

2001/august

## **President, World Learning, School for International Training, USA, Calls on Vice Chancellor**

Dr. James A. Kramer, President, World Learning, School for International Training, Vermont, USA, called on the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Jamilur Reza Choudhury, on August 19, 2001. Dr. Kramer, who was in Dhaka to be the Chief Guest at the Certificate Awarding Ceremony of the successful candidates for the Global Partnership's Postgraduate Diploma in NGO Leadership and Management, briefed Prof. Choudhury about the activities of World Learning and SIT in USA and other countries round the world. Prof. Choudhury outlined the present academic programs of BRAC University and future plans for its development. Dr. Salehuddin, Chair of the Global Partnership and Treasurer, BRAC University, was present. The prospects of collaboration between BRAC University and World Learning, SIT in graduate education and distant education were discussed.

## **Final Exam**

The Final Exam of Spring Semester 2001 was held between 19 August and 23 August 2001. Thereafter, the students are currently having a month long semester break. After the break the Fall Semester will start from 23 September 2001. The Fall Semester Program can be seen at the University web page.

## **Task Force on Information and Communication Technology**

The Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Prothom Alo and The Daily Star organized a 3-day "Election 2001: National Policy Forum" on 20-22 August at Dhaka. The Forum was inaugurated by the Hon'ble President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmad at the Osmany Memorial Hall. Policy Briefs, prepared by 16 Task Forces covering a broad spectrum of issues of national importance, were presented in the working sessions. Prof. Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University, who is the Chair of the CPD Task Force on Information and Communication Technology, presided over the session on ICT held on 22nd August at the Planning Academy Auditorium, Dhaka.

## **Vice Chancellor at the launching of BDRResearch.org Website**

The formal launching of website [www.BDRResearch.org](http://www.BDRResearch.org), Bangladesh's Online Research Network was held on 16th August 2001 at the CIRDAP Auditorium. Initiated by D.Net, this endeavour is envisaged to bring and share all kind of research information on or related to Bangladesh through a single web portal. Prof. Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University was the Chief Guest and Prof. Wahiduddin Mahmud, Professor of Economics, Dhaka University (and Member, Governing Board, BRAC University) was the Special Guest at the launching ceremony. Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Executive Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue, was the Chairman of the Inaugural function.

## **National Seminar on Prospects of Environmental Engineering in Bangladesh**

The Dept. of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Sylhet, organized the first National Seminar on Prospects of Environmental Engineering on 10-11 August 2001. A large number of participants from different Universities in Bangladesh, Government and Semi-government agencies and private sector presented papers and participated in the discussions. The major environmental problems and their possible solutions were discussed. Prof. Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University, was the Chief Guest at the Concluding Session held on 11th August at the SUST Auditorium.

## **Meeting of the Selection Committee**

The 4th meeting of the Selection Committee of BU for the posts of Assistant Professors and Lecturers for the Department of Economics was held at the Conference Room of BU at 3:00 pm on Tuesday, August 14, 2001. Prof. J R Choudhury, VC, BU, Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Treasurer, BU, Dr. A M Muazzam Hussain, BRAC, Prof. Abdur Rab, Chairman, Department of Management and Business Administration, BU, Prof. Mohammad Masum, Department of Economics, Jahangirnagar University and Prof. Shamsuddin Ahmed, Department of Economics, Dhaka University were present in the meeting. The Committee approved a list of teachers for appointment in the Department of Economics of BU.

## **Meeting of the Selection Committee**

The 3rd meeting of the Selection Committee of BU for the posts of Assistant Professors and Lecturers for the Department of English was held at the Conference Room of BU at 3:00 pm on Monday, August 13, 2001. Prof. J R Choudhury, VC, BU, Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Treasurer, BU, Prof. Syed Manzoorul Islam, Coordinator, Department of English, BU, Prof. Niaz Zaman, Department of English, Dhaka University and Prof. Kaiser Md. Hamidul Haque, Department of English, Dhaka University were present in the meeting. The Committee approved a list of teachers for appointment in the Department of English of BU.

## **Postgraduate Diploma Course Approved**

BRAC University proposal for conducting a Postgraduate Diploma Course in Computer Science and Information Technology has received the approval of the University Grants commission (UGC) today. This course shall be conducted for students with a four year BSc (Honours) course or MSc Degree holders with excellent academic records. BU plans to start the course from Fall Semester, 2001.

## **Seminar on Building Learning Community**

Dr. Syed Saad Andaleeb, Professor of Marketing, School of Business, Pennsylvania State University, USA, conducted a Seminar on "Building Learning Community: The Role of Research" at 4:00 PM on Thursday, August 9, 2001 in the Seminar Room No. UB 104, BRAC University. The Seminar was attended by a large number of Teachers and Researchers from different Universities.

## **Prof. J. R. Choudhury at Rotary Club of Chittagong Golden Jubilee Installation Ceremony**

Prof. J. R. Choudhury was the Chief Guest at the Golden Jubilee Installation Ceremony of the Board of Directors of Rotary Club of Chittagong held at Chittagong Club on August 7, 2001. In his speech, Prof. Choudhury lauded the contributions made by members of the Rotary Club of Chittagong in humanitarian and social development work, particularly in the fields of primary education and healthcare. He urged the members to come forward in promoting IT education in schools. He also appreciated the efforts of Rotary Club of Chittagong in mitigation of natural disasters (particularly cyclones and storm surges). Referring to the recent increase in the frequency of earthquakes being felt in the Chittagong region he requested the Club to initiate programs for building up earthquake awareness among the members of the public and for training volunteers to carry out post-disaster activities.

## **Meeting of the Selection Committee**

The 2nd meeting of the Selection Committee of BU for the posts of Assistant Professors and Lecturers for the Department of Management and Business Administration was held at the Conference Room of BU at 3:00 pm on Monday, August 06, 2001. Prof. J R Choudhury, VC, BU, Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, DED, BRAC, Prof. Abdur Rab, BU, Prof. Nurur Rahman, IBA, Dhaka University and Prof. Shanti narayan Ghose, Department of Accounting, Dhaka university were present in the meeting. The Committee approved a list of teachers for appointment in the Department of Management and Business Administration of BU.

## **Computer Club**

A meeting of the Computer Club of BU was held at 3:00 pm on Wednesday, August 1, 2001. Mr. Shahriar Manzoor, Faculty Assistant and Trainer of the Computer Club, discussed the ic, "Introduction to C Language".

On Saturday, August 4, 2001 he gave a presentation on "Basic Concept of C Programming" and "ACM Programming Concept".

Most of the club members attended the meetings on both days.