



NAPA

Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas

NAPA ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING 1st EC Meeting Minutes

Friday, September 4, 2020; 9:00 PM EST

Executive Committee

President

Dr. Megha N. Parajulee

Vice President

Dr. Pradeep Wagle

General Secretary

Dr. Ramjee Ghimire

Joint Secretary

Dr. Dev Paudel

Treasurer

Dr. Santosh Dhakal

Members

Dr. Aditya Khanal

Ms. Gita Koirala Bhandari

Dr. Nityananda Khanal

Dr. Shyam L. Kandel

Dr. Sushil Thapa

Dr. Uma Karki

Attendance

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Advisory Council	Dainik B. Nepali, Gopi Upreti, Narayan Khadka, Ishowri P. Dhakal, Lila B. Karki, Nanda P Joshi, Peetambar Dahal, Prakash Malla
Executive Committee	Megha Parajulee, Pradeep Wagle, Ramjee Ghimire, Santosh Dhakal, Gita Koirala Bhandari, Nityananda Khanal, Shyam Kandel, Sushil Thapa

1. General Secretary Dr. Ramjee Ghimire welcomed Advisory Council and Executive Council members and began the meeting.
2. President Dr. Megha N. Parajulee welcomed AC and EC members and provided an overview on “NAPA Activities and Updates”.
3. AC and EC members were self-introduced. AC members congratulated the incoming EC team. They shared their views individually on current state of NAPA and its programs and offered invaluable suggestions and way forward to widen NAPA’s reach, not only in the United States and Nepal, but globally. AC members appreciated the work of, and the current strategic direction of NAPA.

AC members suggested the following for NAPA Executive Committee to consider toward addressing NAPA’s long-term programmatic vision:

NAPA should hold some events outside the U.S., specifically, in Nepal, where NAPA expects to work with its significant number of active members in pursuing its research, teaching and outreach activities.

NAPA should establish a sustainable funding source to support its future programs. It is commendable what NAPA is currently doing in its formative years, but we should be mindful that NAPA is growing, it has members from many different parts of the world, and its activities are expanding. Consequently, a reliable source of funding is warranted to sustain this growing demand for NAPA’s



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popular activities, including a staff support and permanent administrative structure. The majority suggested to establish a rigorous Endowment Fund and pursue productive investment strategies for financial sustainability.

NAPA could work in capacity building of Nepalese stakeholders and transfer of knowledge.

As mentioned in its by-laws and as manifested in its current programs, NAPA pursues multidisciplinary paths. NAPA strives to strengthen education, research, outreach on agricultural and allied fields and enhancing food safety through agricultural transformation. Importantly, NAPA should keep nurturing relationships with professional organizations and stakeholders and promote institutionalization of its programs.

Transparency is one of the key indicators of organizational success and NAPA should be committed to maintain transparency throughout.

Organizations sustain because of its members. NAPA should focus on student members as they are young and go through a long trajectory. They can bring new ideas, innovations and also significantly contribute to organizational development.

Importantly, life members are lifeline of any non-profit organization. General members come and go but life members remain there forever. They are committed to organizational development and regularly participate in organizational activities too. Therefore, NAPA should also focus recruiting more life members.

4. Vice President Dr. Pradeep Wagle thanked all the EC and AC members attending this meeting, providing invaluable input and adjourned the meeting.