



NAPA

Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas

**Minutes of NAPA Executive Committee Meeting
6th EC Meeting held on
Sunday, January 29, 2023; 7:30 - 9:00 PM CST**

Executive Committee

President

Dr. Pradeep Wagle

Vice President

Dr. Ramjee P. Ghimire

General Secretary

Dr. Nityananda Khanal

Joint Secretary

Dr. Sushil Thapa

Treasurer

Dr. Bishwo Adhikari

Members

Dr. Buddhi Gyawali

Dr. Dev Paudel

Mr. Dol P. Dhakal

Dr. Kripa Dhakal

Dr. Pramod Pokhrel

Dr. Uma Karki

Immediate Past

President

Dr. Megha N. Parajulee

Attendance

Attendees	Pradeep Wagle, Ramjee Ghimire, Sushil Thapa, Dev Paudel, Kripa Dhakal, Pramod Pokhrel, Uma Karki, Dol P. Dhakal
Informed in absentia	Nityananda Khanal, Buddhi Gyawali
Uninformed in absentia	Bishwo Adhikari, Megha N. Parajulee
Invitee	-

President Dr. Pradeep Wagle welcomed the meeting attendees. Joint Secretary Dr. Sushil Thapa moderated the meeting on the following agenda items:

- Action items from the previous meeting:** Dr. Wagle briefly highlighted the recently organized NAPA-PRI Policy Symposium. It was agreed that the program was a grand success. Full papers to be published in PRI journal were being collected.
The meeting approved the nomination of Dr. Uma Karki as the new Editor-In-Chief of GJAAS.
- Presentation of progress and forward plans by specialized committee chairs**
 - Membership Drive Committee (MDC):** NAPA Vice President and Chair of the Membership Drive Committee Dr. Ramjee Ghimire updated the current membership status of 360 (as of December 2022). It was also discussed about the possibility of recruiting symposium attendees as NAPA members. It was agreed to send a mass email to everyone. Further, reminder emails (before the membership expiry date) would be sent to the current NAPA members to remind their membership status.
 - Student Coordination Committee (SCC):** NAPA President Dr. Wagle highlighted that the EC officials were in regular communication with the Leads of the Student Coordination Committee. The committee was planning to organize student-focused programs.
 - IT Committee (ITC):** The IT Committee Chair Dr. Dev Paudel reported that the NAPA subject expert database was ready to view. It was decided to circular the database first within the NAPA members to review and make it final.

- 2.4 **Endowment Fund Committee (EFC):** NAPA President Dr. Wagle emphasized making all committees more functional and independent. He also urged new EC members (who had not contributed to the Endowment Fund yet) to pledge to the fund and set some new examples to motivate other members. It was decided that Dr. Wagle would call a meeting with a committee to move forward ASAP. Dr. Wagle also asked to send reminders to the donors who had pledged for the donation. It was also agreed that to maintain the transparency of the fund, it should be continuously updated in the Agri-Connection newsletter.
- 2.5 **Women in Agriculture and Allied Sciences (WAAP) Committee:** The Committee Chair Dr. Kripa Dhakal updated the committee formation and discussions about the invitation of exemplary women professionals for inspirational talks soon (by the end of February). The speakers for the first meeting would be from Nepal.
- 2.6 **Award and Recognition Committee (ARC):** Committee Chair, Dr. Uma Karki updated that the 3-membered committee was working on making lists of NAPA activities and potential awardees for the future.
- 2.7 **Socio-Economic and Cultural Committee (SECC):** Chair of the CC Mr. Dol P. Dhakal updated the grand success of the recent tax literacy program and shared the plan of organizing financial literacy program in the future.
- 2.8 **Research and Capacity Building Committee (RCBC):** Chair of the RCBC Dr. Pramod Pokhrel provided a broad overview of the RMG as below.
- The call for proposals was for undergraduate students only.
 - A total of 69 proposals have been received from four universities in Nepal. Because of the duplication of advisors, only 60 proposals are being considered for further evaluation. Broadly, the proposal areas include animal science, plant science, crop science, soil science, and social science.
 - All the applicants are acknowledged for their submissions.
 - The plan is to release the final decision by Feb 15th but it can be delayed and applicants will be notified accordingly.

It was clarified in the meeting that the committee considers diversity and tries to maintain participation from different universities/regions in Nepal. Further, the committee will update the protocol of proposal evaluation and feedback mechanism as required. The committee will discuss with NAPA leaders about the availability of the fund and the total proposal to be approved.

3. **NAPA Annual General Meeting (AGM):** It was agreed to hold the RMG during the memorial weekend of 2023 (May 27-28). The EC will identify the AGM Chair and By-laws revision (if any) Chair soon.

4. **4th NAPA Conference:** It was decided to organize the 4th Biennial International Scientific Conference during the memorial weekend (May 25-26) of 2024. It was also decided to continue the hybrid mode of the conference and publish the conference flyer in social media with the venue TBD.

After the discussions on the agenda, NAPA Vice President Dr. Ramjee Ghimire delivered closing remarks thanking all participants and stating that the discussions were fruitful. He also asked for reaching out to prospective new members.

Minutes prepared by Joint-Secretary Dr. Thapa