

2004/march

## **Thai PM's Adviser Meets BU VC**

Professor Dr. Krasae Chanawongse, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Thailand visited BRAC University (BU) and had a meeting with BU VC Prof. Jamilur Reza Choudhury on March 31, 2004. Professor Choudhury explained the BU curriculum, facilities, global partnership program of BRAC and South Asian Development and Cooperation Studies Program of BU to him. They also discussed possible exchange programs between universities in Thailand and BU. Ramon Magsaysay award winner (1973) Professor Dr. Krasae Chanawongse told BU VC that he is very keen about establishing cooperation between BU and Thai universities. Mr. Narong, counsellor of the Thai Embassy in Bangladesh, Dr. Yusuf M. Islam, Chairperson, Department of Computer Science & Engineering (CSE) and Ms. Shamsun Nahar Rahman, Student Affairs Officer, BU were present in the meeting.

## **Seminar on Aid and Reform**

The Department of Economics & Social Sciences (ESS) and the Global Affairs forums organized a seminar on Aid and Reform on March 30, 2004. Dr. Shantayanan Devarajan, the Chief Economist for the World Bank's South Asia Region was the keynote speaker. A large number of students, teachers and invited guests attended the seminar. Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU and Ms. Christine Wallich, Country Director, World Bank also attended the Seminar. Professor A M Muazzam Husain, Chair, Department of ESS introduced the Speaker.

## **BU Governing Board Member Visit Residential Semester**

Mr. Faruq A. Choudhury, adviser BRAC and a member of BU GB visited the BU Campus, TARC, Savar and spent some time with the students of the Residential Semester on March 30, 2004. Mr. Choudhury exchanged ideas and views informally with the students and attended a cultural function organized by the students. Campus Superintendent and In charge TARC, Savar were also present during the student interaction with the Guest.

## **Paper Accepted for SAARCH 2004 Conference**

A research paper, titled 'Participatory Process in Architecture: Two Project in Rural Bangladesh' jointly authored by Architect Jalal Ahmad, Professor Fuad H. Mallick, Chair Department of Architecture (ARC), BU and Mr. A Q M Abdullah, Lecturer, Department of ARC, BU was selected for SAARCH (SAARC Association of Architects) conference 2004. The conference will be held in Karachi, Pakistan from 2nd - 4th April 2004. The Institute of Architects of Pakistan (IAP) is hosting this international event.

## **Lecture Delivered in City University, Honk Kong**

Dr Q. M. Mahtab-uz-Zaman, Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture, BU delivered several architecture-related lectures organized by City University of Hong Kong on March 26, 2004.

## **Video Conference between UNICEF, Bangladesh and Harvard Graduate School, USA**

A face-to-face Videoconference was held at BU Video Conference Center on March 23, 2004 between 06:50 and 08:50 PM Bangladesh Standard Time. The topic of discussion was "Protection and promotion of the rights of children from abuse, exploitation, violence and discrimination in Bangladesh." Ms. Nargis Pervin, Assistant Project Officer, UNICEF, Bangladesh conducted the discussion. Participants of the Conference were Professor Sue Grant and students of Harvard University graduate School, USA. Ms. Fahima Khanam, Ms. Iris Pervin and Mr. Aminul Islam of BU IT Systems Section provided technical support at BU end. Conference technician at Harvard was Mr. Bob Ackroyd.

## **Campus Super's Dinner**

Campus Super's Dinner of the Residential Semester in TARC, Savar was held on March 23, 2004. Professor David Sack, Director ICDDR,B was the Guest of Honour. Students, Professor Abdur Rab, Chair, Department of Management & Business (MGB), Professor Mofizuddin Ahmed, Chair, Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS), Dr. Yousuf M Islam, Chair, Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE), Dr. Shahdeen Malik, Director, School of Law (SoL), Mr. K Shamsuddin, Head, Undergraduate Program (SoL), Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Campus Superintendent, teachers and administrative staff of BU and TARC, Savar attended the dinner.

## **Seminar on Stocks**

The Department of MGB organized a seminar on investment in stocks. Mr. Salahuddin Ahmed Khan, Managing Director of Dhaka Stock Exchange Limited, made a presentation entitled "How To Make Money By Buying Stocks" on March 22, 2004. Chairpersons, Faculty members and students of different departments attended the seminar.

## **BU Students' participate in Soft-Fair**

BRAC University Students participated in a three-day software fair called 5th Soft-Fair 2004 at Hotel Sheraton from March 25-27, 2004. North South University Computer Club had organised the Fair.

## **Midterm Exams, Spring 2004**

Midterm Exams of Spring 2004 were held from March 23-29, 2004. During the week, classes and other regular activities were held as per schedule.

## **Admission Committee Meeting Held**

A meeting of the Admission Committee was held on March 21, 2004, in the BU Conference Room to review the criteria for applying for undergraduate programs in BU. The Meeting was chaired by Professor Abdur Rab, Chair, Admission Committee, BU

## **BUPC wins two International Awards**

BRAC University Photography Club (BUPC) member Tareq Hadi (MGB) won the 1st prize (in Action category) and 2nd prize (in Architecture category) in the International Inter University Photo Contest held at Shilpakala Academy on March 21, 2004.

## **MBA Forum Visit BRAC Dairy project**

A group of 28 students of MBA Forum led by Mr. Ezaz Ahmed, Lecturer, MGB and the advisor of the forum visited BRAC Dairy project at Gazipur on March 20, 2004.

The objectives of the visit were:

1. To understand the overall production process
2. To have an idea about the management of the factory
3. To learn about the product lines of Aarong brands and their distribution and
4. To get to know BRAC projects.

## **AIIESEC BU Members Attend Seminar in Singapore**

For the first time the AIIESEC, BU Local Committee members including the Director of AIIESEC in Bangladesh attended the Asia Pacific Exchange Leadership Development Seminar (APXLDS) 2004 in Singapore. Among the 190 delegates from 22 countries, AIIESEC, BU participated in the two different sectors as Expro and LDS part of the APXLDS from March 19-25, 2004. The biggest attraction for this year was the first Asia Pacific (AP) Alumni Meeting. AIIESEC International President joined the APXLDS delegates for the first time. Md. Rajib, President of AIIESEC, BU and Md. Shakhawat Hossain, Vice President of OGX were among the

delegates from Bangladesh. This Conference focused on Leadership Development and Organisational Vision.

## **BRAC University Cricket Club Performance**

BRAC University won the match against South-East University by 7 wickets on March 20, 2004. BRAC University had to chase a score of 184 runs, which we achieved in 30 overs. Mohammad Razwanul Bari (CSE) was declared the 'Man Of The Match'. BU Cricket Club lost the next game at the quarterfinals to AIUB Blues on March 24, 2004.

## **AIESEC BU Chapter Election 2004-2005**

Faculty Advisor Dr. Q M Mahatab-Uz-Zaman was present in AIESEC BU Chapter Election 2004-2005. With this exciting first ever-procedural election of AIESEC in BU, a 5-member team was elected to take the leadership for the year 2004-2005. The newly elected Office Bearers are:

1. Local Committee (LC) President: Md. Rajib (MGB)
2. LCVP ICX Corp: Sayedur Rahman (MGB)
3. LCVP Admin & HR: Choyonika Rahman (ESS)
4. LCVP ICX Dev: Khondoker Fahmid Rahman (MGB)
5. LCVP OGX: Md. Shakhawat Hossain (MGB)

## **BU MBA Forum Visit Garment Factory**

BU MBA Forum organized a formal presentation session on March 18, 2004. The presentation session was on the industrial visit of the forum to Fashrobe Garments Ltd., a 100% export oriented ready-made garment factory. The Patron of the forum and chairperson of MGB Department Professor Abdur Rab and advisor of the forum Mr. Ezaz Ahmed, Lecturer, MGB Department were present in the presentation session.

## **MGB Demonstration**

The Department of MGB organized a demonstration session on Teaching By Case Method on March 17, 2004. Ms. Rumana Anam, Lecturer of the Department, demonstrated how to teach by using the cases she had prepared recently for the South East Asia Development Forum (SEDF). Ms. Sawlat H Zaman and Mr. Md. Shawkat Kamal, Lecturers of the same Department assisted her. Faculty members of MGB attended the session.

## **Workshop on Debate**

BU Debating Club (BUDC) organized a two-day workshop on March 16 and March 17, 2004. Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam, patron, BUDC, inaugurated the workshop. A F M Mahiuddin was the instructor of English Debate workshop and Avra Bhattacharya was the instructor of Bengali Debate workshop. About 60 participants attended the workshop. After finishing the workshop, participants performed a mock debate. This debate was very competitive and interesting. Ms. Faria Huq, Advisor of BUDC and Mr. Md. Abdul Wohab, Coordinator of BUDC, attended the workshop. Ibrar Ahmed (CSE) and Nahid Nawaz (BBA) Student Representatives of BUDC concluded the workshop with a vote of thanks.

## **Kite Flying**

A Kite festival was organized at BU Campus, TARC, Savar on March 17, 2004. The Cultural Club Heritage Forum and the Architecture Department jointly organised the event. The sky was dotted with a large number of kites of different colours, sizes and styles. Kite flying started in the afternoon and ended at sunset. More than 50 male and female students and some faculty members of ARC, ENH and ESS departments participated in the festival.

## **Governing Board Meeting**

The 11th Governing Board meeting of BU was held in the BU Conference Room on March 16, 2004. Mr. F H

Abed, Chairperson of BRAC and President of BU Governing Board chaired the meeting. Earlier, the Governing Body of BRAC in a meeting held on December 27, 2003, nominated the following as the members of BU Governing Board for a second three-year term:

1. Mr F H Abed  
President
2. Mr Faruq A Choudhury Member
3. Professor Anisuzzaman Member
4. Professor Wahiduddin Mahmud Member
5. Dr Hameeda Hossain Member
6. Professor Dr. Tehmina Hussain Member
7. Dr. Riaz Khan Member

The Governing Body of BRAC also nominated Professor Dilara Chowdhury of Jahangir Nagar University as a member of the BU Governing Board for a three-year term.

## **Activity Newsletter**

The first week's Activity Newsletters of BU Campus, TARC, Savar was hosted on the web on March 16, 2004. The students can view the system and vote in four categories:

1. Interesting Content
2. Least Errors
3. Clarity of Expression
4. Focus

## **Dr. Mahtab Receives Leverhulme Trust Fund (Resurgent City)**

Dr. Q M Mahtab-uz-Zaman, Assistant Professor, ARC received the Leverhulme Trust Fund to attend the "Symposium 2004: The Resurgent City" at the London School of Economics from April 19-22, 2004. The announcement was made on March 16, 2004.

## **BIT School Visit**

A team from BU visited BIT School (Bangladesh International Tutorial) on March 16, 2004 for a presentation on BRAC University. The newly developed presentation on different activities of BU with its attractive visuals was shown to the students appearing for 'A' level exam this year. Dr. Fuad H Mallick, Chair, ARC and Dr. Mumit Khan, Assistant Professor, CSE interacted with the students and answered their queries regarding credit transfer, residential semester and other related issues while Ms. Shuchi Karim, Lecturer, ENH and Ms. Faria Huq, Lecturer, ESS briefed the students about the future job prospects after graduating from their respective Departments.

## **Graduation Ceremony of CISCO**

The Graduation ceremony for CISCO Program was held in BU on March 15, 2004. The program included an address by Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU. Thirty nine successful students were awarded CCNA Certificates. Dr. Yousuf M Islam, Chair, CSE, Dr. Sayeed Salam, Associate Professor, CSE, Mr. Monzur Morshed, Program Co-ordinator, CISCO were also present in the Certificate Awarding Function.

## **MNS Study Trip**

The Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS) organized a Study Tour on March 12, 2004. Students of GEO 101 went for a field visit to Chandina, Comilla and visited BRAC projects. 88 students and 4 faculty went on the trip. The students later wrote reports and gave presentations based on this study trip.

## **ARC Seminar**

The 3rd Departmental seminar of the Department of ARC, BU was held on March 11, 2004. The topic of the seminar was: "Prospects of Bioclimatic Urban Development for Dhaka city", The key note speaker was Mr. Hafizul Hasan, Lecturere, ARC. A discussion paper was also produced during the seminar.

## **MNS Seminar**

The Department MNS organized a Seminar on "Interfacing Arrangement and Software Development for Acquisition and Analysis of Respiratory Data" on March 11, 2004. Ms. Nasreen Akter, Lecturer, MNS presented a paper on the subject.

## **Seminar on University of Prince Edward Island, Canada**

University of Prince Edward Island (UPFI), Canada organized a seminar In BU for students on the admission procedures and credit transfer arrangements on March 9, 2004. .A large number of students attended the seminar. Mr.Barcoy Mccardle, Admission Officer, UPFI, briefed the students and answered to different queries from the students.

## **Asia Link Program Meeting**

Mr. Muhammad Sahool Afzal, Registrar BU attended the Second Stakeholders Meeting of the Asia Link Program held in Brussels, Belgium on March 9-10, 2004. The EuropeAid Co-operation Office, European Commission, organized the Meeting. The purpose of the Meeting was to provide advice to the Commission on matters such as the approach and strategy that would contribute to the Program's planned objective. The Meeting also provided input on how to improve the Program and enable the Commission to enhance its knowledge with regard to the needs of the beneficiaries. Details of the Program are available at <http://europe.eu.int/comm/europeaid/projects/asia-link>

## **Residential Semester in BU Campus, TARC, Savar**

A total of 107 Students of Spring 2004 departed for their 12 week Residential Semester at BU Campus, TARC, Savar on March 5, 2004. Before departing for the Residential Semester these students spent four regular weeks at BU Main Campus, Dhaka.

## **American Center Seminar**

A group of 15 students along with two BU officials attended a seminar on "Education USA" organized by The American Center at Banani. Ms. Katherin Alam, South Asian Regional Coordinator, the American Center, Mr. Siragis Salekin, Customer Service Officer, BRAC Bank, Mr. Hassan F Chowdhury, Executive Director, American Alumni Association also briefed the students on the topic. At the end Ms. Arifin Jahan, Student Advisor American Center showed and explained the facilities that they provide from the center.

## **BU Academic Council Meeting**

The 11th Academic Council meeting of BU was held in the BU Conference Room on March 3, 2004. Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BRAC University and the Chairperson of Academic Council presided over the meeting.

## **New Faculty Joins BU**

Ms. Shayla Nahar Ahmad joined the Department of English and Humanities (ENH) as a lecturer on March 1, 2004. She completed an MA in Applied Linguistics from the University of Birmingham, UK. She had earlier completed her MA in Applied Linguistics and ELT from Dhaka University.

## **ENH Lecturer Awarded**

Mahfida Tahniat. Lecturer, ENH, has been awarded a Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship under the Fulbright Scholars Program. She will be based at the University of Texas, Austin for the academic year 2004-2005. She will be taking courses and at the same time teaching courses on Bengali language and culture.