

Ascension: BRACU debaters shine at international tournament



(Left to right) BRACU debaters Jessica Shirly Alam, Afraim Karim, Raad Sharar, Rifayat Raisa, Iffat Sumaiya

After a wait that has been entirely too long, an international debate tournament hosted by the Bangladeshi

Raad Sharar

Correspondent

debate circuit had been organized by Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) September 14th. Guest debaters and adjudicators from Malaysia, Singapore, India, Nepal, UK, and Australia, participated in this event of grand proportions. It was a three-day-long tournament, ending on September 16th, and was open to all educational institutions and universities.

IUB and the tourney organisers surpassed themselves with both the decorations and entertainment events, committing fully to a Hogwarts-themed tournament. Wands, a Quidditch pitch, floating candles in the halls, and a mesmerising fire-show completed the magical experience. Nanyang Technological University, Singapore was the champion of the Open Finals; Mastermind, the champion of the Highschool Finals; and IBA-DU (Institute of Business Administration, Dhaka University), the champions of the Novice Finals.

Iffat Sumaiya and Rifayat Raisa from BRAC University Debating Club participated in the tournament and broke to the Quarter-finals. Furthermore, Aaqib Farhan Hossain, Afraim Karim, Asif Hassan, Nabil Hassan and Raad Sharar from BRAC University broke as adjudicators and Aaqib Farhan Hossain, the 2013 WUDC ESL (World Universities Debating Championship, English as a Second Language) Champion, also grabbed the title of the 3rd best adjudicator of the tournament.

River Rhapsody: an exhibition for environmentally-friendly architecture

Safir Zawad

Journalist

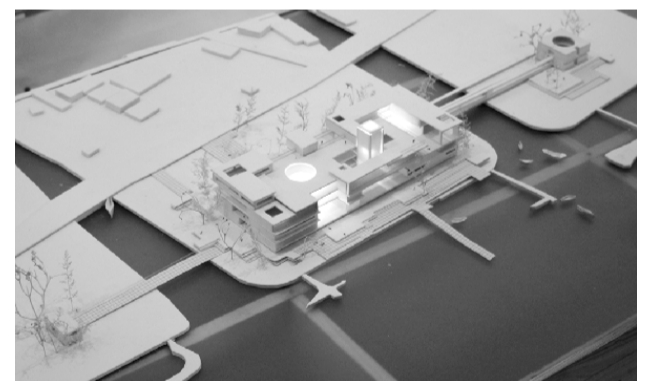
An exhibition by third year students of the Department of Architecture, “River Rhapsody: Museum of Rivers and Canals”, was held from the 16th to 20th of September at La Galerie, Alliance Francaise. This exhibition was organized to showcase their ARC302 projects, for which they were tasked to design a museum on top of a river

delta, on the bank of the Karnaphuli River, at Mariner’s Park, Firingibajar, Chittagong. The assignment was intended to challenge and contextualise the students’ designing capabilities to environmental protection, a national priority.

Under the guidance of Professor Adnan Morshed and Abul Fazal Mahmudun Nobi, six projects were displayed. Each of the projects combined academic research, aesthetics practices and a deep sense of environmental ethics. They were: *Jol Nagar* (Tanima Uddin, Sindis

Hassan, Mashiat Iqbal and Sadat), *Joltorongo* (Labiba Nazeen, Fairuz Raisa and Fariha Hossain), *Nir Dhoroni* (Itminan Tasneea, Zareen Tasnim and Kazi Abrarul), *Nodir Golpo* (Pronnoy Das, Arik Islam and Sadia Tarannum), *Sholil Digonto* (Umme Nabila, Fateen Faiyaz and Parisha Shamim), and *Water Sanctuary* (Tahreem Shah, Mobasheer Meed and Kalpopriya).

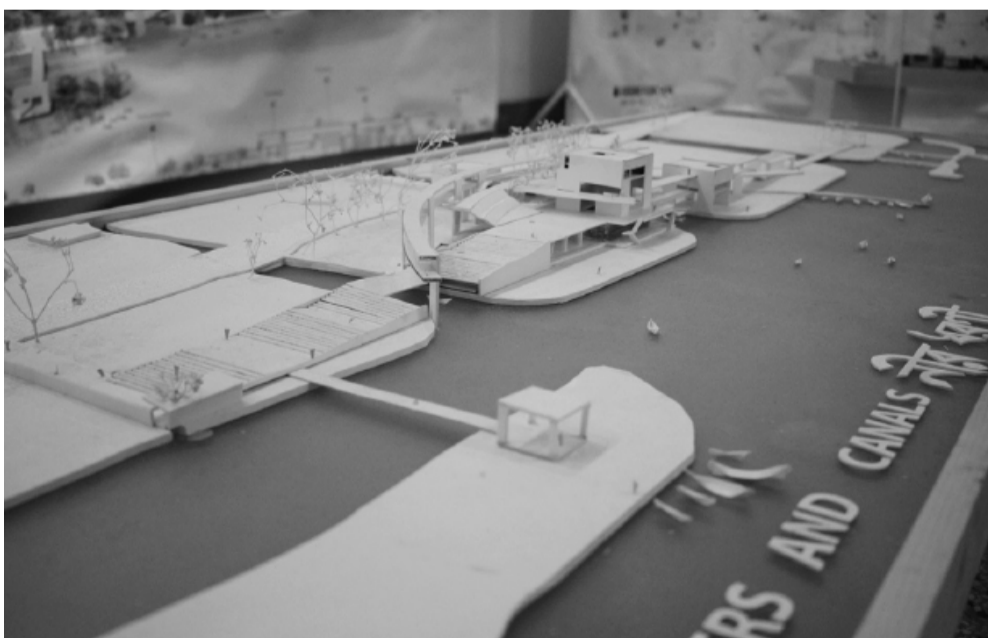
The projects were designed so that the museum could be incorporated into



Model of Jol Nogar | Photo: *The Daily Star*

its surrounding areas; such as providing a shade and walkways for pedestrians. Each design attempted to bring attention to the fact of the polluted state of rivers, which have been reduced to industrial waste dumps. Sholil Digonto, for example, showcases the ‘horizon’ of the rivers, and incorporates the horizontal variation of Chittagong’s landscape; designed to integrate the museum with the rivers using walkways and terraces, to incite pedestrians to enjoy both the museum and the rivers it would be built on. The students were asked to design keeping in mind not only ecological degradation, but also the social, cultural and historical value of a museum to the local and national community.

Twinkle Itminan (Nir Dhoroni) said, “Being from Chittagong myself, it was a great opportunity to be able to showcase the potential the city has to offer. We wanted to raise awareness on the extinction of the rivers and canals; and an exhibition like this was a great opportunity to reach out to people from many walks of life.”



Model of Nir Dhoroni | Photo: *The Daily Star*

BRIEFS

BUPS extends a helping hand

On September 15th, 6 members of the BRACU Pharma Society along with Pharmacist Welfare Association of Bangladesh and advisor Samiul Rajib visited the flood-affected people of the Belkuchi Upazila in Srijanganj. They distributed dry food items such as muri, chira, sugar, salt and saline packs to 200 people, with priority given to the elderly and sick. Naeem Hossain Rony, President of BUPS, commented on BUPS' long-standing tradition of helping communities affected by natural disasters, "It is our moral duty as human beings to stand by people in need, to alleviate their troubles however we are able to. The sorrows of those affected are beyond description. One cannot realize how miserable their lives have become unless one sees for oneself."

Come together against hate

BRAC University is participating in the EdVenture Partners: Peer2Peer Facebook Global Digital Challenge, which challenges participants to combat extremism and expressions of hate on social media. A team of 5 BRACU students will hold live events, starting with one in the university itself, and conduct an online campaign to garner support against these social issues. Students can expect to see the movement take off from their home campus soon. So keep an eye out!

BRACU's first-ever national business competition!

BRACU Business and Economics Forum is finally ready to take the next step forward. BRAC University's first ever national business competition, "Corporate League 2k17", is expected to be held during the last week of October. The competition will have 100 participating teams, each of 3 members, and will have 3 rounds. The winning team will be awarded an attractive monetary prize and all finalists will find internships in reputable corporate offices.

Nree creates space for dialogue

The Anthropology Forum, Nree, is launching a series of talks under the title "Alaap" aiming to create a platform where students can engage in dialogue with administrators and other shareholders and can engage in dialogue. The first instalment of this series was an anti-sexual harassment campaign, carried out in collaboration with the professors of the Department of Economics and Social Sciences.

The first half of this campaign took place on Thursday, July 20th, where students watched video clips and discussed topics ranging from rape to sexuality, abuse, porn, etc. The second half, undertaken on the 14th of September at the Indoor Auditorium, UB2, invited a panel of professors, activists from the Hijra community and speakers who work in the field of legal aid.

A day to celebrate pharmacists**Zaira Zafroon***Journalist*

On September 25th, BRACU Pharma Society commemorated World Pharmacy Day with a day-long program at the Indoor Games Room, UB3. World Pharmacy Day is celebrated around the world since 2010 to increase awareness of the contributions of pharmacists to healthcare. This year's theme was "From Research to Health Care: Your pharmacist is at your service".

The first part of the event consisted of a photo exhibition, showcasing themed projects. "Our Guides" displayed the biographies of the faculty of the Department of Pharmacy, while another named "BUPS Corner" was dedicated to past events. There was also a photo wall displaying research material and labs, pithily named "Where we feel most like a pharmacist".

Visitors entertained themselves at the games corner, with refreshments, pamphlets and badges available at the booth. The most visited attraction was the photo booth, where people could take quirky group pictures with different pharmaceutical-themed props. A friendly quiz competition was also held to create some hype before the seminar began at 3.30 pm.

Associate Professor Dr Mesbah Talukder made the opening



Students of the pharmacy department celebrate world pharmacy day.

remarks, introducing the department's faculty. Key speaker A A Salim Barami, executive director of Incepta Pharmaceuticals, delivered an illuminating speech on the "evolving roles and values of pharmacists in health care sectors". It was received well by the audience, as evidenced by the enthusiastic Q&A session that followed.

ICBM hosts global business and marketing conference

BRAC Business School (BBS) successfully hosted its first ever global business event, "International Conference on Business and Marketing" with the theme of Global Contemporary Practices in Business and Management. It was held at the Westin on September 21st and 22nd.

The organising committee consisted of some of the most accredited individuals at BBS. 24 student volunteers accompanied by the 10 teaching assistants of the department, made up the rest of the committee.

A call for abstract submission was given earlier in February, the full forms of which were presented during the conference. International delegates from Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, China, Sweden, India and USA were present.

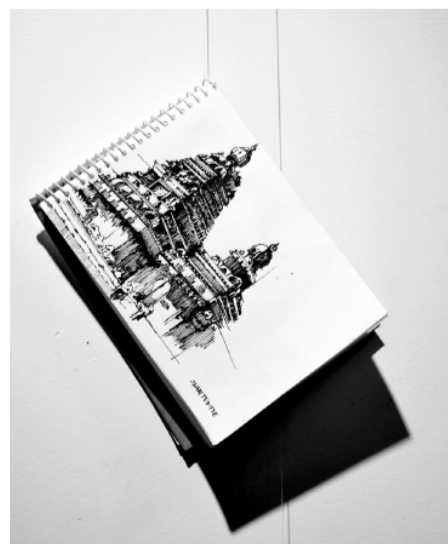
The major highlights of this prestigious event were the peer-reviewed Scopus Indexed Journal Affiliations, and of

Marium N Oishee*Journalist*

course, the distinguished keynote speakers: namely Professor Dr Mark GOH, National University of Singapore Business School, Dr Pairach Piboonrunroj, Chiang Mai University in Thailand, and Professor Dr Premkumar Rajagopal, Vice Chancellor of Malaysia University of Science and Technology. Associate Professor Dr Md Mamun Habib (BBS) served as the program chair. The event was conducted with the vision to provide a platform for students, researchers and professional practitioners from all over the world to put forward their ideas and discuss developmental practices.

Sketchpad Exhibition

The Department of Architecture organised an innovative "Sketchpad Exhibition" from September 27th to October 2nd, held at the 14th floor gallery, UB4. The exhibition, organised by assistant professor Dr Sajid bin Doza, showcased the sketchpads of students attending courses ARC327 (History Bengal Art and Architecture) and ARC224 (History of Art and Architecture III).



Sketch of Shore Temple by Satabdi Tapader

It was the first time that informative sketchpads with write-ups and

sketches of the various buildings, and architectural and cultural structures being studied in these courses, as well as models, were presented in an exhibition open to the public. As described by Professor Doza, "The exposition was based on the theme of co-curricular practice in these theory courses."

Aditi Haque, a junior attending ARC 224, explained their work. "We drew various temples from North and South Indian architecture, from reference pictures. We studied the plans of the buildings, with all the cultural and historical context. The sketchpads are meant to show what we learned, simultaneously 'artworks' and study materials."



OPINION & ACADEMICS

Thesis Spotlight: Farhana Nizam Chowdhury, Bachelor of Architecture

Subah Shaheen

Journalist

“Architecture is not only about designing a building. It is also about arranging the surrounding environment of that structure,” said final year student Farhana Nizam Chowdhury. Her thesis presentation garnered much interest and applause, for both its focus and inlaid thoughtfulness.

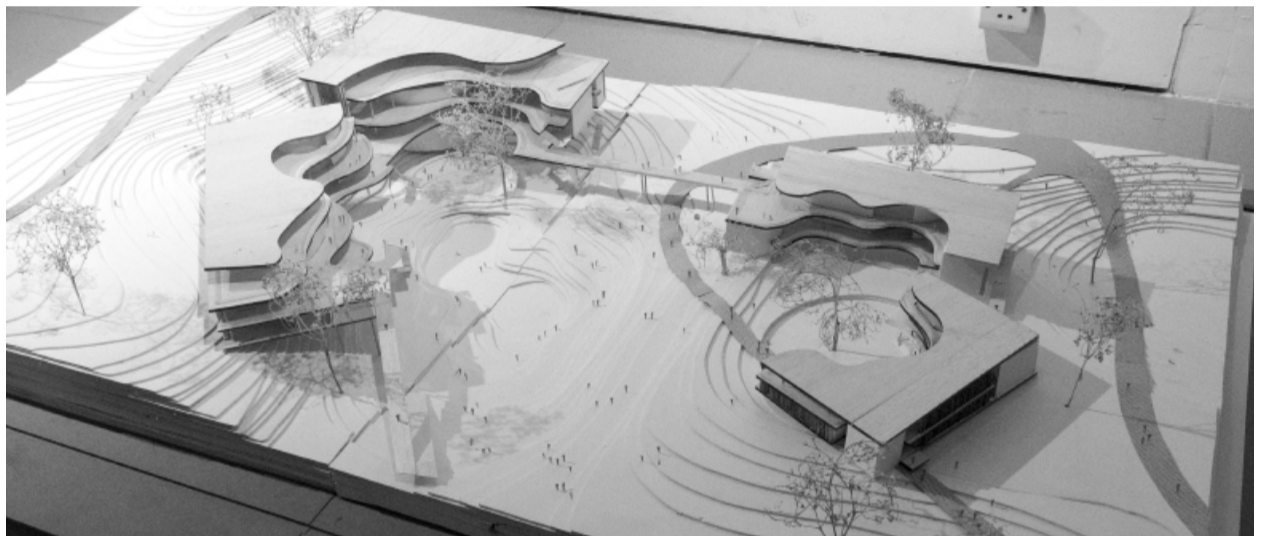
Farhana’s thesis attempts to rethink the cultural landscape of Chittagong. Like most original projects, Farhana’s inspiration was derived from her childhood experiences of growing up in the port city. In developing her idea, her first step was determining whether the infrastructural transformation occurring throughout the region (new roads, flyovers etc) actually pointed toward real development.

“Such infrastructural development is only physical in nature as the actual things that people require are missing,” Farhana explains. “Social structures like well-stocked libraries, theatres, and centres for culture and art, that are accessible to people from all classes and foster sense of community, are still not being built.”

While locating the cultural hubs and most active points of Chittagong, which were classified into old and new, the main objective of the thesis was discovered: creating a trail that would connect all the points. Finding the missing points needed to complete the trail, therefore, was the chief goal of the final part of her research.



Farhana N Chowdhury presenting her thesis



The model of the thesis

Farhana describes her thought process: “At one point, the old and new parts get connected. The missing points that form organically, but as result are rendered invisible, act as points of connection.” The kind of environment present and the development initiatives undertaken have been discussed in the thesis along with the idea of how a single point can act as the central hub of the entire city. Architecture of today aims to be holistic: in considering landscape, society, culture, so as to inscribe human value into the buildings. With the country’s goal in building infrastructure to support economic development, cultural and social value of the urban space is often laid to the wayside.

The Kumon Method comes to Dhaka

Tashfia Zaman

Journalist

“BRAC-Kumon” begins operations with centres, launched by BRAC, in Dhanmondi and Uttara to promote self-learning amongst children in Bangladesh. The internationally recognised learning technique will be taught by instructors trained in India.

The idea is to open centres that teach mathematics all around Bangladesh, and allow as many children as possible to learn with the Kumon Method.

Founded in 1954 by high school mathematics teacher Kumon Toru, the Kumon Method fosters learning capabilities and the motivation to absorb information and skill through diligent practice. The method has been widely recognised for its ability to be moulded for a child’s specific needs and progress; moreover, it rewards practice instead of success, thereby encouraging interest in the learning process rather than the goal of ‘succeeding’.

The programme has students from 4 to 14 years solving mathematics worksheets according to their levels of understanding and progress. Free trial classes are offered for a limited time period, along with a 30% discount on the enrolment fees for the children of BRAC University faculty.

BRAC Institute of Languages takes part in taking strategic decisions and is in charge of operations of BRAC-Kumon. Project in-charge Nehal Bin Hasan, a BRAC University alumnus, directs an amazing team of existing BRACU students and alumni, which emphasizes the importance of developing one’s practical knowledge while serving a great cause.



BRAC-Kumon launching ceremony at BRAC Centre. From left to right, Hidenori Ikegami and Dr Mohammad Musa.

KUMON

To be a part of this educational project, contact:

<https://www.facebook.com/kumon/>

01971586661 (Uttara)

01971586662 (Dhanmondi)

Fighting crime with technology

Muntauqa Bari

Journalist

Smartphones have come a long way since the release of the first Symbian phone back in 2001. With each passing year, developers have managed to find ways to add innovative features to them and to turn them virtually into wands in the hand of a 21st century wizard. In fact, a smartphone could probably be one of the most powerful crime-fighting tools in the world. Or, at least, that is what Tech for Peace is hoping to accomplish with its Digital Challenge.

Tech for Peace, by Preneur Lab and Democracy International, is a network of tech savvy youth whose goal is to come up with solutions to mitigate violent activities in their communities. The company hopes to build applications or software that will allow anyone with a smartphone or computer to report a crime or even help prevent it.

On September 21st, Tech for Peace held a “boot camp” at BRAC University, with the help of BRAC University Computer Club, to inspire like-minded students to join their cause and prepare them for the upcoming Hackday where they would be expected to build

such apps in teams. The boot camp was attended by Arif Nezami, the CEO of Preneur Lab, along with other members of Preneur Lab and Democracy International.

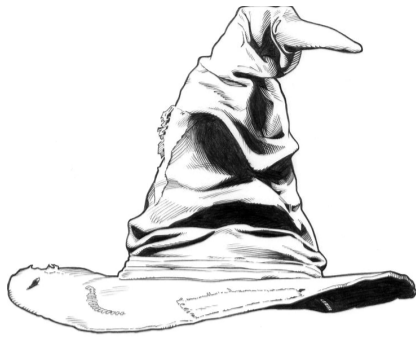
The Hackday was held on the 23rd of September in the auditorium from 10 am until 5:30 pm. The ten teams that participated were given the chance to formulate and pitch their ideas to the judges, who provided constructive criticism to help them properly mould their brainchildren.

Three of these teams moved to the next round where they will compete against students from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Dhaka University, North South University and United International University. The top three teams from this Digital Challenge will receive financial and technological support, mentorship and much more to help them create a market-ready product.

In a society where the bystander effect is so common, the initiative taken by Tech for Peace is noble and practical.

SPECIAL

Terror at Sa



FROZEN IN FEAR, PARALYSED IN PRAYER

A good sleep takes you a long way; or so I had always assumed, with special credit to a bloated stomach and extra munching on, well, munchies. Satisfied and content, I went to sleep that night as usual: with the fans on at full speed, the lights off, and the window kept open to let a gentle breeze in.

Suddenly, I opened my eyes and felt it, instantly. I knew it in every fibre of my being: my friends had finally done the unthinkable and kidnapped that stray cat to dump it on my bed.

Perhaps to you, dear reader, this may sound silly. The cat-lovers among you are surely exclaiming “aww” because who would not want a cat cuddling up to them? Not me, reader; my body went quickly into lockdown when I sensed its heavy presence looming over me.

Quite a large cat it was too, I recalled noting; it seemed as if its heavy weight covered my whole body. Terrified and muttering every anti-cat prayer I had made myself, I mustered enough courage to look down in my current immobile state to look at its glowing eyes and perhaps bargain a shred of bravery... but. There was nothing there.

My mounting nervousness was shattered at that moment when the dong! dong! of the clock striking 3 started ringing. In my head, I mean. My perspiration broke into a full-flowing river. I could not move; I could only see and sense; and where was the bloody cat? Terror gripped me and I started desperately reciting prayers of protection, redemption and salvation.

My eyes roved around the dim room frantically—there! I could see it. The cat was looking at me. Yet, either it was a very big cat or I was seeing the silhouette of an actual human being. I squinted hard and long enough to guarantee a permanent set of crossed eyes, and I still couldn't decipher who this figure was.

My vocal cords seemed frozen. I accepted my doom and started to mentally check off the list of those I had wronged when the weight lifted off of me. I gasped in enough air to cut down the oxygen from our atmosphere. Scared out of my skin, I sat up and screamed, all without realizing I had unwittingly enacted a classic horror movie scene with the jump-scare moment in the end.

The next morning, after a hearty meal of breakfast and calmed nerves, I found out upon sharing my story that my roommates had experienced the exact same thing I did.

With Halloween just around the corner, the stories of ghosts, a haunted house is a haunted one where evil spirits and bloodsucking vampires are quite close to the hearts of every BRACU student. You have surely



KNOCK WHO'S

Everyone dreams of a “daily sleepover” with their friends, especially was a wonderful dorm to be in, with its height and location on the side of the campus boundary. But then came a night turning

It was 1 am on a chilly night in fall. We huddled together in the dorm. It was past curfew. One of our friends had accurately danced to the music loudly. Suddenly we heard a knock at the door. We glanced at each other, the dorm tutor.

“I smell apology letter!” someone whispered. Everyone felt a sense of relief, no one was there. Quickly locking the door, I turned around. Again, there was still no one there.

Every ghost story in our memories filled our heads. I just didn't know. Later, we heard a knock for the third time, all of us stayed silent. It was just a crumpled old myth. I was not sure how to react, and no

FEATURE

Savar Street

Dracula, and witches have already hit the streets. Every abandoned house resides. In this issue, we explore not-so-abandoned 'homes' that are only heard the rumours. But how true are they?

Roshni Shamim & Sumaiya Tasnim

Journalists



Photo Credit: Trinan Ahmed and Sakib Ahsan.

K-KNOCK!
THERE? WHO...?



...nd; and RS, for us, was like that dream came true. Gondhoraj wide windows that looked over miles of rose gardens on the other g our dream into a nightmare...

...in a friend's room, spending the night playing charades even though ed out "Bole Churiya" as another shouted out the song a little too d in exasperation at our loudest friend, certain that she had woken

...hastily pretended to be asleep as I opened the door. To my utter just when the knock was heard again. But, when I opened the door

...umped into bed after locking the door again. When a few minutes still in our beds. That moment I realised the story I heard was not r did my friends, but we certainly did not sleep the rest of the night.



HEIGHT OF HORROR

Sanjiban residents generally pride over our "man-castle", being the newest dorm on Savar campus. Room 615 saw the most traffic for hangouts, music, and made-up games. As far as the haunting stories went, well, I did not have time to think about such superstitions; realities like talking to women I find attractive is horrific enough for me.

One night at RS, though, brought my first brush with the supernatural. My friends and I were getting ready for a paper-tennis match (it is a made-up game, don't take it so seriously), a sudden tension filled the room, unrelated to our games.

"Is that a surah recitation?" said one of my friends as he stopped tuning his guitar. My heart skipped a beat. But the sound of a surah recitation became inexplicably clearer and louder as time went on. We all looked at each other, anxious but not brave enough to try to find out from where the sound was coming. One of us fainted in bed, unable to take the stress.

"Should we leave?" I asked out of the confusion.

"It's really late; we'd run into a dorm tutor or something. It's already... wait, what time is it?"

"3 am." My friend showed us his phone, where the time blinked on his screen.

Glancing over at their fainted friend, our hysteria only increased. As for that one boy who believed that the apocalypse was finally here? The eerie and undetectable surah recitation was accompanied by his muttering of ayatul kursi. This re-enactment of American Horror Story is not what I signed up for, I thought despondently. I just wanted to play some paper tennis.

When one of us made to leave the room, deciding to brave the source rather than stay stuck in fear, another friend let out a laugh. The "fainted" friend jumped up and showed everyone the small radio comfortable sitting at the corner of the shaft. The pranksters were nearly murdered by their enraged and confused friends but oh well, that is TARC for you!

In the end, I did not get to play paper tennis, talking to my crush is still my worst fear.

DISCLAIMER

If it was not obvious already, none of the above stories are true. They are simply figments of our creative imaginations since our dear RS campus is the closest we shall ever get to getting into Hogwarts. Nonetheless, RS is an exciting experience where you make friendships that last a lifetime. Unfortunately (or fortunately) none of them are Casper or Moaning Myrtle.

The need for openness about sex



Ishrat N Erina:
Bangladeshi winner of 120 under 40

Sex education remains a tabooed topic in Bangladesh. NGOs going to rural areas to offer information on reproductive health to young mothers seemed to be the only access to education on sex, sexuality and related topics. BRACU Alumnus Ishrat Naher Erina founded 'Prescription', the first of its kind, to fill this gap and address sex education in rural areas of Bangladesh.

"Sex education in Bangladesh is important to provide scientific knowledge to young minds, about

Antara Tarannum

Journalist

their gender, reproductive health, and other related topics," says Erina. "But alongside giving general education on facts and knowledge, we attempt to foster a sensible and responsible attitude about sex and reproduction. We want to emphasise that such a human part of life should be normalised, not tabooed in society."

She defines sex education as "knowing thyself". Sex, gender, and sexuality are such intrinsic cultural constructs that they form the basis of one's identity. Erina believes that everyone should have access to gaining knowledge about themselves and their bodies in safe and open-minded environments. Moreover, she acknowledges the particularly misogynist shaming around reproductive health.

"I focused more on the relationship of menstruation and motherhood when looking at infertility management," says Erina. "If we are so proud of motherhood, the taboo around menstruation seems paradoxical,

considering it is a sign of fertility of the womb."

She adds, "Infertility is a medical condition, not a weakness. It is not do to try to place blame on people. Infertility management, undoubtedly, depends on our mentality, education, livelihood, community, and the availability of medical facilities."

Erina has been announced as one of the winners of "120 under 40: The new generation of family planning leaders" award. The award was under Bill & Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. The prize money will be invested in online campaigns regarding sex education and family planning.

Addressing the future leaders, Erina says, "I believe that entrepreneurial work is a concept. Anybody can follow a theme and innovate. I would love to focus on work rather than achievement. It is how one grows, as a person, and as a social actor."

Erina will be leaving soon for Germany to complete her post-graduation so that she can effectively continue her work with better knowledge.

Moar: A rent-a-workspace concept

Subah Shaheen

Journalist



Nahid Sharmin (L) and Nabila Nowrin (R) at Moar

Nahid Sharmin and Nabila Nowrin, alumni of the Department of Architecture, bring us a brilliant and innovative concept with Moar. Located on Banani 11, this is a trendy workspace offered for hourly rent to anyone who needs an office space or conference room. It is a veritable godsend for young entrepreneurs searching for a professional workspace where they can host meetings or work uninterrupted.

Moar, which means "crossroads" in Bangla, is a beautiful minimalist space, taking up two floors in adjacent buildings. One floor contains conference rooms, booths for individual workers, and a kitchen space and toilet facilities. The office offers free tea and coffee to renters. The other floor is a longer and larger space, more of a gallery; it is often rented out by online shops for seasonal fairs.

The idea for Moar occurred to Nahid and Nabila when observing the demand for rentable spaces, by online shops run by student and amateur entrepreneurs. Departmental friends who bonded during their residential semester graduated together to form not one but two successful enterprises as partners; they have also founded Ree Architects, an interior design studio. The vision of Moar expanded from its nucleus in 2013, to create a unique space offered to anyone who needs a place to work in peace, in this cramped city of ours. We certainly hope the success of Moar encourages the duo to expand their business to further locations!

Payment can be made in advance to book one's desired type of workspace from Moar's variety of options, or on a walk-in basis.

To learn more about the types of workspaces available for use, visit their website

www.moarbd.com



The Adventure Club does it again!

Safwan Jamil

Journalist

As is its tradition, BRACU Adventure Club organised a short tour to Bholagonj and Tanguar Haor in the Sylhet Division. The expedition lasted three days, from August 22nd to 25th. An astonishing 51 BUAC members embarked on this trip, accompanied by the faculty adviser, Muhammad Foysal Mubarak of BRACU Professional Development Centre.

The tour began on the 22nd, leaving Dhaka for Bholagonj. During their 3-hour stay at Bholagonj the students got the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful Dhala River, a trans-boundary river between Bangladesh and the Indian state of Tripura. After having refreshments there, the tour continued on to the enchanting water basin of Tanguar Haor.

Located in the Dharmapasha and Tahirpur upazilas of Sunamganj district, the haor is a unique wetland ecosystem pronounced of great international importance in the year 2000. Tanguar Haor is consisted of the largest and the most productive fisheries of Bangladesh, and is one of our largest reserves of a variety of



BUAC members pose at Tanguar Haor

natural resources, like freshwater fish, and freshwater trees. The tour allowed BUAC members to appreciate the unique natural beauty of this irreplaceable natural reserve.

Tanguar Haor provided everyone with a mesmerizing experience. Meals were provided in the boats, which was a lot of fun. Munira Tanzim described how "seeing the reflection of stars in

the water under the clear sky in the middle of the night was amazing. It's impossible to see something like that in Dhaka."

This was quite a unique experience for some too, for this was their first trip outside without family. Club members often appreciate the trips for giving them opportunities to make friends and to work as teams.

SPORTS & HEALTH

Jahangirnagar secures first Inter-University Chess Championship

Najibah Rahman

Journalist

BRAC University Chess Club (BUChC), sponsored by Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited (BPBL), arranged the very first Inter-University Chess Championship, which started on the 25th of September. 15 teams from different universities, including Dhaka University, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Jagannath University, Khulna University, Bangladesh University of Professionals, Independent University of Bangladesh, and University of Liberal Arts, Bangladesh participated in this three-day-long competition.

The championship was secured by the team from Jahangirnagar University. BRAC University Red, consisting of Husain Ejaz, Mohammad Shakil, Shihab Shahriar and Rifat Nanjiba Ibnat, became the first runners-up, and coming in third was BUET Team 1. Jagannath University, BUET Team 2, Khulna University and Dhaka University Team 1 secured the fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh position respectively.



Grand Master Niaz Murshed watches over a battle of wits

This initiative was taken by BUChC adviser, Md Shams Ud Duha. It required a great deal of planning to organize an event of such a scale amidst the full bustle of the academic calendar. "I would come home and spend more hours getting updated on everyone else, to keep track of everything," says Arif Shakil, General Secretary of the Chess Club. "But it was worth it."

The closing ceremony was held at the Indoor Auditorium, UB2. Guest of honour Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed,

Director of the BRAC Institute of Languages, congratulated BUChC for its outstanding efforts and success of the event. Grandmaster Niaz Murshed spoke of his enjoyment of the tournament, watching the ups-and-downs of the matches, praising the skill of the players. A K M Sadeque Nawaj, General Manager of Marketing (BPBL) and chief guest, also shared words of praise for the players. The tournament ended on a jubilant note, especially for the organisers for pulling off such a successful event.

Catching the favourites unawares

Safir Zawad

Journalist



Running from crease to crease.

The RS Cricket Cup 2017 started on September 15th, at the Eidgah Field located in Mohammadpur. Organized by Cricket BRAC University, this event is one that every cricket player at BRACU looks forward to: playing "the gentleman's game" with their Residential Semester mates, battling it out to outperform the other Residential Semester batches. The tournament concluded on September 23rd, with RS 36 being crowned champions, after defeating a star-studded RS 39 team in the final.

The opening two days of fixtures saw the teams competing for a spot in the quarter finals, with RS 41 and RS 42 from Group A, RS 32 and RS 39 from Group B, RS 35 and RS 36 from Group C, and RS 40 and RS 44 from Group D progressing onwards. 2015 champions RS 39 defeated RS 40, and RS 36 made their way past RS 41 in the Quarter-Finals. RS 36 won comfortably by 13 runs against RS 42 in the Semis; while RS 39 got a resounding win over RS 44, winning with 9 wickets to spare.

The final started off with favourites RS 39, containing six players playing for the BRACU cricket team, posting their lowest total in the tournament, 67 runs for 7 wickets in 10 overs. The total turned out to be too low, as RS 36 cruised to victory with 7 wickets to spare, with the help of the Player of the Match, Abdullah Al Noman. He was also awarded the Best Batsman, and Player of the Tournament, with Ahmed Najin Khan, also from RS 36, being awarded the Best Bowler of the tournament.

Mirpur Boys crowned consecutive champions of Futsal Fiesta

Fahim Imtiaz

Sports Editor

Football tournaments are the most prolific at BRAC University. After the resounding success of past iterations, Futsal Fiesta 2017 returned to include more than a few big name teams. The day-long event was held at the National Handball Stadium on the 15th of September. Mirpur Boys were champions last year, and this year, they were unbeaten.

A FIFA 17 tournament was also held at the venue simultaneously. On the field, the games did not turn out as expected, and many underdogs managed to pull several upsets in the round of 16. To add a little twist to the proceedings, an auction was held before the quarter finals, where players that were knocked out signed up to get auctioned off to teams that were progressing.

The most expensive player in this auction was Tausif Rabib, who went for 900 credits. This opportunity was also taken to announce the new captain and vice-captain of the BRACU Football team. Rashidur Rahman Rafi (the previous vice-captain) will be taking over the



Hip hip hurray for the Mirpur Boys

mantle of ex-captain Ahnaf, and Shahriar Real will be taking over as vice-captain.

Bolstered by newly bought players, the matchups were much more entertaining for the neutral. Stooop FC, consisting mainly of the players from the recent RS batch, caught the eye of spectators, not in the least because of their customary rowdy and jubilant celebrations after scoring a goal.

Mirpur Boys, on the other hand, fulfilled expectations and progressed

to the finals. In a tight, nerve-racking game, "Sir" Rafi once again came to the rescue, as dependable as ever, putting one past the keeper from a brilliant free kick. He was awarded the Most Valuable Player of the tournament.

Awards for best keeper, top scorer and best stopper went to Syed Mahmud Hasan (Xenon FC), Sujayet Kabir (Josephites) and Ishrak Sami (Stooop FC) respectively, and Rifat Alam Mahin was the champion of the FIFA tournament.

RS CRICKET CUP 2017

| GROUP A | GROUP B | GROUP C | GROUP D |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| RS 41 (Q) | RS 32 (Q) | RS 33 | RS 38 |
| RS 42 (Q) | RS 39 (Q) | RS 35 (Q) | RS 40 (Q) |
| RS 45 | RS 43 | RS 36 (Q) | RS 44 (Q) |

(Q) QUALIFIED FOR THE QUARTER FINALS

QUARTER-FINAL 1 - RS 41 VS RS 36 QUARTER-FINAL 2 - RS 32 VS RS 44
 QUARTER-FINAL 3 - RS 35 VS RS 42 QUARTER-FINAL 4 - RS 40 VS RS 39

ENTERTAINMENT

HALLOWEEN TRIVIA QUIZ


- Where did Halloween originate?
A. England B. America C. Scotland D. Ireland
- Which is the top-selling candy for Halloween?
A. Snickers B. Candy Corn C. M&Ms D. Reese's
- The first Jack-o-Lanterns were made out of what?
A. Watermelons B. Cantaloupe C. Turnips D. Pumpkins
- What phobia do you suffer from if you have an intense fear of Halloween?
A. Phasmophobia B. Samhainophobia C. Wiccaphobia D. Halloweenophobia
- "Halloween," the movie was made in 1978 on a low budget in how many days?
A. 15 days B. 17 days C. 19 days D. 21 days
- According to legend, a unibow, tattoos, and a long middle finger, are all signs of which halloween creature?
A. Werewolf B. Witch C. Vampire D. Golem
- According to the superstition, if you stare into a mirror at n=midnight on Halloween, Who would you see?
A. Bloody Mary B. Your Future Spouse C. Your Death D. Dead ancestors

HALLOWEEN


Trivia Game

MATCH THE MOVIE CHARACTER TO THE DESCRIPTION


- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7TH DAY AVENGER | A. JASON |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PRECIOUS OBSESSIVE | B. DEMENTOR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DECAPITATED EQUESTRIAN | C. CRYPT KEEPER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LONG HAIRD WAX FACE | D. CHUCKY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CORPSE PARTS UNIFIED | E. HEADLESS HORSEMAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VILLAINOUS CLOWN | F. HANNIBAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MURDEROUS DOLL | G. CREEPER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SOUL SUCKER | H. FRANKENSTEIN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VILLAIN ON ELM STREET | I. PENNYWISE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HUNGRY BAT WINGED FREAK | J. SCREAM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHAINSAW WIELDING MANIAC | K. FREDDY KRUEGER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PROM ENDED BADLY | L. GOLLUM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BLOOD SUCKER | M. GRIM REAPER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SPOOKY TALE TELLER | N. LEATHERFACE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SILENT WHITE FACED KILLER | O. CARRIE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOALIE MASKED CUTTER | P. MICHAEL MYERS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PSYCHOPATHIC CANNIBAL | Q. DRACULA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEATH PERSONIFIED | R. SAMARA |



Gemini
Nosy know-it-alls everywhere judging you for your happening lifestyle? You know it's only cause they are jealous, Gem; plus no harm done, since you secretly love the attention.




Taurus
Chaos is a ladder and they are all your pawns. Silly inferior creatures.




Pisces
All the world is a stage and the men and women merely players. (While you are trying your best.)


THE SIGNS BEING JUDGEMENTAL




Aries
Aries is distrusting of everyone. You made too many enemies in the day and now think everyone is plotting against you. Don't get paranoid Aries; just carry a bat for self defense.




Cancer
Everyone is your friend until you ask them to subscribe to your YouTube channel.



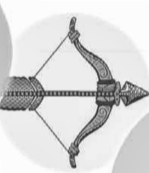
Leo
You give the best advice and everyone knows it. You give it to anyone who asks, after all, and even those who don't. People are just helpless without some sage wisdom from yours truly.




Virgo
Only people would jump from their egos to their IQs




Scorpio
Other people?EW.




Sagittarius
There are two kinds of people. The ones who like you and the ones who have bad taste.



Libra
You prefer people expressly under Snapchat filters. With the duration set to 2 seconds.



Capricorn
They are the reason you do not get seats at Chillox. Enough Said.



Aquarius
You love new interactions and new experiences... but then. The newness fades. And you're left with... boring gossip.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 5 | | | | |
| | | | 2 | 9 | | | | |
| 2 | | | 4 | 9 | 6 | 5 | | |
| 4 | | | | 7 | | | | |
| | 1 | | 6 | | | 8 | | |
| | | | 2 | | | | 3 | |
| | 9 | 2 | 7 | 3 | | | 6 | |
| | | 4 | | 5 | | | | |
| | | | 4 | | 6 | 5 | 2 | 9 |

