

2005/august

Coordination and planning for RS

A day-long Workshop for teachers and managers involved in Residential Semester (RS), BU Campus Savar, to make the coming RS as effective as possible, was held on August 30, 2005. In the workshop the participants discussed about the experience they have had and fine-tune the next RS. Dr. Yousuf M Islam, Director, Research and Advisory Services, BU facilitated the Workshop.

Citibank, N.A. Scholarship

Ms. Shakera Siddiky and Tanveer R Mustafiz, MDS students of BU were awarded scholarship by Citibank N.A. Bangladesh on August 29, 2005. The scholarships have been offered to ten meritorious students of several educational institutions. These are Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology, University of Dhaka, Institute of Business Administration, BRAC University, Institute of Cost & Management Accountants of Bangladesh, and Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh. The scholarship letters were distributed by Judith Chammas, Charge d' Affairs of the United States Embassy, during the 10th year celebration of the Citibank in Bangladesh recently.

Orientation Program

The Orientation Program for new students (Fall-Semester, 2005) was held in BRAC Centre Inn on August 29, 2005. The inauguration session was followed by a get together arranged for the new students and their parents, teachers and management staff of BU.

Advising and Registration for Fall 2005

The Advising and the Registration of the students for Fall-2005 took place on August 28-September 01, 2005.

Table Tennis Coaching at BU

Indoor Games Club of BU had arranged a short-term Table Tennis Coaching workshop for students on August 25, 2005. It was formally launched by Dr. Shahdeen Malik, Director, School of Law in the BU indoor games complex. Patron, Advisor, coordinator and the enthusiastic participants were present on the occasion. National Coach, Mr. Naimul Haque Munna of the Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation was entrusted with the responsibility of conducting the coaching sessions. A T-Shirt with the BU Indoor Games emblem on it was presented to the coach and other participants. It may be mentioned that the Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation has provided International Standard Tools (Table, bats, balls & net) for the BU Indoor Games Club to facilitate the coaching sessions.

Orientation Workshop for New Teachers

An "Orientation Workshop for New Teachers" was held on August 24-25, 2005. Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed Pro-VC, BU, was the main facilitator while Dr. Yousuf M Islam coordinated the workshop. The other facilitators were Professor Abdur Rab, Professor Naiyyum Choudhury, Professor Fuad H Mallick, Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam, Dr Sayeed Salam, Ms. Suchi Karim and Mr. Tanzir A Chowdhury. Twenty one new teachers and also some who are fairly new in BU attended the workshop.

Admission Test-2, Fall 2005

Admission Test-2 for the Fall Semester 2005, for Graduate and Undergraduate program was held on August 19, 2005. Written test results were announced on August 21, 2005. Interviews of the selected candidates were conducted on August 22 and 23, 2005. The names of candidates finally selected for the Graduate & Undergraduate programs were announced on August 24 and 25, 2005.

MGM-ESS Joint Workshop

The Department of Management and Business (MGB) in collaboration with the Department of Economics and Social Science (ESS) organised a two-day workshop on research methodology for its faculty on August 21 and 25, 2005. Professor Abdur Rab, Chair, MGB inaugurated the workshop. Dr. Anwarul Hoque, Chair, ESS, Mr. Mahmudul Haq of the Department of MGB, and Mr. Tanzir A. Chowdhury of the Department of ESS conducted the lecture sessions touching on different aspects of carrying out research.

National Business Case Competition 2005

The Department of Management and Business organized the First Annual National Business Case Completion 2005. The competition was held on August 19-20, 2005 at BU Campus, Savar. Eight Universities including BU participated in the competition. Institute of Business Administration emerged, as the champion team while North South University became Runner up.

Grade Sheet of Summer Semester

The Grade sheets of Summer Semester 2005 were published at website on August 17, 2005.

CSE Seminar

The Department of CSE, BU, organised a seminar on "Computerized Land Management System" on August 17, 2005. Mr. Tahaboob Alam, Assistant Commissioner (Land) was the key speaker. Professor J R Choudhury VC BU chaired the session. Mr. Abdul Mueyed Chowdhury, Executive Director, BRAC, Dr Sayeed Salam, Chair, CSE, faculty members and a large number of students were present.

International Conference

Dr. Zainab F Ali attended the international conference on 'ISES 2005 Solar World Congress' organized by the International Solar Energy Society [ISES] held in Orlando, Florida, USA, August 6-12, 2005. Dr. Ali presented a paper on passive architecture titled 'Kahn in the Tropics'. This international conference featured American Solar Energy Society's [ASES] 34th Annual National Solar Conference, 30th National Passive Solar Conference, and American Society of Mechanical Engineer's [ASME] International Solar Energy Conference. The conference with 250 sessions and workshops had speakers from more than 700 countries from around the world.

Workshop for Faculty Development

A one-day workshop on "Planning and Teaching Tips for University Teachers" was organised on August 11, 2005. Dr Ahmed Mustafa, visiting faculty (An Associate Professor at Purdue University, USA), was the facilitator. His deliberations included how a course is planned, organised and delivered. At the same time, he shared reasons behind evaluating his own teaching. Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed Pro VC BU was present in the morning session.

VC in TeleTalk Lottery

Professor J R Choudhury, VC BU was present as chief guest in 3rd SIM distribution lottery programme of the government-owned mobile company TeleTalk on August 08, 2005 at Hotel Sarina, Banani. Mr. M Obaidullah, Managing Director, TeleTalk and other officials, representatives from mobile companies were present.

VC in CPD Dialogue

Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) organised an 'Indo-Bangladesh Dialogue on Trade, Investment and Connectivity' on August 06-07, 2005. Professor J R Choudhury, VC BU participated as an expert in a session entitled 'Cooperation on Telecommunications'. Mr. Shyamal Ghosh, Former Secretary, Telecommunications, Government of India was the key speaker of the session.

Workshop on Governance and Development Studies

BRAC University organized a presentation on 'International Planning Workshop on Governance and Development Studies' at BRAC Centre on August 07, 2005. Dr. Kamal Siddiqui, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister was present as Chief Guest. Professor J R Choudhury, VC BU chaired the workshop while Mr. Fazle Hasan Abed, President, BU Governing Board made the welcome address and deliberated on the vision of the Centre of Governance Studies, BU. Dr. Akbar Ali Khan, Director, Centre of Governance Studies also spoke in the workshop. The team presentation was conducted by Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Pro-VC, BU, Caroline Brassard, NUS, Singapore, Anuradha Joshi, IDS, Sussex, Tan Tay Keong, ED, Singapore International Foundation, Bruce Missingham, Monash University, Australia, and Elthem Kabir, MD Resource Application, Dhaka on the Goals, Mission and the Program outline of the MA in Governance and Development Program.

August Update for School of Public Health

The second semester began on August 07, 2005. The second semester classes of the MPH program are based in Dhaka at the Centre for Health and Population Research (commonly known as ICDDR, B). ICDDR, B has state of the art laboratories and library. It also provides internet access, classrooms, office space for faculty, and cafeteria for MPH students and teaching faculty. Students have successfully completed the 'Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases,' (August 7-18, 2005) taught by Dr. Richard Cash (Harvard University) and a team of teachers from ICDDR' B. The 'Environment and Health' course was jointly taught by Dr. Bilqis Hoque (Environment & Population Research Centre, Dhaka) and Dr. Joseph Graziano, Columbia University.

Final Exam, Summer 2005

The classes of Summer Semester 2005 ended on August 01, 2005. The Final Exams of the Summer Semester started on August 07 and finished on August 10, 2005.

Faculty Interviewed

Landscape Architect Khondaker Hasibul Kabir, Lecturer, Department of ARC, discussed the issue of 'Dhaka Beautification Project' and the outcome of the discussion titled "Our butterflies, birds and insects aren't familiar with these plants" in an article that was published, based on his interview, in Probe News Magazine on August 04, 2005.

Director for Governance Studies at BU

Dr. Akbar Ali Khan joined BU as Director of Center for Governance Studies on August 04, 2005. Dr. Khan stood first class first in both BA (Hons.) and Masters in History from Dhaka University. Dr. Khan studied Law

and Public Administration in the Civil Service Academy, Lahore, Pakistan. He also did his second Masters and Ph.D. in Economics from Queen's University, Canada. Dr. Khan has served as Secretary to different Ministries of Bangladesh Government during his long career in the Civil Service. He was the Secretary Ministry of Finance and Secretary Internal Resources Division for more than eight years. He also held the post of Cabinet Secretary. Dr. Khan has twelve years of teaching experience as Assistant and Associate Professor in Jahangirnagar University and EPUET. He was a member of the Directing Staff in BPATC. Prior to joining BU Dr. Khan represented Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Sri Lanka in the World Bank as Alternate Executive Director. Dr. Khan has published seven monographs including 'Discovery of Bangladesh, Some Aspects of Peasant Behaviour in Bengal' and 'Parthapartar Arthaniti' and more than fifteen peer-reviewed articles in national and international journals. Dr. Khan is the first recipient of Justice M Ibrahim Gold Medal awarded by the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh for best publication in Humanities. Dr. Khan is located in UB 502. His telephone number is 4009 and email address is: aakhan@bracuuniversity.ac.bd

Strategic Development Planning for BU-IED

The Strategic Development Plan for the period 2006 to 2010 for the Institute of Educational Development, BRAC University (BU-IED) was made public on August 3, 2005. It has been an intense and participatory process involving the staff of BU-IED, the BU-IED Working group (consisting of BRAC University, BRAC and BU-IED representatives), and distinguished educationists who have been associated with BU-IED activities since the inception phase. A Strategic Planning Team consisting of Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Director of BU-IED, and two resource persons, Dr. Robert Smith (Director, LINS, Oslo College, Norway) and Dr. Sadruddin Pardhan (Program Director, Aga Khan University Institute of Educational Development, Karachi) facilitated the strategic planning exercise in its culmination phase from July 16 to 31, 2005. The Strategic Development Plan will guide BU-IED in charting its course in the medium term and help generate partnerships and support essential for furthering the mission of BU-IED in-country and abroad.

Concluding Dinner RS

The concluding Dinner of the Residential Semester (Summer) was held at BU Campus, Savar on August 1, 2005. Professor J R Choudhury VC BU attended the Dinner as the Guest of Honour and distributed the prizes of the different competitions among the winners. The Chairs of different departments, CS, teachers and management staff of BU and TARC, Savar and students of the RS attended the dinner.

New Appointments

The following lecturers joined the different departments of BU in August 2005:

ARC

1. Ms. Yasmin Ara joined BU on August 21, 2005. She has completed her Master of Architecture in Human Settlements with distinction from Katholieke Universiteit of Leuven (KULeuven), Belgium in September 2004. Her research work titled "Case Study: A Refuge Camp-- From Camp to the City". She studied on a VLIR (Flemish Interuniversity Council) Scholarship.
2. Mr. Abu Muhammad Rahat Mujib Niaz joined BU on August 21, 2005. Mr. Rahat obtained his B. Arch degree from Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET) in 2003 and is currently pursuing his graduate studies at BUET.
3. Tanzia Sharmin joined BU on August 28, 2005. Tanzia obtained her B. Arch degree from Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET) in 2005 and secured first position in her class.

MGB

1. Ms Afsana Akhter joined on August 16, 2005. She did her masters in Pharmacy from DU and later completed her MBA from IBA.
2. Ms Quazi Sagota Samina joined on August 17, 2005. She did her Masters in Finance and Banking from DU.
3. Mr Mohammad Khaleq Newaz joined on August 18, 2005. He obtained his masters degree in Accounting and Information System from DU.

4. Mr Mohammad Ali Tareq also joined on August 18, 2005. After completing his Masters in Finance he did his MPhil in Real Estate Finance from Cambridge University.

CSE

1. Mr. Abdus Samad Ahmed Muntahi joined on August 16, 2005. After finishing BSc honors in Computer Science, he obtained MSc degree in Information Technology and Automation Systems from University of Applied Science, Fachhochschule Esslingen, Germany.
2. Mr. M Ashraful Amin also joined on August 16, 2005. He did his Bachelor in Computer Science from NSU and later completed his Masters from AIT, Thailand.
3. Mr. Shadid Haque obtained his BSc degree in Computer Science from University of Toronto. He joined on August 16, 2005.
4. Mr. Mushfiqur Rouf joined on 16 August. He graduated from BUET.
5. Mr. Md Shafkat Amin joined on 22 August, 2005. He completed his 4 years bachelors' degree in Computer Science and Engineering from DU.

ENH

1. Ms. Rukhsana R Chowdhury did her MA in English from Karachi University, and she has also taught in the Aga Khan University there.
2. Ms. Shagufta H Sadia did her Masters in English Literature from DU and later did another MA in Applied Linguistics and ELT from the Institute of Modern Languages, Dhaka University.
3. Ms. Naira Khan joined as lecturer in ENH department. She obtained her Masters in Linguistics from DU. All these faculty members joined the department from the 16th of August 2005.

ESS

1. Mr. Parves Shonchoy joined on August 28, 2005 as Lecturer. After obtaining Bachelor degree in Economics from DU, he did his Masters from The Australian National University.
2. Ms. Mahbuba Naznin also joined on August 28, 2005 as Lecturer in the same department. She completed her Masters in Psychology from DU.
3. Ms. Sakiba Zeba joined as lecturer on August 28, 2005. She obtained her BSc & MSc degrees in Economics from DU.

Visiting Faculty

Dr. Javed Iqbal Khan joined BU as a Visiting Professor (Full Time) of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) for Fall Semester, 2005 on August 14, 2005. Dr. Javed did his Master's and Ph.D from University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM), USA, Earlier he did his Graduation in Electrical & Electronics Engineering from Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET). Dr. Javed is an Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science, Kent State University, USA.