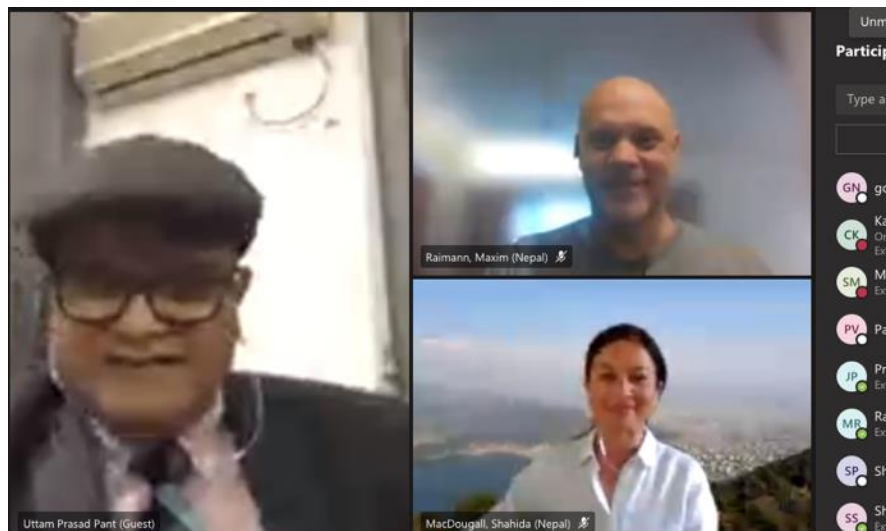


ABAN Meets British Council Team



The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) had an introductory meeting with the new team of British Council Nepal led by Country Director Ms. Shahida MacDougall virtually on February 17, 2021.

On the occasion ABAN president Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant welcomed Madam Shahida and Mr. Raimann Maxim to Nepal and thanked the other participants from the British Council Nepal Ms. Suchita Shrestha, Mr. Sagun Shrestha, Ms. Christina Kansakar, Mr. Julen Pradhan and Mr. Suvash Thapa, Head of Department for International Trade, British Embassy Kathmandu. He indicated the meeting agendas as to:

- (i) Introduce ABAN, its mission and values,
- (ii) Discuss possibilities of ABAN's involvement in promoting British qualifications and examinations in Nepal.

Promoting UK based qualifications and examinations in Nepal is an important objective of ABAN and it would like to pursue this matter and seek advice and guidance on its visions.

Immediate past president of ABAN Mr. Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha made a short presentation on the cooperation between the British Council and ABAN so far in the five areas as listed below:

Continued to page 2

"Dear Uttam,

It was really nice to meet you and other members of ABAN yesterday, albeit virtually this time.

We really enjoyed the presentation and discussion around future collaboration opportunities and look forward to continuing to build on our strong partnership and working together on promoting British qualifications and examinations for prospective candidates in Nepal. Agreed actions:

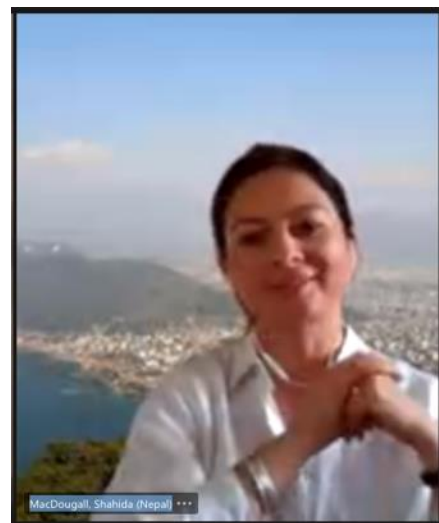
1. ABAN to invite British Council to join and/or speak at future events as appropriate,
2. British Council (Max) to explore a possibility of offering Plab exams for medical professionals,
3. British Council (Suchita) to share additional information on current UK scholarships and discuss the British Council alumni strategy once finalized, and explore joint common opportunities,
4. ABAN to provide a list of on-line short courses that could be offered by the UK universities or colleges to ABAN members. British Council to facilitate introductions.

Thank you again for reaching out and I look forward to meeting you in person soon. With best wishes, Shahida" February 18, 2021



The Association of Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) is a not-for-profit social organization, registered with District Administration office on February 04, 1998 and is affiliated with the British Council. It promoted the interest of the British alumni in Nepal and supports them to contribute to national development. ABAN also works for cultural and educational exchange between Nepal and Britain.

Welcome Ms. Shahida MacDougall The new British Council Country Director in Nepal



The British Council has established programmes to support Women and Girls in STEM around the world, designed with a lifecycle approach in mind, from inspiring young girls to stay in STEM to supporting women working in STEM fields reach positions of leadership and network with their peers in their region and the UK. Expanding on our current work, we are launching the British Council Scholarships for Women in STEM, for women from South and South East Asia, and the Americas.

For further details: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/study-work-abroad/in-uk/scholarship-women-stem>

ABAN Meets British Council Team



1. Founding Support

- Inspiration to set up the Association of British Alumni in Nepal in 1997,
- Office and Logistic Support: Office Space, Secretarial support. Mr. Sukarna Lama was assigned to look after ABAN affairs,
- ABAN Members were invited for Orientation to New students going to UK,
- Special concession in membership of British Library which was operating efficiently then.

2. Host Events

- Availied Meeting Hall for ABAN meetings, Talk Shows, and Annual General Meetings with snacks and high tea,
- Invitations on BC and Embassy events, British Film festivals, HM Queen's Birthday Celebration, Britain-Nepal 200 Years celebration etc.
- Proposed British Education Fair 2017,
- Proposed funding to highlight contributions of British Education in Nepal's Development (Event, Publication, Videos, Presentations etc.),

3. Sponsor Publications

- ABAN Membership Directories published in 2001, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2019,
- BC Sponsored ABAN Magazines published in 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019-20 and others,
- ABAN link in British Council Website, Participation & Messages

4. Activity Support

- IELTS Registration under a MOU in 2019.

5. Areas for Further Cooperation

- Educational Exhibitions,
- Exams and Short courses,
- UK-Nepal Educational & Cultural Exchanges,
- Links with British Educational Institutions, etc.



ABAN Publications in recent years



The British Council Nepal has consistently supported ABAN publications since 2001 with full or partial funding to cover the printing cost of these publications, which have helped to promote the British Education in Nepal, highlight the contributions of the British education in the socio-economic development of Nepal through its alumni's activities and resource pool, while integrating the British Alumni members with an up to date Membership Directory and their expertise listing.

ABAN Meets British Council Team

Seven ABAN Executive members, who participated in the virtual meet with the British Council team, were:

- President Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant
- Immediate Past President Mr. Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha
- Past President Mr. Shankar Prasad Paudel
- Vice President Ms. Padma Vaidya
- General Secretary Ms. Shiba Devi Kafle
- Treasurer Mr. Madhav Prasad Bhatta
- ECM Member Mr. Gobinda Neupane

Mr. Raimann Maxim, Director of Exam at the British Council Nepal had just come to Nepal from Egypt where hundreds of exams were run every year for medical professionals. "We certainly look into how we can serve in Nepal, and look at the options, because we like to give every opportunity to help Nepali people get the best qualification they can get" he said.

Mr. Suvash Thapa, Head of Department for International Trade at the British Embassy Kathmandu said that the Department is looking forward to promote trade and industry between UK and Nepal, have identified priority sectors for investment. "We have identified education as a priority sector. The British Council is very active in carrying out exams for education in UK. We are looking at supporting trans-national education, basically trying to engage UK universities to partner with locals so that more and more Nepalese can get British degrees and diplomas while studying in Nepal. We are also keen at supporting vocational education and training" he said.

Ms. Suchita Shrestha of the British Council, reiterated her close working relationship with ABAN for many years in the past and she has personally met many ABAN officials. She shared additional information on current UK fellowship and scholarships in Nepal, both GREART and STEM programs.

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/study-work-abroad/in-uk/scholarship-women-stem>

Ms. Suchita would discuss the British Council alumni strategy once it is finalized. She was keen to explore joint common opportunities for cooperation and new ways of working together.

ABAN president Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant thanked all participants in the virtual meet for their active involvement.

**Count on Your Successes
of British Education**

ABAN Members and others who have studied in the UK are invited to write about their experience and details on how they were able to contribute to the development of Nepal. For publication, please forward your details to mahesworbs@gmail.com



British Council Study UK Virtual Fair is the opportunity to virtually meet representatives from **more than 30** leading universities in the UK and gain first-hand information regarding higher education in the UK, any procedural changes in light of Covid 19, new Graduate Immigration Route and much more.



Planning to study in the UK in 2021?

Join the Study UK Student Connect! The most unique feature about the Student Connect is an opportunity for students and parents to book exclusive one-on-one appointments with **10** UK universities. Students can discuss their personal contexts, aspirations and plans with UK university delegates, receive advice and counselling that will help them make the right decisions. Parents are most welcome to attend. There are plenty of slots to book, students can book appointments with as many universities as they would like. Universities:



ABAN's Fifth Executive Committee Met on March 5



ABAN president Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant welcomed the Executive members to the 5th ECM meet on March 5, 2021 virtually on Google zoom. The meeting discussed on the four agenda items, namely, Partnership with Banks, Annual Picnic, Talk program and approval of a new Life Member.

3. Partnership with Banks: The president proposed to explore possibility of partnership with Bank and corporate houses to work together in social, cultural and professional areas where the partners could benefit in sponsoring ABAN events through their CSR fund,

4. Annual Family Picnic is proposed on March 27, 2021 at Green Valley Resort Shivapuri, with breakfast & lunch there.

1. Talk program: A Talk program during March is planned with ABAN Life member and ex-vice chancellor of NAST: National Academy of Science & Technology Dr. Jiba Raj Pokharel as speaker. British Council officials are also interested to attend. The date and topic of the virtual zoom meet will be finalized soon.

2. New Life Member: The ECM approved application of Mr. Lusan Nakarmi, who did M.Sc. from the University of Edinburgh in 2016.

Any Other Business: ECM member Prof. Subas KC shared his thoughts on institution building of ABAN as a professional body with a perspective plan on thematic issues to give a new direction to the Association. If necessary, ABAN Statute will be reviewed.



WHY Join ABAN?

- Rare opportunity to **network** with fellow ABANians, who also studied in the UK,
- Share the expertise gained in the UK for Nepal's development and gain mutual benefits,
- Meet and greet British scholars and authorities for mutual enrichment, and building trust,
- Be in touch with British events, activities and openings for shared happiness.
- Opportunities to serve others who need our help, guidance and network links,
- Identify as a dignified British Scholar,

More people have more reasons to join and be a part of ABAN .

Person having studied in the UK for 12 weeks or more is eligible for membership of ABAN by application with educational certificate, ID photo and fee. It is never too late to be part of this growing organization.

New Life Members Joining ABAN from Dec. 2020

1. Mr. Bhubanesh Kumar Pradhan (ID 538) on 27 Dec. 2020
2. Ms. Roma Balami (ID 539) on 27 Dec. 2020
3. Mr. Ram Hari Adhikari (ID540) on 27 Dec. 2020
4. Ms. Sunita Basnet (ID 541) on Jan 24, 2021
5. Dr. Sudha Shrestha (ID 86) on Jan.24, 2021
6. Mr. Satyendra Khadgi (ID 542) on Feb. 2021
7. Mr. Lusan Nakarmi (ID 543) on March 5, 2021

Membership Sub-Committee Chair:

Mr. Gohinda Neupane, Mobile: 9851014640
Email: neupane.gohinda@gmail.com

General Secretary:

Mrs. Shiba Devi Kafle, Mobile:9841295472
Email: shibakafle@hotmail.com

Treasurer:

Mr. Madhav Prasad Bhatta, Mobile: 9841544517
Email: mbhatta17@hotmail.com



ABAN Activity Report 2021

Month of 2021	Main Activities
January 02	23 rd Annual General Meeting and Election of 12 th Executive Committee
January 08	1 st Introductory Executive Committee Meeting
January 16	2 nd Executive Committee Meeting for Sub Committee formation
January 24	3 rd Executive Committee Meeting for ABAN Day Preparation
February 04	ABAN Day Celebration
February 13	4 th Executive Committee Meeting to prepare for meeting with British Council
February 17	Online meeting with the British Council Country Director Ms. Shahida MacDougall and her team
March 05	5 th Executive Member of ABAN
March 27	Family Picnic at Shivapuri National Park Talk program by ABANian Dr. Jiba Raj Pokhrel
April 2020	Talk program on LPG versus Induction Cooking in Nepal: Dr. J. N. Shrestha.

Published by

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