

2004/august

BRAC Appoints Ombudsperson

Mr. Manzoorul Karim, former Secretary to the Government of Bangladesh, has become the first Ombudsperson in Bangladesh. Mr. Karim has assumed his office as BRAC's own Ombudsperson on Wednesday, September 1, 2004 for three years. He has previously served as a Secretary in various ministries like Home, Health and Education. The Governing Board of BRAC has taken this significant innovative step in order to further strengthen BRAC's own internal oversight mechanism and enhance its overall governance performance. The nomination of Mr. Manzurul Karim, as Ombudsman, BRAC was announced on August 31, 2004.

Grade Sheet of Summer Semester

The grade sheets of Summer Semester 2004 were distributed to the students on August 31, 2004.

Advising and Registration for Fall 2004

Advising and registration of students for Fall 2004 started from August 29, 2004.

Conclusion of Residential Semester

The Summer 2004 Residential Semester (RS) was successfully completed on August 23, 2004. All students returned to main campus on the afternoon of August 23, 2004.

BU Journal Board Meeting

The Editorial Board Meeting of BRAC University Journal was held on Monday, August 23, 2004. The agenda was BRAC University Journal, Vol. I, No. 2, 2004. The Meeting was chaired by Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed, Chair, Department of Mathematics & Natural Science and Chair Editorial Board of BU Journal.

MDS Admission Test, Fall 2004

Admission test of Master in Development Studies (MDS) program for the Fall 2004 semester was held on August 20, 2004. The result of the written test was announced on August 22, 2004. Interview for the final selection of MDS students was held on August 23, 2004. Briefing of the newly selected students and course advising session was held on August 29, 2004. MDS classes will begin from September 12, 2004.

BU-IED Staff OD Training

A training session on Organization Development (OD): Team Building for Junior and Young Professionals of BRAC University Institute of Education and Development (BU-IED) was held on August 21-26, 2004 at BRAC Centre for Development Management (BCDM), Rajendrapur. A total of 13 professionals of BU-IED participated in the training that encompassed organizational ethics, values, cultures, practices, attitudes, and behaviour of staff. The Organization Development course intended to improve efficiency of the staff and the organization as a whole.

Orientation Program of Undergraduate Students

The Orientation Program for new students (Fall 2004) was held in the BRAC Centre Inn on August 19, 2004. The program included an address by Professor J R Choudhury (VC), a presentation titled "BU Environment, Culture and Facilities" by the Registrar, and briefings on the departments of BU by the respective department chairs. This was followed by a get-together arranged for the new students, their parents, and the teachers and administrative staff of BU.

Final Exam, Summer 2004

The classes of Summer Semester 2004 ended on August 17, 2004. The Final Exams of the Summer Semester started on August 19 and finished on August 23, 2004.

MDS Information Session

An information session on the MDS Program was held on August 16, 2004. Professor Muazzam Husain, Chairperson of ESS, and Professor S R Osmani, Coordinator of the MDS Program, spoke at the session.

Study Visit to BRAC Projects

Forty students of Residential Semester went on a study visit to BRAC projects in Ghazipur area on August 14, 2004. The visit was planned and conducted by BRAC officials

ANGAN Lecture

Angan, Department of Architecture, organized its 20th lecture on "American Architecture" by architect Saif Ul Haq, Assistant Professor, College of Architecture, Texas Tech University, USA, on August 12, 2004. Mr Haq talked about the exhibitions and competitions of architectural designs for the Twin Tower site in New York. Teachers and students of the Department of Architecture attended the event.

Selection Committee Meetings

Two Selection Committee meetings (MGB and CSE) were held at BU in August 2004. The first was for selection of Lecturers for the MGB Department, held on August 11, 2004. The second was for the CSE department and was held on August 12, 2004. Both the meetings were chaired by Professor J R Choudhury, VC BU and attended by external and BU members of the Selection Committees.

AC Meeting Held

The 13th Meeting of the BU Academic Council was held in BU Conference Room on August 9, 2004. Professor J R Choudhury, VC BU, chaired the Meeting.

"Minor in Law" for BBA students

The Academic Council has formally approved "Minor in Law" courses for BBA students of the Department of MGB on August 9, 2004. It would be a coherent program to enable BBA students to learn and understand the legal framework of business transactions and have recognized skills in a different discipline, in order to acquire an edge in the job market.

Talk on "CEDAW" in the School of Law

Barrister Sara Hossain, an eminent lawyer of the Supreme Court and a women's rights activist, gave a talk on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Woman (CEDAW) as part of the LAW 202 course for Summer 2004 semester on August 5, 2004. The topic has special relevance to BRAC, and the talk was attended by students, Dr Salehuddin Ahmed BU Treasurer BU, Mr Manzoor Hasan, Bar-at Law, OBE Deputy Executive Director BRAC, Mr. K Shamsuddin Mahmood, Head Undergraduate Program, School of Law BU and Ms. Sheepa Hafiza Program Head, Human Rights & Gender, BRAC.

Campus Super's Dinner

The Campus Super's monthly dinner was held on August 4, 2004. Mr Mamun Rasid, CEO, Citi Bank, NA, Bangladesh was the Guest of Honour. Mr Mamun spoke to the students on the current employment trends in the business world and answered their queries.

Departmental Orientation/Briefing Session

The Departmental Orientation/Briefing sessions for incoming undergraduate students were held on August 4, 2004. The newly selected students were briefed at their respective departments.

Visit by School of Public Health Team

A team from James P. Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH), BU, visited BU Campus, TARC Savar on August 3, 2004. The team was comprised of eminent scholars and researchers in public health, and led by Dr. John Rohde. They talked to the students, sought their opinions on the Residential Semester, and toured the campus facilities.

BU Drama at Savar Campus

The BU Drama Club staged a show in Markuli Hall, BU Campus, TARC, Savar on the evening of August 2, 2004. All students, teachers and families of BRAC staff located in BU Campus, TARC, Savar attended the function.

Inter-house Competition

Various inter-house competitions were held in BU Campus, TARC, Savar between August 1 and August 22, 2004. Some of the important events were the Cultural Competition and the Debate. These were keenly contested and enjoyed by all.

Faculty Members/Management Staff Leave for Higher Studies

Following faculty members and management staff have left for higher studies abroad during the month of August, 2004:

1. Mr. M.A Matin, CSE, PhD Program, University of Newcastle, UK
2. Mr. Md. Rafiqul Hasan Chowdhury, CSE, PhD Program, City University, UK
3. Ms. Mir Nadia Nivin, CSE, MS Program, University of California, USA
4. Mr. Risat Mahmud Pathan, CSE, MSc Program, Chalmers University, Sweden
5. Mr. Munawwar Mahmud Sohul, MSc Program, Imperial College, UK
6. Mr. Adnan Al-Wahid, ESS, PhD Program, University of Waterloo, Canada
7. Ms. Nadia Rawshan, ESS, PhD Program, University of Calgary, Canada
8. Mr. M Hasib Uddin Mumtaz, English, MA in Linguistics, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada
9. Ms. Faria Tofail, English, MA in ELT & Applied Linguistics, King's College, London, UK
10. Ms. Mahfida Taniat, English, Fulbright Scholar, University of Austin, USA
11. Ms. Sabrena Mahbuba Sultana, Transcript & Examination Officer, MBA Program, Indiana University, USA

New Faculty Members at BU

The following new lecturers joined BRAC University in August, 2004:

-Mr Nadim Parvez joined the CSE department on August 01, 2004. After graduating from BUET Mr Nadim completed his MSc in Computer Engineering from the University of Manitoba, Canada.

-Mr Moinul Islam Zaber joined the CSE department on August 22, 2004. He graduated from the Computer Science Department of Dhaka University.

-Ms Sharmin Azam, a BUET graduate, joined the CSE Department on August 23, 2004.

-Mr Saif Noman, Mr Abdullah Aabed and Mr Suntu Kumar joined BU as lecturers in the MGB Department. Mr Noman holds an MA in English from DU and an MBA from IBA (DU). Mr Aabed did his BBA at North South University and his MBA at the Simon Fraser University, Canada. Mr Kumar obtained his MBA from the Department of Marketing, DU.