

Meeting With the British Council

Partnership with the British Council



From left: Deepak KC, Gobinda Neupane, Maheswor Shrestha, Padma Vaidya, Shahida Dougall, Uttam Pant, Madhav Bhatta

ABAN Executive members met British Council Country Director Ms. Shahida Dougall and Ms. Suchita Shrestha of the Council on 11th November at ULCI Hall, Dillibazar Height to discuss the following agenda items:

- 1 Welcome and introduction
- 2 Request to initiate PLAB exam in Nepal, ABAN to be the venue for it.
- 3 Request for sponsorship for upcoming ABAN Day celebration.
- 4 British Education courses (short and/or long) in Nepal. ABAN eager to conduct such courses in coordination with the British Council.
- 5 Continued financial assistance for publication of upcoming ABAN Magazine.

ABAN President Mr. Uttam Pant cordially welcomed the British Council Country Director and Ms. Suchita to ABAN and introduced ECM members present there. He presented the areas of cooperation between ABAN and the British Council as per the agenda items intimated earlier.

Ms. Shahida reconfirmed the meeting decisions in her message the next day:

"It was good to finally get a chance to meet you and other members of the ABAN Executive team in person yesterday and thank you again for your hospitality and flowers. Please see below a list of agreed actions and British Council updates:

1. ULCI premises for British Council test venue: British Council exams team will liaise with you to arrange a test venue inspection.
2. IELTS MOU extension to Life Skills exams: British Council cannot pay commission for Life Skills registrations because they can only be made through the public registration portal and not through registration partner access links, i.e., British Council are unable to monitor registrations made by agents on behalf of customers.
3. PLAB tests in Nepal: GMC, who own the PLAB test, are unable to expand the network of countries they offer the test due to operational constraints. They are aware of increasing demand in many places around the world and hope to roll out testing in more countries when they can.
4. Linking UK universities visiting Nepal with ABAN for organising talk programmes: Shahida to connect ABAN and DIT to explore options.



Association of British 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.



Introducing Shahida Mc Dougall

The British Council Nepal Country Director
Since September 2020

Ms. Shahida MacDougall, has over 15 years of experience of leadership and management of education and development, civil society, accountability program in public and private sector in the UK, Asia, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

On 25 November 2020, Rt. Hon'ble Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli presented the "Award of Honour" to Ms. Shahida MacDougall, Country Director, British Council Nepal for the generous support in programmes and projects in the efforts for the socio-economic development of Nepal through private-sector led economic development and for strengthening effective policies in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training sector. Privileged to be part of the mentoring programme for these amazing future female leaders and excited about the opportunity to work & learn together and to raise awareness and inspire action on gender empowerment, inclusion and diversity.

Continued from page 1 . . . Partnership with the British Council



5. Access to short courses from UK Universities: ABAN to share a list of interest areas with British Council to explore with UK universities.
6. ABAN 25th Anniversary/ABAN Day – 4 Feb 2022:
 - a. ABAN to share programme outline with British Council in Dec 21
 - b. British Council to explore the possibility of hosting at the British Embassy in the presence of the UK Ambassador: max numbers 50 due to covid restrictions

7. ABAN Annual Magazine and directory:

- a. ABAN to share the cost for digitising and limited print run of the magazine and the membership directory with British Council
- b. British Council to cover the cost for this year’s limited print run and associated costs of transferring into a digital format
- c. ABAN will not be expecting financial support for digital directory and annual magazines from 2023 onwards.

Regarding agenda items 2 & 3, it is unfortunate that we cannot be of more help at this point in time. We have noted your requests and will get back to you if any positive changes occur. We really enjoyed our discussion and look forward to continuing our partnership”.
Shahida



ABAN Activity Report 2021-2022

Month of 2021	Activity Details
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
March 05	5 th Executive Committee Meeting of ABAN
March 17	6 th Executive Committee Meeting of ABAN
March 25	7 th Executive Committee Meeting of ABAN
March 27	Family Picnic at Shivapuri National Park (Postponed due to Covid-19)
April 02	Talk program on Science & Technology by Prof. Dr. Jiba Raj Pokhrel
April 17	8 th Executive Committee Meeting. Condolence message to British Embassy
May 17	9 th Executive Committee Meeting
June 16	10 th Executive Committee Meeting
June 20	Talk program on Enhancing Emotional Health And Spiritual Wellbeing
June 22 – 28	7 Days Yoga & Wellness Program by Er. Karuna Amatya of Jeevan Vigyan
June 26	Talk program by Dr. Dipak Malla on Diabetics
July 06	Health Camp & Yoga Review on YouTube
August 14	Medical support to Children Care Club, Budhanilkantha, Kathmandu
October 08	12 th ECM Meet: Exchange of Dassian Greetings
Nov. 08	13 th ECM: Preparatory for BC Meet
Nov. 11	Meeting with British Council Country Director
December 22	14 th ECM AGM preparations
January 09	15 th ECM AGM preparations
Feb. 27	16 th ECM AGM preparations



WHY Join ABAN?

- Rare opportunity to network with fellow ABANians, who also studied in the UK,
- Share 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 together 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. Gobinda Neupane, Mobile: 9851014640
Email: neupane.gobinda@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

Published by

ABAN President

Uttam Prasad Pant

uttampant@gmail.com 9851020918

Publication Committee:

IPP Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha

mahesworbs@gmail.com

Cell: 9851094345

Prof. Subash K.C. Cell: 9851016786