



NeSA 8th International conference **Role of Diaspora for Sustainable Homeland**

March 12, 2016

O'Donnell Hall, Room #111

New Mexico State University

Las Cruces, NM 88003

Nepalese Students' Association (NeSA)
New Mexico State University

Funding:

ASNMSU, Department of Education, Arts and Sciences Council, Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, Graduate Dean Office, Provost, International Border Program of New Mexico State University & All Times Tax, Dallas, Texas.

Academic Committee Members:

Roshani Rajbanshi, Academic Director of NeSA

Uttar Shrestha, President of NeSA

Gopal Tamang

Keynote Speaker



Dr. Drona Prakash Rasali, BVSc, PGT (Patho), MS, PhD, FACE, University of Regina

Dr. Drona Rasali is an active leader of Nepali Diaspora in North America. He was elected as Deputy Regional Coordinator for Americas in the Non-Resident Nepali Association's International Coordination Council (NRNA-ICC) for 2009-2011. He served as an Advisor of NRNA-ICC for 2011-2013. Currently, he is a member of Disciplinary Committee of NRNA-ICC. He has been an advisor of the NRN-Canada since 2008. Also, he serves his local Nepali community organization Nepal Cultural Society of BC (NCSBC) in Vancouver, Canada from its Board of Directors. He is one of the original key proponents of Open University of Nepal (OUN) initiative, a flagship project of NRNA-ICC.

Professionally, Dr. Rasali is the Director, Population Health Surveillance & Epidemiology in the Provincial Health Services Authority of British Columbia province of Canada since 2012. Prior to assuming the current position, he worked as Provincial Chronic Disease Epidemiologist with the Ministry of Health in Saskatchewan province for over 7 years. Dr. Rasali holds a position of Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies at the University of Regina since 2009. In spring 2014, he was awarded the professional designation of a Fellow of American College of Epidemiology (FACE), a promotion from the status of a member of the College which he held since 2006. Originally, he comes from a professional background as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine working with the Government of Nepal as veterinary officer to senior scientist over 20 years. He also had brief stints in working as a Trainee Pathologist in

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Western Australian Government Animal Health Laboratories in 1985 and as a Research Fellow at the Aberdeen University, Scotland, UK in 1996.

Dr. Rasali has received his post-secondary education and professional training, studying in several countries including India, Philippines, Thailand, Australia, Malaysia, UK and Canada. He conducted his doctoral research in genetics using animal population models and research in epidemiology whilst in the University of Manitoba in Canada, where he earned his PhD degree. He has published widely in several scientific fields of veterinary science, animal genetics and physiology, and agro-biological sciences through to his mid-career. Lately for the past 10 years, he is active in the fields of epidemiology, population and public health, providing evidence for public health policy planning. He is currently in the Editorial Advisory Board of an international peer reviewed scientific journal - Small Ruminant Research (Elsevier), while he is also a reviewer in two other international scientific journals related to health sciences, Annals of Epidemiology (Elsevier) and Asia-Pacific Journal of Public Health (Sage).

On the social front as a part of his life-long commitment to give back to his community, he founded an international network called nepaldalitinfo that stands up for social justice in Nepal, and he has been moderating the network since 2003.

Guest Speaker



Dr. Rajan Ghimire, Plant and Environmental Sciences, NMSU

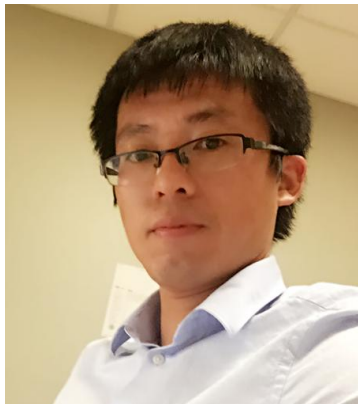
Dr. Rajan Ghimire is an Assistant Professor and Cropping Systems Specialist at the New Mexico State University Agricultural Science Center at Clovis, NM. He grew up in a farm

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family in Gorkha, Nepal. Dr. Ghimire received his school education from Mahalaxmi Secondary School, Laxmi Bazar, Gorkha, and undergraduate in agriculture (2004) and Master's degree in soil science (2006) from the Tribhuvan University, Nepal. During 2006-2009, Rajan worked at the Tribhuvan University, Institute of Agriculture and Animal Sciences, Rampur, Chitwan as a Lecturer of Soil Science. In 2009, he moved to Laramie, WY and continued his graduate education at University of Wyoming. Rajan received his Ph.D. in Soil Science (2013) from the University of Wyoming and earned a postdoctoral research experience from the Oregon State University. Rajan studied soil organic matter and soil microbial community dynamics during his doctoral study and focused on improving soil health and agricultural sustainability in dry land cropping systems in the Pacific Northwest during his postdoctoral research. Dr. Ghimire is interested in soil organic matter and nutrient dynamics, soil microbial community responses, greenhouse gas emissions in diverse cropping systems and soil management practices to improve the sustainability of agriculture in current and future climate.

Guest Speaker

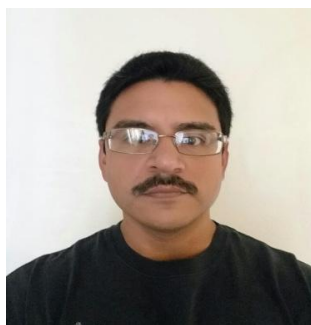


Dr. Weizhong Tian, Department of Mathematical Sciences, ENMU

Dr. Weizhong Tian originates from China. He obtained the Bachelor's degree in Information and Computing Sciences from Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University, China, and master's degree in computational mathematics from Northwest University, China. In 2010, he moved to New Mexico State University and got his master and Ph. D degree in mathematical statistics. After that he got a job as an assistant professor in statistics at Eastern New Mexico

University. He was invited to attend several international conferences, such as 2015 Joint Statistical Meetings, International Conference of the Thailand Econometric Society, International Workshop on Applied Mathematics and Statistics. His research interests are skew distribution and its applications, linear mixture model, high dimensional data analysis, tail and intermediate tail dependence and cumulative residual entropy. He was the member of American Mathematical Society, Mathematical Association of America, American Statistical Association, and Institute of Mathematical Statistics. He also was a reviewer of the journal of statistics Application and Probability.

Guest Speaker



Dr. Andrew Pardo, Department of Chemistry, UTEP.

Dr. Andrew Pardo graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) in 2006 with a Bachelors of Science degree. He was then accepted into the graduate program at UTEP in January 2007 and worked with Dr. Luis E. Martinez. After a year and a half Andrew joined Dr. Katja Michael's lab where he first worked with synthesizing carbohydrates based vaccine for Chaga's disease. Having his heart set on method development he jumped projects to work on developing a photoreactive method for acylating peptides with thiophenol at the C-terminus. He is currently working alongside with Dr. Juan Noveron at UTEP in developing nanoparticles embedded in hydrogels for water purification.

Guest Speaker



Dr. Julia Parra, Curriculum and Instruction, NMSU

Dr. Julia Parra is an assistant professor at New Mexico State University, College of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Learning Design & Technology Program. She earned her degree of Doctor in Education in Learning Technologies from Pepperdine University's School of Education and Psychology. Dr. Parra has an overarching research focus on learning design, technology and innovation and has conducted and published research in the areas of faculty/teacher professional development with technology and in technology-based environments; online/blended/HyFlex teaching and learning; digital democracy, culturally-responsive teaching and learning; the relationships between pedagogy, content and technology; personal learning networks, and MOOCs. Due to the integrative nature of learning design and technology, she has many opportunities for collaboration and service in a leadership role. Most recently, she was asked to serve as a founding board member of the New Mexico Distance Learning Association (NewMexicoDLA) and as co-chair of the conference committee, organized and facilitated the virtually delivered, 1st Annual NewMexicoDLA Conference 2015. Dr. Parra is always up for a challenge or adventure, evidenced recently by her foray into experiential STEM from both the learner perspective and designer of learning perspective. For more about Julia, see her website at <http://juliaparra.com/>.

Schedule of Events

8:00 am - 9:00 am Registration (Preparation and Proceeding to the Conference Hall).

Opening session (9:00 am—9:45 am) (Opening Ceremony)

- Welcome by Academic Director Roshani Rajbanshi.
- Slide Show of Effect of Earthquake by Ujjwal Panthi.
- Welcome by NeSA president Uttar Shrestha.
- Welcome speech by NeSA Advisor, Dr. Ram N. Acharya.
- Speech by Graduate school Dean, Dr. Loui Reyes.
- Speech by Provost of International Border Program, Dr. Cornell Menking.
- Letter of Best wishes from Dr. Ambika P. Adhikari, Arizona State University, Dr. William Quintana, Department Head of Chemistry & Biochemistry and Dr. Daniel Howard, Executive Vice President and Provost.

Session I (9:45 am -12:00 pm) (Morning Session) Announcer - Prasamsa T. Dhakal

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|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9:45-10:00 | Sudip Gaire , Department of Entomology, Plant Pathology & Weed Science, New Mexico State University.
Toxicity and repellency of essential oils on the Turkestan cockroach, <i>Blatta lateralis</i> (Blattodea: Blattidae). |
| 10:00-10:15 | Roma Mukhopadhyay , Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, New Mexico State University.
A Redox Sensing Function for the Heme Nitric Oxide / Oxygen Binding Protein (H-NOX) from <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> that is Independent of Heme Binding. |
| 10:15-10:30 | Sangken Kirant , International Business, Southern New Hampshire University.
Business Education and the Performance of CEO. |
| 10:30-10:45 | Leslie Toledo , Department of Biology, New Mexico State University.
Introduction to Marine Invertebrate Embryology Model Systems. |
| 10:45-11:00 | Rajendra Gautam , Department of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, New Mexico Tech.
Visualization of Lipid-Linked Prodrug in Drug Delivery Vehicles. |
| 11:00-11:15 | Margarita Ruiz Guerrero , Curriculum and Instruction, New Mexico State University.
A Black Feminist De/Re/Construction of Nutrition in Head Start Programs in the United States. |

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- 11:15-11:30 **Durga Neupane**, Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, New Mexico State University.
Differential expression of Zinc responsive genes in *Paracoccus denitrificans*.
- 11:30-11:45 **Armando Altamirando**, Curriculum and Instruction, New Mexico State University.
Online Democracy: Join the Future of Democracy.
- 11:45-12:00 **Arjun Aryal**, Department of Physics, University of Texas of El Paso.
Measurement and Comparison of Global Solar Radiation Using NPN Phototransistor.

Session II (12:00 pm -1:00 pm) (Lunch Break/Posters)

Govinda KC, Department of Physics, University of Texas at El Paso.
Regioselectivity of H₂O@C₆₀ fullerenes.

Rishi Sapkota, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, New Mexico State University.
Fluorescent triazoloborolopyridinium dyes for cross metathesis labeling.

Ravi Shah, Electrical Engineering, New Mexico State University
Glance of Nepal through my lens.

Doleshwar Niroula, Department of Chemistry, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
Total Synthesis and Determination of Absolute Stereochemistry of Hortonone C: An Anti-cancer Agent.

Gayatri Gautam, Department of Chemistry, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology.
Preparation and Acoustic Focusing of Lipid Bilayer Coated Microspheres.

Session III (1:00 pm -5:00 pm) (Afternoon Session - Oral Presentation, Keynote and Guest Speaker)

1:00-1:30 **Guest Speaker - Dr. Julia Parra**, Curriculum and Instruction, New Mexico State University.
Adventure in Learning Design, Technology and Innovation.

1:30-1:45 **Gaspard Mucundanyi**, Curriculum and Instruction, New Mexico State University.
Educational learning game: New opportunity for youth to learn.

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- 1:45-2:00 **Shuv Raj Rana Bhat**, Rhetoric and Composition, University of Texas at El Paso.
Rhetoric of Empire in Kincaid's *Among Flowers: a Walk in the Himalaya*.
- 2:00-2:30 **Guest Speaker - Dr. Andrew Pardo**, Department of Chemistry, University of Texas El Paso.
Synthesis of peptide phenyl thioesters using a solid support with a photoreactive nitroindoline linker.
- 2:30-3:00 **Guest Speaker - Dr. Weizhong Tian**, Department of Mathematical Science, Eastern New Mexico University.
Risk Measures and Asset Pricing Models with Wang Transforms under Flexible Skew-generalized Distributed Settings.
- 3:00-3:15 **Break**
- 3:15-3:25 **Speech by Dr. David Rutledge**, Curriculum and Instruction, New Mexico State University.
- 3:25-3:55 **Guest Speaker - Dr. Rajan Ghimire**, Plant and Environmental Science, New Mexico State University.
Sustainable Practices in Smallholder Agriculture: Case Studies from Mountains and Plains of Nepal.
- 3:55-4:55 **Keynote Speaker - Dr. Drona Prakash Rasali**, Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies, University of Regina, SK, Canada.
Role of Diaspora for Sustainable Homeland: Towards Making the Differences in Societal Well-being of Nepal.
- 4:55-5:00 Thank you note from Dr. Gyanu Lamichhane, Associate Professor, John Hopkins Medical School and Kesab Paudel, President of NRN.
- 5:00 **Closing**

Note: All abstracts for presentation and posters are posted in our website. Please visit web.nmsu.edu/~nesa for more information.

Acknowledgements:

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We also express our gratitude to Advisors, Nepalese Community, the entire faculty, staff, students and the presenters who have energetically worked in making the “NeSA Eighth International Conference” a great success. The program would not have reached this point without your contribution. We are grateful to the Campus Activity, the Building Manager of the O’Donnell for providing the space and all the necessary equipment for this conference.

**Dinner at 6:00 pm at
Corbett Senate Gallery**