

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY, KATHMANDU, NEPAL





Global University Network

12th International N.E.W.S Conference in Kathmandu

To be hosted by Tribhuvan University Nepal

15-18 May 2015

Call for Papers and Participation Registration

The Country in Nutshell

Nepal, officially the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, is a landlocked country located in South Asia. It is located in the Himalayas and bordered to the north by the People's Republic of China, and to the south, east, and west by the Republic of India. With an area of 147,181 square kilometers (56,827 sq mi) and a population of approximately 30 million, Nepal is the world's 93rd largest country by land mass and the 41st most populous country. Kathmandu is the capital of nation and a treasure house of ancient art and culture. Nepal is the birth place of Lord Buddha.

Nepal is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of biodiversity due to its unique geographical position and altitudinal variation. The elevation of the country ranges from 60 meters above sea level to the highest point on earth, Sagarmatha (Mt. Everest) at 8,848 meters, all within a distance of 150 kilometers resulting in climatic conditions from subtropical to arctic. The mountainous north has eight of the world's fourteen tallest mountains, including the highest point on Earth. It contains more than 240 peaks over 20,000 ft (6,096 m) above sea level. The great Himalaya makes most popular destination to Nepal among the people of the world. Every snowy peak and mountain makes Nepal second richest country of the world for water resources after Brazil.

The country is a potpourri of ethnic groups and sub-groups who speak over 93 languages and dialects. Nepal offers an astonishing diversity of sightseeing attractions and adventure opportunities found nowhere else on earth. Nepal is the most beautiful and stunning Himalayan

country in the world. Though small in size, it is known in the world as a nation of color and contrasts-a hidden Shangri-La of nature, culture and adventure. In the countryside the way of life is still traditional, nature is at its best, high mountains and lush valleys are ideal places for trekking and mountaineering, flora and fauna invites a nature lover for a rendezvous with them. Nepal and Himalayas-the two names go side by side. Nepal, in political maps, is one of the smallest countries of the world but has the amazingly diverse geography, landscapes, culture and traditions. Nepal, situated in the lap of might Himalayas, is regarded as *Dev Bhumi* the land of gods. Nepal is rich with traditions of art and culture.

Tribhuvan University

Tribhuvan University (TU) is the first legend institution of higher education in Nepal. It was established in 1959 A.D. There are 38 central departments, 4 faculties, 5 institutes and 4 research centers in TU. The central campus is spread over 154.77 hectares. The TU is a non-profit making autonomous institution funded by the Government of Nepal (GoN). On January 8, 2013 the GoN has principally agreed to declare TU as the Central University. The main objectives of TU are:

1. To produce capable human resources required for the overall development of Nepal
2. To impart standard higher education
3. To protect and develop national culture and tradition
4. To involve in extensive, empirical and timely creation of knowledge and research in the fields of arts, science, technology and vocation.

TU Senate is the supreme decision-making body on policies, budget and rules and regulations for running the university. There are four councils, namely, Executive Council, Academic Council, Research Coordination Councils and Planning Council. In the current academic session (2014-2015) altogether 0.405 million students have been enrolled at various levels of TU. Among these 36.55 percent students are enrolled in 60 constituent campuses and 63.45 percent of students are enrolled in affiliated colleges. TU has 7966 teaching faculties and 7230 are non-teaching staff. TU has bilateral relationship with 134 universities and institutions of 30 countries across the world.

N.E.W.S. Conference

The Global University Network (GUN) initiated by Berlin University of Applied Science was founded in Berlin, 1994. GUN is a Joint Non-Government Organization of universities and colleges from the countries in Europe, America and Asia. The number of participant universities, colleges, and higher education institutions is growing. GUN is a mission of extending collaboration among the higher education academics and institution for competing higher education in the world. The mission is to establish network among the universities, colleges and the professors who contribute jointly for the development of higher education through cutting

edge researches to solve the human and environmental global problems that are prominent at present and save the world for the future generation. Exchange of faculties, researchers, students and management personnel for sharing and constructing the new knowledge and technology for benefitting the people and saving the nature is the mission inherent within this collaboration. GUN has started conferences in the name of N.E.W.S., acronym used to designate the participation from North, East, West, and South, meaning its members are from all over the world. The present members are educational institutions and organizations including Germany, Russia, South Korea, Japan, Switzerland, France, Serbia, China and Nepal. With this mission since its inception in 2000, the N.E.W.S. has been dedicating itself in strengthening regional cooperation among institutions with the aim of establishing thorough information-sharing, staff collaboration in scientific researches and study visits, students exchange programs and other institutional cooperation regarding joint scientific research bases, degree co-education programs and bilingual or multilingual teaching programs. There are 11 N.E.W.S. conferences accomplished by the GUN. The present 12th conference is being hosted by Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu, Nepal with emphasis in the following theme and sub-themes. All the interested participants are requested to contribute papers in the mentioned themes and the spirit for the upcoming conference.

Conference Theme: Globalization of Higher Education and the Role of Universities

Sub-themes:

1. University as Knowledge Enterprise
2. Globalization and its Impact on Higher Education
3. Higher education reform for addressing the need of the future world
4. Higher education issue: Public vs. Private commodity/ or public-private partnership in Higher Education
5. Trajectories of the green economy: innovation, sustainability, competitiveness
6. Climate change and the role of Universities.
7. Paradigm Shift of Higher Education
8. Cooperation between Government and University for strengthening Higher Education

The present economic, cultural, technical and legal globalization has influenced on higher education to be globalized in one way and contrary to this there is growing debate over the utilization of local and indigenous knowledge in higher education curriculum. The globalized perspectives demand uniformity in higher education contents as well as procedure for quality, relevance, employability like aspects to prepare a global citizen. The present flow of citizens at transnational levels that demand higher education should be more or less similar in all nations so that the study as well as working provision would be easier. The local and national perspectives take higher education for addressing the local needs, development of technology for utilization of

the locally available natural resources for development and promoting local knowledge to the scientific level; both in terms of expansion and development.

The other trend in higher education is competition for quality and resources. The competition for quality believes higher education management on theory of New Public Management and mostly guided by neo-liberal economic development agenda. The other big issue in higher education whether to be mass friendly or selective. There is growing debate on massification of higher education taking it as public goods under the state accountability for providing higher education to mass people against higher education for selected few who are potential. The escalating debate on higher education as public or private commodity is important for designing higher education policy in the countries like Nepal.

There is a big gap in the field of higher education in quality between developed nations and lower and middle income countries in the world. The developed higher education is the sign of economic and social development in the comparative higher education history of the world. Quality needs resources both financial and human resources. Management of both types of resources is the big challenge in low and middle income countries in the context of ever growing cost of higher education for quality as well as increasing access. There is now one understanding among the nations that networking among higher education institutions in the world can address the issue of higher education quality in low and middle income countries and internationalization of higher education. Therefore, this upcoming conference in May 15 – 18, 2015 will be focused on the above mentioned themes with emphasis on the contemporary higher education issues. The organizers of the conference requests to all the interested academics, professionals, policy makers, and planners to contribute papers not exceeding 4000 words in those themes within February 15, 2015.

Participation: All the universities interested to join in this Network can be the participants of this conference including the present member universities/colleges of GUN from different countries. The pragmatic concern to the participation is the financial matter. The expenses of the participants incurred on local accommodation, transportation, food are covered by the conference hosting institution and the rest of the expenses go to the participants own responsibility.

Regarding the number of participants for bearing the aforementioned expenses, 2 participants from the conference hosted countries in the past, 1 from other partner universities/colleges and individual participation from the respective new institution who are going to participate as a member in GUN.

Contact Persons

Please complete the form attached and send it by e-mail or fax to the NEWS Secretariat Committee up to Jan .15. 2013.

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