

2001/december

President GB Awarded OLOF PALME Prize

Chairperson of BRAC and President of the Governing Board of BRAC University Mr. F H Abed has been awarded the Olof Palme Prize for "Fighting for Women's Rights and Poverty Alleviation". A message from Stockholm on December 27, 2001, said "Mr. Abed founded BRAC in 1972 which has played an important role in the transition of Bangladesh from a war-torn society to an outward looking society in which the role of women and girls was improved. BRAC provides basic education to poor children especially girls through 34,000 schools". Named after the late Swedish Prime Minister, Olof Palme Foundation rewards a person or an organization every year since 1989. The prize ceremony will be held in Stockholm on January 30, 2002. Previous laureates include Czech President Vaclav Havel (1989), French anti-racist group SOS Racism (1990), Amnesty International (1991), US anti-death penalty activist Bryan Stevenson (2000) and the list goes on. Paying tribute to his nation's rural poor women after winning the prestigious award Mr. Abed told AFP "I am very happy that our work for women's development and emancipation has been recognized by the Olof Palme foundation. I give full credit to the rural poor women of our country, because it is their enthusiasm and active participation that makes our work so satisfying".

Orientation Program

The Orientation program for new students (Spring Semester, 2002) took place as a three-day program from the January 6th to 8th. The inauguration session commenced in the BRAC Center Inn Auditorium at 9 AM on Sunday. The VC addressed the audience; he introduced students and guardians to BRAC University. This was followed by a speech by the Registrar and respective Heads of Departments.

Admission Test for B ARCH

The admission test for Bachelors in Architecture will be held on the scheduled date (February 1, 2002) but the timing has been changed from 10 AM to 3 PM. Eligible Applicants should take note of this and arrive on time.

Registration

The new students at BRAC University have completed registration on the January 03, 2002. In total, 175 new students were enrolled at BU for the Spring Semester 2002.

Undergraduate Program in Architecture Approved

BRAC University proposal for conducting an Undergraduate Program in Architecture leading to the degree of Bachelor of Architecture has received the approval of the University Grants Commission (UGC). BU plans to start the program from Spring Semester, 2002. The last date for application is January 30, 2002. Admission test will be held on February 01, 2002.

BRAC University Bulletin, Calender Year-2001

Academic Council Meeting

The 2nd Academic Council Meeting with the Vice Chancellor in the chair was held at the University Conference room from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM on December 24, 2001. The meeting approved the Academic Calendar 2002-2003. The meeting also approved the course contents of B Arch, BSc in computer Science & Engineering and MSc in Computer Science Programs.

Classes Resume

After Eid and winter recess all scheduled classes and regular activities at BU resumed from December 23, 2001.

Mr. Gowher Rizvi Visits BU

Mr. Gowher Rizvi, Representative of Ford Foundation visited BU on December 14, 2001. During his visit he had meetings with Prof. J R Choudhury, VC, BU and Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Treasurer, BU. He met Mr. Fazle Hasan Abed, President of Governing Board, BU on December 13, 2001.

BU Governing Board President Visits Universities in Japan

Mr. F. H. Abed, President Governing Board of BU visited Japan from December 04 to December 06 on a lecture tour at the invitation of Waseda University and Tokyo University. The ics of his two lectures at Waseda University School of Asia and Pacific Studies were "Participatory Development-Its Concepts, Forms and Management Issues" and "Role of Micro-finance in Poverty Reduction". At the Department of Political Science of the university he spoke on "Thirty Years of BRAC in Development". The subject of his talk at the School of Public Health of Tokyo University was "Breaking the Cycle of Poverty". The faculty, students, government functionaries and NGO leaders attended the lecture sessions.

BRAC University Student's Feat

BRAC University student Ms. Farah Sharmin stood first in English recitation competition of private universities organized by Bangladesh Television. The program was telecast on Tuesday, December 04, 2001 evening.

Field Visit of the Students of Sociology Course

Students of sociology course in BRAC University conducted their fieldwork between December 03 to December 07, 2001. The students were divided into four groups. The students collected information on the following issues: Socialization and Women's Subordinate Status, Drug Addiction & Deviant Behaviors, Urbanization & Changing Family Relationships, and Women Exploitation in Garments Industry.

Workshop on Online Teaching

BU is organizing a workshop focusing on online teaching. Dr. Abdul Shibli, Instructional Technologies Specialist, Harvard University, Massachusetts will conduct the workshop. Faculty members and the staff of BU will participate in the workshop. Two vacancies each have also been offered to other Private Universities of Bangladesh. The tentative starting date for this workshop is 23 December 2001 and the program will end on 29 December 2001. The participants will be required to complete a project to receive a "completion of training" certificate.

Pre-workshop on Presentation Techniques

Dr. Yousuf Mahbubul Islam, Chairperson, Computer Science will conduct a workshop, which will be prior to Dr. Shibli's workshop due on 23 December 2001. The session will cover the ics like presentation techniques and Power Point based presentations. Teachers of the Computer Science Department will organize the training sessions, which will start from the 09 December 2001. Ms. Rafa Absar will give lectures on PowerPoint presentation and Mr. Junaed Sattar will cover HTML techniques.