

March 22, 2014

BRACU among top 8 in Hult Prize Competition

Habib Ghazi



BRAC University team at 5th Hult Prize Competition in Shanghai.

BRAC University is one of only two universities from Bangladesh that participated in the 5th annual Hult Prize this March in Shanghai, China. The Hult Prize is the world's largest student competition for which over 10,000 applicants from universities and colleges from all over the world submit and only around 300 teams from among them get selected to compete in 6 global regions with their social business pitch. It is organised by the Hult International Business School in partnership with President Bill Clinton's foundation the Clinton Global Initiative.

This year, the team had to meet the President's challenge: tackling chronic non-communicable diseases in the slums of the world. The event ran from March 7 to 9 during which the participants had to attend an orientation programme and seminars and the event culminated in a daylong presentation session where the teams had to pitch their social business ideas to a panel of judges looking for one that would meet the President's challenge head on. The BRAC University team was among the top 8 of all 30 teams that presented their ideas and a team from Canada's York University got the chance to make it to the final round that will take place in New York in September.

The team comprised of five students from the BRAC Business School: Habib Ghazi, Mukit Anis, Maisha Mofiz Esha, Mohammad Asif Chowdhury and Mohsin Uddin Taksin. The team's participation was not limited to only pitching the idea for a social enterprise but also enriching themselves through sessions with specialists in healthcare, business and academia as well as exchanging ideas with students and professionals from diverse backgrounds. Being one of the very few undergraduate teams among mostly postgraduate and doctorate students gave the team great uplift in their motivation to prove their worth as they knew that they had the privilege of competing alongside some of the very best minds in the world.

That in itself and the experience of superb Shanghai is one of the best memories that will live with the BRAC University participants taking them forward in life and towards bigger things to come.

Habib Ghazi is a student of BRAC University and a member in the university's HULT team BRACU HULT team.