

**DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

FALL 2016 SEMINAR SERIES

Sponsored by: Purdue Pharma L.P.

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company

Tuesday, November 1, 2016

2:30 PM

Central King Bldg.

Room 215

GUEST SPEAKER

Kabindra Shakya, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Department of Geography and the Environment

Villanova University

Villanova, Pa

TOPIC

Exposure and health effects of air pollution in Kathmandu Valley, Nepal

ABSTRACT

World Health Organization has estimated that 7 million premature deaths per year are linked to air pollution. Many of these deaths occur in developing countries. This talk is based on air pollution studies conducted in Kathmandu Valley during 2014. The study presents the measurements of particulate exposure at traffic intersections and roadside locations in Kathmandu Valley. Results show the decrease in lung function associated with PM_{2.5} and black carbon exposure, and the reduction in such adverse respiratory effects associated with wearing facemasks in the polluted region.

BIOGRAPHY

Kabindra Shakya received his earlier degrees (B.S. and M.S.) from Tribhuvan University, Nepal. He then completed M.S. in environmental science from Chiang Mai University, Thailand and Ph.D. in environmental engineering from Rice University, Houston. After completing his postdoctoral trainings in University of California, San Diego and University of Massachusetts, Amherst, he recently joined as an assistant professor in the Department of Geography and the Environment at Villanova University in Fall 2016. His research interests are in air pollution and environmental health. His research projects focus on investigating the chemical characteristics of air pollution and assessing the health effects from air pollution exposures.

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