

Abstract

Faculty and Curriculum Development
Tribhuvan University, Department of Sociology

Tribhuvan University, founded in 1959, is Nepal's oldest university and is the 11th largest university in the world, enrolling over 600,000 students across its 70 campuses. As the university works to better serve its students and the nation of Nepal, building research capacity is a priority. The goal of the AWB-USA funded project at Tribhuvan was to increase expertise in quantitative and qualitative methodology among a select group of current university faculty, and graduate students – the faculty of the future. In addition to enhancing their own research skills, this group could also provide instruction to others, leveraging AWB-USA's investment. Additionally, the project could act as a pilot to inform future efforts. Two senior faculty from the Departments of Public Health and Sociology at UC Davis served as the project volunteers, leading classes and working with departmental leadership, faculty and graduate students. A notable and unexpected contribution of the project was the editing of several papers to be published in a volume titled “Social Contexts of Natural Disaster: Conceptual Issues and Empirical Evidence of 2015 Earthquake of Nepal,” which will be valuable in its own right as well as providing valuable datasets for future work in building methodological expertise.