

2003/december

## **Seminar on VOIP and its Applications**

Dr. Muhammad A. Kalam from the Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Texas at Dallas, USA offered a seminar at BRAC University on "VoIP and Its Applications" on December 24, 2003. Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU, Dr. Yousuf M Islam, Chairperson, Department of Computer Science & Engineering (CSE) and faculty members of CSE attended the seminar.

## **Campus Superintendent's Dinner**

The Campus Superintendent's formal dinner was held in Markuli Hall, BU Campus, TARC, Savar on December 23, 2003. Ms. Christine I Wallich, Country Director, World Bank attended the dinner as the Guest of Honor and Mr. Waliur Rahman Bhuiyan, MD, BOC Bangladesh Limited and Member BU Academic Council attended the dinner as the Special Guest. Professor J R Choudhury VC, Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Treasurer, Chairpersons, Registrar, concerned faculty members and administrative staffs of BU and TARC, Savar were also present.

## **AC Meeting**

The 10th Meeting of BU Academic Council (AC) was held at the BU Conference Room on December 22, 2003. The meeting was chaired by Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU. The Meeting reviewed the progress of implementation of the decisions of the 9th Meeting of the AC and took decisions on academic matters for implementation in 2004.

## **Workshop on CMM and SDP**

The Department of CSE, BU had arranged a workshop on Capability Maturity Model (CMM) and Software Development Process (SDP) on December 22-23, 2003 for the IT professionals of Bangladesh. Faculty members of BU and some IT Professionals attended the two-day workshop.

## **Foundation Semester Students visit BRAC projects**

The students of Foundation Semester, organized in three teams, visited BRAC Projects in Manikganj and Gazipur on December 6, 20 and 27, 2003. A Trainer from the Training Division, BRAC together with a few faculty members of BU accompanied each group.

## **MGB Faculty Members attend Seminar**

Three faculty members of the MGB Department Mr. Mahmudul Huq, Mr. Saif Ahmed and Ms. Tahmina Khanam participated in a seminar on "Creating Knowledge Zones and Learning Communities: Research Adda" organized by East West University, Dhaka on December 18, 2003.

## **Seminar on 'Study in USA'**

BU Forum for Social Development with the assistance of the American Center, Dhaka organized a seminar titled "Study and financial aid system" in the United States at BU on December 18, 2003. Ms. Michelle Jones and Ms. Arefin Jahan, Student Advising Center, American Center, US Embassy, Dhaka conducted the presentation and the question and Answer session. A large number of students and faculty members enthusiastically attended the seminar and participated in the Question and Answer session.

## **Video Conferencing with Virginia Tech**

A Video Conference between Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU and Professor Saifur Rahman of Virginia Tech, USA took place from the BU Video Conference Center at Aarong House on December 18, 2003 from 7:50 p.m. to 8:50 p.m. Dhaka time. Dr. Yousuf M Islam, Chairperson, CSE, BU, Dr. Sayeed Salam, Department of CSE, BU and Registrar BU were present in the meeting.

## **Conversation with Kazi Khaled Ashraf, University of Hawaii**

Angan, forum for co-curricular activities of Department of Architecture arranged a conversation with Kazi Khaled Ashraf, from the University of Hawaii on December 18, 2003. Mr. Ashraf talked about the new trends in architecture. Professor Fuad H Mallick, Chair, Department of Architecture, faculty members and students of architecture from BU as well as other architecture schools of Dhaka attended the event.

## **Seminar on Enterprise Computing**

The CSE department had arranged a seminar at BU on Enterprise Computing on December 17, 2003. Mr. Nazmul Haque from the School of Computer Science and Information Technology, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia was the Speaker. Mr. Haque discussed the tools, technologies and processes used at various development and deployment phases. He also talked about middleware architecture and its importance in Bangladesh.

## **Victory Day Celebration**

The students of Foundation Semester at BU Campus, TARC, Savar, celebrated victory day on December 16, 2003. The National flag was hoisted at sunrise. A group of students accompanied by the Provost and the Campus Super placed a wreath at the National Mausoleum at Savar. A friendly Cricket match and a film show named "Aguner Parashmoni" were also organized. The highlight of the day was the Cultural Show in the evening. The students sang patriotic songs. This was followed by a musical soiree led by popular singer Mr. Sadi Muhammed. Dr. Zainab F Ali, Associate Professor of the Department of Architecture and the Adviser to the BU Cultural Club, supervised the cultural function. BU Heritage Forum and BU Cultural Club organized the Program jointly.

## **VC attends SAFLI Meeting**

Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU was invited to the Meeting of the Steering Committee and Academic Council of South Asian Foundation Learning Initiative (SAFLI) held in New Delhi from December 13-15, 2003.

## **President attends Launch of UNICEF Report**

Mr. F H Abed, Chairperson BRAC and President BU Governing Board was the Special Guest at the national launch of UNICEF's "The State of the World's Children 2004" report held at the National Press Club on December 11, 2003. The report is UNICEF's flagship annual publication that analyzes the situation of children throughout the world and recommends a future course of action for improving their situation. The 2004 report highlights female education as one of the most critical issues facing the developing world, and urges renewed efforts in ensuring that all children have access to quality education.

## **Annual Meeting 2003 of BU, GB**

The Annual Meeting, 2003 of the BU Governing Board was held at the BU Conference Room on December 10, 2003. Mr. F H Abed, President Governing Board, chaired the Meeting. The Meeting reviewed and approved the decisions of the 9th Academic Council Meeting, Audit Report FY 2002 and Annual Report 2002. The meeting also approved the Budget for FY 2004 and the Academic Board for the James P Grant School of Public Health, BU.

## **ARCASIA 2003 Delegates Visits the Department of Architecture**

Four delegates from Hong Kong and Tokyo to the ARCASIA 2003 Forum in Dhaka visited Department of Architecture, BU to talk to the students and faculty on December 10, 2003. The delegates were: Professor Patrick Lau, Head, Department of Architecture, The University of Hong Kong; Mr. Joseph Kwan, Vice-President, Hong Kong Institute of Architects; Mr. Tony Tang, Chairman, Board of External Affairs, Hong Kong Institute of Architects; and Professor Nobuyuki Furuya, Department of Architecture, Waseda University, Tokyo. Professor Nobuyuki Furuya is interested in visiting Dhaka again to coordinate a one-week design studio at the Department of Architecture, BU. Professor Patrick Lau has been developing the first architectural school in Macau. He expressed his keen interest in establishing a regular exchange of students and faculty between BU and Macau University.

## **Campus Superintendent's Dinner**

A Campus Superintendent's Dinner for the Foundation Semester at BU Campus, TARC, Savar was held on December 10, 2003. Mr. Faruque Ahmed Choudhury, Advisor, BRAC and a member of the BU Governing Board attended the event as the Guest of Honor. Professor John Nirenberg, Dean School for International Trainind, Vermont, USA attended the event as the Special Guest. Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Treasurer, Chairpersons, Registrar, Campus Superintendent, teachers and administrative staff of BU and TARC, Savar involved with the Program, attended the dinner.

## **Seminar by ESS**

The Department of Economics and Social Sciences (ESS) arranged a seminar in BU on the 'Political Economy of Indo-Bangladesh Transit Facilities' on December 9, 2003. Professor Rezai Karim Khondker, Dean of the School of Social Sciences, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) read out his paper and participated in a question and answer session.

## **Lecture by Architect Sumit Jumsai, Thailand**

Internationally renowned architect and artist Sumit Jumsai from Thailand gave a presentation on his works at BU on December 9, 2003. Chairperson, Architecture, faculty members and students of architecture department attended the lecture. The Program was organized by Angan, Department of Architecture, BU.

## **Plantation at BU Campus, TARC, Savar**

A tree plantation program under the auspices of National Heritage Forum, BU together with the assistance of BU Campus, TARC, Savar Management was carried out successfully amidst a lot of excitement on December 7, 2003. Each student of the Foundation Semester planted a flower sapling with great enthusiasm. The event started with a song by Mr. Salimullah, former Campus Superintendent, who invited all the students by singing the famous brotochaari song 'Cholo re bhai ropon kori gaachpala' a famous tree-planting song of the forties.

## **Academic Board Meeting of School of Public Health**

Mr. F H Abed, Chairperson, BRAC and President Governing Board, BU and Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU attended the first meeting of the Academic Board of James P Grant School of Public Health, BU on December 2, 2003. The meeting took place at Columbia University, New York. The meeting was chaired by Professor Allan Rosenfield, Dean, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University and was also attended by Dr. Richard Cash, Harvard School of Public Health, USA, Dr. Anwar Islam, School of Public Health, Carleton University, Canada and Dr. David Sack, Director ICDDR, Bangladesh, Dr. Jon Rohde, Dr. Bert Hirschorn, Mr. Cole P Dodge, Former Country Director UNICEF Bangladesh, Mr. Ian Lapp, Columbia University, USA, Dr. Sadia Chowdhury, World Bank and Dr. M R Chowdhury, Visiting Professor at Columbia University.

## **Screening of Ganashatru**

Angan's Satyajit Ray Movie series continued in December with the screening of 'Ganashatru' directed by Satyajit Ray at Markuli Hall, BU Campus, TARC, Savar on December 3, 2003.

## **New Faculty Member joins BRAC University**

Ms. Ameena Chowdhury has joined the Management & Business (MGB) Department, BU on December 1, 2003 as a Lecturer. She has completed her MBA in MIS from Ball State University, Indiana, USA. She was working in the Trade and Finance section at HSBC, Dhaka for three years prior to pursuing her Masters degree.