

Tribhuvan University

Faculty of Education

Introduction

Faculty of Education (FoE) was established as College of Education in 1956 AD, three years before the establishment of its mother institution, Tribhuvan University (TU) in 1959 AD with the aim of institutionalizing teacher training and teacher education programmes in Nepal. With 26 constituent campuses and 550 affiliated colleges across the country, the FoE has the extensive network of teacher education institutions in Nepal. Since its establishment, FoE has been contributing to the nation by producing all kinds of human resources needed for schools and educational sector of the country. It has offered a range of educational programmes in several subject areas including language education, science and technology, mathematics, social studies and information and communication technology (ICT) in education, to name a few.

At present, the FoE offers educational programmes in Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.), Master of Education (M.Ed.), Master of Social Studies Education (MSSEd), Master of Educational Science and Digital Pedagogy (MESDP), Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Education. The Bachelor and Masters programmes provide the state-of-the-art contents to develop professional knowledge and skills of the graduates. Despite the goals of producing the most proficient and skilled human resources required for education sector, the implementation of the programme has been fragile due to several reasons such as resource limitations. This makes students' learning more theoretical than practical. While there is a huge expansion of the knowledge base globally, the FoE struggles to provide the most updated education to enable the graduate to cater to the needs of the emerging educational market. In this emerging context, FoE is committed to reinvigorating the quality of the teacher education programmes by blending theoretical foundational knowledge with pedagogical professional competence. In doing so, the students need to be engaged in interactive pedagogy, instructional planning, material development, classroom management and robust assessment system. One of the flagship features of the teacher education program of FoE is practicum (i.e., teaching practice). FoE aims to develop this program as a showcasing one, by engaging students in rigorous events that develop their pedagogical competence.

Vision

FoE envisions the promotion of quality education across the country through preparation of highly qualified teachers and human resource for the education sector.

Mission

The mission of FoE is to provide leadership in the production of qualified human resource for the education sector and professional development of the resources as a center of excellence for teacher education.

Goals and Objectives

The goal of FoE is to produce trained teacher educators, teachers, and educational researchers for the country. It also aims at producing educational planners and managers, curriculum designers and human resources needed for the educational sector of the country through its different programmes. The following are the major goals of FoE:

- To prepare trained teachers for school education in Nepal
- To produce teacher educators, education specialists, education managers and administrators;
- To produce high-level human resources for research in education through MPhil and PhD programmes;
- To conduct research studies that contribute to the betterment of education system in general and teacher education in particular;
- To contribute to the growth and development of the education sector of the country in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST);
- To provide expert professional and technical consultancy services to agencies/organizations working in different education sectors;
- To provide expert input for the MoEST Nepal in the formation of education policy, programmes planning and their implementation and evaluation;
- To create global, national and sub-national forum for bringing about debates and discussion in order to address critical educational issues; and
- To share and disseminate outcomes of educational researches and innovations by linking them with the national and international organizations working in the education sector.

Academic and Professional Programmes

The FoE offers the following academic and professional programmes:

- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- Master of Philosophy (MPhil)
- Master of Educational Science and Digital Pedagogy (MESDP)

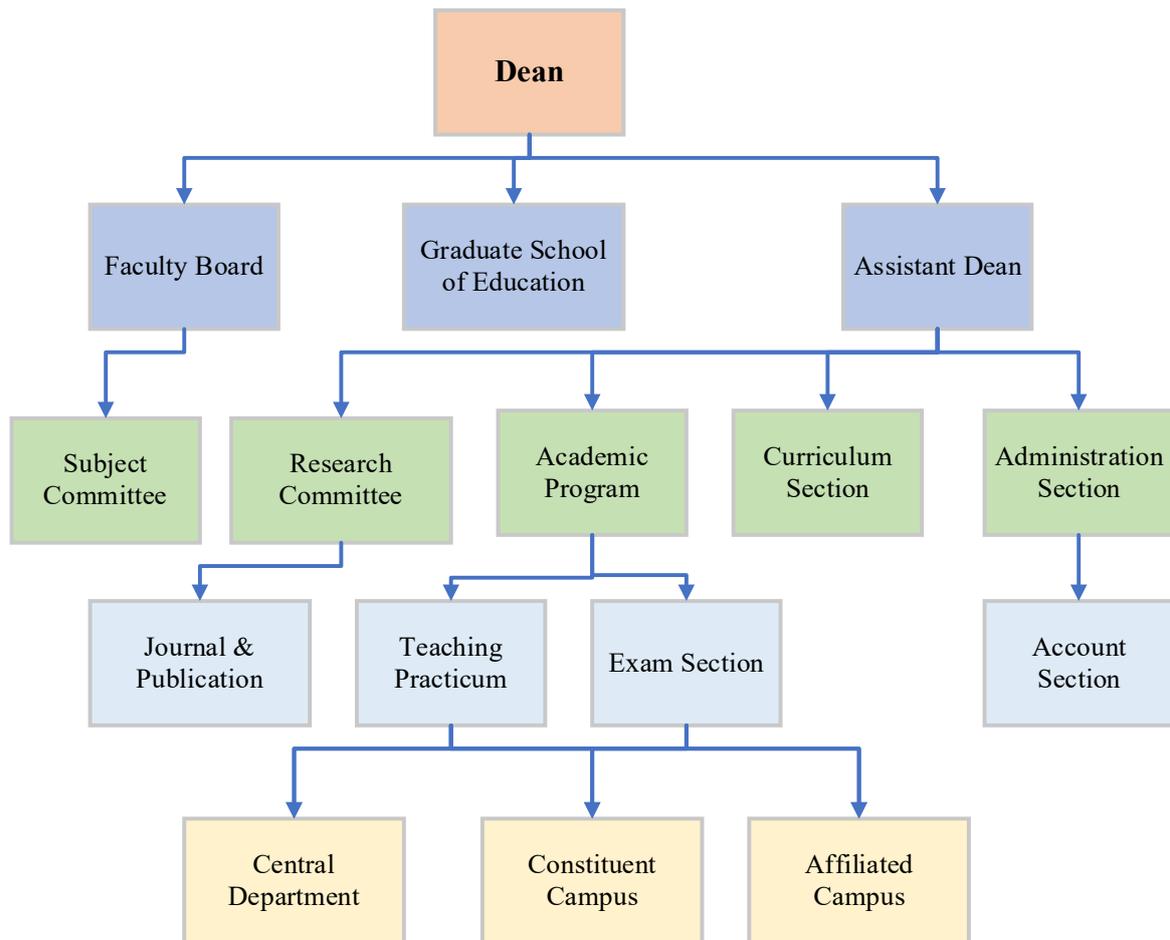
- M.Ed. (Four Semesters)
- Master of Social Studies Education (MSSed) (Six Semesters)
- Four-year B.Ed. (Annual)
- Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology Education (BICTE) (Eight semesters)
- M. Ed. in Science Education (ODL) (Three Semesters)
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) (Three Semesters)

MPhil/PhD Programme

The PhD programme in Education was initiated in 1996 AD with the aim of preparing high-level academics and researchers in the field of education. By 2025 AD, PhD degree has been awarded to 74 persons from the FoE. Currently, 281 scholars are pursuing their PhD research in different subjects such as English, Nepali, Health, Mathematics, Science, Curriculum, Educational Planning, Inclusive Education, and Social and Educational Studies. Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Education, with specializations in Education Studies, Mathematics Education, English Education, Nepali Education, Social Studies Education, and Health Education is also being offered for students interested in educational research. MPhil leading to PhD programme was started in 2017 AD to integrate courses of MPhil into the PhD programme. This integrated programme is designed to provide an opportunity for MPhil students to pursue the PhD programme upon the successful completion of their MPhil courses.

Organizational Structure

The Dean's office of the FoE is located at Balkhu, Kathmandu. The faculty is headed by the Dean and assisted by Assistant Deans and Faculty Board. The organizational structure of the FoE is shown in the diagram below:



New Programmes

The FoE has been developing plans on teacher education and implementing new courses and programmes by mobilizing its resources to collaborate with national and international organizations. The M.Ed. in ICT has been running in the Central Department of Education, Kirtipur, and Sanothimi Campus since the academic year 2014/15. Likewise, M.Ed. in Special Needs Education (SNE) has been introduced in the Central Department of Education in collaboration with Changwon National University, South Korea in 2016. The SNE Courses were revised and renamed as Inclusive Education in 2023. The Master's in Inclusive Education is currently being offered with a scholarship program at the Central Department of Education in collaboration with OsloMet University, Norway and with financial support from NORHED II Project.

The FoE has also been implementing a six-semester Master of Social Studies Education (MSSEd) Programme at the Central Department of Education through a blended mode (Face-to-face and Online) using its own resources since 2021. MSSEd. is an interdisciplinary course that integrates contents from the disciplinary areas such as history, geography, political science,

economics and cross-cutting issues related to social sciences. These contents are integrated with classroom pedagogy. The new MSSEd. Programme has been designed to equip students with sound knowledge and skills for teaching Social Studies in schools from grade 8 to 12. Candidates holding Bachelor of Education in any subject from Tribhuvan University, or any recognized institutions are eligible to apply for admission to this program.

The FoE has recently introduced a three-semester Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) Programme administered in blended mode at the Central Department of Education and eight constituent campuses. This program has replaced the previous one- year B.Ed. Programme. The PGDE program aims to provide pedagogical training to individuals holding a bachelor's degree or equivalent, prospective teachers and currently teaching at the basic and secondary levels. The program serves as fundamental teacher training mechanism that helps sensitizing and orienting teachers/prospective teachers to the core aspects of their profession. The PGDE is a revised teacher education program for various subject tracks, required to be completed in three semesters (18 months). Upon completion of theoretical and practical courses at the campus, student teachers will participate in an internship in the selected schools for at least six months. In this way, the PGDE program is designed also to meet the professional development needs of teachers teaching in Basic and Secondary Schools, by employing critical and participatory pedagogy, engaging students in hands-on practical activities, and utilizing digital technologies.

The Master of Philosophy (MPhil) leading to PhD Program in Inclusive Education has been implemented at the Graduate School of Education in collaboration with Oslo Metropolitan University and Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences through NORHED II Project. Five female scholars enrolled in MPhil in Inclusive Education have received scholarship from the project. Furthermore, one faculty member has been pursuing his PhD in inclusive education at Inland Norway University of Applied Science in Norway since 2023.

Collaborative Initiatives

There is an agreement between the FoE and OsloMet University, Norway to implement the Project Building Inclusive Education Programme in Nepal (BIEPN) with a grant from NORHED II, Norway, since August 2021. This project is being implemented in cooperation with Oslo Metropolitan University, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences, Norway, and Mid-West University of Nepal. The overarching goal of the project is to assist in the establishment a robust teaching and research group on Special Needs/Inclusive Education at the FoE, Tribhuvan University. It is also expected that the capacity of faculties in Inclusive Education will be

enhanced, and the number of faculty members and students holding PhD in this field will be increased by establishing an MPhil /PhD programme in Inclusive Education/Special Needs Education. This will be further supported by faculty and student exchange including one semester stays at Inland Norway University and OsloMet University for five PhD scholarship students and at least two teaching and supervision staff from the FoE, Tribhuvan University. In addition, students and staff may participate in the summer school organized by University of Oslo in Oslo. The collaborative project will also contribute to the creation of SNE Department based an e-Library to make teaching and learning resources accessible to students and teachers, and the establishment of two resource centres- one at the Special Needs Education Department, Kirtipur and another at Sanothimi Campus- to provide hands-on experience for faculties and students.

The FoE of Tribhuvan University has developed and implemented the new Master's programme, Master of Educational Sciences in Digital Pedagogy, since 2023 handled by the Open and Distance Education (ODEC) of Tribhuvan University, Nepal. This programme has been launched in collaboration with JAMK University of Applied Sciences and HAMK University of Applied Sciences, with financial assistance from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Finland. The new course intends to prepare and train both novice and experienced teachers of Tribhuvan University and other universities of Nepal in the integration of ICT and digital pedagogy in higher education. The goal of the programme is to equip university teaching faculty with the 21st century pedagogical skills, with a particular focus on digital pedagogy.

There is a formal agreement (MoU) between Faculty of Education of Tribhuvan University and UNESCO- ICHEI (International Center for Higher Education and Innovation), China for enhancing capacity of Teachers in integration of ICT in higher education teaching and learning through short-term training and ICT infrastructure development. In the first phase of the project, UNESCO-ICHEI will provide equipment, technology, and technical supports to the FOE to establish a Smart Classroom in the Central Department of Education. They will also provide short-term training to teaching faculties about how to run smart classroom effectively in teaching and learning process with the integration of ICT. It also provides opportunities for teaching faculties to participate in ICT related online courses/teacher professional development courses.

The FoE has implemented the 'equitable access to higher education students with disabilities and students from marginalized groups in Nepal' (EATHEN) project in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST), Nepal Open

University (NOU), JAMK University of Applied Sciences, Finland; Masaryk University, Czech Republic; Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna UNIBO, Italy with financial support from ERASMUS+ Capacity Building in the Field of Higher Education Project from 2019 to 2022. The main goal of EATHEN- project was to enhance inclusive management practices and access to people with disabilities (PwD) and from marginalized groups and regions (MG) in Nepal to higher education. This also enhances implementation of the inclusive policies and strategies of MoEST in Nepal. Project activities have been implemented by the Dean's Office, in collaboration with Prithvi Naryayan Multiple Campus, Pokhara and Dhankuta Multiple Campus, Dhankuta. Training provided to teachers and staffs enhanced their abilities to work with students with disabilities and students from marginal groups.

Admission Requirements

The candidates who wish to get admission to the Master's and MPhil programmes under Faculty of Education must sit for the entrance examination. Admission to the four-year B.Ed. programme is open to all who have completed their grade 12 or equivalent degree. The PGD in Education in Social Studies is open to those having a Bachelor's degree in social sciences and other relevant subjects.

The MEd Programme is open to all who have completed their B.Ed. in the area of specialization they want to get admission in. MPhil Programmes is open to all students having a Master's degree from a recognized university. However, the graduates from non- education backgrounds have to take additional 4 credit hour course related to education.

Evaluation Policy

The evaluation policy is different across the programmes. The B.Ed. students have to sit for the final exams conducted by the Controller of Examinations, Tribhuvan University. Considering the nature of subjects, they also take practical exams. For the M.Ed. programme, students are evaluated through internal (40%) and external exams (60%). While subject teachers are responsible for internal evaluation, the Dean's Office conducts external exams. The MPhil candidates are evaluated by their subject teachers through internal assessments (60%) and the Dean's Office conducts semester-end written exam (40%). All MPhil and PhD candidates should carry out independent research and defend their dissertation for the degree.

Research Activities and Publications

The FoE conducts both small and large-scale research studies in areas of education in

collaboration with national and international organizations. It encourages the faculty members by providing research grants to carry out small scale research studies on various educational issues. FoE has been implementing a collaborative research project titled "Inclusive education in Nepal: A study of network governance in selected municipalities". This is national level study in the field of inclusive education funded by the Norwegian Research Council and implemented collaboratively by partners in Nepal (Faculty of Education Dean's Office, TU; Central Department of Sociology, TU; and, Social and Academic Innovations, SAIPL), Norway (Oslo Metropolitan University and University of Southeastern Norway) and UK (University College London, Institute of Education). The research includes survey and qualitative field work components related to the status of inclusion in education (including inclusive education) in selected municipalities and schools.

The FoE was awarded with the research grant by Research Directorate of Tribhuvan University for conducting research in the National Priority Area in March 2022. With the research grant, FoE has conducted mixed-method research entitled "Teacher Education programs in Nepal: Reorienting Policies and Practices." Adopting the theoretical framework of CIPP (context, inputs, process and product) model, this research aimed to assess the existing situation of teacher education programs of TU and other universities of Nepal and explore the opportunities for re-orienting and enhancing teacher education programs to address the country's needs and expectations of quality teachers for quality (school) education.

Publication

The FoE has published a peer reviewed journal 'Education Quarterly' volume 5, Issue 1. The journal has been published annually by the Faculty.

Professional Capacity Development Training for Faculty Members

The FoE has successfully conducted a 75-hour faculty's Professional Capacity Enhancement Programme (PCEP) training for 150 faculty members in five cohorts in different regions of the country. The training was structured in five themes: Digital technology and e-learning, Assessment in Teaching and Learning, Participating and Innovative Pedagogy, Education and World of Work, and Research, and Writing and Publication. The training was conducted in a blended mode.

Future Direction

Based on my knowledge as a teacher educator working in the faculty for more than three decades at different capacities and roles, I feel that the existing mass teacher education programme need to be shifted to be selective, systematic and standard one, so that we can develop professional standards of the prospective teachers as per the changing context of teaching. There is a need of upskilling and reskilling the current and future human resource in the education sector. The need as per the contemporary market is the development of transformative teacher education programmes to contribute to enhancing the quality of education in Nepal. FoE is planning to initiate programmatic changes and including development of new courses to better prepare and equip their graduates with pedagogical competencies and the skills required for the 21st century market. There should be intensive teaching-internship course at the end of the programme to create opportunity for students to apply and reflect the knowledge and skills learned from in-campus engagement. FoE has been moving towards this direction, i.e., in a transformative journey, with additional focus on developing increasingly professional teacher education programmes by establishing stronger collaboration with the government and non-government organizations in Nepal and abroad.

Location



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