

2004/december

## **Admission Test-2, Spring 2005**

Admission Test-2 for the Spring Semester 2005, for admission to the undergraduate, programs of the Departments of ARC, MGB, CSE, ESS, ENH and Law, including MBA/MDS was held on December 31, 2004.

## **RS Concluding Dinner**

The Residential Semester (RS) Concluding dinner was held on December 28, 2004. Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BRAC University was the Chief Guest and distributed prizes and certificates amongst the students. Maloncho, a female dormitory, emerged as the overall Champion. The dinner was attended by a large number of faculty members and BRAC personalities.

## **BRAC University Hosts 7th ICCIT**

The seventh International Conference on Computer and Information Technology (ICCIT 2004), hosted by BU, was inaugurated in the city on December 26, 2004. Education Minister M Osman Faruk inaugurated the three-day conference at the Plenary Hall of the China-Bangladesh Friendship Conference Centre Dr. Mohammad A Karim, International Program Committee Chair, ICCIT 2004 and Vice President for Research, Old Dominion University, USA, Dr Mofiz Uddin Ahmed, Chairperson of the Conference Organizing Committee Secretary ICCIT 2004, and Chairperson of CSE, BU Dr Sayeed Salam also spoke at the inaugural ceremony. The Technical and Poster sessions were held at BRAC Centre on December 27-28, 2004. About 500 IT Academic and Specialists from home and abroad participated in the conference. The committee received 679 research papers from 12 countries -- Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, China, India, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Taiwan, Thailand, the UK and the USA. 126 papers were accepted for presentation in the regular sessions and another 43 for display in the poster sessions. Professor Dr Mongi Abidi from the University of Tennessee, USA, and Dr Manzur Murshed from Monash University, Australia, presented keynote papers at the conference. Professor J R Choudhury, VC BU, chaired the Inaugural function.

## **Angan Event 24**

ANGAN, a forum for the co curricular activities of the Department of Architecture, BU organized a presentation on "Architecture and 3D computer animation" by eminent architect Professor M Saleh Uddin, University of Missouri, Columbia, USA on December 23, 2004. Professor Saleh Uddin presented latest developments in 3D animation in architectural presentation, which included some of the student works in his studios.

## **Lecture on Gender Issues**

Ms. Sheepa Hafeeza, Program Head, Human Rights and Gender Advocacy Unit, BRAC, delivered a lecture to the students of the Residential Semester on December 20, 2004. She covered the gender discrimination in Bangladesh society and how it adversely affected social and economic developments. The lecture was followed by a lively Q&A session.

## **Angan Lecture 23**

Angan organized a studio lecture 'de-theorizing theory' by Architect Adnan Z. Morshed, Assistant Professor, Catholic University Washington DC on December 19, 2004. Dr Morshed presented a theory on what role do a person's knowledge, background, environment and viewpoint play in the making of a drawing

## **BU Students Visit BRAC Projects**

A group of BU students visited various BRAC projects in Manikgonj and Ghazipur area on December 18, 2004. During the daylong visit the students were apprised of the development projects and micro-credit schemes undertaken by BRAC. BRAC officials accompanied the groups and explained to them how BRAC activities were positively affecting the life of the rural poor.

## **Victory Day Celebration**

The students of BU celebrated the 34th Victory day on December 16, 2004. A cultural program celebrating the Victory Day was organized on 15 December 2004 where the students performed patriotic songs. In the second part of the program, popular singer Sadi Muhammed presented a musical soiree. A visit to the National Mausoleum at Savar was organized on the morning, December 16, 2004. A group of students accompanied by the Staff of BU led by Ms. Shreyasee Sarma Pati, Assistant Registrar placed a floral wreath at the Mausoleum. BU Heritage Forum and BU Cultural Club jointly organized the programs.

## **BU President Receives the UNDP Award for Human Development**

Fazle Hasan Abed, Founder and Chairperson of BRAC and President BU Governing Board was awarded the prestigious UNDP Mahbub UI Haq Award for Human Development on December 15, 2004 at a ceremony held in New York City. The award recognized Mr. Abed's "Outstanding initiative in furthering the understanding and progress of human development in a national, regional, or global context". The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) first launched the Human Development Reports (HDR) in 1990 to acknowledge people as the real wealth of a nation, and promote their development through expansion of choices and exercising of freedom. To date, two such awards have been offered, the first of which was awarded to President Henrique Cardoso of Brazil, and Fazle Hasan Abed is the winner of the second. Nominations for the award come from those working on Human Development Reports in over 130 countries around the world. Fazle Hasan Abed was chosen for the award by a Final Judging Panel comprised of: Her Royal Highness Princess Basma of Jordan, Moises Naim, Editor of Foreign Policy and the former Minister of Economy of Venezuela, Dr. Kwesi Botchway, Executive Chairman - African Development Policy Ownership Initiative and Former Finance Minister of Ghana and Dr. Mahnaz Afkhami of the Women's Learning Partnership, former Iranian Minister of State for women's affairs.

## **Video Conference Between BU and World Bank**

BU participated in an educational program arranged by the World Bank on Youth, Gender and Universities: Achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) Video Dialogue. The objective of the GDLN series were to bring together university students from 7 countries to enhance awareness and capacity through learning, as well as to discuss the role of youth and strategies for achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Topics included the MDGs, Governance and Gender Equality. It did not consist of lectures, but rather of students' presentations, discussions, exchanges of experiences/thoughts, that were shared among sites. The sessions were held on December 6,9,15, 2004 at BU. The other participating countries included: Afghanistan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and the West Bank and Gaza, and the sessions were coordinated from Washington DC. Ms. Shuchi Karim, Lecturer in the Department of English, BU was the Chair and the Facilitator of the Bangladesh site. 23 students from BU took part in the sessions and BU made 3 power point presentations, which were greatly appreciated by the other sites. The World Bank will award certificates to the participants. Ms. Fahima Khanam, Assistant System Administrator, BU provided full technical support at the BU end.

## **Angan Event 22**

Architect Enamul Karim Nirjhar of System Architects Dhaka delivered a lecture at BU on December 13, 2004. Mr. Nirjhar's presentation was a pictorial journey through his studies, experiences and works on

graphic design, interior design, building design and drama and filmmaking.

## **Exercise Microlab**

Exercise Microlab - a role-playing exercise by a group of students of the Residential Semester was conducted on December 11, 2004. The students carried out all the duties normally done by the BU Campus, TARC, Savar staff starting from In-charge to cooks, waiters, cleaners and gardeners. The aim was to expose students to real life physical as well as decision-making situations. The exercise was a grand success.

## **Case Competition Workshop**

The second session of the workshop on case analysis methods was held on December 11, 2004. The workshop focused on development of case analysis skills of the students who have been short-listed for participation in the case competition, which will be held at The University of Washington Business School, Seattle, WA, USA in April 2005. This workshop was conducted by Professor Abdur Rab, Chairperson, MGB and coordinated by Mr. Shawkat Kamal, Lecturer, MGB.

## **Study Visit of BU Students**

Thirty-nine BU students of the Introduction to Sociology, SOC 101 (CSE, BBA, Economics and English) course were taken on a study visit to Dhakeshwari Mandir, Lalbagh Fort, Armanitola Church and Ahsan Manzil on December 3 and 10, 2004 as part of their course work. The students were instructed to acquire practical knowledge on historical and religious places and the social consequences of those places. They also observed the differences between old Dhaka and new Dhaka in terms of roads, buildings and peoples etc. Through the study visit, the students were exposed to the cross-cultural ideas of our country. The students are required to prepare a field report on this study visit. Mr. Md. Abdul Wohab, Lecturer, ESS accompanied the students during the visit

## **CCNA orientation program**

The orientation program of 5th batch of CCNA training program was held on December 09, 2004. Dr. Sayeed Salam, Chair, CSE and Dr. Mumit Khan, Associate Professor, CSE welcomed the students and discussed the salient features of the Program.

## **Campus Super's Dinner**

Campus Super's Dinner was held at BU Campus, TARC, Savar on December 08, 2004. Professor Ainun Nishat, Country Representative, IUCN Bangladesh and Member, Governing Board, BRAC and Member, BRAC University Academic Council was the Guest of Honour. Members of the faculty, students of Residential Semester (RS) and the Management staff of BU and TARC, Savar attended the dinner.

## **Tree-Plantation Day**

BU Cultural club and BU Campus, TARC Savar jointly organized a Tree-plantation Program on December 07, 2004 at the flowerbeds along the play grounds at BU campus, TARC, Savar. Each student planted a tree/sapling.

## **Seminar on Optical Phase Conjugation**

BU organized a seminar on "Recent Advances in Fibre Optic Communication and Optical Phase

Conjugation"on December 06, 2004. Dr. Aref Chowdhury, Member of the Technical Staff Quantum Information and Optics Research, Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, NJ, USA was the key speaker. Professor J R Choudhury VC, BU Dr. Yousuf M Islam, Director Research & Advisory Services, BU also spoke. Faculties and students of CSE, BU attended the Program.

## **Lecture at School of Law**

The School of Law, BU organized a lecture on "Roles and Responsibilities of the Office of the Attorney General"on December 02, 2004. Barrister Fida M Kamal Additional Attorney General for Bangladesh was the key speaker. Dr. Shahdeen Malik, Director, School of Law, Mr. K Shamsuddin Mahmood, Head Undergraduate Program, School of Law, faculty members and students of School of Law attended the Lecture and the Q&A Session.

## **BU Film Club**

BU Film Club continued its activity through arranging discussions and screening films. The club screened two films "Lust for Life"on December 1 and "Mr. and Mrs. Iyer"on December 8, 2004.

## **New Appointment**

Dr. Zainab F Ali was appointed the Director Student Affairs, BU on December 01, 2004. She will be coordinating all student co-curricular activities and will oversee and supervise the working of the Career Placement Office and Student Affairs Office.

## **Prize Distribution**

The Annual Prize distribution of BU Indoor Games Competition was held at BU Cafeteria on December 01, 2004. Professor J R Choudhury, VC BU distributed the prizes among the winners.

## **Chair MGB Attend 8th SAMF 2004**

Professor Abdur Rab, Chair, MGB and Mr. Ezaz Ahmed, Lecturer, MGB attended the 8th South Asian Management Forum 2004, held at Lahore, Pakistan from November 28-December 01, 2004. Professor Abdur Rab was a member of the panel discussion on Quality Assurance of Higher Education in Business Schools. Mr. Ezaz Ahmed presented a research paper co-authored by Dr. Nazrul Islam, Associate Professor, MGB titled "A Measurement of Customer Service Quality of Banks in Dhaka City of Bangladesh" at the conference. The theme of the 8th SAMF 2004 Conference was "Developing Synergies: Facing Management Challenges Together". Lahore University of Management Science (LUMS), University of Punjab and AMDISA jointly organized the conference. Department of Management & Business (MGB) of BU is a member of AMDISA, which is recognized by SAARC as a professional association. It is the only association in the SAARC region, which networks management development centers across seven nations and promotes partnership between business schools, business leaders and policy administrators for enhancing the quality and effectiveness of management education in South Asia.

## **Law Faculty Members Participate in Training Program**

Ms. Sayeda Afroza Zerine and Ms. Nafeesa Mehjabeen Razzaque of School of Law, BU participated in a two-day (November 30-December 01, 2004) long "Teachers Training Program on International Humanitarian Laws"jointly sponsored by Dhaka University and International Committee of the Red Cross/Crescent [ICRC]. The Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University, Professor S M Faiz, inaugurated the program and the Dean of Faculty of Law, Dr Naima Haque, delivered the opening speech.

## **New Faculty Members**

Mr. A K M Shafiq Ullah joined as Lecturer in Mathematics and Natural Science (MNS) Department at BU on December 15, 2004. He completed his MSc in Physics from Shahjalal University and obtained Mphil degree from BUET.

Ms. Irum Shehreen Ali joined as lecturer in the Economics & Social Science (ESS) Department at BU on December 01, 2004. She took her graduation degree from Bryn Mawr College, USA and did her MSc in Management of Non-Government Organizations from London School of Economics.