Kathmandu University

# KU Insider Volume 3 | issue 4 | Jan - Apr, 2016





# Silver Jubilee Inaugural Ceremony Held









Kathmandu University held a Ceremony at the main campus to mark the beginning of its year-long Silver Jubilee celebration, on 11 March 2016.

The University plans to celebrate the year 2016 as its Silver Jubilee Year. A Silver Jubilee Celebration Organizing Committee has been formed under the chairmanship of the Chancellor, Rt. Hon'ble Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli.

Rt. Hon'ble President Bidhya Devi Bhandari, who graced the Ceremony as the Chief Guest, marked the inauguration of Silver Jubilee by unveiling the Silver Jubilee Logo and inaugurated newly constructed buildings in the University premises. Rt. Hon'ble Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli, the Chancellor of the University, chaired the Ceremony, and laid the foundation stone of the Silver Jubilee Tower.

The Inaugural Ceremony included enlightening speeches of Mr. Giriraj Mani Pokhrel, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Prof. Suresh Raj Sharma, the Founding Vice Chancellor of KU, Mr. Daman Nath Dhungana, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Prof. Dr. Ram Kantha Makaju Shrestha, Vice Chancellor.

#### Inside this issue:

#### **KU Oration 2016 held**

Marking the beginning of its Silver Jubilee celebration, KU felicitated with KU-Oration 2016 Mr. Neils Axel Peterson of Denmark, the principal architect and master plan designer of KU central premises.

In his Oration, Mr. Niels Axel narrated his experiences of working with the founders of KU. He remarked that the Master Plan, which he designed, could evolve to suit the need of time. He also wished that the University would respect the spirit of the Plan because it embodied the philosophy of using indigenous materials and technology.

Prof. Dr. Ram Kantha Makaju Shrestha, Vice

Chancellor, praised the contributions of Mr. Niels Axel. He stressed that Prof. Suresh Raj Sharma, Founding Vice Chancellor, and his team were among the people who could recall and work towards materializing their dreams.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Dr. Sharma recalled how what Neils envisioned as an architect was proved true in that the recent earthquake could cause only limited damage to the structures of the University. Remembering the initial challenges of finding land and getting the plan endorsed, Prof. Sharma revealed that Neils Axel

had accompanied the founders almost everywhere in the process of making the dream of establishing Kathmandu University come true.

The University has organized KU Oration since 2014. The first event of Oration was held on December 2014, in which two distinguished personalities, Prof. Saraswati Prasad Rimal, Nepal, and Mr. John Aiden Warlow, UK, were felicitated. The event is organized to honor notable scholars, academicians and experts for their remarkable contributions to the academic sector.





# School Space

# KAF 2015 Organized

Kathmandu University School of Management (KUSOM) organized KUSOM Annual Festival, KAF 2015. The event is an annual festival organized by the students of KUSOM, aimed at helping the students implement their academic learning in real time.

The event was divided into three parts as "Day 1: We Care", "Day 2: We Collaborate" and "Day 3: We Celebrate." Prof. Dr. Ram Kantha Makaju Shrestha, Vice Chancellor, formally inaugurated the events. The major attractions included live music performance by KUTUMBA Band, Circus Kathmandu,

Inter-college fashion competition, foods and games stalls and face painting among others.





#### **KUSoM Organized Faculty Development Workshop**

Kathmandu University School of Management (KUSOM) and Pokhara College of Management jointly organized a two-day Faculty Development Workshop during 28-29 February 2016 at Pokhara College of Management, Pokhara. Assistant Professor Sabin Bikram Panta, Assistant Professor Arjun Kumar Shrestha and Assistant Prof. Dr. Hem Raj Kafle presented on pedagogy, instructional design and delivery, collaborative earning and learning empowerment, respectively in the workshop.

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#### **One-Day Seminar on Plasma Physics**



A one-day seminar on plasma physics was organized on 27 December 2015 to mark 10th year of the establishment of Plasma Physics Laboratory at the Department of Natural Sciences, School of Science, KU. The

main objective of the program was to review the progress made in teaching and research in plasma physics in the past 10 years and set-up goals for the future.

# Core Facility Opening Ceremony Held Organized

KOICA-APP program, a collaborative research program between KU and Seoul National University (SNU), organized a KS B&W core facility opening ceremony on 3 February 2016, at central campus, Dhulikhel. In the ceremony, Prof. Dr. Ram Kantha Makaju Shrestha, Vice Chancellor, Kathmandu University, highlighted the significance of the program.

The program included the welcome speech by Prof. Dr. Mohan Bikram Gewali, Dean of School of Science, KU and Prof. Byung Gee Kim of SNU.

# **Faculty Space**

# Mr. Shakya and Mr. Shrestha Attend DL4D Workshop



Mr. Manoj Shakya and Mr. Sushil Shrestha, Assistant Professors at the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, attended the '1st Regional Meeting of the Asia Research Grant Program' organized by FIT-ED Philippines in Manila on 27-29 January 2016.

The theme of the program was Digital Learning for Development (DL4D). All the sub-grantees including Mr. Shakya and Mr. Shrestha presented their research proposals in the workshop.

#### **HMU Faculties in International Conferences**

Faculties of the Humanities and Management Unit (HMU), School of Engineering, participated in different international conferences during the first two weeks of March 2016.

Mr. Eak Prasad Duwadi, Assistant Professor, chaired a technical session on the issues and challenges of education in a conference organized by Department of Education, Gorakhpur University, India, on 11 March. He also addressed the valedictory session of the conference.

Dr. Hem Raj Kafle, Assistant Professor and Coordinator, and Mr. Punya Prasad Koirala, Lecturer, presented papers in the 21st International Conference of Nepal English

Language Teachers' Association (NELTA) held in Lalitpur during 7-9 March. Dr. Kafle's paper was entitled "Beyond Narcissism: Attuning Teacher Performance through Students' Critical Reflections," in which he discussed how students' post-class reflections could be used to customize the everyday performances of English teachers teaching professional communication at the tertiarylevel classes of science and engineering. In the paper entitled "Teaching Stories in Bloom's Taxonomy in the Undergraduate Level," Mr. Koirala explained the application of Bloom's Taxonomy in teaching stories as tools of critical and creative thinking at the tertiary-level classes of communication skills. Similarly, Dr. Kafle presented a paper in the 35th annual International Conference of Literary Association of Nepal (LAN) held in Kathmandu during 1-2 March. The paper, entitled "'The Future of Thinking': Treading the Untrodden Trails," underlined the areas of scholarship where scholars in Humanities could collaborate with those of other disciplines including Sciences, Engineering and Management.

Meanwhile, Mr. Duwadi got a research article entitled "Teaching English in Nepal" published from Australia in the anthology Global Language Policies and Local Educational Practices and Cultures (11th edition).

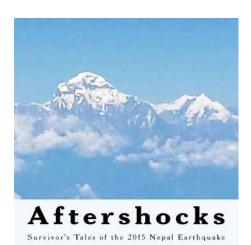
#### **KU Faculties in ICDRET 2016**



Prof. Dr. Ramesh Kumar Maskey, Associate Dean, School of Engineering, Mr. Brijesh Adhikary, Associate Professor, Mr. Shailendra Kumar Jha, Assistant Professor, and Mr. Rojesh Dahal, Graduate student at the Department of Electrical & Electronics Engineering (DoEEE), attended the 4th International Conference on the Developments in Renewable Energy Technology, ICDRET 2016, during 7-9 January 2016, in UIU, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

# **Student Space**

# KU Students' Earthquake Narratives Published in a Book



Compiled and Edited by Don Morreale American author Mr. Don Morreale, who taught in the Humanities and Management Unit during September 2015, got a collection of KU students' reflections/narratives on the April 25 earthquake published in a book by Coyosky Publications, Denver, USA.

The book is entitled Aftershocks: Survivor's Tales of the 2015 Nepal Earthquake. Students of the BBIS, Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Pharmacy programs at KU main campus have been the book's principal contributors. Mr. Morreale plans to donate all the proceeds to an organization working in Nepal for rehabilitation and rebuilding.

# DoCSE Students Win Prize in Ncell App Camp 2015

Team 'Pinpeaks', which comprised 5 students from Department of Computer Science and Engineering (DoCSE), successfully won the Ncell App Camp 2015 under the category 'Tourism'. The competition, organized on December 22 by NCELL witnessed a total of 728 ideas, among which 153 were submitted under the 'Tourism' category.

The team members, Rohit Shrestha, Ritesh Jung Thapa, Sohil Lal Shrestha, Hilson Shrestha and Aatish Neupane, 'Pinpeaks' won the prize of NRs. 2, 50,000.

#### **KURC Wins First Prize**

Kathmandu University Robotics Club (KURC) participated in Yantra 4.0 national robotics competition organized by Robotics Association of Nepal (RAN) on 19 December 2015. Two teams 'KU BEAST' and 'HUSKY' took part in two different competitions, Manual Aakhada and Automatic Aakhada, respectively. The amount of first prize was NRs. 50,000. Prof. Dr. Ramesh Kumar Maskey, Associate Dean of School of Engineering, KU, visited the venue as the mentor of the Club.

#### MoU between KU and different institutions

- University Grants Commission (UGC)- Renewed on 21 March 2016
- Bielefeld University, Germany- 17 February 2016
- ABARI Bamboo Research Initiative Pvt. Ltd.- 16 February 2016
- World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Nepal- 13 December 2015
- University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka- 4 December 2015
- Kangwon National University, South Korea- 27 November 2015
- Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia

# Interaction

#### UGC Chairman and Vice Chancellors of Universities of Nepal Visit KU



A brief interaction session was organized in central premises, KU, on 25 January 2016 on the occasion of the visit of Vice Chancellors (VC) of different universities of Nepal. The visit was coordinated by University Grants Commission (UGC) Nepal.

Prof. Dr. Parasar Prasad Koirala, UGC Chair, and his team accompanied the VCs of Purvanchal University, Agriculture and Forestry University, Nepal Sanskrit University, Lumbini Bauddha University, Mid-Western University and Far-Western University, among others.

Prof. Dr. Ram Kantha Makaju Shrestha, Vice Chancellor of KU, welcomed the dignitaries and expressed KU's willingness to collaborate with all the universities in matters of addressing common academic problems. Prof. Dr. Koirala stressed the need of organizing similar meetings in other universities in order to create a platform of interaction for exploring new avenues of collaboration.

KU Deans, Associate Deans and Heads and Coordinators of different departments and programs participated in the interaction.

# **Visits**

# KU Team visits Israel and Bangkok







A team of the University including Prof. Dr. Ram Kantha Makaju Shrestha, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Bim Prasad Shrestha, Associate Dean, School of Engineering and Mr. Brijesh Adhikary, Head, Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, visited some Universities and institutions of Israel and Bangkok from 14-23 February 2016.

The main purpose of the visit was to share research and academic experiences of both KU and institutions in both countries. The visit is expected to help explore areas of future collaboration and carry out joint research projects and faculty/ students exchange.

Meanwhile, Chiang Rai Rajabhat University, Thailand will be helping KU in establishing 'Early Warning System.'

# Silver Jubilee Celebration (Gallery)



























