



# NAPA

## Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas

### NAPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

9<sup>th</sup> EC Meeting Minutes

Friday, June 26, 2021; 7:45 PM CST

#### 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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<b>Executive Committee</b>	Megha N. Parajulee, Pradeep Wagle, Ramjee Ghimire, Santosh Dhakal, Gita Koirala Bhandari, Nityananda Khanal
<b>Informed in absentia</b>	Aditya Khanal, Shyam Kandel
<b>Uninformed in absentia</b>	Uma Karki
<b>Invitee</b>	

1. General Secretary Dr. Ramjee Ghimire welcomed EC members and began the meeting. President Parajulee welcomed all committee members.
2. NAPA committee chairs/leads presented the progress and/or provided the updates of their respective committees.

Agri-connection: The upcoming issue will be delayed by 1-2 weeks due to summer travels. Final materials have been received. Editing is remaining. Most contexts of this issue are about Annual General Meeting along with 3 articles, 2 webinars (Mr. Mahato and Dr. Subedi); Featured member: Ambika Tiwari, Featured Agri professional: Govinda Sharma – proprietor of Hashera Farm, a featured article from GJAAS, AC Through My Eyes (new section from veterans), Kid's Zone, and Photography in Action.

RCBC: RMG implementation has been difficult and delayed due to Covid-19. An orientation is scheduled on July 2 to provide updates and a short presentation on survey design and provide opportunity for RMG awardees to share with RCBC team any issues they may have regarding their project. RCBC will meet the following week to address those concerns.

SCC: Planning to host 1 event every month (e.g., interaction programs) like graduate student life management, cultural shock, changing universities, communication and networking, etc., on July 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week. Student activities need to focus on students from Nepal as well.

WAAP team has met and discussed some ways to bring programs to create greater interactions amongst women members. Those programs will be brought to membership soon.

RPB Editorial team is preparing a draft on 'food system localization'. Citrus decline will be the second and livestock related issues will be the 3<sup>rd</sup>. The first one should be released by the end of July.



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Webinar: President, Vice president and General Secretary are equally involved in webinar management with the Webinar committee. Some concerns regarding members' participation in webinar were discussed. Dev Poudel will design a form to be shared with members to propose topics and speakers for future webinars.

GJAAS is undergoing structural changes with the Subject Editor model. Planning to add tenure like system (~ 2 years) for subject editors. Two specialists will be selected for each subject area. Work will be 100% online. Editorial board needs training on how to use online system for processing submitted articles. Planning to publish 2 issues every year to make a set routine of publication moving forward. The publication is free until now with voluntary contributions but will be considering fees in the future.

MDC: Membership recruiting has slowed down some and needs to be emphasized. Need help of Student Coordination Committee to recruit new students.

3. Result of voting for NAPA's "Vision Statement" is as follows. 59 members voted. Total votes were same for 2 options. President put forth a motion to discuss the two statements that received the highest and tie votes and vote by the Executive Committee to select one. Nitya Khanal seconded the motion. EC unanimously decided to finalize the vision statement as: "*Prosperity through agricultural transformation*".

Row Labels	Count of Unique Votes
Environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable agriculture	21
Prosperity through agricultural transformation	21
Sustainable agriculture for prosperity	17
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>59</b>

4. Discussion on 3rd Biennial Conference: Venue and date have already been decided, that will be during May 27-30 in Atlanta, GA.

5. EC decided to hold the next conference in person in Atlanta in the same venue as decided last year. The hotel is honoring the one-year-old rates.

6. President will be the chair of the Conference Organizing Committee. However, for other committees including Scientific Committee and Conference Secretary, a formal call will be made and interested members can apply.



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Dr. Sushil Thapa

Dr. Uma Karki

7. Organizing an introductory cum interactive meeting with the Nepalese ambassador to the USA, Dr. Yubaraj Khatiwada. An invitation is being sent to Ambassador and date will be decided per his availability.

8. Organizing an annual review meeting with committees: It has been over a year since the new EC was formed. The need to critically review the progress of each NAPA committees has been felt. EC leads will attend meetings of various committees and assess the progress or plan a separate meeting with the committees if needed.

9. Reshuffling Advisory Council (AC): According to the NAPA by-laws, AC members are for only one term (i.e., each EC's tenure) and most advisors are there for more than 2.5 terms. Thus, EC decided to reshuffle AC by keeping only those who are actively participating in AC meetings and NAPA's programs. From the next term, new EC may request active AC members to continue for the next term.

10. Financial report including that of Endowment Fund presented by Treasurer is as follows.

Balance until the last meeting, i.e., May 27, 2021 was \$42,560.00.

Current balance is as follows. NAPA has 2 accounts (regular and endowment): Both accounts will need at a balance of ~2000 USD to avoid monthly fees.

Total in regular account: \$33,277.24

<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>6/26/21</b>			
<b>Regular accounts</b>	<b>Balance (\$)</b>			
PayPal	0			
Regular Chase Cheking account <sup>+</sup>	2,058.01			
Regular Chase Savings account	31219.23			
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>33277.24</b>			
<b>Endowment fund accounts</b>	<b>Balance (\$)</b>			
EF Chase Checking account	2000			
EF Chase Savings account	11046.99	Conference surplus	Contribution from donors	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>13046.99</b>	5941.99	7105	
<b>Total</b>	<b>46324.23</b>			

In endowment fund account: \$13,046.99

**Total: 46,324.23**

For the COVID relief NAPA was able to collect \$2025.79 that has been sent (NRs. 2,31,000) to National Innovation Center, Nepal.

11. Vice President Wagle thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting.