



The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA  
College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences

**Sarkeys energy center  
room A235 - 3:30pm**

**Friday, March 31, 2017**

**Dr. Pushkar K. Pradhan**

**Central Department of Geography  
Tribhuvan University, Nepal**

**Contributions of the Late Dr. Mangal Siddhi Manandhar to Improving University  
Academic Quality and Politico-socioeconomic Development in Nepal**

Dr. Mangal S. Manandhar completed his Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Oklahoma in 1973 and returned to work in his home country Nepal. There are three aspects of his work that should be highlighted. The first is his role as an academic and a pioneering researcher particularly in the field of political geography in Nepal. At Tribhuvan University he helped to introduce courses such as mountain geography, applied geomorphology, and gender and rural development, and to establish a course in geographic information systems and remote sensing technology. His publications include topics in the areas of political geography, urban and regional planning, and environmental management. He became Minister of Education for a brief period. The second aspect is his involvement in the orientation of Nepal's development as Vice-chair of the National Planning Commission. The third is his political work. He became an elected member of the first Constituent Assembly cum legislative parliament. His substantive contribution to the Constituent Assembly was as a member of the Committee on State Restructuring which advocated a federal structure carved on ethnic lines with some prior-rights to indigenous ethnic population. Apart from these larger national/public roles Dr. Manandhar was deeply engaged with his community as a result of his appreciation and love for the history and cultural heritage of the Newars of Kathmandu Valley, and he was seen both as a role model as well as a much sought-after mentor.



Dr. Pushkar K. Pradhan served as Head of the Central Department of Geography, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Nepal, from 2008 to 2012, and currently is a Professor with the Department. He received his MA from Tribhuvan University, his MSc from AIT, Bangkok, and his PhD from Klagenfurt University, Austria. His specialties include Urban Planning and Management, Urban-Rural Linkages, and Regional Development Planning.