

AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY UNIVERSITY: ORGANIZATION, STATUS AND FUTURE PRIORITIES

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BACKGROUND

Agriculture and Forestry University (AFU) was established in Rampur in 2010 as a result of enacted bill by Nepalese Parliament in June, 2010. AFU is the only one agriculture and forestry university in Nepal which traced its origin by upgrading the Rampur Campus, Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science and Hetauda Campus, Institute of Forestry under Tribhuvan University. In Nepal, more than 60 percent of the land is covered by agriculture and forestry and major portion of the population of the country are dependent on agriculture and forestry for employments generation, livelihood and income generation. In this context, the university can play vital role in bringing green revolution and white revolution, increasing living standard of farmers, in transforming to commercial agriculture, enhancing food security and also producing technical manpower, generating technologies and disseminating the technologies.

HISTORY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY EDUCATION IN NEPAL

The agriculture education began in Nepal with the establishment of School of Agriculture in 1957 in Kathmandu to train the Junior Technical Assistants (JTAs). In 1968, the College of Agriculture was formed by upgrading the School of Agriculture with I.Sc.Ag. program. In 1972, the college was named as Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science under Tribhuvan University and transferred to Rampur, Chitwan in 1974. The history of forestry education started in 1947 through training programs for Rangers and Junior Technical Assistants and then relocated to Bhimphedi in 1957 and again relocated at Hetauda in 1965. In 1972, it was established as Institute of Forestry under Tribhuvan University. In 2010, Agriculture and Forestry University was established by merging the Rampur Campus, Chitwan and Hetauda Campus, Hetauda under Tribhuvan University. Now, this is the first and only one university in Nepal related to agriculture and forestry subjects.

AIM

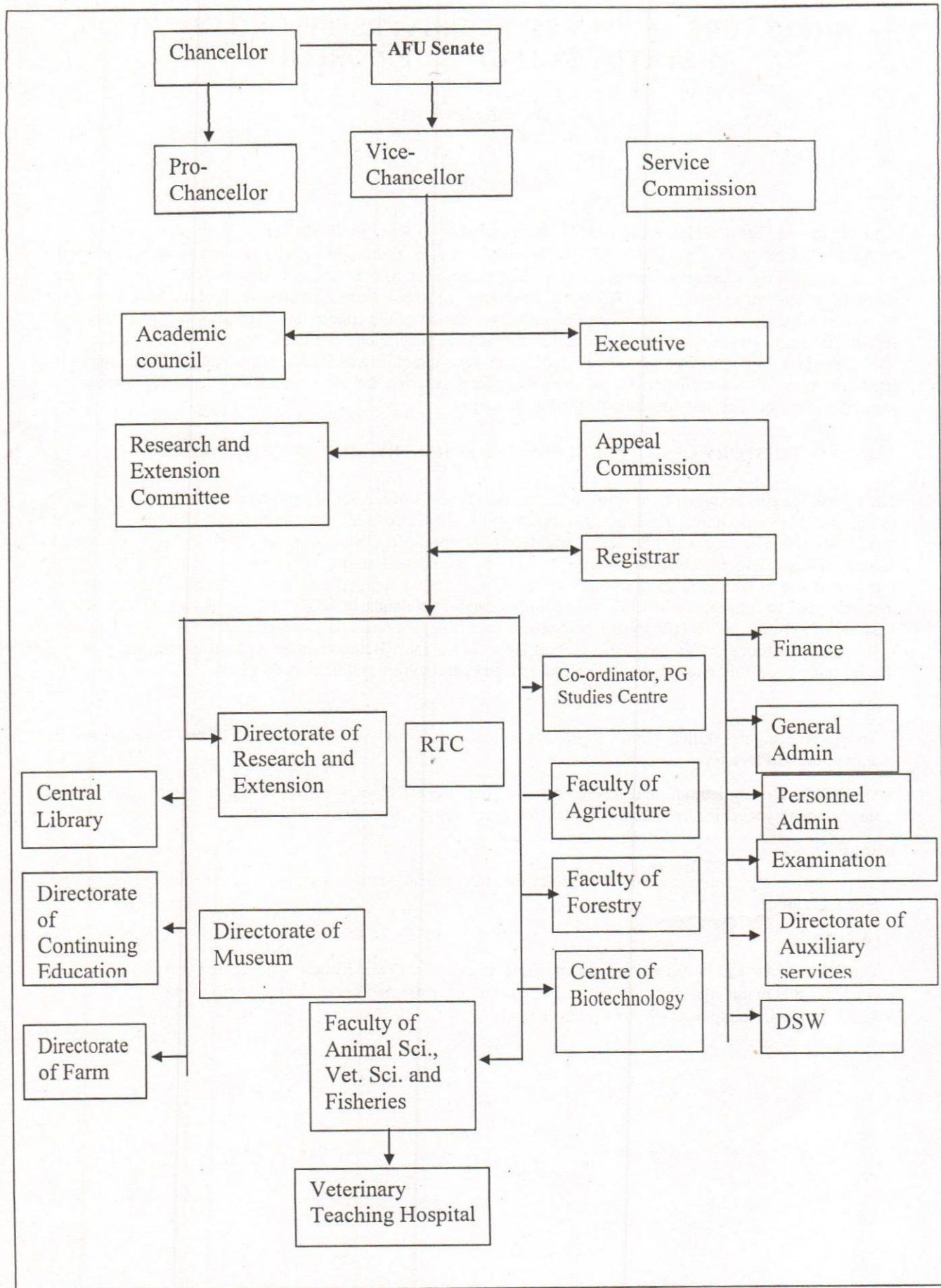
- To produce highly skilled human resources required to work on quality research and development in agriculture and forestry.
- Development of agriculture and forestry which would raise the socio-economic conditions of rural people through quality teaching, research and extension in agriculture, livestock and forestry.

MISSION

- To produce competent manpower to promote education, research and development in agriculture, forestry and allied disciplines.

STATUS

- Faculty member: 150 in Agriculture, Animal Science, Veterinary and Fisheries and 55 in Forestry.
- Students: 800 in undergraduate programs, 200 Postgraduate programs and 50 in PhD programmes.
- Land: 280 ha in Rampur and 95 ha land in Hetauda.



MODALITY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The university will have triple function necessary for the development of agriculture and forestry. These are

1. Instruction:
 - High level skilled technical human resource development leading to B.Sc., M.Sc. and PhD degrees in agriculture, forestry, animal science, veterinary science, fisheries and other related fields.
 - Short courses in various areas of agriculture, forestry, animal science, veterinary science and other related fields.
2. Research:
 - Technology generation by performing basic, applied, strategic and adaptive research to increase the agriculture and forestry production and productivity in different ecological domains of the country.
3. Extension:
 - Dissemination of technology produced through scientific researches to the farmers and agro -industries.
 - To establish linkages between researchers and farmers and industries to solve their problems.

KEY CONSTITUENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY

1. Faculty: Three faculties, one Post Graduate School and one Centre are established.
 - Faculty of Agriculture
 - Faculty of Animal Science, Veterinary Science and Fisheries
 - Faculty of Forestry
 - Post Graduate Studies Centre
 - Centre for Biotechnology
2. Directorate of Research and Extension
3. Directorate of Planning
4. Directorate of Continuing Education
5. Directorate of Farms
6. Directorate of Student Welfare
7. Directorate of Auxiliary Services
8. Veterinary Teaching Hospital
9. Directorate of Museum
10. Regional Research and Training Centers
11. Central Library

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

1. Faculty of Agriculture:
 1. Agricultural Economics
 2. Agricultural Meteorology
 3. Agricultural Engineering
 4. Agribusiness Management
 5. Agronomy
 6. Extension Education and Rural Sociology
 7. Entomology
 8. Environmental Science
 9. Fruit Science and Post-harvest Processing
 10. Floriculture and Landscaping
 11. Genetics and Plant Breeding
 12. Plant Pathology
 13. Soil Science
 14. Vegetable Science
2. Centre for Biotechnology
 1. Plant Biotechnology
 2. Animal Biotechnology
 3. Microbial Biotechnology
 4. Bioinformatics

3. Faculty of Animal Science, Veterinary Science and Fisheries

1. Anatomy
2. Biochemistry
3. Epidemiology and Public Health
4. Medicine
5. Microbiology
6. Pharmacology and toxicology
7. Physiology
8. Parasitology
9. Pathology
10. Surgery and Radiology
11. Theriogenology
12. Animal Breeding and Genetics
13. Animal Nutrition
14. Livestock Production and Management
15. Aquaculture
16. Aquatic Resource Management
17. Fisheries Post-harvest Technology

4. Faculty of Forestry

1. Forest Products and Utilization
2. Wild life and Park Recreation
3. Silviculture and Forest Biology
4. Natural Resource Management
5. Ecology and Environmental Science
6. GIS and Remote Sensing
7. Soil and watershed Management
8. Forest and Soil Conservation Engineering
9. Basic Science and Humanities

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

- Faculty of Agriculture: 1. B. Sc. Agriculture 2. B.Sc Ag (Biotechnology)
- Faculty of Forestry: 1. B.Sc. Forestry 2. B.Sc. Forestry (Environmental Science) and 3. B.Sc. Forestry (Biodiversity)
- Faculty of Animal Science, Veterinary Science and Fisheries: 1. B.V. Sc. and A.H. and B.Sc. Fisheries

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMS

M.Sc. and Ph.D. program in agriculture, forestry, Animal Science, Veterinary Science and Fisheries within their related departments.

FUTURE PRIORITIES

1. **Establishment of Faculty:** During the second phase of the four years, the university will expand the following faculties:

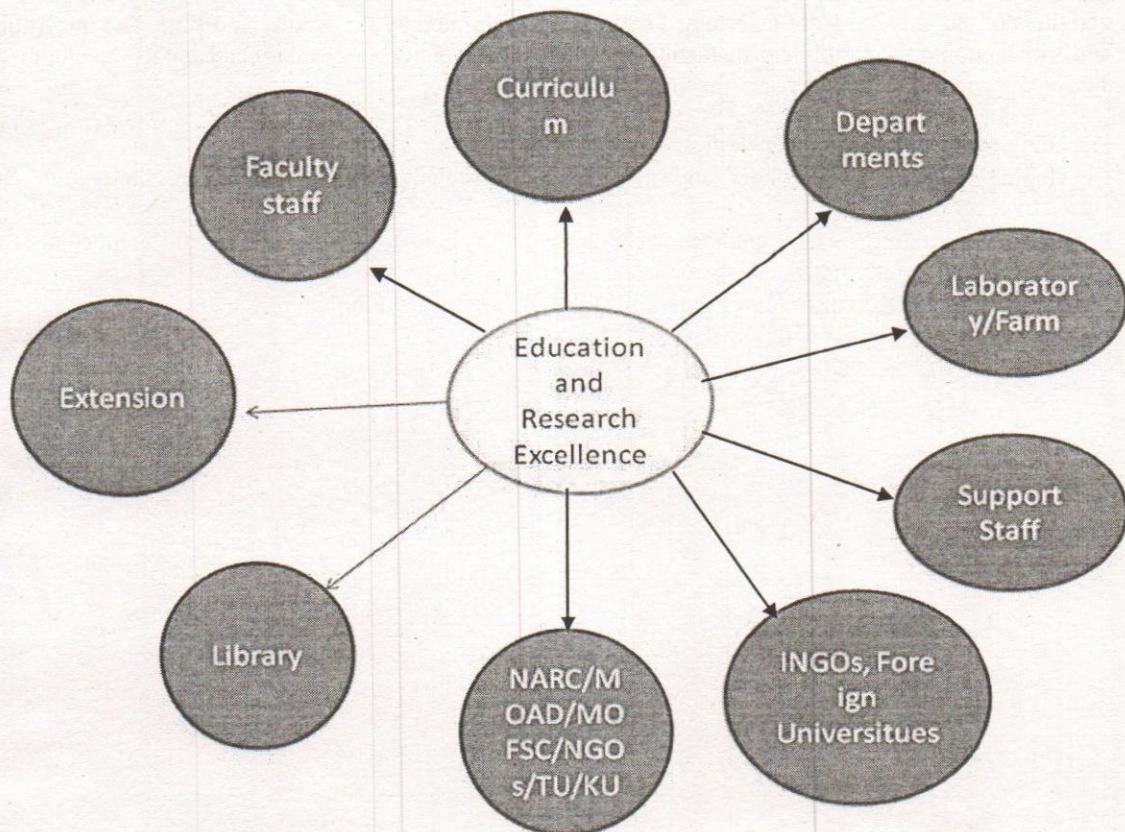
- Faculty of Basic Science and Agricultural Engineering
- Faculty of Home Science
- Faculty of Humanities and Management
- Faculty of Biodiversity and Environment
- Faculty of Animal science and Fisheries

2. **Education and Research:**

The education and research excellence is the major quality of the university. The university aims at developing top quality skilled technical manpower in agriculture and forestry sector. The university also offers basic, strategic and applied research in agriculture and forestry sector. The instruction and research are interrelated. The education and research excellence will be improved by

- Developing need based curriculum with time.
- Making departmental units functional.

- Developing competent human resources.
- Building infrastructure and advanced laboratories.
- Strengthening research by providing funds, mobilization of faculty and students
- Collaboration with national and foreign universities, and organizations involved in research and extension activities.



3. Physical Infrastructure Development

Well designed and facilitated infrastructure is essential for the excellent academic and research environment in the university. The University has some laboratory and academic buildings, laboratory equipments, and technical equipments in Rampur Campus and Hetauda Campus premises. These infrastructures are not sufficient to run the academic eand research programmes smoothly. Its buildings, technical and laboratory equipments need to be maintained, updated and replaced and new infrastructures should be developed. The university premises are not endowed with the IT network system which is the pre-requisite for the academic and research excellence. Therefore, the university has planned to:

- Construct the new administrative, academic and laboratory buildings.
 - Develop advanced laboratories, laboratory equipments and other technical equipments.
 - Develop IT network system in the university premises.
4. **Extension and outreach activities:** In order to disseminate the technology generated through research to the farmers, get acquainted with the farmer's and industrial problem and provide practical learning environments to the university students, the university will conduct extension and outreach activities in the various ecological domains of the country in collaboration with the governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.
 5. **Collaboration with National and International Organization:** The university is planning to collaborate with national and international organizations to strengthen the academic, research and outreach activities as well as infrastructure development of the university. The university will make linkage with the National Agriculture Research Council (NARC) and Department of Agriculture for research and extension activities; international donor organization to get fund for research and infrastructure developments and national and international universities for research mobility and knowledge exchange to improve the quality of academics and research activities.

6. **Internationalization:** The University has challenge to internationalize its position in research and education in the present age of globalization. To internationalize the university, it has planned to increase the international collaboration in research and education through faculty and student mobility, visiting professorship and international alliance in MSc and PhD programmes.
7. **Development of Competent Human Resource:** The quality of academic, administrative and research activities of the university are determined by the task performed by the faculty and staff. The motivation and satisfaction and recruitment of faculty and staff of university are very crucial for its development. The competent human resources in the university will be developed by
 - Providing opportunity for higher studies.
 - Developing working environment and incentive system that provide satisfaction, motivation and innovativeness in work.
 - Providing the training in new changed technology and system to develop skills and competences to perform university activities in changed context.
 - Developing the scientific procedures to recruit skilled and competent human resources.