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Vice Chair: Purna Dahal, P.E. (PA)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to thank all the ASNEng members for electing me as the President of the Society for 2016-2018 term. We had a great start with the new term with goals set up for the two years. I would like to congratulate and thank all the Board of Directors, Executive Committee members and officers for their hard work.

As a team, we have created a momentum in the Society. We have generated interests among the members to do more for the Society. We have been able to establish Society as stable platform for all engineering, technological and scientific professionals of Nepali origin residing in the United States and Canada.

I would like to highlight some of the highlights of the Society's activities:

- Four engineering students from different universities (Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu University, and Pokhara University) were awarded with Merit Awards in 2016.
- We have created Student Committee to provide students' voice and activities.
- We have created Advisory Council to support the Society's activities.
- Several guidelines such as Advisory Council Formation Guidelines, Graduate Student Research Fellowship guidelines were created.
- We have created two types of awards this year for ASNEng members – (a) Society Leadership Award which will be awarded to ASNEng Presidents, (b) Outstanding Performance Award which will be awarded to ASNEng member for outstanding contribution to the Society.
- The Society celebrated its 10th Anniversary by holding the first stand-alone Annual Conference in Manassas, Virginia on June 24-25, 2017. This was one of the best conferences of the Society where we added student poster competition, and several high-level officials (Former US Ambassador to Nepal Mr. Scott DeLisi, Ambassador of Nepal Dr. Arjun Karki, UN Permanent representative Mr. Durga P. Bhattarai, IOE Dean Dr. Tri Ratna Bajracharya, and Johns Hopkins Professor Dr. Judith Mitrani-Reiser) attended the program.
- The Society has created links with the USAID and other organizations.

We are excited to move ahead with our programs. We have launched the Graduate Student Research Fellowship program in Nepal starting 2017. We are also in communication with Institute of Engineering, Nepal Engineering Association and Nepal Engineering Council to collaborate for the future programs.



Jagannath Ghimire, P.E.
President, American Society of
Nepalese Engineers (ASNEng)

Meanwhile, I would like to request all those who have not joined the Society, please join us. Let's maintain this momentum.

With kindest regards,

Jagannath Ghimire, P.E.
President, American Society of Nepalese Engineers (ASNEng)
www.ASNEng.org

Message from the ASNEng Newsletter Committee

We are glad to bring forward Volume 9 of the ASNEng Newsletter. The Newsletter Committee appreciates your valuable suggestions, comments, input/feedback, and contributed news and articles. Without your constant support, we wouldn't have been able to bring you another volume of our newsletter. We hope that you will continue to provide constructive suggestions and feedbacks for improving the quality of the Newsletter. We also request you to keep on sending news items, technical articles and other interesting pieces that would appeal to the mass readers. Please send your contributions, questions or comments about newsletter to the Newsletter/Publication Committee at newsletter@asnengr.org.

Announcements

Call for membership

American Society of Nepalese Engineers (ASNEng) aims at bringing engineers and professionals of Nepali origin residing in the USA and Canada in related areas together to exchange ideas and share knowledge for the benefit of the human society. The society also strives to bring forth programs that promote engineering, scientific, and technological advancement in Nepal. We also offer the scholarships to the brightest and most promising future engineers in Nepal. Needless to say, your valuable support and participation is more important than ever.

Membership is open to engineers as well as scientists and technologists who have qualifications and expertise in the areas closely related to any branch of engineering. To join the society, please fill in the online application form at <http://www.asnengr.org/membership/MembershipOnline.php>. We appreciate your support and look forward to your active participation in the society's activities.

Please renew your annual membership

Your continued support is crucial to our society. Please renew your membership using the following link today:

<http://www.asnengr.org/membership/MembershipRenewal.php>

If you have already renewed your membership for 2018 or you are a life member of the society, please disregard this message. If you have any problems with online renewal system, please contact us at info@ASNENGr.org.

Call to join ASNEng Committees

American Society of Nepalese Engineers (ASNEng) is pleased to announce this call for interest to join its various committees. If you are interested to join any of the committees, you are invited to contact the chair of the particular committee(s) or send your interest via e-mail to info@ASNEng.org. Your contribution to the society as a member of one of our committees will be highly appreciated.

Call for proposal for Graduate Student Research Fellowship (GSRF) Award

The American Society of Nepalese Engineers established Graduate Student Research Fellowship (GSRF) program in March 2017 with the amount of the fellowship \$1000. ASNEng is currently accepting applications for the GSRF award. Students who are currently pursuing Masters or Doctoral degrees in the areas of engineering, science and technology in the institute of higher education in Nepal are qualified to apply.

For more information about proposal submission deadline and guideline, visit online at:

[http://www.asnengr.org/ASNEngDocs/year2017/12-dec/asnengr Invitation for GSRF proposals 2017.pdf](http://www.asnengr.org/ASNEngDocs/year2017/12-dec/asnengr%20Invitation%20for%20GSRF%20proposals%202017.pdf)

ASNEng Major Events in 2016-17

ASNEng 10th Anniversary and Annual Conference 2017

The American Society of Nepalese Engineer (ASNEng) celebrated its 10th Anniversary at its Annual Conference and General Membership Meeting held at Manassas, Virginia, U.S.A. on June 24 - 25, 2017. The Conference was attended by approximately 150 participants, including practicing engineers, scientists, technologists, academicians, students, industry leaders, and their guests. With the theme “Innovation in Engineering and Scientific Knowledge for Tomorrow”, the conference featured an opening program with 4 distinguished guest speakers, a keynote lecture, one plenary technical session with 3 distinguished speakers, and three more technical sessions, including one poster and two oral presentation sessions. Altogether 20 technical presentations were delivered at this year’s conference.



A Group Photo of Some of the Attendees at the 10th Annual Conference, Manassas, VA, June 24-25, 2017.

The conference kicked off in the morning of Saturday, June 24, 2017 with a brief welcome note from the Conference General Chair, Ramesh B. Malla, Ph.D., F. ASCE, F. ASNEng. Jagannath Ghimire, P.E., President of ASNEng then welcomed the attendees and presented a brief introduction to the organization, highlighting its scope, activities and achievements. Following this,

Upendra L. Karna, D.Eng., P.E., F. ASNEng, Conference Technical Chair provided an overview of the technical program and Mangal Maharjan, Conference Local Chair, welcomed the participants on behalf of the Local Organizing Committee. Rabin Bhattarai, Ph.D. served as the Technical Co-Chair for the Conference.

Conference press release has been published with details of the event in ASNEng website and can be accessed at the following link:

[http://asnengr.org/ASNEngDocs/year2017/07-july/asnengr conference2017 press release.pdf](http://asnengr.org/ASNEngDocs/year2017/07-july/asnengr%20conference2017%20press%20release.pdf)

Awards and Recognitions

Society Awards - Year 2017

Starting 2017, ASNEng has launched two Society level awards – Society Leadership Award and Outstanding Performance Award. The Society Leadership Award is bestowed to the President of the Society after his/her presidential term is complete. The Outstanding Performance Award is given to a member of the Society for his/her outstanding contribution to the Society. The recipients of the awards for the year of 2017 are as follows:

- **Society Leadership Award to Ramesh B. Malla, Ph.D.** for his leadership and outstanding contribution during his 2008-2012 term as the President of the American Society of Nepalese Engineers. He is also the Founding President of the Society.
- **Society Leadership Award to Rajendra K. Shrestha, Ph.D.** for his leadership and outstanding contribution during his 2012-2016 term as the President of the American Society of Nepalese Engineers.
- **Outstanding Performance Award to Mr. Pujan Joshi** for his outstanding contribution in Website and Database Management of the American Society of Nepalese Engineers in 2010-2017. He served as the Information

Secretary of the Society for two terms (four years) in this period.

Merit Awards for Students - Year 2016

American Society of Nepalese Engineers (ASNEng) awarded four students from 3 different universities in Nepal with Merit Award 2016 in recognition of their outstanding academic achievements. This award is provided to the top ranked students in the entrance examination administered by their respective universities in Nepal for undergraduate (bachelors) degree admission in any engineering field. Each award recipient will receive \$200 to support their academic related expenses.

Following are the recipients of the ASNEng Merit Award in 2016:

- 1) Sudeep Bhandari (Tribhuvan University)
- 2) Gyatabya Singh (Kathmandu University)
- 3) Homendra Kumar Yadav (Pokhara University)
- 4) Aishwarya Sharma (Tribhuvan University)

Note: The award amount for Merit Awards has been increased to \$400 by approval of the ASNEng Executive Committee on Dec 3, 2017, effective from the year 2017.

Notable Events

MoU signed between ASNEng and Institute of Engineering (IOE), TU, Nepal

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the American Society of Nepalese Engineers (ASNEng) and the Institute of Engineering (IOE), Tribhuvan University, Nepal on June 24, 2017.

The propose of the MoU is to create a framework for cooperation between the two organizations (ASNEng and IOE) through mutual exchange of technological ideas, practices and scientific developments that will enable each organization to better serve Nepal and Nepalese people, Nepalese diaspora, and the engineering and scientific professions as a whole. The collaboration of

both organizations should enable each organization to better achieve their stated missions and goals. With this understanding, ASNEng and IOE agree to have joint endeavor of cooperation, which will include actions and initiatives (scholarships, professional networking, meetings, sharing and exchanging ideas, information, technological know-how, and formation of joint committees and projects, and employment opportunities, etc.) that will enhance each organization's contributions in the areas of common interest. The MoU was signed by Mr. Jagannath Ghimire, President, ASNEng and Dr. Tri Ratna Bajracharya, Dean, IOE.



MoU Signing Event: Mr. Jagannath Ghimire, President, ASNEng (left) and Dr. Tri Ratna Bajracharya, Dean IOE, Nepal (right) during ASNEng 10th Annual Conference, Manassas, VA, June 24, 2017.

ASNEng Advisory Council

ASNEng BOD has formed a seven-member Advisory Council in accordance with the ASNEng Advisory Council Guidelines dated September 7, 2017, for the first time. The term of the committee will end on December 31, 2018.

1. Ambika P. Adhikari, Dr. Des., AICP, LEED AP, PMP (Currently Fellow Life Member of the Society, Past: Former Chair of Nepal Liaison Committee, Board of Directors)
2. Yubraj Budhathoki, MSCE, P.E. (Currently Senior Life Member, Past: Founding Treasure of the Society, President of GWDC, sponsors ASNEng activities)
3. Bimal Karki, MSCE, P.E (Currently, Senior Life Member, Past: Founding Vice President of the Society)
4. Pradeep Khanal, MSEE, MBA (Currently Senior Life member, Past: Joint Secretary of the Society, Board of Directors)
5. Prakash Khanal, MSCE, P.E. (Currently Senior Life member, Past: Founding Joint Secretary of the Society, Board of Directors, Served ExComm of the GWDC)
6. Prahlad Pant, Ph.D., P.E. (Currently Fellow Life member, Past: Chair of Election and Nomination Committee, Board of Directors)
7. Binod Tiwari, Ph.D., P.E. (Currently Fellow Life member, Past: General Secretary, Board of Directors)

Local Chapter Activities

Workshop on “Lessons of Earthquake Risk Management and Reconstruction Initiatives in Nepal”

The Greater Washington D.C. Chapter of American Society of Nepalese Engineers (GWDC-ASNEng) recently organized a workshop titled “Lessons of Earthquake Risk Management and Reconstruction Initiatives in Nepal” on September 24, 2017 in Mclean, VA. Three distinguished invited guests from National Society for Earthquake Technology - Nepal (NSET) Mr. Ramesh Guragain, Mr. Surya Narayan Shrestha and Mr. Dev Maharjan presented reviews on the Gorkha Earthquake 2015 and the currently undergoing reconstruction initiatives following the earthquake in Nepal.



Group photo of some of the participants with invited guests from NSET

ASNEng Greater Houston Chapter elected New Executive Committee

On December 2, 2018, ASNEng Greater Houston Chapter elected a new executive committee for a two-year term. The tenure of the newly elected committee will be effective from January 1, 2018. Current president of the chapter Mr. Rajendra Shrestha, P.E. announced the names of new executive committee members as given below:

President: Subash Poudel, P. E.

Vice President: Pradeep Gautam, P. E.

Secretary: Nawaraj Panta, P. E.

Treasurer: Anju Dallakoti

Members:

1. Ajay Dhakal
2. Arjun Pokharel, P. E
3. Badri Gautam
4. Damodar Panyani, P. E.
5. Govind Upadhyay, P. E.
6. Kaushal Jha, Ph.D., P. E.
7. Rajeev Raj Bhandari, P. E.
8. Raju Subedi, P. E.
9. Umesh KC, P. E.
10. Vijay Aryal, P. E.

Student Member: Sachin Poudel



Greater Houston Chapter of ASNEng meet for Lunch on December 2, 2017



A moment of cheer following the election of the Executive Committee of the Greater Houston Chapter of ASNEng on December 2, 2017

Upcoming Events

2018 Annual Conference of the Society

The Society's 11th Annual Conference is planned for June 2018 in Greater Denver, Colorado. The exact conference venue and date will be announced soon.

2018 Election of the Society's Board of Directors

The Society's new Board of Directors will be elected/nominated through election. If you are interested in to serve as Board of Director or other officers, please communicate with the Chair of Election & Nomination Committee.

Featured News Info:

Arizona State University (ASU) and Institute of Engineering (IOE) joint collaboration on Environmental Science-Sustainability Study Abroad Program

The 2014 Joint ASNEng/CAN-USA Conference at Tempe, AZ provided a platform for the leaders of ASU and IOE to interact with each other. In 2015, a MoU was signed between ASU and IOE to increase the mutual collaboration. It was a remarkable achievement on initiating and creating a platform for two institutions to work together facilitated by ASNEng.

In order to foster the ties between the two institutions, Dr. Nalini Chhetri (ASU - Assistant Director, Consortium for Science, Policy, and Outcomes) led a study abroad program to Nepal in May 2016. The program involved 14 ASU students, 1 ASU observer and 1 health staff along with 1 faculty and 6 students from TU. As a part of the program, the attendees visited the US Embassy in Nepal, Patan Museum, Dulikhel, Sindhupalchowk, Chitwan, Pokhara, Lumle Agricultural Research center. Some of the program highlights are:

- ASU students learned about the environment, food source, climate, and market in Nepal leading to numerous discussions and brainstorming.
- "Our first stop this week was up into the mountains to stay at a small permaculture farm. There we learned about the benefits of small scale permaculture farms and the positive impacts that come from integrating crop growth. Everything on the farm has a purpose and waste is always reused and recycled." said Madeline Mahnick, an ASU sustainability student. She also added "Staying in the buffer zones made our team face complex sustainability questions. Nepal is a small country with a large population. It's hard to create conservation areas because there isn't much room to have a space dedicated to just wildlife. Where do you put the people? We brought up important questions about how to treat animals fairly while creating a sustainable space for humans to live.

These were important questions that can't be answered overnight! However, it was an exciting experience to get our feet wet and begin to learn about the buffer zones and wildlife conservation.



From left to right: Dr. Bharat Raj Pahari, ex-Dean IOE, Nepal, Dr. Tri Ratna Bajracharya, Dean IOE Nepal, Dr. Nalini Chhetri, ASU and other participants of MoU signing event.

- ASU students and TU students also had a good discussion on the best sustainability practices, risk and resiliency issues in different areas including urban, rural and buffer zones.
- 12 Nepalese participants ranged from geologist to air quality, urban system, and biodiversity experts.
- ASU students also get to enjoy the home-stay experience in Chitwan and Pokhara.
- ASU students amazed with the presentations on reduction on Rhino poaching and slowly revival of wild life in Nepal, majestic mountains and terrains of a developing nation.

- ASU students raised few hundred dollars and donated soccer ball, badminton and other sport supplies to students of a school in Sindhupalchowk. They also donated Nrs 22,000 to the school.
- Dr. Chhetri suggested she planned to have similar Study Abroad Program in Nepal next year. Please contact ASNEng or Dr. Chhetri for more details.

Author contact: Achyut@TrekR.co

Join the Society

Please renew your membership if applicable. If you are NOT a member of ASNEng, please apply for membership.

http://www.asnengr.org/membership/pages/new_member.php.

Donation

Please support ASNEng and its activities financially. Your donation will go to the program you choose. Your generous support will be greatly appreciated. To donate online please visit: <http://www.asnengr.org/asne-21.htm>

Follow us:



American Society of Nepalese Engineers (ASNEng) - a non-profit organization established in September 2007 with IRS 501(c)(3) tax exempt status – aims at providing a common platform for people of Nepalese background and their friends, in engineering and closely related scientific and technical areas to come together, exchange ideas, and support each other for their and the larger society's common good and benefits. It operates for engineering, scientific and technological research and educational purposes. The Society also strives at promoting engineering, scientific, and technological advancement in Nepal. The Membership application form and detailed information on ASNEng and updates on its recent activities can be found at <http://www.ASNEng.org>.

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