

2003/january

## **MDS Information Session**

BU is launching a masters program on development studies (MDS) soon. The program is a multi-disciplinary one and the students may come from different disciplines. The program will equip and open minds of the students interested in and concerned about development issues and problems from all over the world. To introduce the program, BU organized an information session for the prospective students on January 28, 2003. Dr S. R. Osmani, Coordinator of the MDS Program, Dr Salehuddin Ahmed, DED BRAC and Treasurer, BRAC University, Dr Shamsul Khan, Visiting Faculty and Dr. Imran Matin from BRAC Research were present in the Session. Dr Salehuddin Ahmed discussed the origin, background and rationale of the MDS program. Dr S. R. Osmani deliberated on the program structure, course offer, program duration, program cost and funding. He informed that BU has the plan to attract as many brilliant students as was possible through a well thought out "tuition waiver and scholarship" policy. He also stated that BRAC has successfully managed 5 scholarships for MDS Program and are inviting sponsors from different Donor Agencies, Multinational Companies and Banks. Dr Osmani hoped that the program would be fully funded by donors/sponsors. Students were also informed about the job prospects on successful completion of the MDS Program.

## **AUW Team Visit BU**

Dr. Frances Volkmann, Academic Director of Asian University of Women (AUW) and Mr. Robert Berg, Adviser to the Chairman of AUW visited BU on January 27, 2003. The team had a meeting with VC, BU. They later met a team of Educationists and parents of some College/University going female students. The team of Educationists included the Principal of Viquarunnessa Noon School & College, Director of Education and Principal, Bharatweswari Homes, Principal Scholastica School, Principal Sunnydale School and representative of Badrunnessa College. In the afternoon the team visited BRAC Centre for Development Management(BCDM), Savar and met Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, DED, BRAC and Treasurer BU and Dr. Golam Samdani Fakir, Director Training Division, BRAC and member Academic Council, BU. The team also visited BCDM, Rajendrapur and saw the various facilities there.

## **BU Teams Visit Cadet Colleges**

Four different student teams of BU visited Mirzapur Cadet College, Girls Cadet College, Mymensingh, Faujderhat Cadet College and Barisal Cadet College on January 24, 2003. The objectives of the visit were to introduce BU to the students of the Cadet Colleges and to invite the 12th Class students to visit BU.

## **BRAC-BU Synergy**

A video- presentation on BRAC was held at BU on January 23, 2003. The presentation was followed by a discussion on mission, goals and values of BRAC. All available chairpersons, teachers and administrative staff of BU attended the program. Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, DED, BRAC and Treasurer BU, Mr. Tajul Islam, Director Public Affairs, BRAC and Dr. Golam Samdani Fakir, Director Training, BRAC participated in the discussion. As a follow-up program a team of 22 teachers of BU visited BRAC Regional Office at Ghazipur and the BRAC Area Office in Kapasia on January 25, 2003. During the visit the team was shown the various development programs of BRAC. The visit ended with a de-briefing session held at BRAC Centre for Development Management (BCDM), Rajendrapur. Professor J R Choudhury, VC, BU accompanied the team to the visit. Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, DED, BRAC and Treasurer, BU conducted the de-briefing session.

## **Visiting Faculty**

Dr. Shamsul Khan has joined BU on January 23, 2003 as a Visiting Faculty in the Department of Economics & Social Science. Dr. Khan is a Senior Lecturer at the School of International Studies, University of South Australia. Dr. Khan has studied Political Science, International Relations, History, Economics, German,

French and Latin at the Universities of Dhaka, Bangladesh, and Heidelberg, Germany, and received his Ph.D. in International Relations from the University of Heidelberg in 1985. His previous research/teaching positions include: Associate Professor, Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, Senior Fulbright Scholar, Program in Arms Control, Disarmament, and International Security (ACDIS), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA, USIS Visiting Scholar for University Lecturing, Washington DC, USA, Visiting Scholar, Goethe-Institute, Munich/Berlin, Germany, Visiting Fellow, The Brookings Institution, Washington DC, USA, Postdoctoral Fellow, Departement de Science Politique, Universite de Paris I (Sorbonne-Pantheon), France, Postdoctoral Fellow, School of International Agrar-Economy, University of Kassel, Germany, Visiting Research Associate, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore and Research Fellow, South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, Germany.

## **Faculty Development Workshop**

A seven-day Faculty Development Workshop covering "Research Methodology" was held at BU from January 21 to 30, 2003. 25 Faculty Members attended the Workshop. The Workshop was designed and conducted by Dr. Anwarul Haque, Visiting Faculty, Department of Economics & Social Science and a Fulbright Scholar. Mr. Adnan Al Wahid, Lecturer, Department of Economics assisted him.

## **Registration**

The new students admitted in Spring Semester, 2003 completed their advising and registration formalities from January 20 to 23, 2003.

## **Orientation Program**

The two-day Orientation program for new students (Spring Semester, 2003) was held in BRAC Center Inn on January 19-20, 2003. The program included an address by Professor J R Choudhury, VC, presentation on "BU Environment, Culture and Facilities" by the Registrar and the introduction to the Departments of BU by the Chairpersons of the Departments. The inauguration session was followed by a get-together arranged for the new students and their parents, teachers and administrative staff of BU.

## **Photography Workshop**

BU Photography Club held a 5-day photography workshop from January 19 to 23, 2003. Conducted by the eminent photographer Hasan Saifuddin Chandan the workshop was coordinated by A Q M Abdullah, Lecturer of the Department of Architecture. The workshop covered the basics of camera, film, paper, composition and a photography outing by the students to Dhamrai area for a day followed by a review of their work the next day.

## **MSU Interns in BU**

Ms. Jillian Ingold and Ms. Tanya Palit, students of Michigan State University (MSU), USA have joined BU as Interns on January 14, 2003. During their twelve weeks internship, Jillian will study the Microcredit Program of BRAC and Tanya will be involved with the BRAC Gender Quality Action Program (GQAL). Dr. Anwarul Haque, Department of Economics BU and Dr. Shantana Rani Halder of BRAC Research Division will jointly supervise Jillian's study. Professor Firdous Azim, BU and Ms. Amina Mahbub of BRAC Research Division will jointly supervise Tanya's work.

## **Fall, 2002 Semester End**

The final exams of Fall Semester 2002 of BU began on 8 January and ended on 18 January, 2003.

## Workshop on English Language Teaching

The Department of English & Humanities conducted a 3-day in-house workshop on English Language Teaching and Curriculum Design from January 5 to 7, 2003. Based on the teaching experience at BU, the main purpose of the workshop was to share the teaching experience and to propose curriculum reform and changes on the basis of that experience. Nazmeen Huq, Shaheena Chowdhury and Ruhma Khalil Chowdhury were the resource people for the workshop.

## BUILD Workshop

The 5th Workshop of BRAC University Initiative for Learning & Development (BUILD) was held at BRAC Center Inn from January 2 to 4, 2003. Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury, VC, BU, Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Treasurer, BU, Professor A Rab, Professor N Islam, Professor S M Islam, Professor F Azim, Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad, Dr. Yousuf M Islam, Dr. Fuad H Mallick, Mr. M Sahool Afzal, Ms. Shreyasee Sarma Pati, Ms. Farzana Choudhry, Ms. Husna M Siddiqi of BU and Dr. Golam Samdani Fakir, Dr. Mohammad Rafi and Dr. Imran Matin from BRAC attended the 3-day workshop. Mr Tariq Omar Ali attended the workshop as an observer. Mr. Cole P Dodge facilitated the proceedings of the Workshop. Mr. Mohammad Ali Khan, Department Coordination Officer of the Department of English & Humanities, assisted Mr. Dodge.

## New Faculty members at BU

The teachers who have joined BU since January 2003 are:

### Department of CSE:

- i) Mr. Fayyaz Ali Junaid, MSc (CIS), USA, MBA (Finance), DU
- ii) Mr. Tarem Ahmed, MSE (USA)

### Department of Management & Business:

- i) Dr. Shaikh Shamsuddin Ahmed, Ph.D.(Finance), UK
- ii) Mr. Mohammad Mahboob Rahman, BBA, USA

### Department of Mathematics & Natural Science:

- i) Ms. Nasreen Akter, MSc, DU

### Department of English:

- i) Ms. Shaheena Choudhury, MA (USA)
- ii) Ms. Masruha Mohua, MA, Philippines