

# Samrat B. Kunwar

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**Education** **University of New Mexico (UNM)**, Albuquerque, NM  
Ph.D., Economics, December 2018  
**Primary Field:** Environmental & Natural Resource Economics  
**Secondary Field:** Applied Econometrics, International Development and Sustainability

**Florida International University**, Miami, FL

M.A., Economics, May 2013

**Coe College**, Cedar Rapids, IA

B.A., Economics, Mathematics, May 2011

**Employment** Assistant Professor of Economics,  
**Saint John's University & The College of Saint Benedict** (2019- Present)  
Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, **SUNY Binghamton** (2018-2019)  
Instructor and Teaching Assistant, **University of New Mexico** (2013-2018)

**Research Interests** Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Development Economics

(Coupled Human-Nature Dynamics, Environmental Resiliency & Vulnerability, Natural Disasters, Risk Perceptions, Freshwater Management and Ecosystem Services, Conservation Policy, Non-Market Valuation, Environmental Governance, Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, Quality of Life, Global Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) programs, Survey Design)

**Publications** **Kunwar, S.B.**, Bohara, A.K. , Thacher, J. (2020) "Public Preference for river restoration in the Danda Basin, Nepal: A Choice Experiment Study". *Ecological Economics*. 175, 106690.

**Kunwar, S.B.**, Bohara, A.K. (2019) "Water Quality Avoidance Behavior: Bridging the Gap between Perception and Reality". *Water Economics & Policy*, 1950012.

**Kunwar, S.B.**, Bohara, A.K. (2017) "Climate Sensitivities and Farmland Values in Nepal: A Spatial Ricardian Approach" *Journal of Development and Agricultural Economics*, 9(6) 145-161.

Neupane, D., **Kunwar, S.**, Bohara, A.K., Risch, T.S., and Johnson, R.L. (2017). "Willingness to pay for mitigating human-elephant conflict by residents of Nepal." *Journal for Nature Conservation*, 36, 65-76.

**Papers in Submission** "Health Impacts of E.Coli Contamination in Drinking Water: An Evidence from Nepal" (with M.M Rahman & A.K. Bohara) [*R & R: Water Economics & Policy*]

"The Examination of Correlation between Willingness to Pay and Volunteer for an Environmental Restoration Program: A Study from Danda Riverside in Nepal" (with Niraj Khatiwada & A.K. Bohara) [in submission]

**Research &  
FieldWork  
Experience**

**ADB - CI (Asian Development Bank &  
CAREC Institute Visiting Fellow)**

May 2020 - August 2020

**Field Experience**

Discrete Choice Experiment Survey (Public Preferences for Ecosystem Services in the Danda River Basin, Nepal). ([Household Survey: May-August, 2016](#))

Spatial Point Pattern Analysis of Danda Water Quality across the Urban Landscape of Siddharthangar ([River Water Quality Assessment: May-August, 2016](#))

**Research Assistant**

August 2013 - May 2018

Department of Economics - Nepal Study Center (NSC),  
University of New Mexico  
Supervisor: Dr.Alok K. Bohara

**Projects**

- Resilience of Coupled Natural and Human (CNH) Systems under Climate Change and Hydropower Development along the Gandaki River, Nepal
- Learning beyond the Classroom: An experiential learning that combines research, eco-adventure, and hands-on community service-learning projects
- Danda Ecological Monitoring Program (DEMP) through *Citizen Science* and its link with human health, behavior, and awareness.
- Development of an urban wildlife refuge in the town of Siddharthanagar, Nepal.

**Teaching &  
Advising  
Experience**

**Classes Taught:**

Econ 332: Microeconomic Theory	2019, 2020
Econ 359C: Environmental Economics & Policy	Spring 2020
Econ 111: Introduction to Economics	2019,2020
Econ 323: Economics of the Public Sector	Fall 2019
Econ 433: Natural Resource Economics (SUNY Binghamton)	2018, 2019
Econ 160: Principles of Economics (SUNY Binghamton)	2018, 2019
Econ 106: Introductory Microeconomics (SUNY Binghamton)	Spring 2018
Econ 342: Environmental Economics (UNM)	Fall 2017
Econ 106: Introductory Microeconomics (Online) (UNM)	Fall 2017

**Mentor/Curriculum Builder**

Econ 395/595: Problem-based Learning using Data Analytics 2017  
([Course Website](#))

Econ 451/551: Sustainable Development Action Lab 2016  
([Course Website](#))

**Advisor**

Undergraduate Summer Research Project,  
Advisor to: *Jake Dittel* Summer 2020  
Project: "The Collapse of Cod in the Gulf of Maine"

**Grants,  
Fellowship &  
Awards**

**Research Grant**

CSB-SJU Summer Collaborative Research Grant

May - August 2020

Open Society Foundations - Civil Society Scholar Award, **\$9500** 2015  
 (Project: *The shifting landscape: urban growth, climate change, pollution and agriculture in the Danda River Basin, Nepal*)

**Fellowship**

Provost Excellence Award, UNM 2013 - 2017  
 (*Economics department nomination for graduate student excellence fellowship*)

**Awards & Grants**

The Alfred L. Parker Award in Economics, UNM 2017  
 The Rogers Research Award, UNM 2016  
 The J.Raymond Stuart Award in Economics, UNM 2016  
 UNM Doctoral Conference Presentation Award, \$700 2017  
 UNM Economics. EGSO Grant,\$300 2017  
 UNM GPSA. Student Research Grant, \$500 2015, 2017

**Conference & Workshops**

15<sup>th</sup> Annual Himalayan Policy Research Conference (HPRC) December 2020  
 (*Organizing committee member and Panel Moderator*)

Southern Economic Association (SEA) November 2017  
 Tampa, FL

Association for University Business and Economic Research (AUBER) October 2017  
 Albuquerque, NM

5<sup>th</sup> Workshop on Non-Market Valuation (WONV) June 2017  
 Leeds, England

Himalayan Policy Research Conference. Madison, WI October 2016

Sustainable Climate Risk-Management. (SCRiM Summer School) August 2015  
 Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA

**Service**

Search Committee Member: Economics Tenure-Track Faculty Position, 2020  
 Faculty Advisor for Economics Club, 2020  
 Department Representative: CSBSJU Admission Reception 2020  
 Participant: Academic Exploration Fair 2019

**Professional Activities**

**Referee:**

*Science of the Total Environment, Economics of Disasters and Climate Change*

**Professional Affiliation**

American Economic Association (AEA)  
 Southern Economic Association (SEA)  
 Association of Environmental and Resource Economics (AERE)  
 American and Agricultural Applied Economics Association (AAEA)

**Computer Skills** STATA, R, ArcGIS, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, RATS, MATLAB

**References**

**Alok K. Bohara**

Professor, Economics  
Director, Nepal Study Center  
Department of Economics  
University of New Mexico

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E-mail: bohara@unm.edu  
henrit@unm.edu

**Jennifer Thacher**

Associate Professor, Economics  
Graduate Director  
Department of Economics  
University of New Mexico

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E-mail: jenniferathacher@gmail.com

**Jingjing Wang**

Assistant Professor, Economics  
Department of Economics  
University of New Mexico

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