

2004/may

## **UGC Inspection Team Visits BU**

A team from the University Grants Commission (UGC) visited BU on May 30, 2004. The team members had meetings with the BU Governing Board Members present at BU, Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU, Chairpersons and Faculty Members of BU and a group of about sixty students. They also visited some BU facilities.

## **CSE Seminar**

Department of Computer Science & Engineering (CSE) organized a seminar on "Problems & Approaches To Solutions For Worldwide Access To Scientific Knowledge" on May 30, 2004. Professor Hilda Cerdeira, of the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy, was the keynote speaker. The Seminar was attended by a large number of faculty members of BU and some specialists from outside. Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU was also present.

## **Residential Semester Closing Dinner**

The Prize Distribution Ceremony and the Concluding Dinner of the Residential Semester, Spring 2004 was held at the Markuli Hall, BU Campus, TARC, Savar on May 27, 2004. Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU distributed the prizes among the winners of different competitions and attended the dinner as the Guest of Honour. All chairpersons, Registrar, Campus Superintendent, teachers and administrative staff of BU and TARC, Savar involved with the program, and students of the Residential Semester attended the function.

## **ARC Seminar**

Department of Architecture organized a seminar on "Photonics in China" on May 26, 2004. Ms. Samia Islam, who is associated with Radiant Photonics Ltd, Hong Kong presented a paper and responded to the questions. Dr. Sayeed Salam, Associate Professor of CSE introduced the speaker and the topic.

## **Webster University Representative Visits BU**

The Director of Admission, Ms. Nicola Hewett, Webster University, Thailand visited BU on May 26, 2004. Ms. Shamsun Nahar Rahman Student Affairs Officer and Ms. Shabnam Student Counselor took her around to see the BU facilities. A presentation on BU was organized for Ms. Hewett. She also met the Registrar, BU and discussed matters of mutual interest of the two Universities.

## **Seminar on Video Conferencing**

A seminar on "VIDEO CONFERENCING: SOLUTIONS FOR BANGLADESH " was held at BRAC Centre Auditorium on May 26, 2004. American Institute of Bangladesh Studies (AIBS), City University and BU jointly organized the event. Dr. Yousuf M. Islam, Chair, CSE, BU, welcomed the guests. Mr. Arron, AIBS Team member, conducted a Power Point Presentation on Video Conferencing Solutions for Bangladesh. Dr. Sayeed Salam gave a presentation on the Video Conferencing facilities of BU. An open discussion followed the presentations. Fifty Delegates from home and abroad were present in this seminar including Mr. Syed Marghub Murshed, (Chairman, BTRC), Professor Dr. M Shamsul Haque VC, City University, Professor Dr. Sayedur Rahman (President, AIBS), Dr. Mizanur Rahman Shelley (Director, AIBS).

## **Meeting of the Library Committee**

A meeting of the Library Committee of Ayesha Abed Library, BU was held on May 26, 2004. The meeting reviewed the progress of installation of Software for Library, IEEE Digital Library Subscription Form for visiting users, Progress of procurement of books under Ford Foundation Project among other issues. Professor Abdur Rab, Chair, MGB and Chair of the Library Committee presided over the meeting.

## **ESS Chairperson Presents Research Study**

Professor A M Muazzam Husain presented a research study report on the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in the DFID/IRRI/PETRRRA Technology Workshop held at the auditorium of the Bangladesh Rice Research Institute, Gazipur, on May 23-24, 2004. Based on the findings of the study, the report suggested closer GO-NGO collaboration and use of mass media for scaling up SRI method of rice production management by farmers in Bangladesh. The method was found to help farmers in significantly increasing yield and profitability of rice production without dependence on modern costly inputs. The method would also contribute to improvement in soil fertility and sustainability of production, and is environment friendly.

## **MGB Workshop**

Department of MGB organized the second Workshop of the Case Writing and Case Teaching Skill Development Program of BU on May 19, 2004. In total, 10 faculty members and two Teaching Assistants of the MGB Department attended the Workshop. It was a two and a half hour session. Professor Abdur Rab, Chair Department of MGB facilitated the discussion.

## **VC Addresses AABEA Meeting**

Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU addressed a meeting of the American Association of Bangladeshi Engineers & Architects (AABEA) - New England Chapter on May 12, 2004. He made a presentation titled "Some Recent Developments in ICT Scenario, Environmental Issues and Education in Bangladesh". The meeting was held at MIT Students Center, Cambridge, USA and was attended by a large number of engineers, architects, planners, scientists, social scientists, students and faculty members of Bangladeshi origin. His presentation was followed by a lively question and answer session.

## **Angan Lecture**

Angan, Department of Architecture organized its 19th lecture on "Banglar Brikka" by the eminent botanist and environmentalist Dwijen Sarma on May 12, 2004. Professor Abdur Rab, chair, MGB inaugurated the lecture. Professor Fuad Mallick, teachers, and students of the Department of Architecture and guest Architects from outside attended the Program.

## **Final Exam, Spring 2004**

The classes of Spring Semester 2004 ended on May 18, 2004. The end of the semester exam started on May 22 and finished on May 29, 2004.

## **Media Personnel Visit Savar TARC**

A group of 11 media personnel visited BU Campus, TARC, Savar on May 15, 2004. Representatives from Daily Star, Prothom Alo, Ittefaq, Jugantor, Observer, NEW AGE, Manob Jamin, Janakantha, Bhorer Kagoj and NtV were in the visiting team. Dr. Y M Islam, Chair, CSE gave a brief presentation on the objectives and goals of the Residential Semester while the Campus Super described the various facilities of BU Campus, TARC, Savar to the Press delegation. After lunch the team visited the BU main campus and had a discussion session with Professor Abdur Rab, Chair, MGB and Head of the Residential Semester Planning &

Implementation Committee. NTV filmed the presentation of Dr. Y M Islam, interviewed Campus Super and students, took shots of student's rooms and other facilities. NTV aired this program on their "Din Darpan" program on the same evening. Newspapers also gave a detailed report on the trip to BU Campus, TARC, Savar on May 16, 2004.

## **EDF Organizes Tour Program**

On May 8, 2004, members of Entrepreneurship Development Forum (EDF) visited the office of the largest job advertisement site of Bangladesh called Bdjobs.com Ltd. Bdjobs.com is an IT based entrepreneurial organization. It is a leading example of entrepreneurial success for the present and the future entrepreneurs of the country. Mr. Ezaz Ahmed, the Advisor of EDF, led a nine-member team of the forum. Chief Executive Officer of Bdjobs.com, Mr. A K M Fahim Mashroor, gave a presentation about the company, its history and prospects of IT in creating new types of businesses in the country. The EDF team and Bdjobs.com exchanged views on entrepreneurship issues. Mr. Mashroor also shared his eventful experiences in making bjobs.com a success.

## **Orientation Program**

The Orientation Program for new students (summer-semester, 2004) was held in BRAC Centre Inn on May 8, 2004. The program included an address by Professor J R Choudhury, VC, presentation on "BU Environment, Culture and Facilities" by the Registrar and the introduction to the Departments of BU by the Chairpersons of the Departments. The inauguration session was followed by a get-together arranged for the new students and their parents, teachers and administrative staff of BU.

## **Workshop on Folk Music**

Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU inaugurated a workshop on Folk Music on May 6, 2004. Renowned musicologist Mustafa Zaman Abbasi conducted the workshop. Members of the Cultural Club participated in the workshop with great enthusiasm. The event was open to all and was also attended by a number of teachers and staff of BU.

## **BU Film Club**

BU Film Club started its 'Pre inaugural screening' with the film "Aguner Poroshmoni" the award winning film made by Humayun Ahmed on May 6, 2004.

## **Puppet Show**

BU Cultural Club organized a puppet show conducted by the eminent artist Mustafa Monowar and his team from 'Educational Puppet Development Centre' on May 5 2004 at BU Campus, TARC, Savar. Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU, Chairs of some Departments, teachers and staff of BU and TARC, Savar and the students attended the event.

## **New Faculty Members at BU**

Mr. Abu Bakar Siddique joined the Department of MGB as a Lecturer on May 2, 2004. Mr. Siddique completed his bachelors from Punjab University, India and his MBA from IBA, Dhaka University. Before joining BU he served as an officer in the civil service and as an executive in Lever Brothers. Ms. Farzana Choudry joined as Assistant Director, Career Service (ADCS) at BU on May 2, 2004. Ms. Choudry has been working as a Lecturer in the Department of MGB, BU since 2001. She is also currently the Chairperson of ConnectBD Ltd.

## **Inter-Dorm Competitions**

A number of sports and cultural competitions were held at BU Campus, TARC, Savar, between the different dorms of the Residential Semester between May 1 and May 30, 2004. All the competitions were keenly contested and widely participated. In the end, of the male dorms, "Chayaneer" emerged as the Champion, while in the female dorms, "Nikunjo" was the winner.