

Third Annual Himalayan Policy Research Conference

Nepal Study Center

Thursday, October 16, 2008, Concourse Hotel, Wisconsin, Madison
Pre-conference Venue of the 37th South Asian Conference at the U. of Wisconsin,
Madison

I. Program Outline

(Version 10, October 3, 2008)

Welcome (8:45 – 8:55 a.m., Room 629)

Session 1A: Conflict Resolution and Democratic Transitions - 9:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. (Room 629)

Chair: Christopher Candland, Wellesley College

1. Political conflict and migration: how has violence and political instability affected migration patterns in Nepal?
Nathalie Williams, University of Michigan
Meeta S. Pradhan, University of Michigan
2. Nepali army in transition
Indra Adhikari, Jawaharlal Nehru University
3. Nepal's democratic transition and the rule of law
Pramod Kantha, Wright State University
4. Abdicate or consolidate? Comparing the strategic decision making of the Nepali and Bhutanese monarchies
James Timberlake, University of New Mexico
Prakash Adhikari, University of New Mexico

Discussants: Prakash Adhikari (1), Pramod Kantha (2), Meeta S. Pradhan (3), Indra Adhikari (4)

Session 1B: Water, Energy, Environment and Sustainability - 9:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. (Room 634)

Chair: Keshav Bhattarai, University of Central Missouri

1. Demand for environmental quality: evidence on drinking water from Kathmandu, Nepal
Hari Katuwal, University of New Mexico
Alok Bohara, University of New Mexico
2. Planning for sustainability in Kathmandu, Nepal: developing indicators and implementing policies
Ambika P. Adhikari, Arizona State University

3. Can the experience of sewerage development from Orangi pilot project in Pakistan be transferred to squatter settlements in Kathmandu, Nepal?

Padmendra Shrestha, East West Center and University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Discussants: Ambika Adhikari (1), Padmendra Shrestha (2), Hari Katuwal (3)

Session Break 10:30 A.M. - 10:45 A.M.

Session 2A: Religion, Gender and Dalit Issues - 10:45 A.M. to 12 Noon (Room 629)

Chair: Laxmi B. Acharya, Family Health International

1. Religious sites and practices as economic indicators: a consideration of the rural and urban Nepal

Charis Boke, USEF Fulbright Scholar

2. Anticipated Dalits assertion during the political transition of Nepal

Uddhab P. Pyakurel, Jawaharlal Nehru University

3. Bringing gender sensitive sustainable redevelopment to earthquake ridden areas of Pakistan

Amarah Niazi, Relief International

4. Vote for change and effect of intimidation-fear: the Maoist electoral victory in the constituent assembly election

Mahendra Lawoti, Western Michigan University

Discussants: Uddhab Pyakurel (1), Mahendra Lawoti (2), Charis Boke (3), Amarah Niazi (4)

Session 2B: Forestry Issues - 10:45 A.M. to 12 Noon (Room 634)

Chair: Pallab Mozumder, Florida International University

1. Monitoring the successes and failures of community forestry in Nepal using remote sensing and GIS technologies: 1976-2000

Keshav Bhattarai, University of Central Missouri

2. Why investment in clean energy technology at the household level will benefit Nepal

Amod Pokhrel, University of California Berkeley

Biswo Poudel, University of California Berkeley

Discussants: Biswo Poudel (1), Ambika Adhikari (2)

Lunch Break: 12 Noon – 1:30 P.M.

Introduction to Nepal Study Center: 1:30 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Session 3A: Religion, Education and Health Issues - 2:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. (Room 629)

Chair: Feisal Khan, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

1. Determinants of familiarity of infant and maternal health care facilities among pregnant women and mothers in some selected rural areas of Nepal
Vijaya R. Sharma, University of Colorado at Boulder
Tirshana Sharma, University of Colorado Denver
2. Reproductive health services: an entry point to reach labor migrants and their wives for providing HIV and STI services in Nepal
Laxmi B. Acharya, Family Health International

Discussants: Laxmi Acharya (1), Tirshana Sharma (2)

Session 3B: Public Institution Reforms - 2:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. (Room 634)

Chair: Pramod Kantha, Wright State University

1. International NGOs approaches to institutional reforms in Nepal
Raj Khadka, San Francisco State University
2. Heritage conservation in Nepal: policies, stakeholders and challenges
Neel Kamal Chapagain, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
3. Financial management of Nepalese municipalities: sustainability issues
Mahesh Baral, University of Trento

Discussants: Neel Kamal Chapagain (1), Mahesh Baral (2), Kamal Upadhyaya (3)

Coffee Break - 3:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Session 4A: Trade, Income and Finance - 3:45 P.M. to 5:15 P.M. (Room 629)

Chair: Jeffery Drope, Marquette University

1. Monetary Integration of Nepal with India: A Road to Faster Growth?
Mukti Upadhyay, Eastern Illinois University
Kamal Upadhyaya, University of New Haven

2. Natural disasters and sickness shocks: evidence of informal insurance
Pallab Mozumder, Florida International University
3. The limits of success? AKRSP, Microfinance and economic development in Pakistan's northern areas
Feisal Khan, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
4. Estimation of maximum willingness to pay for improved quality of trekking in Manang, Nepal by international trekkers
Bishwa Koirala, University of New Mexico
Alok Bohara, University of New Mexico
5. Income convergence and polarization in Nepal
Mukti Upadhyay, Eastern Illinois University
Satis Devkota, Wayne State University

Discussants: Bishwa Koirala (1), Feisal Khan (2), Mukti Upadhyay (3), Satis Devkota (4), Pallab Mozumder (5)

Session 4B: Poverty, Food Security and Infrastructure - 3:45 P.M. to 5:15 P.M. (Room 634)

Chair: Joel Heinen, Florida International University

1. Rural poverty analysis: a case study of Kaski district of Nepal
Uddhab Bhandary, University of Colorado at Boulder
2. Improving food security in Nepal: analyzing the results of a world food program survey
Steven Archambault, University of New Mexico
3. Socio-economic impacts of rural road development in South Asia
Ben Briese, Saint John's University
4. The role of land reform in reducing poverty: evidence from Nepal
Chandra Adhikari, University of Reading
Paul Chatfield, University of Reading

Discussants: Ben Briese (1), Chandra Adhikari (2), Steven Archambault (3), Uddhab Bhandary (4)

Program ends at 5:15 P.M.