

Global Perspectives Grant Program
Final Report on
Nepal/USA Ecosystem Management Grant

The objective of this Global Perspectives Grant Proposal was to obtain funding to bring Professor Ram B. Chaudhary to the University of Wyoming to work on research proposals to conduct collaborative ecosystem management projects in Nepal and to present a lecture on Biodiversity in Nepal at the Berry Biodiversity Conservation Center as well as to expand collaborations between the University of Wyoming and Tribhuvan University. After the initial proposal was funded, another objective was added to the project when the Vice Chancellor of Tribhuvan University (equivalent to President of American universities) expressed interest in travelling to the University of Wyoming with Professor Chaudhary to renew the memorandum of understanding between our two universities originally signed in 2004.

Vice Chancellor Maharjan and Professor Chaudhary and their wives arrived in Laramie on the afternoon of Thursday, 26 September. The official visit began on Friday morning, 27 September when Drs. Maharjan and Chaudhary met University of Wyoming Vice President Dick McGinity, Vice President for Student Affairs Sara Axelson, and Associate Provost Nicole Ballenger at Old Main to renew the Memorandum of Understanding between UW and Tribhuvan University. This meeting was followed by another at the College of Education where Drs. Maharjan and Chaudhary met with Drs. Nikki Baldwin and Samara Madrid to discuss educational projects in Nepal. Later on Friday afternoon, Professor Chaudhary gave a seminar entitled "Globalization, Peoples' Livelihood and Food Security: Assessment and Prediction for Manang, Trans-Himalayas, Nepal". The Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Frank Galey, hosted a reception and dinner for our guests from Nepal that Friday evening which was also attended by Vice President McGinity.

Over the weekend, our guests were given a tour of Laramie and the surrounding area and spent some time shopping in downtown Laramie. On Saturday night they attended an evening reception hosted by the Friends of Nepal at UW Registered Student Organization. On Sunday, Dr. Stahl took our guests on a sight seeing drive over the Snowy Mountain Range to Saratoga where they had lunch, soaked in the hot springs, looked around town and the returned to Laramie.

Monday and Tuesday were spent in meetings with faculty on campus including Carlos Martinez del Rio, Director of the Berry Biodiversity Center, where Professor Chaudhary gave a second seminar entitled "Biodiversity Conservation in the Himalayas: Efforts and Needs". Other faculty with whom Drs Maharjan and Chaudhary met with include Elise Pendall, Scott Miller, Ken Gerow, Robert Aylward, Myron Allen, Michael Urynowicz and Anne Alexander, Director of the Cheney

International Center and Frank Galey, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. When not meeting with other faculty around campus, Vice Chancellor Maharjan and Professor Chaudhary spent time working on proposal writing, development and planning with Dr. Stahl.

Grant Outcomes

2 Seminar Presentations by Professor Chaudhary at the Berry Biodiversity Conservation Center:

Globalization, Peoples' Livelihood and Food Security: Assessment and Prediction for Manang, Trans-Himalayas, Nepal

Biodiversity Conservation in the Himalayas: Efforts and Needs

Renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between University of Wyoming and Tribhuvan University

Development of 2 collaborative research proposals on Ecosystem Management Projects in Nepal

Formation of a Nepal Working Group at the University of Wyoming to facilitate cooperation a



Figure 1. Vice Chancellor Maharjan and President McGinity at the Memorandum of Understanding signing Ceremony.



Figure 2. Officials from University of Wyoming and Tribhuvan University at the Memorandum of Understanding Ceremony in Old Main.