

2003/march

Mid Term Exam

The mid-term tests of Spring Semester 2003 started from March 30, 2003 and will finish on April 5, 2003. During the week, classes and other regular activities will continue as per schedule.

Faculty Seminar

Mr. Abdullah Hasan, Management & IT Consulting Executive, Ernst & Young and Deloitte Consulting Division of Deloitte & Touche, conducted a Seminar on " A Strategy for Advancing Bangladesh using ICT " 2003 in the Conference Room of BRAC University (BU) at 10:00 AM on March 27, 2003. The Seminar was attended by a large number of teachers from the Department of Computer Science and the Department of Management & Business.

Heritage Forum Activities

Heritage Forum organized a visit to Savar Jatiya Smriti Shoudha (The National Martyrs Memorial at Savar) on March 26, 2003. BU faculty members, staff, and students walked to the Smriti Shoudha and placed a floral wreath.

BUET- Alberta Project Team Visit BU

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) - Alberta Team visited BU and interviewed some teachers and students in connection with the filming of a documentary film on "Bangladeshi Women in Engineering" on March 30, 2003. The team was led by Dr. Dil Afroze, Professor Chemical Engineering, BUET.

Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed Rreceives UGC Award

Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed, Chairperson, Department of Mathematics and Natural Science of BU, has received an award from University Grants Commission (UGC), Bangladesh, for his scientific research published in the Physical Review E (USA), 55 (5), 5894 (1997). An announcement to this effect was made on March 25, 2003. The title of the published paper is "Linear Modes in the Rotating Neutron Star Polar Cap Electron-positron Plasma" related to plasma astrophysics around pulsars- says a letter from UGC. Pulsars are the rotating neutron stars with super strong magnetic field. Jocellyn Bell and Antony Hewish in 1967 observed some repeated regular signals from space, which later on was confirmed as radiations coming from pulsars. Both the Scientists were awarded the Noble Prize for their discovery in 1969.

Collaborative Research

Dr. Avas Khugaev, a nuclear astrophysicist from Institute of Nuclear Physics, Tashkent, Uzbekistan, is currently visiting Department of Mathematics & Natural Science. Dr. Khugaev arrived on March 25, 2003. A collaborative research in nuclear and plasma astrophysics is being conducted in the department.

Professor Azim Attend Seminar on English Literature

Professor Firdous Azim, Chairperson, Department of English and Humanities attended a seminar on "ASIAN HEGEMONY" related to literature written in English in Asia held in Kualalampur, Malaysia from March 28 to March 29, 2003. She was invited as an expert in the subject from South Asia.

Physics Laboratory Set Up

A new Physics Lab was set up in the Department of Mathematics & Natural Sciences. Students started attending classes in the new lab from March 16, 2003.

Study Tour

A group of forty-one students were taken for a study tour to Aricha as part of their course work on March 14, 2003. The students were instructed to acquire practical knowledge about the agricultural land use system that operates in the study area and to write a term paper on agricultural production functions with particular emphasis on Rice Production. Students were also instructed to collect primary data through questionnaire survey, which enabled students to gather primary data and gain knowledge about the input - output characteristics of rice production. During the study tour, in addition to understanding the input - output characteristics of rice production function, the students also had a close look at the role of micro credit in farm production and BRAC micro credit program. Professor Ziaush Shams Haq, the course teacher, Mr. Kazi Md. Fazlul Haq, Teaching Assistant, Mr. Md. Abdul Wohab, Teaching Assistant and Mr. Mostak Ahmed, Department Coordination Officer accompanied the students.

BU Cricket Club Reaches Semis of Inter Private University Competition

BU Cricket Team reached the semifinals of the second Inter Private University Cricket Cup Competition-2003 where eventual champions American International University Bangladesh (AIUB) beat them on March 25, 2003. The Cricket team performed superbly and had won 3 matches on the trot to reach the semifinals. The BU team now will be eligible to play in the National Inter-University Championships with the other government universities from next year. The BU team took part in the tournament under the supervision of the BU Cricket Club. The club patron is Dr. Fuad H Mallick, Chairperson, Department of Architecture and coordinator is Mr. Junaed Sattar, Lecturer, Department of Computer Science & Engineering. Mr. Mahfuzul Haque, Student Counsellor was the Manager of the team.

Treasurer Visit ADB

Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Treasurer BU visited Asian Development Bank (ADB) Head Office in Manila and gave a presentation on BRAC, BRAC University (BU) and the Masters in Development Studies (MDS) Program of BU on March 14, 2003. The presentation was followed by a discussion attended by Dr. Edward Hough, Director, Social Service Division, ADB, Dr. Juoko Sarvi, Education Specialist, Dr. Vincent de Wit, Senior Health Specialist, Dr. Sultan Hafiz Rahman, Director Operation Coordination and about 15 Specialists of ADB. Dr. Salehuddin then went to Kyoto, Japan and attended the 3rd World Water Forum meetings and deliberations from March 16-21, 2003.

Presentations by Interns

Ms. Tanya Palit and Ms. Jillian Ingold, two interns from Michigan State University (MSU), USA conducted a presentation/discussion session on their internship experience at BRAC/ BRAC University on March 27, 2003. Teachers of the Department of Economics & Social Sciences attended the session.

BU Team Visit European Standard School

A presentation was organized for the A level students of European Standard School (ESS) located at Dhanmondi on March 12, 2003. BU team headed by Dr. Yusuf M Islam Chairperson, Department of Computer Science & Engineering (CSE) started the session by introducing other members of the team to the students. A large number of A level students were present during the presentation. Ms. Husna Mehnaz

Siddiqi, lecturer of CSE Department presented an overview of BU while Ms. Farzana Choudry, lecturer, Department of Management & Business (MGB) and Mr. Mohammad Mahboob Rahman, lecturer MGB were also present and participated in the discussion. Professor Nurul Islam, Principal of the School briefly narrated the background of BRAC and BU. It may be mentioned here, that according to the British Council sources, apart from Scholastica School the highest number of students from ESS take the A level exams every year. The presentation was followed by a lively question and answer session.

BU Team Visit BIT School

A BRAC University (BU) team visited Bangladesh International Tutorial (BIT) School on March 13, 2003. Ms. Lubna Chowdhury, Principal of the School introduced BU team to the teachers, administrative staff and A level students while Dr. Yusuf M Islam, Chairperson, Department of Computer Science & Engineering (CSE) introduced his team members to the audience. The other members of BU team were Ms. Husna Menhaz Siddiqi, lecturer CSE, Ms Farzana Choudhry, Lecturer, Management & Business, Ms. Riffat lecturer, Economics & Social Sciences, Ms. Ruhma Khalil Choudhury and Ms. Mafruha Mohua, lecturers English & Humanities, Ms. Shamsun Nahar Rahman, Student Affairs Officer and Mr. Sarothi Bardhan, Assistant System Administrator of BU. Ms. Husna delivered the power point presentation while other lecturers participated in the question and answer session. Ms. Farzana, a former student and a former teacher of the school thanked the participants for attending the seminar.

AC Meeting Held

The 7th Meeting of the Academic Council (AC) of BU was held at BU Conference Room on March 13, 2003. Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU and Chairperson of the AC presided over the meeting.

BRAC Internship Program

BRAC Internship Program under the Training Division received 58 students from the USA, the UK, Canada, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Japan, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, India and Bangladesh during the year 2002. Sixteen of them did their internship with the BRAC Development Program (BDP), while the others did internship with the BRAC Research & Evaluation Division (RED) and BRAC Health Program (BHP).

Academic Recognition

Dr. Q M Mahtab-uz-Zaman, Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture, BU has been appointed as an External Examiner for Masters of Architecture in the Department of Architecture, University of Auckland, New Zealand for the year 2003. This was notified on March 11, 2003.

Teacher Awarded

The Institute of Architects, Bangladesh Design Award 2002 for Residential Project has been awarded to "The Cube - Architect's own residence" designed jointly by Architect B K S Inan, Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture, BU and Architect Sayeda Sultana. The award was announced on March 6, 2003.

Launching of CAE Software

BRAC University Computer Club (BUCC) organized the launching ceremony of Computer Aided Education (CAE) Software "Virtual Biggan O Gonit Shikhon"- software developed by BUCC in association with Temporal Education Online Limited and Datasoft Systems Limited for the secondary level students at BRAC Centre Inn on March 8, 2003. Dr. M Osman Farruk, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Education, Peoples Republic of Bangladesh attended the function as the Chief Guest. Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU and a large number

of invited guests, IT professionals, teachers and students of BU attended the event.

Presentation on Case Study Method of Teaching

Case method of teaching is considered very effective for teaching courses involving problem solving and decision making. BU attaches great importance on case method of teaching. Ms. Nathalie Laidler, Research Associate, Harvard Business School is currently writing a case on BRAC. She was invited to conduct a presentation/discussion session on "What is a Case and How to Write Cases' in BU on March 5, 2003. BU faculty members from Departments of Management & Business, Economics & Social Sciences and Computer Science & Engineering attended the presentation and participated in the discussion.