Talk Summary: Many recent developments in agricultural biotechnology hold considerable potential in advancing sustainable development in Nepal. Advances in genomics, gene transfer, proteomics, bioinformatics and genome engineering can be employed to enhance ecologically-friendly crop and animal production for small holders in Nepal. These novel genetic technologies are already making an impact on agriculture in many countries, and thus there is considerable interest on how Nepal can benefit from them. In this talk, Dr. Prakash will provide an overview of these technologies with examples of successful research outcomes.

Dr. Prakash will talk about impacting policy makers to ensure creation of favorable policy environments to support and integrate research on these frontier technologies in the current agricultural research in Nepal, and on enhancing public understanding of these emerging technologies to ensure societal acceptance of such innovation.

Speaker's Bio: Dr. Channapatna S. Prakash, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) at Tuskegee University, Alabama, USA, is a professor of crop genetics and biotechnology. Dr. Prakash's research expertise is on genetic improvement research on food crops of importance to developing countries. Dr. Prakash was recognized for his outstanding work on agricultural biotechnology outreach with the award of the prestigious 2015 Borlaug CAST Communication Award, by the Council of Agricultural Science and Technology. He was also recognized by Huffington Post as among the Top 30 social influencers in biopharma and biotech. He also serves as Co-Editor-in-chief of a highly respected journal GM Crops & Food. He has won numerous prestigious awards, including the Morrison-Evans Outstanding Scientist Award.