



KU Insider

69th Senate Meeting Held



Kathmandu University marked its 69th Senate Meeting on 31 July 2015 at the central campus, Dhulikhel. The meeting was chaired by Mrs. Chitra Lekha Yadav, Minister for Education and Pro-Chancellor.

The Senate Meeting approved the Audit Report for the year 2070/71 along with endorsing the law regarding 'Services of Faculties and Staffs' and 'Examination Bylaw.' Similarly, the University's Annual Program was approved by the meeting and discussions

were held on the Progress Report.

Likewise, the annual budget of 3 billion 264 million and 100 thousand rupees was passed by the Senate along with the nomination of the auditors for the next fiscal year.

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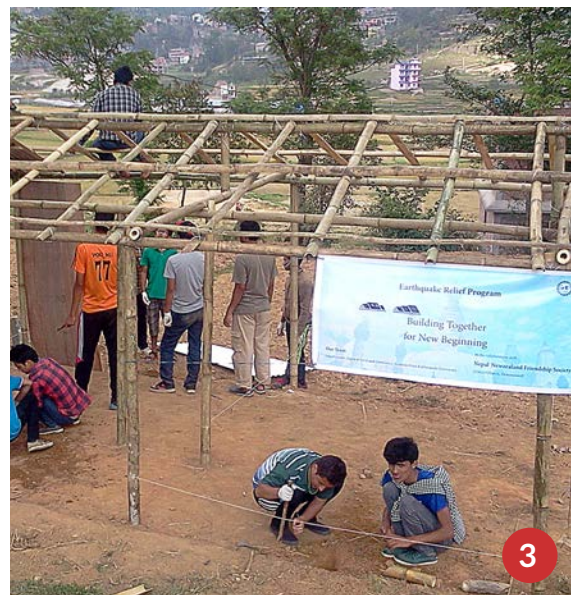
KU Responds to 25 April Earthquake

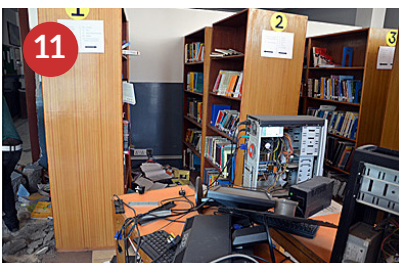
In response to April 25 earthquake of 7.8 magnitude, Kathmandu University (KU) formed eight functional teams on 29 April. The teams were assigned to inspect and report about the structural damages, communicate and disseminate circulars, survey the status of staffs, students and their kin, assess costing of repair and maintenance, mobilize volunteers, generate resources, supply essential requirements and manage transportation, and provide desk help. The students, faculties and staffs at Kathmandu University were actively involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of the earthquake victims.

Approximately 300 student volunteers were deployed to work in different sectors – civil

structure assessment, medical support, construction design and production, and general volunteering. Civil structure assessment team appraised damages in the buildings at KU. As per the assessment, some buildings of the University were partially damaged by the earthquake. Similarly, medical team was involved in facilitating the treatment of affected people in Dhulikhel Hospital KU Hospital; general volunteers helped the affected people in different sites; and construction team worked to establish rehabilitation camps. Faculties and students from different schools worked at KU Technical Training Center (KUTTC) to design and construct shelters, pit latrine and sheet metal portable urinal.

In addition, groups formed by the clubs, alumni and members of the University operated in the affected areas. Volunteers from Confucius Institute at KU worked with Chinese medical team as translators in Dhulikhel Hospital. Volunteers from School of Management were involved in post-earthquake relief work through two major activities: Resource Drive (aimed at collecting and dispatching food, clothing, tents, medicine) and Helping Monetary Support (collected monetary contributions from faculties and willing donors). A group of students from School of Law collected relief materials from Dhanusha and Mahottari and distributed to Kavre and Sindhupalchowk.





Support from various organizations

Several organizations working at national and international level extended support to the University for relief distribution and rehabilitation support after earthquake. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between KU and Malteser International, Germany, on 22 May 2015 at the Central Campus, Dhulikhel to provide relief items storage facilities for the victims of earthquake in Kavre and Sindhupalchok districts, and support with volunteers from KU.

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) provided ground service facility by operating helicopters from KU football ground to provide relief supplies to villages in Sindhupalchok district. Similarly, Community Education Project (CEP) initiated construction process of classrooms each with the capacity of 50 students in Methinkot VDC, Dapcha.

Likewise, University Sports Association

Nepal (USAN) confided 27 tents to Student Welfare Directorate (SWD) in support of the University's service to the quake victims. Embassy of Korea in Nepal, Samsung, Korean Air, KOICA and Chiang Rai Rajabhat University, Thailand provided relief materials and tents to the University which was distributed to Shree Kalika Devi Secondary School, Nuwakot and three villages of Dhulikhel.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Investment Board Nepal



Kathmandu University signed MoU with Investment Board Nepal on 11 August 2015 at the Office of Investment Board, New Baneshwor, Kathmandu.

The MoU was signed by Prof. Dr. Bhola Thapa, Registrar of KU and Mr. Radhesh Pant, CEO of the Investment Board, in the presence of Prof. Dr. Ram Kantha Makaju Shrestha, Vice Chancellor of KU.

LMTC and CTEVT

Kathmandu University (KU) and Land Management Training Centre (LMTC) renewed their MoU on 2 August 2015 at the Ministry of Land Reform and Management (MoLRM), Kathmandu to run Bachelor of Engineering in Geomatics Engineering.

Prof. Dr. Bhola Thapa, Registrar of KU, and Mr. Krishna Raj BC, Executive Director, LMTC, signed the MoU. On the same occasion, another MoU was signed by Prof. Thapa, Mr. BC and Dr. Ram Hari

Lamichhane, Member Secretary, Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) to start Diploma in Geomatics Engineering.

Honorable Minister Mr. Dal Bahadur Rana of MoLRM, Prof. Dr. Ram Kantha Makaju Shrestha, Vice Chancellor, KU, Mr. Naghendra Jha, Joint Secretary, MoLRM, Mr. BC, and Dr. Lamichhane addressed the MoU signing ceremony.



Udayapur Cement Industries

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Kathmandu University and Udayapur Cement Industries Ltd. Nepal on 11 June 2015 to define the areas and conditions for cooperation, primarily in the sectors of education, research, student internship and industrial project.

The MoU was signed by Prof. Bhola Thapa, the Registrar & the Dean of School of Engineering, and Mr. Surendra Kumar Paudel, General Manager of Udayapur Cement Industries Ltd. Nepal. The MoU would be valid for 5 years from the date of signing.



Kathmandu Metropolitan City

Kathmandu University signed MoU with Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC) on 24 June 2015 at the central campus, Dhulikhel. The MoU was signed by Prof. Dr. Bhola Thapa, the Registrar of KU, and Mr. Rudra Singh Tamang, the Chief Executive Officer of KMC.

The agreement aims to initiate collaboration on technologies in environmental improvement. The focus areas include air, water, waste-related research and action, knowledge partnership, intervention in waste management, sustainable urban design, capacity building, and joint collaboration

with other the national and international organizations for the improvement of environment of Kathmandu.

The MoU will remain valid for a period of five years with the possibility of extension.



Janaki Tech. Pvt. Ltd.

Kathmandu University Business Incubation Center (KUBIC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Janaki Technology Pvt. Ltd. on 8 June 2015 to organize idea competition event #Hackthequake.

As per the understanding, the event is to

be organized jointly by Nepal Engineers' Association Business Incubation Center (NEABIC) and KUBIC to discover innovative ideas and concepts that use cost effective locally available resources for construction. The event was supported by DREAMS online magazine and Yantrakala

and Robotics Association of Nepal. KUBIC and NEABIC were involved in judgment and selection of the business ideas. NEABIC will further provide mentorship to selected ideas and arrange a venue for the finale of the event.

KU Receives research from Grant Chure Board

A project agreement was signed between Kathmandu University (KU) and Chure-Tarai Madhesh Conservation Development Board, Nepal, on 25 May 2015 at Dhulikhel. The agreement was signed by Prof. Dr. Mohan B. Gewali, the Dean of School of Science, and Mr. Bharat P. Pudasaini, Member Secretary of the Development Board.

The agreement provides KU a grant of approximately 45 million to KU for the conservation and economic development of Churia region of Nepal. The grant will be utilized to explore the status of bamboo diversity in the region and restore bamboo species in their natural habitat.

Two-day Workshop Organized

The Department of Pharmacy (DoP), School of Science, organized a national workshop on WHO Guiding Analytical Techniques for Assessing Safety of Herbal Medicine from 18-19 June 2015 with a financial support from University Grants Commission, Nepal. The workshop was inaugurated by Prof. Mohan Bikram Gewali, Dean, School of Science. Dr Rajani Shakya, Acting Head of the Department,

welcomed participants from different ayurvedic medicine manufacturing companies, DDA representatives, resource persons, faculty members and students.

The workshop was focused on the theme of quality manufacturing and evaluation strategies for herbal drug industries as per the standard WHO guidelines.

TTL Completes Pico Turgo Turbine Testing

Turbine Testing Lab (TTL) concluded an experimental testing of Turgo Turbine of DivyaJoyti Hydropower Equipment Manufacture and Development (Pvt) Ltd. The efficiency of the turbine was measured to be 57.12 %. The turbine will be used for immediate energy rehabilitation in the earthquake affected areas.



Policy Workshop on Capacity Building

The final Policy Workshop of the collaborative project "Capacity Building for Conservation of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services of Wetlands in Relation to Global Change" was organized in New Delhi on 8 June 2015. Kathmandu University was present in the meeting as one of the main collaborating partners. Dr. Bibhuti Ranjan

Jha, Associate Professor at the Department of Environmental Science & Engineering, participated in this workshop representing Kathmandu University.

The participants shared their experiences of the three capacity building workshops organized earlier in New Delhi, Kolkata, Guwahati and discussed on the summary of

biodiversity and ecosystem services of the three wetlands in the presence of several policy makers. Dr S. Ayyappan, who is the Director General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, and Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research & Education, was the chief guest.

AEC Receives Research Grant from WHO/Nepal

Prof. Dr. Subodh Sharma, the Director of Aquatic Ecology Centre (AEC), School of Science, KU and the Coordinator of WHO/GMG/GSC/GPL signed an agreement on 12 June 2015 to implement the pilot project "Assessment of Impacts of recent Earthquake on Water Supply System in Jiri Municipality".

The agreement is for a study of 12 days

to be coordinated by Mr. Manish Baidya, PhD candidate under the supervision of Prof. Subodh Sharma, and implemented by mobilizing volunteers in the field. After the successful implementation of this project, a long-term study on effectiveness of household- and community-level WASH interventions in reducing health vulnerability to climate will be performed. The concept

has already been agreed upon between AEC and WHO Headquarter based in Geneva, and reviewed by the Technical Advisory Committee of WASH for harmonization of the methods among the other partner countries – Bangladesh, Tanzania and Ethiopia.

Training on Research Methodology

The Department of Computer Science and Engineering (DoCSE), School of Engineering, organized a 3-Day Training on Research Methodology during 29 June to 1 July 2015, with a financial support from University Grants Commission (UGC), Nepal. The training was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Mohan Bikram Gewali, Dean, School of Science, Prof. Dr. Ramesh Kumar Maskey and Prof. Dr. Bim Prasad Shrestha, Associate Deans of School of Engineering, welcomed participants from different departments and the resource persons. Altogether 30 participants attended the training program.



Workshop on Evidence-Based Teaching

Dr. Herb Fynewever, a Fulbright senior scholar from Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA, conducted a one-day workshop on evidence-based teaching in chemistry. The workshop was organized by the Department of Natural Sciences (DoNS), School of Science. Prof. Dr. Jyoti Upadhyaya, Head of DoNS, faculties from the Chemistry Group, DoNS, and lecturers from Tribhuvan University attended the workshop.



DoME Receives Project Approval in Erasmus+ Program

The Department of Mechanical Engineering (DoME) has been granted an Erasmus + project entitled, "Curricula Development of Interdisciplinary Master Courses in Energy Efficient Building Design in Nepal and Bhutan." The cohorts of project are Lund University, University of Innsbruck, Tallinn University, Tribhuvan University, and Royal University of Bhutan.

The major responsibility of KU is to support for the development of new Master courses in EEBT, and develop and enhance laboratory facilities with manual and maintenance schedule, teaching tools and techniques.

Mr. Timilsina Receives a Project Grant from IFS

The International Foundation for Science (IFS) approved the research proposal of Mr. Parash Mani Timilsina, Assistant Professor at Department of Biotechnology. The project on biomass treatment by hydrolytic enzymes for biofuel production is of one year, and the approved grant is USD 11000. The grant will be used to purchase equipments and reagents.

Prof. Jha and Dr. Shrestha Elected in NMS-EC

Prof. Dr. Kanhaiya Jha, The Director of Student Welfare Directorate, and Dr. Samir Shrestha, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, School of Science, have been elected as the Secretary and Member respectively, in the newly formed eleven-member Executive Committee of Nepal

Mathematical Society (NMS) led by Prof. Dr. Tanka Nath Dhamala of Tribhuvan University (TU). Prof. Jha and Dr. Shrestha were elected by the 37th Anniversary and General Assembly held on 1 August 2015 at Central Department of Mathematics, TU, Kirtipur, Kathmandu.

Fulbright Professor Timothy E. O' Brien

Fulbright Professor Timothy E. O' Brien visited Kathmandu University from 2 to 13 June 2015. A professor of Mathematics and Statistics and a Graduate Program Director at Loyola University Chicago, Prof. Timothy has served as Senior Science Advisor to U. S. Government.

Prof. Timothy held a lecture seminar, "The Importance of Statistical Consulting and Research Projects in Academia," on 9 June 2015 at central campus, Dhulikhel. The presentation focused on the importance of the use of various statistical methodologies in interdisciplinary research.

During Prof. O'Brien stay, meetings were held with Prof. Dr Ram Kantha Makaju Shrestha, Vice Chancellor, and Prof. Dr. Jyoti U. Devkota, Head of the Department of Natural Sciences.

Mr. Jim Lindquist

Mr. Jim Lindquist from Norway visited Kathmandu University from 1 June to 12 June 2015. He worked at Kathmandu University Technical Training Centre (KUTTC) helping in the designing of semi-

permanent classrooms together with the staffs at TTC. During his stay, TTC set up a production plan for making 43 units. Some jigs for serial production were prepared for trusts. Mr. Lindquist also delivered a

presentation at the Kathmandu University Lecture Series (KULS) organized by School of Engineering, on "Leadership and Organizational Development".

Delegates from Israel Visit KU



Kathmandu University welcomed H.E. Ambassador Gil Haskel, Head of MASHAV (Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation), H.E. Yaron Mayer, Ambassador of Israel to Nepal, and

Mr. Yehonathan Lebel, Deputy Chief of Mission, and other delegates in its central campus, Dhulikhel, on 26 June 2015.

The delegates had a brief discussion on

possible areas of cooperation with Prof. Dr. Ram Kantha Makaju Shrestha, Vice Chancellor of KU and Prof. Bhola Thapa, the Registrar of KU, and other office bearers of KU.

Mr. David Penrose joins KU as Fulbright Specialist

Mr. David Penrose joined the Department of Environmental Science and Engineering of KU in the capacity of a Fulbright Specialist effective from 28 August 2015. A graduate in Public Health from University of Michigan, Mr. Penrose served as the President of Freshwater Science Society, USA, in the year 2012.

Mr. Penrose would be involved in helping the faculties strengthen existing curricula of the course "ENVS 551: River Ecology and Restoration" of M.Sc. Environment and Natural Resources, developing a training package for the school students on the use of aquatic insects as indicators of environmental health as an outreach program, and

organizing two trainings for those students attending Bagmati Cleaning Campaign as a part of their curricula. Additionally, the Specialist would reach out to the public during the Bagmati Cleaning Campaign and demonstrate to them how the aquatic insects' biodiversity changes with the improvement of water quality.