

# **Fourth Annual Himalayan Policy Research Conference**

## **Nepal Study Center**

Thursday, October 22, 2009, Concourse Hotel, Wisconsin, Madison  
Pre-conference Venue of the 38<sup>th</sup> South Asian Conference at the U. of Wisconsin, Madison

### **I. Program Outline**

(Version 5, October 22, 2009)

**Welcome (8:40 – 8:55 a.m., Madison Ballroom)**

**Session 1A: Development of Marginalized Areas and Peoples: 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – (Capital Ballroom A)**

*Chair: Udaya R Wagle, Western Michigan University, USA*

1. Developing Kham: An inquiry into the use of environmental and economic history for developing policy in Tibetan Regions  
*Jared Phillips, University of Arkansas, USA*
2. The impact on commercial activity of road construction in the Annapurna Conservation Area, Nepal  
*Michal J Bardecki, Ryerson University, Canada*
3. Surviving on margins: Dilemmas of a Himalayan primitive tribe – Bhuxas over developmental paradigms in globalizing India  
*Bina Saklani, HNB Garhwal University, India*
4. Social and economic policies for reducing horizontal inequalities in post-conflict Nepal  
*Bishwa N Tiwari, Tribhuvan University, Nepal*  
*Steven Archambault, University of New Mexico*

*Discussants: Bina Saklani (1), Jared Phillips (2), Steven Archambault (3), Michal Bardecki (4)*

**Session 1B: Resources and Environment-I: 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (Madison Ballroom)**

*Chair: Vinod K Bhardwaj, BBD Government PG College, India*

1. Greening historic core for the mitigation of urban environmental problems of the Kathmandu Valley  
*Upendra Sapkota, Ball State University, USA*
2. Benefit Estimation of Water Quality Improvements in the Bagmati River: Choice Experiments  
*Hari Katuwal, University of New Mexico, USA*  
*Alok K Bohara, University of New Mexico, USA*  
*Jennifer Thacher, University of New Mexico, USA*
3. Development issues in the Indus River Basin: The limitations of the Indus Waters Treaty (1960) and ongoing ecological consequences

*Eric Strahorn, Florida Gulf Coast University, USA*

*Discussants: Eric Strahorn (1), Upendra Sapkota (2), Hari Katuwal (3), Alok Bohara (3)*

**Nepal Study Center Presentation  
&  
Lunch Break**

**11:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. (University Room)**

**Session 2A: Food, Health and Education: 1:05 p.m. to 2:20 p.m. – (Madison Ballroom)**

*Chair: Michal J Bardecki, Ryerson University, Canada*

1. An assessment of the potential impacts of dietary norms in food consumption structure and expenditure in Nepal  
*Arun KC, West Virginia University, USA*  
*Nilam Prasai, Regional Research Institute, WVU, USA*
2. Geographic disparity in access to healthcare in Nepal  
*Gyanesh Lama, Washington University, USA*
3. Preparing communities for disaster management: Myths and challenges  
*SM Patnaik, University of Delhi, India*  
*Nilika Mehrotra, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India*

*Discussants: Gyanesh Lama (1), Arun KC (2)*

**Session 2B: Money, Finance and Remittances: 1:05 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Capital Ballroom A)**

*Chair: Jeffrey Drope, Marquette University, USA*

1. The Impact of microfinance and remittances on the lives of Nepali people  
*Bishal B Kasu, Illinois State University, USA*
2. Remittance to Nepal from foreign employment: changes and implications  
*Udaya R Wagle, Western Michigan University, USA*
3. Towards a South Asian common currency: Evidence from macroeconomic shocks  
*Krishna Regmi, University of New Hampshire, USA*
4. Indo-Nepal open international border: Challenges and management  
*Vinod K Bhardwaj, BBD Government PG College, India*

*Discussants: Udaya Wagle (1), Vinod Bhardwaj (2), Bishal Basu (3), Krishna Regmi (4)*

**Coffee Break: 3:15 – 3:30 p.m. (Foyer of Madison Ballroom)**

**Session 3: Conflict and Political Transformations: 2:25 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. (Madison Ballroom)** – including 15 min coffee break at 3:15 p.m.

*Chair: Eric Strahorn, Florida Gulf Coast University, USA*

1. Nepali indigenous movements: Recommendations to create a ‘fully democratic’ Nepal  
*Pasang Y Sherpa, Washington State University, USA*
2. Civilian Conflict and Internal Displacement, Dimensions of Forced Migration in Nepal  
*Prakash Adhikari, University of New Mexico, USA*
3. Nuclearization of the Kashmir conflict  
*Nyla A Khan, University of Nebraska-Kearney, USA*
4. Son preference and gender bias: Emerging skewed demographic trend in Uttarakhand Himalaya, India  
*Atul Saklani, HNB Garhwal University, India*  
*Bina Saklani, HNB Garhwal University, India*
5. Impacts of information technology on prostitution (a scenario of conservative societies)  
*Rashida Valika, SZABIST, Pakistan*

*Discussants: Vijaya Sharma (1), Pasang Sherpa (2), Prakash Adhikari (3), Rashida Valika (4), Nyla Khan (5)*

**Conference ends at 5:45 p.m.**