM (Room AR)

Chair: Daniel Putnam, University of Minnesota

1. The gender dimension of caste discrimination and resistance among Dalit communities in Kathmandu
   Sambriddhi Kharel University of Pittsburgh, USA
2. Political participation and civic literacy in Bajung: an empirical study with correlation analysis
   Khadga K.C. Nagasaki University, Japan
3. Democracy, exclusion and informal institutions in Nepal
   Mahendra Lawoti, Western Michigan University, USA

Discussants: Mahendra Lawoti (1), Sambriddhi Kharel (2), Khadga K.C. (3)

Session 1B: Conservation and Resource Management, 8:30 AM – 9:45 AM (Room CR)

Chair: Joel Heinen, Florida International University

1. Leadership for environmental education and conservation: a case of green space park at P.N. Campus, Pokhara
   Padam Giri, P.N. Campus, Tribhuvan University
   Krishna Shrestha, Michigan State University
   Bishwo Kallyan Parajuli, Tribhuvan University
   Murari Suvedi., Michigan State University
2. Community-based integrated natural resource management: policy options and areas of intervention
   Sabita Thapa, WWF, Nepal
   John Soussan, Stockholm Environment Institute, Sweden
   Dhruba Pant, International Water Management Institute, Nepal
   Umesh Parajuli, Water and Energy Commission Secretariat, Nepal
   Khem Sharma, Department of Irrigation, Nepal
   Binod Bhatta, International Water & Human Resource Dev Institute, Nepal
3. The human dimensions of land change in Lamjung, Nepal
   Milan Shrestha, University of Georgia, USA

Discussants: Milan Shrestha (1), Murari Suvedi (2), Sabita Thapa (3)

Session 2A: Political Structure and Democracy, 9:50 AM – 11:55 PM (Room AR)

Chair: Kristine Eck, Uppsala University

1. Pursuing democracy: the rise and fall of autocracy in Nepal
   Prakash Adhikari and James Timberlake, University of New Mexico, USA
2. Identification of natural resources at watershed level: an initial step of mainstreaming of the federal structure of Nepal
   Madan Koirala, Tribhuvan University, Nepal
3. “Retainer” bureaucracy: an impediment to the process of democratic governance in Nepal
   Sucheta Pyakuryal, University of Akron, USA
4. Prospects and challenges in the transformation of Nepal’s security sector
   Steve Hege, Columbia University, USA

Discussants: Madan Koirala (1), Steve Hege (2), James Timberlake (3), Sucheta Pyakuryal (4)

Session 2B: Water and Forestry Resources, 9:50 AM – 11:55 PM (Room CR)

Chair: Keshav Bhattarai, University of Central Missouri

1. A community-based micro hydro: a promise for rural development in Nepal
   Bishwa Koirala, University of New Mexico
2. Coping with unreliable water supplies and willingness to pay for improved water supplies in Kathmandu
   Hari Katuwal and Alok K. Bohara, University of New Mexico
3. Prioritizing and estimating hydropower project construction risks: a case study of Nyadi hydropower project
   Kamalesh Panthi, Florida International University, USA
4. Trade potentiality and ecological analysis of non-timber products in Himalayan Kingdom of Nepal
   Krishna Poudel, Himalayan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Nepal

5. The convention on international trade in endangered species: issues with implementation and compliance in Nepal
   Joel Heinen, Florida International University, USA

Discussants: Hari Katuwal (1), Kamalesh Panthi (2), Krishna Poudel (3), Joel Heinen (4), Biswo Koirala (5)

Lunch Break: 12:00 PM – 1:45 PM

Introduction to Nepal Study Center: 1:15 PM – 1:45 PM

Session 3A: Conflict and Related Issues, 1:50 PM – 4:20 PM (Room AR)

Chair: Mahendra Lawoti, Western Michigan University

1. An assessment of the causes of conflict in Nepal
   Bishwa Tiwari, Tribhuvan University, Nepal

2. Inequality, polarization and violent conflict: the Maoist insurgency in Nepal
   Mani Nepal and Alok K. Bohara, University of New Mexico, USA
   Kishore Gawande, University of Texas A&M, USA

3. Recruiting rebels: indoctrination and political education in Nepal
   Kristine Eck, Uppsala University, Sweden

4. Dissonance in heritage: the case of Lumbini, Nepal
   Gyan Nyaupane, Arizona State University, USA

5. Political predictions in Nepal
   Aditya Shrestha Journalist, Nepal

Discussants: Mani Nepal (1), Kristine Eck (2), Aditya Shrestha (3), Bishwa Tiwari (4), Daniel Putnam (5)

Session 3B: Poverty, Development and Finance, 1:50 PM – 4:20 PM (Room CR)

Chair: Jeffrey Drope, Marquette University

1. Economic development through microfinance in Pakistan’s northern areas
   Feisal Khan, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, USA

2. Democratic but unequal? The scale, sources and policy implications of economic inequality in democratic Nepal
   Udaya Wagle, Western Michigan University, USA
3. Poverty reduction in Nepal: a clinical economics approach  
   *Gyan Pradhan and Rabindra Bhandari, Westminster College, USA*
4. Rural vulnerability and tea plantation migration in eastern Nepal and Darjeeling  
   *Sarah Besky, University of Wisconsin, USA*
5. Remittances and their effects in Nepal: a microeconomic study  
   *Mukti Upadhyay, Eastern Illinois University*
6. The effect of remittances on child labor and child education in Nepal  
   *Michael Milligan and Alok Bohara, University of New Mexico, USA*

   **Discussants:** Mukti Upadhyay (1), Sarah Besky (2), Udaya Wagle (3), Feisal Khan (4), Michael Milligan (5), Gyan Pradhan (6)

   **Coffee Break: 4:20 PM – 4:40 PM (Room AR)**

**Session 4: Environment and Pollution, 4:45 PM – 5:35 PM (Room AR)**

**Chair:** Murari Suvedi, Michigan State University

1. The impact of foreign direct investment on environmental quality  
   *Krishna Paudel, Louisiana State University, USA*  
   *Biswo Poudel, University of California at Berkeley*  
   *Kamal Upadhyay, University of New Haven, USA*

2. Measuring quality of life of the Central Development Region of Nepal by integration of remote sensing and census data  
   *Keshav Bhattarai, University of Central Missouri, USA*  
   *Dennis Conway, Indiana University, USA*

   **Discussants:** Keshav Bhattarai (1), Krishna Paudel (2)

**Conference concludes at 5:35 P.M**