

NAPA Executive Committee
(Minutes – 8th EC Meeting)
Saturday, February 15, 2020 (8:00 pm CST)

Attendance

Executive Committee	Lila B. Karki, Megha N. Parajulee, Pradeep Wagle, Ananta Acharya, Kemika Bhandari, Romy Das Karna, Lila K. Khatiwada, Sanjok Poudel, Manoj Karkee,
Informed in absentia	
Uninformed in absentia	Bijesh Mishra, Nirmala Adhikari

Agenda:

1. House Keeping and initiation of the meeting – General Secretary

General Secretary hosted and began the meeting and welcomed participants.

2. Welcome/Initiation of the meeting and some updates on NAPA activities – President

President welcomed participants. He encouraged and requested all EC members to attend the NAPA 2020 Conference. Also requested to register for the conference and book hotel as soon as possible.

-President requested for financial donation for the conference from all EC members. He also requested all EC members to recruit new NAPA members.

3. Updates/Discussions:

Following updates were made on different on-going programs/activities.

• **2020 EC Election**

Election commission has already sent out notice to members with key deadlines for member renewal, filing and withdrawing nominations, and results announcements. It is also available online:

<http://napaamericas.org/conference2020/election-commission-2019.php>. All EC members were requested to share with other members in their networks.

• **2020 Conference**

Funds raising for the conference: Conference Committee Chair, Dr. Karki and Fund Raising Committee Chair, Dr. Wagle updated fund raising activities. They requested EC members to donate and also to seek financial support using their connections. Several donors have already been pledged/donated. The donation list and amounts are posted on the website (<http://napaamericas.org/conference2020/fund-raising.php>).

We are trying to generate more funding from NAPA members (sending request every week to all members) and additional institutions/industries. All EC members were requested to get engaged in fund raising.

Dr. Wagle informed that some institutional donors have also pledged:

MDPI (Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute) has donated \$500.00 (to cover first, second, and third prizes for student oral competition).

USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) Area office in Mississippi has pledged for \$1,000.00.

Abstract submissions: Scientific sub-committee chair, Dr. Manoj Karkee reported that around 160 abstracts were received in two phases (original and extended deadlines). All of them have been reviewed and decisions have been sent out to presenters. Few abstracts were rejected. Approximately 55% of submission were from America, 40% from Nepal, and few submissions from a couple

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Executive Committee

President

Dr. Lila B. Karki

Vice President

Dr. Megha N. Parajulee

General Secretary

Dr. Pradeep Wagle

Joint Secretary

Dr. Ananta Acharya

Treasurer

Dr. Nirmala Adhikari

Members

Ms. Kemika Bhandari

Dr. Romy Das Karna

Dr. Lila K. Khatiwada

Dr. Manoj Karkee

Mr. Sanjok Poudel

Mr. Bijesh Mishra

of other countries in Africa and elsewhere. The sub-committee is formatting abstracts and preparing for the publication of proceedings.

Logistics: Conference bags have been ordered (~\$1,200.00 for 150 bags).

Extra activities: Hosting cultural night and sports such as golf, swimming, walk and run/marathon during the conference was discussed. Sports Committee Chair, Ms. Kemika Bhandari will work on these activities further and update to the EC.

- **Revisit NAPA By-laws**

President proposed Vice President, Dr. Parajulee to chair NAPA by-laws revisit committee. Dr. Parajulee was involved in drafting original by-laws as well. He accepted the role and EC unanimously approved it. Dr. Parajulee can appoint a couple of members to work with him in the committee.

All members will be notified to send any changes or suggestions on NAPA by-laws to the committee. The committee will compile suggestions and present at Annual General Meeting (AGM) during the NAPA 2020 Conference in Atlanta to decide on the proposed changes. Details will be released when they are available.

- **Membership updates**

Membership Drive Committee (MDC) Chair and General Secretary updated membership status as of February 14, 2020. We had 339 members in our last meeting (November 21, 2019). Now we have 24 more since the last meeting. Total members are 363 now. He also requested all EC members to recruit new NAPA members to achieve the goal of 400 members by the NAPA 2020 Conference in May 2020.

Table 1: People joining NAPA as per membership category

Member categories	Numbers
Founding Life	5
Regular + Senior Life	64
Joint Life	3
Associate Life (Australia)	1
Associate Life (Nepal)	55
Associate International (Australia)	2
General/Regular	63
Student	156
Family/Joint	14
Total	363

- **Financial Updates**

Financial updates were not reported due to absence of Treasurer. Full financial report will be released in next EC meeting and/or at the AGM in May in Atlanta, GA.

- **GJAAS and Book Projects**

Book and Journal projects are progressing well. Book project is near to final stage. A draft is received from print house and Book Editorial Board is reviewing the draft now.

EC discussed about price, distribution to conference participants, selling ebook and print copies, making available in Amazon or other online outlets. EC unanimously agreed to charge some fees for books to cover the production cost. Approaching to book shops and libraries in USA, Nepal, and other countries was also discussed. The price of book will be determined after assessing the total production cost.

GJAAS: Five journal articles have been already uploaded under Vol 1 Issue 1. Next few articles will be published under Vol 2 Issue 1 soon. The published articles are available at the journal website (<https://gjaas.org/index.php/GJAAS>).

4. Closing Remarks:

Dr. Parajulee adjourned the meeting.