



Japanese Universities Alumni Association, Nepal (JUAAN)

"Self-Sufficient & Consolidated JUAAN (सबल तथा एकबद्ध JUAAN)", 2021-23

Renraku-1

(September-November, 2021)

JUAAN Quarterly E-newsletter (2021-23)

Welcoming the New Executive Committee and Hand-over ceremony

In September, 2021, 13th executive committee (EC) of JUAAN has been elected under the presidentship of Dr. Prabin Shrestha. The EC consists of 13 unanimously elected members and the members are Dr. Khadga KC, Vice President; Dr. Jeevan Bhattarai, General Secretary; Mr. Santosh Aryal, Secretary; Dr. Bimala Panthee, Treasurer; Dr. Prem Paudel, Immediate Past President; and other general members including Dr. Hom Nath Chalise, Dr. Jay Kant Raut, Mr. Manoj Giri, Dr. Nirmal Panthee, Dr. Rajendra Parajuli, Dr. Manish Kolakshyapati, Dr. Indira Kadel, and Dr. Sabitri Sapkota Devkota. The committee also includes Mr. Harendra Barua as Senior advisor and Dr. Dinesh Bhujju as an advisor to the committee. The tenure of this EC will be till August, 2023.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic scenario, the hand-over ceremony was conducted in a hybrid manner with physical presence of limited essential members of old and new EC while the others attended the ceremony virtually via zoom.

Message form the President – Dr. Prabin Shrestha

Respected Members of JUAAN

Warm greetings on behalf of the present executive committee of JUAAN and on my own behalf.

History of Japan-Nepal friendship is almost one and a quarter century old.

The first Japanese person to visit Nepal was a Buddhist monk, Mr Ekai Kawaguchi, who visited Nepal in 1899 on his way to Tibet. Since then social and cultural exchange started between the two countries.

Similarly, the history of first Nepalese students in Japan for higher education and training goes back to 1902 AD. Then Prime Minister Mr Dev Shamsheer JBR decided to send eight Nepalese students to Japan for training and his successor then Prime Minister Chandra Shamsheer JBR implemented this. Then government of Nepal managed to cover the whole cost of their travelling, training and living by itself. The students came back to Nepal in 1905 and started working as a government servant.

However, the diplomatic relation between the two countries was established much later, only in 1956.

There are so many other events happened in the past, which prove that the relationship and friendship between the two countries is very old and is very deep and strong.

One of them is Japanese Universities Alumni Association, Nepal (JUAAN), which is an organization of all the Nepalese students who had completed their studies in Japan. Anybody who has accomplished any academic training or courses in any university in Japan can be its member. JUAAN has come a long way since its establishment and has passed almost half a decade of its life. It is preparing to celebrate its Golden Jubilee Anniversary in near future.

It's a matter of pride that members of JUAAN belong to a wide range of professional careers, ranging from science and technology to various aspects of humanities, from diplomatic field to social and cultural field. Therefore, JUAAN is a potential source of resources to strengthen and further flourish the various aspects of Japan-Nepal Friendship. JUAAN can contribute to any aspect of Japan Nepal relationship, mainly in the field of educational and academic exchange between the two countries.

JUAAN needs to work more intimately with Government of Nepal and Embassy of Japan to promote the friendship between the two countries. It can play a key role in further enhancing Japan Nepal joint venture activities.

Long Live Japan-Nepal Friendship, Long Live JUAAN!

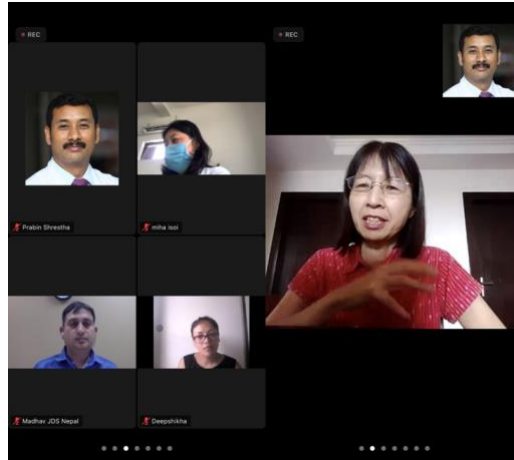
Prabin Shrestha, President, JUAAN 2021-23

General meeting and the regular EC meetings

Immediately after assuming the responsibility, the new EC of JUAAN has been conducting EC meetings regularly. Similarly, a general meeting was also conducted on 15th September, 2021 where the future plans and policies of the organization has been discussed among more than 40 participants. The new EC of JUAAN has formulated certain plans and policies and has conducted the general meeting with the slogan of "Self-Sufficient and Consolidated JUAAN". The new EC of JUAAN aims to develop a self-sufficient JUAAN where all the members can come together and develop a strong bond for the betterment of the organization and the nation as a whole.

Participation in Japan Development Service (JDS) program

Japan Development Service (JDS) organized an interaction program for those government officers wishing to apply for Japanese Scholarships for higher studies in Japan. The program is conducted basically to give information and also to resolve many queries of the new applicants regarding studies and scholarships in Japan.



JDS (Japan Development Service) Research Plan Presentation of the Second Batch of Phase 2 fellows, was organized online on August 31 and 1st September 2021. During the session, 22 JDS fellows presented their research plans. Dr Prabin Shrestha, President of JUAAN attended the program as a facilitator to assess the research works of the fellows. The program was a part of pre-departure orientation which the JDS office organizes every year before departure to Japan. The program was chaired by Ms Tomoko OGURA , Project Team Leader for the JDS Program for Nepal and the chief guest of the program was Ms Yumiko Asakuma, Chief Representative for JICA Nepal Office.

Another program was conducted virtually on 13th September, 2021 via zoom separately for Master's applicants and PhD applicants. JUAAN also participated in the program and was represented by Dr. Hom Nath Chalise.

Benkyoukai and formal introduction of the New EC to HE Ambassador of Japan, Mr. Kikuta Yutaka

Benkyoukai is an important part of Japanese culture. The term 'benkyoukai' literally means 'study groups or study meeting'. Japanese people like to attend Benkyoukai to improve their professional knowledge, expand their sphere of influence by networking and simply attend these social functions to enjoy the company of people with similar interests.

The new EC of JUAAN also conducted the first benkyoukai on 28th September, 2021 and was chaired by the President of JUAAN, Dr. Prabin Shrestha. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the event was conducted virtually via zoom. During the same event, the new EC members of JUAAN was formally introduced to the HE Ambassador of Japan, Mr. Kikuta Yutaka. The Deputy Chief of Commission of Embassy of Japan, Mr. Yoshioka and the first Cultural and Information Secretary of Embassy of Japan (EoJ), Dr. Yuriko Akiyama also attended the event.

The benkyoukai presentation was done by Dr. Dinesh Bhuju on the topic "Universities' response to the pandemic: Japan and Nepal" where he presented the pandemic scenario of Japan and Nepal and how the Japanese universities were responding in this situation particularly to the international students. He also presented how the pandemic was affecting the life-style and the stay of international students in Japan.

Farewell to Dr. Yuriko Akiyama, First Cultural and Information Secretary of EoJ (2018-2021)

First Cultural and Information Secretary of Embassy of Japan (EoJ) has always been very pivotal in bridging between JUAAN and EoJ. Dr. Yuriko Akiyama assumed the position of First Cultural and Information Secretary of EoJ in 2017/2018 and has always been a very important person to JUAAN. She had facilitated many different programs of JUAAN including benkyoukai, Japan Education Fair, annual programs of JUAAN and most importantly 1st Japan-Nepal Medical Conference on 3rd August, 2019. Due to the current pandemic situation, JUAAN could not organize a formal farewell to Dr. Akiyama, however, Dr. Jeevan Bhattarai, representative from JUAAN, handed over a farewell souvenir to Dr. Akiyama at EoJ. The EC of JUAAN thanks Dr. Akiyama for her contribution to JUAAN during her tenure.

Relocation of JUAAN office

The new EC of JUAAN has relocated the JUAAN office to Kantipath. The new location is easily accessible. JUAAN has finally acquired a permanent physical office. The new address of JUAAN is as follows: JUAAN, Kantipath, Jamal, Kathmandu.

Future Activities

The new EC committee of JUAAN is planning to conduct all the regular activities like benkyoukai, kangeikai, and many more programs physically if the situation permits. Besides the regular activities, upcoming major activities will be the annual meeting of JUAAN on March 2021 and 120th anniversary of Nepalese students studying in Japan on June, 2022. Furthermore, new activities are also planned to bring together all the members to form a consolidated JUAAN. The EC requests all the valued members of JUAAN to support the organization to fulfil its motto of self-sufficient and consolidated JUAAN.

Portfolio of Members of New Executive Committee of JUAAN (2021-2023)

President



Dr. Prabin Shrestha, MD, PhD

Degree and Graduated from: PhD, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Hiroshima University Hospital, Hiroshima University, Hiroshima, Japan, 2004-2008

Current Affiliation:

- Chief Neurosurgeon and Head of Department, Department of Neurosciences, B & B Hospital, Gwarko, Lalitpur
- Consultant Neurosurgeon, Kathmandu Neuro & General Hospital, Sundhara, Kathmandu
- President, Japanese Universities Alumni Association, Nepal (JUAAN), 2021-2023
- President, Nepalese Society of Neurosurgeons (NESON), 2021-23

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Vice President



Dr. Khadga KC

Degree and graduated from: PhD and Post-Doctoral research, Nagasaki University, Nagasaki, Japan (2002-2009)

Current Affiliation:

- Professor and Head, Department of International Relations and Diplomacy, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

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General Secretary



Dr. Jeevan Bhattarai

Degree and Graduated from: PhD and MBA, Graduate School Economics and Management, Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan 1999 to 2007

Current Affiliation:

- Consultant in JICA Project for Promotion of NNBC Compliance for Safer Building Construction, DUDBC, Kathmandu

- Program Officer in SHRUTI (National Association of Hard of Hearing and Deafened Nepal), Dhumbarahi, Kathmandu
- General Secretary, Japanese Universities Alumni Association Nepal (JUAAN) 2021-23

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Secretary



Mr. Santosh Aryal

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Treasurer



Dr. Bimala Panthee

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Current affiliation:

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General Members



Dr. Hom Nath Chalise

Degree and Graduation: Doctor of Health Sciences (Social Gerontology), The University of Tokyo.

Current Affiliation:

- Freelance Researcher; Faculty Member- Mphil lead PhD Program, Central Department of Population Studies, TU, Kirtipur.
- Vice President- Population Association of Nepal.

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Dr. Jay Kant Raut

Degree and Graduation: PhD in mushroom science, Graduate School of Horticulture, Chiba University, Japan (2011)

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- Senior Scientist, Bioresource Lab, Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST), Khumaltar, Lalitpur, Nepal

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Mr. Manoj Giri

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Dr. Nirmal Panthee

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Dr. Prem Paudel, Immediate Past-president of JUAAN

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Dr. Rajendra Parajuli

Degree and graduated from: PhD, The University of Tokyo

Current Affiliation:

- Associate Professor at Central, Department of Zoology (CDZ), Institute of Science and Technology (IOST), Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu Nepal.
- Life Member of Nepal Zoological Society
- Adjunct Assist Prof, University of Victoria, School of Child & Youth Care, Victoria, BC, Canada

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Dr. Manish Kolakshyapati, MD, PhD

Degree and graduated from: PhD, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Hiroshima University Hospital, Hiroshima, Japan, 2013-2018

Current Affiliation:

- Neurosurgeon, Department of Neurosciences, B & B Hospital, Gwarko, Lalitpur
- Member, Japanese Universities Alumni Association, Nepal (JUAAN), 2021-2023
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Dr. Indira Kandel

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Dr. Sabitri Sapkota Devkota

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