

2004/june

## **Meeting on Arsenic Problem**

BU organized a discussion meeting on Arsenic Problem and Mitigation Strategies on June 29, 2004. Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs, Director, Earth Institute, Quetelete Professor of Sustainable Development, Professor of Health policy and Management at Columbia University, USA and Special Advisor to the UN Secretary General facilitated the meeting. Professor Sachs said that the solution of the arsenic problem needed a coordinated effort between GOB, donors, and NGOs and research teams with relevant expertise. Professor Alexander Van Geen of Columbia University and Professor Feroze Ahmed of BUET made Power Point presentations on the topic. Dr.Salehuddin Ahmed, Treasurer, BU chaired the session. Mr.Abdul Mueyed Chowdhury Executive Director and Mr. Md. Aminul Alam Deputy Executive Director of BRAC, representatives from national & international organizations/NGOs and senior teachers of BU were present.

## **MGB Reception**

The MBA Freshers" reception was held on June 24, 2004 at Serai Restaurant. The Chairperson of MGB Department Professor Abdur Rab was present as the Guest of Honour in the ceremony. The objectives of the program were: to enhance the relationship and coordination among senior MBA students and new students, to create an opportunity for MBA students for a real life event organizing, to understand the gaps between planning and implementation of the plan in reality and how these gaps may be eliminated.

## **American Center Seminar**

The American Center, Dhaka organized a seminar on "Study in the USA" on June 22, 2004. A large number of students, faculty members and BU staff attended the Program.

## **Residential Semester Summer, 2004**

The eight-week long Residential Semester Summer 2004 started at BU Campus, TARC, Savar on June 20, 2004. The Semester has 118 students of whom 75 are male and 43 are female. Students attending the program have completed 60 credits or more. Along with the normal academic programs students will also participate in a series of exercises on improving English communications skills and in various extra-curricular activities.

## **Summer Semester-2004 Begins**

The Summer Semester 2004 began with all regular activities on June 20, 2004.

## **Informal Dialogue**

BU sponsored an informal dialogue on "Structural Adjustments in Bangladesh (SAP)" on June 16, 2004. Dr. Sadiq Ahmed, Director, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, World Bank South Asia Region, initiated the dialogue. Professor Muazzam Husain, Chair, Department of Economics and Social Science (ESS) BU, coordinated the session and Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU welcomed the participants. In his 25-minute presentation, Dr. Sadiq presented the context and the background of the SAP and explained its benefits to the people of the third world countries. A lively discussion followed his presentation. The dialogue was made both effective and interesting by the participation of distinguished policy makers, economists and civil society leaders, including Dr. Farashuddin, Dr. Binayak Sen, Dr. Atiur Rahman, Mr. H.T. Imam, Mr. A. Mueyed Chowdhury, Professor Saad Andaleeb, Professor R.I.Molla, Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Dr. Uttam Dev and Dr. K Q Elahi.

## **MNS Seminar**

The Department of Mathematics And Natural Science (MNS) of BU organized a seminar on "Introduction to Manifolds" on June 17, 2004. Md. Moshior Rahaman, lecturer MNS was the keynote speaker. Chair MNS, faculty members and students attended the Seminar.

## **Advising and Registration for Summer 2004**

The Advising and the registration of the students for Summer-2004 took place from June 07 till June 17, 2004.

## **ENH Workshop**

The Department of English and Humanities (ENH) held a 2-day review session and teaching workshop on June 13 and 14, 2004. It was attended by all the teachers and teaching assistants of the Department. The first day concentrated on a review of the courses being offered by the department, while the second day was specially devoted to teaching Grammar in the classroom. Ms. Ruhma Khalil Chowdhury was the main resource person for the teaching training session.

## **Orientation Program**

The Orientation Program for new students (summer semester-2004) was held in BRAC Centre Inn on June 13, 2004. The program included an address by Professor J R Choudhury, VC, a 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.

## **ARC Paper Accepted in Australia**

Research paper of Dr. Q M Mahtab-uz-Zaman and A Q M Abdullah, titled: "Rodda Construction: Indigenous and affordable housing for the poor - a case in Bangladesh", has been accepted for presentation at the 19th EAROPH World Planning and Housing Congress and Australian National Housing Conference 2004, Australia, to be held in August 2004. The acceptance letter was received on June 10, 2004.

## **CSE Seminar**

The Department of Computer Science & Engineering (CSE) organized a seminar on "ICT and National Development: A Research Agenda" on June 9, 2004. Dr. Maung K. Sein Department of Information Systems, Agder University College, Kristiansand, Norway was the keynote speaker. Dr. Sein presented a framework, which conceptualizes the ICT artifact in its many facets, perceptions and in its manifold impact on societies. Professor J R Choudhury, VC BU, CSE Chairperson CSE, faculty members and students of the Department attended the Program.

## **British Council Director Visits BU**

Ms. Martha Gibson, Assistant Director Studies, British Council, Bangladesh visited BRAC University on June 9, 2004 in response to an invitation by the Registrar BU. During her visit at BU she met the VC and Registrar and discussed some issues regarding a training program on "Professional Skills Development" for faculty members and administrative staff of BU. Ms. Shamsun Nahar Rahman, Student Affairs Officer, BU also briefed her about the student activities and scholarship program for BU students.

## **Grade Sheet of Spring Semester**

The Grade sheets of Spring Semester 2004 were distributed to the students on June 06, 2004.

## **Admission Test-2, Summer 2004**

Admission Test-2 for the Summer Semester 2004 was held at BU on June 4, 2004 and the results announced on June 07, 2004. The tests were conducted for admission to the undergraduate programs of the Departments of Architecture, Management & Business, Computer Science & Engineering, Economics, English and Law and for the MBA Program.

## **BRAC Wins Gates Award for Global Health**

BRAC was awarded the 2004 Gates Award for Global Health during a banquet in Washington DC on June 3, 2004 in recognition of its contributions to improving health in the developing world. Bill Gates Senior, co-chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, presented the \$1 million award to Mr. F H Abed, Chairperson of BRAC and President BU Governing Board, at the Global Health Council's 31 Annual International Conference. A jury of international public health leaders and the Global Health Council's Board of Directors selected BRAC for the award from among 50 nominated organizations.

## **Gates Award for Global Health**

"Health, like social equality and freedom from poverty, is a basic human right, and is at the core of our vision for a just and enlightened Bangladesh," said Abed. "My colleagues and I are honoured to receive this recognition, and we are pleased to announce that the award money will be used to support the new James P Grant School of Public Health at BRAC University."

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## **Meeting of the Admission Committee Held**

A meeting of the Admission Committee was held on June 3, 2004 in the Conference Room of BU. Professor Abdur Rab, Chair MGB and President of the Admission Committee chaired the Meeting.

## **Workshop on Entrepreneurship Development**

Entrepreneurship Development Forum (EDF) has initiated a five-module workshop on Entrepreneurship Development for the students of BU. Certificates were awarded to the participants after the completion of five modules program. The first module of the series was conducted on June 1 and 2, 2004 for two groups of students. The main theme of the first module was "How to become an Entrepreneur". Professor Abdur Rab, Chair, MGB and Dr. Nazrul Islam, Advisor, EDF conducted the workshop. A total of 25 participants from different departments of BU participated in the event. The first module focused on the meaning of entrepreneur and entrepreneurship, characteristics of a successful entrepreneur and risk factors to become an entrepreneur. The workshop included lectures, discussions, brainstorming sessions, games and exercises. Mr. Ezaz Ahmed, Advisor of EDF assisted in organizing the workshop.