

2001/april

First Inter-BIT Computer Programming Contest

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. J. R. Choudhury, was the Chief Guest at the Prize Distribution Ceremony of the First Inter-BIT Computer Programming Contest held at Bangladesh Institute of Technology (BIT), Chittagong on 28 April, 2001. Prof. Choudhury, who is the Chairman of the Board of Governors of BIT, Chittagong, complimented the organizers of the first such event for BIT students in the country. He lauded the performance of the 21 participant teams from the four BITs (viz. Rajshahi, Khulna, Gazipur and Chittagong) and hoped that they would be able to make their mark in the national, regional and international arena very soon. He also urged the BIT authorities to organize similar events in other BITs.

VC Addresses the Asiatic Society Seminar on "Bangladesh on the Threshold of Twenty-first Century"

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. J. R. Choudhury, was invited to participate in the Seminar on Bangladesh on the Threshold of Twenty-first Century, organized by the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh. The seminar was held at Asiatic Society Auditorium at Dhaka on 27-28 April, 2001. He presented the paper on Science & Technology outlining the progress in the Science & Technology sector in Bangladesh during the last three decades.

BBA Program

The proposal for conducting undergraduate in Business Administration has been forwarded to the University Grant Commission (UGC) on 26th April, 2001. All preparations have been completed to start the program from Fall Semester (September) 2001.

Academic Review Meeting

A Meeting with the Vice Chancellor in the chair was held at the University Conference room on April 21, 2001. All teachers of BRAC University attended the meeting. The meeting reviewed the progress of academic activities. It was decided that Ayesha Abed Library, BRAC University would be shifted from BRAC Center, 75 Mohakhali to the University Premises at Aarong House, 66 Mohakhali at the earliest.

Dean of School for International Training, USA, Calls on Vice Chancellor

Dr. Jeff Unsicker, Academic Dean of School for International Training, Vermont, USA, called on the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Jamilur Reza Choudhury, on April 21, 2001. Dr. Unsicker, a cofounder of the Global Partnership for NGO Studies, Education and Training programs in Zimbabwe and Bangladesh, briefed Prof. Choudhury about the activities of SIT in USA and other countries round the world. Dr. Mohammed Golam Samdani Fakir, Director of Training Division of BRAC and Academic Chair of the Global Partnership's postgraduate diploma in NGO Leadership and Management, based in Bangladesh, was also present. They discussed the prospects of collaboration between BRAC University and SIT in graduate education.

Prof. Choudhury Inaugurates Software Exhibition

Prof. J. R. Choudhury, the Vice Chancellor, was the Chief Guest at the inauguration ceremony of the Software Exhibition organized by Bangladesh Association for Software and Information Services (BASIS) at the IDB Building, Agargaon, Dhaka on April 21, 2001. Around 10 software companies in Bangladesh exhibited their products and made presentations on the details of the software developed by them. Prof. Choudhury appreciated the efforts of BASIS members and hoped that they would be able to make the Bangladeshi presence felt in the global IT markets soon.

Governing Board President and Vice Chancellor Call on Hon'ble President and the Chancellor

Mr. Fazle Hasan Abed, Executive Director, BRAC and the President of BRAC University Governing Board and Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Vice Chancellor of BRAC University paid a courtesy call on President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed, the Chancellor of BRAC University at Bangobhabon on April 17, 2001. During the meeting the Hon'ble President and the Chancellor of BRAC University appreciated the efforts of BRAC in setting up BRAC University. Mr. Fazle Hasan Abed and Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury informed the Chancellor about the different aspects of BRAC University, the current programs and the future plans.

Classes Start

The programmed classes of BRAC University Computer Science and Development Studies Departments started formally from April 16, 2001. The Semester-I program can be seen at the University web page.

Orientation of New Students

BRAC University Orientation Program for Semester-I was held at the BRAC Center Auditorium on April 15, 2001. The session was chaired by Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Vice Chancellor of BRAC University and attended by all faculty members and students. Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury welcomed the students and gave a brief background of BRAC University. The session was also addressed by Professor Abdur Rab, Faculty of Social Science, Dr. Yousuf Mahbubul Islam, Chairman of Computer Science Department and Mr. Muhammad Sahool Afzal, Registrar, BRAC University. They briefed the students about the Computer Science and the Development Studies undergraduate programs and also on the 'Regulations of Student Conduct' at BRAC University. After the briefing the students were taken around and shown the different university facilities.

Vice Chancellor Addresses the Annual Convention of Physiologists and Pharmacologists

Prof. J. R. Choudhury, the Vice Chancellor, was the Chief Guest at the inauguration ceremony of the 10th Annual Convention of the Bangladesh Physiological and Pharmacological Society. Held at the BIRDEM Auditorium on 14th April, the convention was attended by more than 100 members of the society. Prof. Choudhury, in his speech, highlighted some of the recent global developments in the field and emphasized the need for close collaboration among researchers in life sciences, physical sciences and engineering. He said that Bioinformatics is going to play an increasingly important role and urged the members of the society to take active interest in this newly emerging discipline.

Vice Chancellor in Earthquake Seminar

Prof. J. R. Choudhury, the Vice Chancellor, presided over a Seminar on Earthquake Disaster Mitigation in Bangladesh, held at BUET on 13th April, 2001. Two papers dealing with Revisions in the Seismic Zoning Map of Bangladesh, Lessons learnt from the 26th January, 2001, Earthquake in Bhuj, India and Earthquake Damage Scenarios of Selected Areas in Dhaka City were presented by Dr. M. A. Ansary and Dr. Tahmeed Al Hussainy, Associate Professors, Dept. of Civil Engineering, BUET. The Seminar was attended by a large number of engineers, architects, geologists, insurance officials and NGO representatives. Recent efforts by the government to enforce the provisions of the Bangladesh National Building Code were highlighted by Mr. Quamrul Islam Siddique, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Public Works.

Prof. J. R. Choudhury in E-Governance Seminar in London

At the invitation of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK Government, Prof. J. R. Choudhury, the Vice Chancellor, attended the Seminar on E-Governance held at London on 5-6th April, 2001. Around 100 participants, including Ministers, high government officials and academics from around 40 countries in the world, attended the seminar. Prof. Choudhury made a presentation on the recent developments in E-governance in Bangladesh.

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