

Annual Report 2007



BRAC University

BRAC University

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

**Dhaka
Bangladesh**

Editorial Committee

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BRAC UNIVERSITY



Message from the President Governing Board of BRAC University

Only seven years ago, BRAC University started with just three departments and around 80 students, with the aim of bringing about positive change through the creation of a center of excellence in higher education that is responsive to the evolving needs of society. Towards this goal, the university strives to not only produce educated graduates, but individuals who are committed, confident, creative and ethical.

Today, I am proud to say that the university has grown to five undergraduate departments along with post-graduate schools for Business, Law, Public Health and Education, along with the Centre for Governance Studies, which has been elevated to an Institute of Governance Studies this year. The success of the university is reflected in its ever growing student community, which currently stands at 3,873 - a growth of 24% over 2006 enrolment.

I am also pleased to note that the university has made every effort possible to include qualified students from disadvantaged families, having provided merit scholarships totaling 12% of its revenue during the year 2007.

One of the unique features of the university, the Residential Semester (RS) at the BRAC Training and Resource Center in Savar, has garnered recognition not only among the students but also their families. This is a testament to the success of the university in innovating methods of providing a high-quality, broad-based education its students.

Our plans for the creation of a new campus to enhance the academic environment of the university is well underway, the property necessary for the campus having already been acquired.

I commend the BRAC University community for their responsiveness in the aftermath of cyclone Sidr, during which time the university clubs and forums came together to initiate the "Help Cyclone Sidr Victims" programme to raise large amounts of funds and relief materials.

As the university community continues to grow, I am confident that, with the knowledge and experience they have gained here, our graduates will go on to provide higher measures of service to society.

As we progress into 2008, let us strengthen our focus on the larger vision of BRAC University and take concerted strides in getting there. It is by working together that we will ensure significant accomplishments at BRAC University and the many societal benefits that will no doubt flow from them.

Fazle Hasan Abed
President, Governing Board
BRAC University



BRAC UNIVERSITY



Professor Jamilur R. Choudhury
Ph.D FIE FICE (UK) CEng (UK)
Vice Chancellor



Message from the Vice Chancellor

On the completion of the sixth year of BRAC University (BRACU), we have much to celebrate, much to contemplate. BRACU has already established itself as a safe and nurturing place for its students to learn and pursue their co-curricular activities. The past year has been an uplifting year for BRACU, a year literally framed by two convocations that conferred degrees to an array of impressive graduates of the highest quality, skill and caliber, with the ability to adapt to this dynamic society and the ever-changing job market. The positive feedback on the performance of our graduates I receive from various quarters is a source of inspiration for us to strive to achieve higher standards of education.

This has truly been a year of expansion for BRACU, marked by an increase not only in number of students but also of faculty members. To cater to a larger student body, we continue recruiting the best possible academic staff in their disciplines to make sure that our students have access to the leading experts in their chosen subjects.

The recent accreditation of our B.Sc. Program in Computer Science and Engineering by the Board of Accreditation for Engineering and Technical Education, Bangladesh, has not only been a recognition of the high standard of our education but opened newer scope for development in the area, as well as newer responsibilities, which we are happy to live up to.

Our vision is to create a truly great university – one where students excel to liberate their human potential, where faculty strive for exceptional achievement in teaching, research and service to society, where staff are inspired to make a significant difference. We constantly refine and revise even as we act on our goals. Faculty orientation and development workshops have been organized by the University to facilitate this constant learning process.

Throughout the year, a range of vibrant research projects carried out by the Institute of Educational Development (IED), the Centre for Research on Bangladesh Language Processing (CRBLP), the Development Studies Program (DSP), the Institute of Governance Studies (IGS) and James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH) at BRAC University continue to further its commitment to an engagement with international excellence in research and to bring that engagement to bear on its growth through educational outreach and knowledge transfer projects.

To expand the overall scope of the university, through the Centre for Languages at BRACU, we have reached out to current and prospective students, who are motivated and capable but relatively weak in English.

Always aspiring to take its students to new heights, along with our Professional Skills Development program, we have recently started hosting the program titled “The Interview” to further our students' familiarity with the corporate world, and to help them bridge the gap between academia and real life successfully.

My warmest regards to you all for helping us be a force of change and development. I hope, with your support, we can continue this upward journey for years to come.

Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury
Vice Chancellor



Residential Semester facilities, Savar



GOVERNANCE

Chancellor

Professor Dr. Iajuddin Ahmed

Hon'ble President, People's Republic of Bangladesh

Vice Chancellor

Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury

Pro-Vice Chancellor

Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed

Treasurer

Mr. Sukhendra K. Sarkar

Registrar

Mr. Mahmood Hasan

GOVERNING BOARD

The Governing Board is the highest policy making body of BU. It is responsible for ensuring that the highest level of educational and administrative standards are set and maintained at BU. The current Governing Board consists of the following eminent personalities of Bangladesh:

President

Mr. Fazle Hasan Abed

Chairperson, BRAC

President, BRAC University

Advocate Sultana Kamal

Executive Director

Ain O Salish Kendro (ASK)

Members

Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury

Vice Chancellor, BRAC University

Dr. Riaz Khan

Advisor, Governing Board, BRAC University

Professor Dilara Chowdhury

Department of Government and Politics

Jahangir Nagar University

Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed

Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University

Mr. Abdul-Muyeed Chowdhury

Chairman, BRAC Net

Mr. Faruq A. Choudhury

Former Foreign Secretary

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Sukhendra K. Sarkar

Treasurer, BRAC University

Professor Anisuzzaman

Supernumerary Professor

Dhaka University

Dr. Mahabub Hossain

Executive Director, BRAC

Prof. A. Mushtaque R. Chowdhury

Deputy Executive Director, BRAC

Dean, JPGSPH, BRACU

Member Secretary

Mr. Mahmood Hasan

Registrar, BRAC University

MEETINGS

The Governing Board had four quarterly meetings during the year 2007. The meetings of the Governing Board took place on March 18, June 19 and September 5. The Annual Governing Board Meeting was held on December 18, 2007.

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

The Academic Council recommends the educational policies of the university and determines the curricula and courses that can help achieve high educational standards. The council is currently composed of the following academics and professionals:

Chairperson

Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury
Vice Chancellor
BRAC University

Members

Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed
Pro-Vice Chancellor
BRAC University

Professor Iqbal Mahmud
Former Vice Chancellor, BUET

Professor Zarina Rahman Khan
Department of Public Administration
Dhaka University

Professor Ainun Nishat
Country Representative, International Union
for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Dr. Riaz Khan
Advisor, Governing Board
BRAC University

Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya
Executive Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue

Professor Syed M. Hashemi
Director, Development Studies Program
BRAC University

Mr. Mamun Rashid
CEO, Citibank, NA

Mr. Mahbub Jamil
Chairman & Managing Director
Singer Bangladesh Ltd.

Mr. Emad-Ul-Ameen
Director, Human Resource
GrameenPhone Ltd.

Prof. A. Mushtaque R. Chowdhury
Deputy Executive Director, BRAC
Dean, JPGSPH, BRAC University

Dr. Perween Hasan

Professor of Islamic History and Culture
Dhaka University

Dr. Manzoor Ahmed

Director, Institute of Educational
Development, BRAC University

Professor Iftekhar Ghani Chowdhury

Dean, BRAC Business School
BRAC University

Dr. Sayeed Salam

Chairperson, Computer Science and
Engineering, BRAC University

Professor Fuad H. Mallick

Chairperson, Architecture, BRAC University

Professor Firdous Azim

Chairperson, English & Humanities
BRAC University

Dr. Anwarul Hoque

Chairperson, Economics and Social Sciences
BRAC University

Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed

Chairperson, Mathematics and Natural
Sciences BRAC University

Dr. Shahdeen Malik

Director, School of Law, BRAC University

Mr. Khondoker Shamsuddin Mahmood

Head, Undergraduate Program
School of Law, BRAC University

Ms. Syeda Sarwat Abed

Director, CfL, BRAC University

Barrister Manzoor Hasan

Director, Institute for Governance Studies
BRAC University

Member Secretary

Mr. Mahmood Hasan

Registrar, BRAC University

MEETINGS

BU Academic Council meetings were held on January 31, March 8, June 4, September 12 and December 19, 2007

Introduction to BRAC University

Background

From a modest beginning almost thirty-five years ago, BRAC has today grown into one of the largest non-government development organizations in the world. It works in areas such as poverty alleviation, rural health care and non-formal education among many others to bring about socio-economic changes for a large number of our people, mostly women and children, whose lives are dominated by extreme poverty, illiteracy, disease and malnutrition. BRAC recognizes that development strategies, information technology and effective management can play significant roles in modernizing Bangladesh and in securing meaningful jobs for the Bangladeshi workforce at home and abroad. In line with BRAC's continual support to education as a force of change and development, BRAC University (BRACU) has been established to provide a high quality of education to meet the demands of the modern age. BRACU is accredited by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and approved by the Ministry of Education, Government of Bangladesh.

Mission

The mission of BRACU is to foster the national development process through the creation of a centre of excellence in higher education that is responsive to society's needs, is able to develop creative leaders and actively contributes to learning and creation of knowledge.

Goal

The goal of the university is to provide an excellent broad based education with a focus on professional development for students, in order to equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary for leading the country in its quest for development. Along with this, the university provides an environment for faculty development. Faculty will be provided with an environment in which they can further enhance their teaching expertise and contribute to the creation of new knowledge by developing and using their research skills.

Scope

BRAC University will provide instruction and confer degrees in all branches of the Humanities, Social Sciences and Science and Technology. In addition, the university will offer Diploma programs on professional courses.

Organisational Structure

The Governing Board is the highest policy making body of BRACU. The committees are: Academic Council, Course Committee, Finance Committee, Selection Committee, Audit Committee, Committee on Student Affairs, Committee on University Development and Committee on Medical Facilities. The Vice Chancellor is the Principal Academic and Executive Officer of the university. He is assisted by the Pro-Vice Chancellor in all matters. The Treasurer, supported by the Accounts Office, prepares and implements the financial policies. The academic wing of the University consists of Dean and Chairpersons of the Departments, Faculty members, and Teaching Assistants. The Director of the Teaching-Learning Centre is responsible for organizing training programs and guidance to faculty members in all professional issues. The Director of Student Affairs coordinates and supports all extra-curricular activities. The University library is headed by the Librarian who is assisted by Assistant Librarians. The Registrar along with the Assistant Registrars and Officers is responsible for planning and implementation of the academic calendar, logistics and administration, human resource management, technological services and records.



Hon'ble President & Chancellor arrives at BCFCC to preside over the 2nd Convocation on Feb 7, 2007



Some graduate students of 3rd Convocation held on Dec 30, 2007



3rd Convocation valedictorian Ms. Farzana Ashraf receives her certificate from the Vice Chancellor

Seventh Year of BRAC University

The seventh year of BRACU was a year of tremendous activities for all the academic departments, schools and institutes. Through out the year the rigorous academic programs were well supported by frequent workshops, seminars, discussions and networking sessions to encourage students to acquire a passion for learning, discerning judgment and a global perspective. With increasing student participation various clubs and forums also excelled in organizing sports, cultural and social events all year long. The co-curricular and extra-curricular activities had not only made the campus more sprightly, but given the students a rare opportunity to reach outside classrooms and labs and experience life outside academia. The faculty also took part in various events of national and international stature, making 2007 an enriching year over all.

MAJOR EVENTS

➤ **BRACU Celebrated its 2nd Convocation**

BRAC University held its 2nd convocation on February 8, 2007 with a total of 199 graduating students under various disciplines.

The first part of the program started with the welcome speech delivered by Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr Salehuddin Ahmed. The program continued with speeches by Mr. F H Abed, President, Governing Body, BRACU and Founder and Chairperson of BRAC, Professor Gowher Rizvi, Convocation Speaker, Director Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation, John F Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Raisa Iffat Afsana and Fahim Muhammad Hasan, Representatives of graduating batch of 2007 and Valedictorians, Professor J R Choudhury, Vice Chancellor, BRACU, Professor Dr Iajuddin Ahmed, Chancellor and

President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. In the second part of the program degrees were conferred upon the graduates and medals awarded to students with Distinction. The graduates comprised students from Departments of Computer Science, Computer Science and Engineering, BRAC Business School, Economics and Social Science, English and Architecture, James P. Grant School of Public Health, Disaster Management Program, Development Studies Program and Centre of Governance and Development. Nine students received Vice Chancellor's Medals and three students received Chancellor's Gold medal Raisa Iffat Afsana and Fahim Muhammad Hasan and Jobair Mohammad Kaiser received the Chancellor's Gold Medal for excellent academic achievements. A Convocation Dinner was also organized in the Banquet Hall of the Bangladesh-China Friendship Centre in the evening. Chairpersons, members of BRACU Governing Board and Academic Council, all BRACU teachers, graduating students and their parents attended the dinner.

➤ **BRACU Celebrated its 3rd Convocation**

In a joyful ceremony BRACU celebrated its 3rd Convocation on the 30th December, 2007 at the Bangladesh China Friendship Convention Centre. Prof. Dr. Iajuddin, Chancellor BRACU conferred degrees to 321 undergraduate and graduate level candidates.

Farzana Ashraf, Valedictorian from BRAC Business School received the Chancellor's Gold Medal for obtaining the highest CGPA of 3.96 amongst the entire undergraduate students. Farzana is also a BRAC-Ford Scholarship recipient. Abebual Zerihun, BRAC School of Public Health from Ethiopia received the Chancellor's Gold Medal from the graduate program for obtaining the highest CGPA of 3.96.

The Convocation Speaker this year was Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre

for Policy Dialogue. The program started with the Pro-Vice Chancellor's welcome address followed by a series of speeches by Mr. Abed, President of the Governing Board, Prof. Rehman Sobhan, the convocation speaker, Farzana Ashraf, Valedictorian, Prof. Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Vice Chancellor, and Prof. Dr. Iajuddin Ahmed, Chancellor BRACU. Following the conferment of the degrees, members of BRACU Governing Board and Academic Council, Chairpersons, all BRACU teachers, graduating students and their parents joined the convocation lunch. It was a wonderful way to end the year 2007!

➤ **The Interview Program**

In BRAC University's continuous effort to promote greater understanding of needs and issues with the employment industry, “**The Interview**” program was organized and held on April 18, 2007 at BRAC Centre Inn. The Career Services Office (CSO) organized the program as a modular component of the Professional Skills Development Program (PSDP) conducted every semester by Ms. Mirka Rahman. This was the first of its kind and the purpose of “**The Interview**” program was to-

- ◆ Strengthen its existing academia-corporate relationship.
- ◆ Help students gain experience and practice in answering questions, which are likely to be asked by the recruiters during an actual job interview.
- ◆ Facilitate some collaborative arrangements for students' internship placements.
- ◆ Understand the employers' expectations about employability criteria

A number of renowned companies had taken part in the program, conducting approximately 200 interviews with 140 students from BRAC Business School, Department of Economics & Social Sciences and Department of Computer Science & Engineering. The organizations included:

CityCell, GrameenPhone, HIIT, BRAC

Bank, BRAC Net, Microserve, Navana Group, Pran Group, Standard Chartered Bank, TNT Express, Transcom, IT Companies like Ardites and TherapBD etc

Employers had evaluated the interviewees using an evaluation form provided by the CSO. The evaluations were disclosed to the students. Employers like Standard Chartered Bank, TNT Express, Transcom BRAC Bank, BRAC Net and Ardites made internship placement offers to some of the students.

➤ **Video Conference on a Report of World Bank, “*South Asia: Growth and Regional Integration*” in BRACU DLC Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) Centre**

A Video Conference on a report of World Bank, “*South Asia: Growth and Regional Integration*” was held at BRACU on 27th June 2007. It looked at several aspects of South Asia's growth and how regional integration can contribute to growth. The two themes were not tightly linked in a causality sense, rather, the themes emerged as an outcome of a knowledge partnership between the World Bank and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI), which is the apex business organization of SAARC.

The SCCI is composed of the national chambers of commerce and industry in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. This partnership resulted in the first SAARC Business Conclave, held in November, 2005 in New Delhi. The SAARC Chamber of Commerce and the External Affairs Minister of India at the Second SAARC Business Conclave launched this report in February, 2007. Mr. Farooq Sobhan, former Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh, made valuable contribution, which was appreciated by all. Mr. S. M. Rezwana-ul-Alam, Senior Communications Officer, World Bank Office, Dhaka and Ali Salman of BRAC Business School also attended the Video Conference.

➤ **BRAC University Represented in Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) Asia Pacific Association in Tokyo**

Ali Salman, BBA Program Coordinator, BRAC Business School and GDLN Coordinator participated in the 1st General Meeting for Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) Asia Pacific Association (AP) held from 17th to 22nd June 2007 in Tokyo, Japan.

The meeting was highly successful and BRAC University, also an affiliate of GDLN joined the GDLN AP through this general meeting.

➤ **BRACU Annual Cultural Program**

The annual cultural program was organized by BRAC University Cultural Club (BUCuC) on the 25th of July at the National Museum Auditorium.

Most of the performers were freshers and they kept the eager audience entertained with variations of songs and dance performances and recitation. Sponsored by BRAC Net, the Annual Cultural Function owed its success to the team spirit of the BUCuC. The guests of honour were the Vice Chancellor, Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury and the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed.

The money collected from the sale of tickets of the function was given to BRAC Charity Fund.

➤ **Workshop on Program Design for Early Childhood Development**

A workshop on the Bangladesh Shishu Academy (BSA) Program Package Review of Shishu Bikash Kendro (SBK) and Pre-primary (PP) schools was organized by the Early Childhood Development Resource Centre (ECDRC) of IED at the IED conference room from 9th July to 17th July, 2007. The workshop, sponsored by the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MOWCA) and Plan Bangladesh, had participants comprising nearly fifty ECD experts, professionals, stakeholders and government representatives.

The main objective of the workshop was to share information about the curricular framework for SBK and PP education, to review and analyze the existing learning packages and to develop a standard learning package involving the major ECD stakeholders of Bangladesh ECD Network.

After a weeklong group work on specific subject areas, the workshop ended with the sharing session held on 17th July where the conclusions were presented to ECD professionals, stakeholders and government representatives.

➤ **Research on Education Access and Equity**

The second phase of CREATE (Consortium for Research on Educational Access, Transitions and Equity) began in July with the baseline survey of a sample of children at home and school in Khanshama Upazila of Dinajpur. Similar surveys were to be undertaken in five other locations in the country with the partnership of an NGO involved in education in the locality. The children would be tracked for at least three years in order to shed light on the dynamics of participation, performance and exclusion in education programs. Besides IED, BRACU seven other research institutions from India, Ghana, South Africa and U.K. are partners in the international research project supported by DFID.

➤ **Workshop Held on ISO 9000, ISO 14000 and OHSAS 18000 by Asian Productivity Organization (APO) Through GDLN Center at BRAC University**

First ever in Bangladesh APO, an Asia based regional organization and one of the most prospective partners of the Tokyo Development Learning Center (TDLC) and Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) conducted a distance seminar by Video Conference - on "Green Productivity - ISO 9000, 14001 & OHSAS 18000" from August 20th 2007 to August 23rd, 2007. A total

of 32 Participants, all from Government institution, who are in a process of implementing any quality system, from all over Bangladesh attended the workshop along with 9 other countries in the same session. The APO actively conducted various types of training courses and seminars for the improvement of productivity. Since 2004, the APO and the TDLC had worked together to organize a number of Seminars by utilizing the GDLN and all of them were highly appreciated.

Two other Seminars one on Toyota Production system and another on ISO 22000 are lined up in the upcoming month. Both of them are to be held in BRAC University Video Conference Center.

➤ **BRACU Faculty Orientation Workshop**
BRACU Faculty Orientation Workshop, titled “Be the spark, be a teacher” was held in BRAC Training and Research Centre (TARC), Savar on September 08-09, 2007. The Orientation aimed at contextualizing the new faculty members of BRACU, with an effort to introducing them to the history of BRACU, its teaching philosophy, nature and backgrounds of the students who attend the university, what is generally expected of students and teachers, ways of planning, preparing and delivering the courses, and assessment and evaluation. The Orientation also covered some pedagogical aspects, such as different theories of learning, a variety of learning styles and teaching techniques and etc. Along with the core team members from BRACU (Bushra Towfiq



Chowdhury, Tabassum Zaman, Shamim Ehsanul Haque, Farah Mahjabeen), three staff members of IED, BRACU (Jahirul Islam Mullick, Elizabeth Wickwire and Ali Md. Shahiduzzaman) participated in planning, designing, organizing and facilitating the workshop.

➤ **Seminars on eLearning**

BRACU organized a seminar on “eLearning and its Perspectives in the Context of a Developing Country like Bangladesh” on February 22, 2007. Professor Lone Dirckinck-Holmfeld, Professor in ICT, Learning and Design, Department of Communication, Aalborg University, was the keynote speaker. He presented a historical overview of eLearning followed by a presentation and discussion on an eLearning approach based on problem and project based learning. The presentation was framed within a socio cultural approach to learning. BRACU students and researchers were present. The second session, a seminar on opportunities for Masters and PhD in Denmark with a focus on eLearning was held on February 22, 2007. Professor Holmfeld gave an overview of the Masters and Ph.D programs in Denmark with a focus on eLearning. He presented Master in ICT and Learning (Masters for professionals), Master in Human Centered Informatics (Academic Masters), and the Doctoral School in Human Centered Informatics. Master in ICT and Learning is a half time study organized as web-based learning with 4 seminars per year. This represents a generic and productive model for eLearning, and the model is therefore interesting in itself. The presentation covered the pbl approach, an important characteristic of Aalborg University. Faculties from BRACU as well as other private and public universities were present.

➤ **BRACU Introduced "Fundamentals of Wireless LAN" Under the CISCO Networking Academy**

BRACU has always played a leading role in the IT sector. Launching of CCNA (Cisco Certified Network) program in 2003 was one

of the stepping-stones. Over these three years, BRACU has produced over 200 CCNA trained personels all of whom are now well placed in various renowned organizations all over the country. In tune with the 200% growth rate in the telecommunication sector of Bangladesh, the Department of Computer Science launched a new curriculum-- "Fundamentals of Wireless LAN" under the CISCO Networking Academy. Senior Lecturer Sadia Hamid Kazi and Lecturer Bushra Tawfiq Chowdhury were sent to University of Indonesia in Jakarta, Indonesia from February 26 till March 03, 2007 to undergo instructor training. Instructors from Malaysia, India, and Hong Kong were also present. "Fundamentals of Wireless LANs" provides an introduction to Wireless LANs, focusing on the design, planning, implementation, operation and troubleshooting of Wireless LANs and bridging. It covers a comprehensive overview of technologies, security and design best practices with particular emphasis on hands on skills. The 3 month long course was conducted from May, 2007.

➤ **BRACU's Contribution to the Sidr Victims**

BRAC University staff and faculty contributed an amount of Taka 1,55,728.00 to the cyclone affected people. The cheque was handed over by Prof Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Vice Chancellor of BRACU, to Mr. F.H. Abed, Chairman of BRAC on 25th November, 2007. Through the 'Help Cyclone SIDR Victims' drive that started on the 18th of December, 2007, all the club members came forward to lend a hand. They collected a large amount of clothing, food, medicine and money for the cyclone SIDR victims. The donations were distributed to the cyclone victims through BRAC.

RECOGNITIONS

➤ **Congratulation to Mr. F H Abed!**

Fazle Hasan Abed, founder of BRAC and Chairperson and President of BRAC University Governing Board, was awarded the

degree of Doctor of Humane Letters by Yale University in the United States for his pioneering work in alleviating poverty and human suffering at its 306th Commencement Ceremony. Mr. Abed was conferred his degree by Richard C. Levin, the President of the University.

➤ **The ICAB 2006 National Awards**

Congratulations to BRAC for winning the 1st position in the NGO/MFIs sector of the ICAB National Awards, 2006. The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) awarded BRAC for the best published accounts and reports. It is mentionable that BRAC also won the National Award for Best Presented Published Accounts and Reports for the year 2004 and 2005 from ICAB.

BRACU VISITORS

➤ Dr. Istvan Teplan, Senior Vice President, Central European University, Budapest visited BRAC University from February 26-28, 2007. He had a meeting with Professor J R Choudhury, VC and Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Pro-VC, BRACU. He visited BRAC projects in Manikganj, Ayesha Abed Foundation and BRAC Training and Resource Centre to observe residential semester of BRACU and training activities of BRAC. He also met the Chairpersons/Program Heads of BRACU and facilitated a session with senior students of BRACU.

➤ An eleven-member team (ten students and one professor) from the Obirin University, Japan visited BRAC and BRACU during February 14 - 28, 2007. They wanted to have a broader understanding about BRAC interventions in achieving its twin objectives of poverty alleviation and empowerment of the poor. They visited BRACU Residential Semester Campus at Savar and had meetings with Professor J R Choudhury, VC and Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Pro-VC, BRACU.

➤ Michael Harrison, retired Dean for Teaching and Learning at the School of

Education, University of Manchester in the UK, visited IED from 13 to 26 July. Prof. Harrison is now a consultant for the National College for School Leadership. His visit was in connection with the planning of the proposed Post-Graduate Diploma and MEd program, offered by IED. An IED team worked with Prof. Harrison on the details of content and delivery of the program. The program intended to develop participants from within the Bangladeshi education community in their understanding of theories and principles of leadership and help them to see

how these concepts can be applied to improve performance of students and institutions.

➤ Muhammed Zafar Iqbal, popular writer and Professor of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST), Sylhet, met the students of Bangladesh Studies in residential semester at TARC, Savar on 19th October. He shared his reading habit with the students and advised them to read books and play constructive role for the welfare of Bangladesh. He also gave them some tips on writing.



Governing Board Meeting

Academic Progress

BRAC University offers fouryear undergraduate Bachelor degree in Computer Science, Computer Science and Engineering, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Management and Business, Architecture, English, Economics, Physics and Law. Variety of Master's programs, such as MBA (Master of Business Management), MDS (Master of Development Studies), MPH (Master of Public Health), Master of Arts in Governance and Development, Disaster Management, and English, Master of Science in Applied Economics and Biotechnology are also offered.

Currently there are five academic departments, three schools, three institutes and one centre operating within the framework of BRACU. These are:

- Architecture (ARC)
- Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)
- Economics and Social Sciences (ESS)
- English and Humanities (ENH)
- Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS)
- BRAC Business School (BBS)
- School of Law (LLB)
- James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH)
- Institute of Educational Development (IED)
- Institute of Governance and Studies (IGS)
- Center for Languages (CfL)

The total number of students at BRACU as on 31 December, 2007 was 3166 in undergraduate programs and 707 in graduate programs. BRACU also offers Certificate and Diploma programs such as CISCO and Bank Management & IT (BMIT). Following was the break down of last year's students by departments:

The highest number of students was enrolled in BRAC Business School and in Computer Science and Engineering Department.

Number of students in each discipline as of December 2007

Undergraduate	No. of Students Admitted
ARC	278
BBA	1378
CSE & CS	637
ECE	403
PHY	16
ECO	158
ENG	189
LLB & LLB (EVE)	107
Total	3166
Graduate	No. of Students Admitted
MBA	478
MBM	13
MDS	90
MPH	28
MGDS	11
DMS	49
MSC	8
MSAE	6
MAENG	24
Total	707
Diploma	No. of Students Admitted
CISCO	56
BMIT	23
SADC	1
Total	80
Grand Total	3953

Partners in Education

Over the years BRAC University has partnered with the following reputed academic institutions around the world to enhance its own educational experience by learning from others.

Institute of Governance Studies

- Kennedy School of Government (KSG), Harvard University, USA
- University of Manitoba, Canada
- Korea Development Institute School of Public Policy and Management, Seoul, South Korea
- Key Centre, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia
- Monash University, Australia
- George Mason University, Virginia, USA

BRAC University Institute of Educational Development

- George Washington University, Washington, DC, USA
- National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi
- University of Sussex, UK
- Columbia University, New York, USA

James P. Grant School of Public Health

- Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard University, USA
- Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, USA
- George Washington University, USA
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK
- Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, USA
- Uppsala University, Sweden
- Karolin Institute, Sweden
- University of Amsterdam, Netherlands
- ICCDR, Bangladesh

BRAC Business School

- Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok
- Asian Institute of Management, Manila
- University of South Australia

DEPARTMENTS

Department of Architecture (ARC)

Since its inception in 2002, the mission of the Department of Architecture has been to produce architects who are sensitive to the needs of the country and are able to address the problems in a creative way with skills that match international standards.

The first batch of 4 graduates from the Department received their Bachelor of Architecture degrees in the 2nd Convocation of BRAC University held on 8th February, 2007. This was followed by the 2nd batch of 13 who received their degrees in the 3rd convocation held on 31st December, 2007.

Apart from regular classes and other curricular activities the Department was vibrant in student activities, exhibitions, study tours, visits and participation in competitions and in its continuing lecture series and outreach program. Faculty members were involved in research, attending conferences and workshops working for various committees, nationally and internationally.

Students' Achievements

➤ “Protivaban”, a one day design competition for undergraduate students of architecture was held at the Bangladesh China



Friendship Conference Center on 10th March, 2007. Both the first and second prize were awarded to students of Architecture from BRACU. The team of Imrul Kayes and Rabeya Rahman won the first prize of Tk. 25,000 for their design of a bus stand and Ehsanul Alam and Rakibul Hasan won the second prize of tk. 15000 for their design of a public toilet in a park. 31 groups of two students each from different schools of Architecture from around the country participated in the competition.

➤ A number of students of the Department of Architecture received awards in 'HATIL FURNITURE DESIGN COMPETITION 2006'. Md Imrul Kayes received a 'Special Commendation' while the joint entry of Muhammad Nafisur Rahman, Nusrat Kabir and Md. Rakibul Hasan received 'General Appreciation'. Results of the competition were announced on the 8th May, 2007.

➤ Nazia Roushan, a freshman went to the USA on a scholarship by the American Center for participation in the Near East and South Asia Undergraduate Exchange Program. The scholarship provided for a year of undergraduate studies in the USA.

➤ Two sophomore students Nabila Nowrin and Sadia Nishat won second prize as a group in the day-long design charette held as part of the AIUB Architecture Week 2007. The charette was held on 20th July, 2007 at the Department of Architecture, American International University of Bangladesh. A total



of 202 students from various schools of Architecture from all over Bangladesh participated in the charette.

➤ Salzar Rahman and Fahim Mostafa, both sophomore students of the Department spent 5 weeks in the USA in the summer of 2007 under the Student Leaders Exchange Program of the American Center. They were amongst the 6 students from BRAC University who were amongst the 21 students from 8 Bangladeshi Universities.

Students' Activities

➤ Two batches of students went through their professional training in 2007. They spent 12 weeks working in various architectural offices in the country and also in India, Singapore, and Malaysia.

➤ Eight students of the Department took the Fall 2007 semester off in order to work hands on mud construction in rural Dinajpur. They worked under the supervision of Khondaker Hasibul Kabir, Lecturer of the Department. They assisted in building an electrical training school and three residential buildings of local people as a part of the 'Meti' School project in Rudrapur. The Meti school building, designed by Anna Herringer and Eike Roswag, was one of the recipients of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture 2007. The BRACU students worked with 6 students from Austria and with local builders. The University of Arts, Linz, Austria, awarded them 15 transferable credits each.

➤ The spring 2006 batch students of Architecture with the help of BUEF (BRAC University Environmental Forum) went to the Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP) and painted some walls with cartoon characters much to the joy of the children there. They also painted the faces of some important personalities, foreign and national on the walls to aid the learning process of the children. It is worth mentioning that the department has maintained close relationship with the CRP through voluntary work in the

past including the development of a landscape design for the Centre.

Teachers' Activities

➤ Professor Fuad H Mallick, Chairperson of the Department is one of the editors of a survey of Architectural Education in Islamic Societies, sponsored by the Aga Khan Education Program. The study reviews the architectural education curriculum of countries where Islam has a strong presence. They include Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Indonesia Turkey, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Gulf States, Algeria, and Tajikistan etc. The group of editors had two meetings so far and a report on the survey is expected soon.

➤ Professor Mallick is a member of the "Thinking Group" responsible for conceptualizing a School of Architecture and Human Settlements for the Aga Khan University in its campuses in Pakistan and East Africa. The group is lead by Professor Peter Rowe of the Graduate School of Design, Harvard University. The group met 3 times and formulated its recommendations.

➤ Dr. Zainab Ali, Associate Professor, was a Technical Reviewer for the Aga Khan Award for Architecture Cycle 2007. Of the two projects reviewed by her Moumein Rise, a residential high-rise in Singapore, was one of the awardees. She attended the Awards Ceremony held in Kuala Lumpur, September, 2007.

➤ Dr. Zainab Ali was a juror for the International Student Competition for the design of Sustainable Sports Complex. The competition was organized by the Commonwealth Institute of Architects. There were more than 200 entries to the competition from all over the world.

➤ Yasmin Ara, Lecturer of the Department, participated in an advanced training program on "**Organized Self-help Housing: Planning and Management**" in San Jose, Costa Rica from 22nd January-14th February, 2007. About

25 participants from all over the world joined the program. The Department of Housing Development & Management (HDM), Lund University organized the course in cooperation with Fundación Promotora de Vivienda (FUPROVI), Costa Rica. As part of coursework, Yasmin Ara prepared a manual for adopting the concept of organized self-help housing for the lower income group of Dhaka (focusing the refugee community residing in the Mohammadpur Geneva Camp) and presented a paper titled "Refugees and IDP: Role of the Humanitarian Agencies". Ms Yasmin Ara was awarded a fellowship by Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) to attend the program.

➤ Khondaker Hasibul Kabir, Lecturer of the Department, gave a lecture on 'Architects (role) in Housing and Development', which was organized by a study group of architects at Dhanmondi, Dhaka on the 20th February, 2007. The audience was mostly practicing architects, students of architecture, artists and social workers. The lecture focused on architects' traditional role, other professionals in development, alternative role models in housing and development and how the Department of Architecture, BRAC University is trying to balance the contemporary need of development through developing appropriate courses. Later he shared the research outcome of 'Dynamic Vernacular: Spaces in the Homesteads of the Ultra Poor', an ongoing joint research done by the Department of Architecture, BRAC University and Research and Evaluation Division, BRAC. The lecture was followed by a discussion.

➤ The 9th research seminar of the Department, titled, "Possibilities of Providing Housing for the Lower Income Group by the Private Sector in the Context of Dhaka", held on March 14th, 2007 was presented by Rehnuma Parveen, Lecturer of the Department. The presentation focused on the aim of finding out an in-between solution where both the public and private sectors can

work together for the underprivileged group to solve the problem of housing needs of Dhaka City.

➤ Khondaker Hasibul Kabir, Yasmin Ara and Imon Chowdhoree, Lecturers of the Department participated in the seminar "AED-Architecture for the Economically Disadvantaged" organized by Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET) from March 23- 24, 2007.

➤ The 10th research seminar of the Department, titled, "Privatization of Public Spaces in Katmandu Transformation of 'Dharhara-Sundhara' Public Square", was presented by Dr. Bijaya Shrestha on the 25th March, 2007. An architect and urban designer, Professor Shrestha joined the Khwopa Engineering College, Nepal as the Head of Master's Program in Science in Urban Design and Conservation.

➤ Dr. Zainab Faruqui Ali, Associate Professor delivered a lecture at the Environment and Energy Studies Program of The Architectural Association Graduate School, London of which she is an alumnus, on 5 June, 2007. Dr. Ali spoke about the works of Louis I. Kahn in the tropical context focusing on the environmental strategies in the design of the National Assembly Building at Dhaka.

➤ Dr. Q M Mahtab-uz-Zaman, Associate Professor, Department of Architecture, delivered his first lecture for the faculty and students of the Department of City and Regional Planning, Cornell University on 28th September, 2007. The topic of his lecture was: "Making a Sustainable City: Experience/Challenges/Crises & Emerging Theoretical Debates on Asian Cities". This was a part of the on-going teaching/research activities at the College of Architecture, Art and Planning, under the Fulbright Senior Fellow Program 2007-2008.

➤ Huraera Jabeen, Lecturer, Department of Architecture, was awarded funds for research

from the UK-Bangladesh Higher Education Link program (2007-08) administered by British Council Bangladesh. She would be working on 'Adaptation to climate change in cities' with Dr Cassidy Johnson, Course Director, Building and Urban Design in Development, Development Planning Unit (DPU) in University College London. The research outcome is expected to help in developing a course module that will be offered both in DPU in MSc Development and Planning in BRAC University in the Department of Architecture in the undergraduate and future graduate program as well as a short course for the government, and NGO professionals and community leaders.

➤ Khondaker Hasibul Kabir, Lecturer, Department of Architecture, with three other architects participated in the design competition, "Design of IAB Centre". The team was awarded the third prize among 47 entries. It was an open competition where a number of reputed Bangladeshi architects participated. In the same competition A Q M Abdulllah and Emran Hossain, Lecturers of the Department who are pursuing higher education abroad received honourable mention.

➤ Md Hafizul Hasan, a lecturer in the Department for the last six years, left for pursuing his PhD study at King's College London, UK on 22 September, 2007. Mr. Hasan completed his MSc in Urban Environment Management (UEM) from the School of Environment, Resources & Development, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok in 2004.

➤ Working in BRAC University since 2003, Iftexhar Ahmed, another Lecturer left for pursuing his PhD in Urban Design at National University of Singapore. He received university scholarship to complete his studies.

Papers Presented

➤ Dr. Zainab Ali, Associate Professor and Tariq Mahbub Khan, Lecturer jointly presented a paper titled "**Cultural Tourism: A**

Sustainable Approach to Revitalize Old Dhaka" at "Old but New:: New but Old :Workshop on Urban regeneration / Architectural Heritage Conservation" jointly organized by North South University and The British Council on 15th March. Dr. Fuad Mallick chaired another session of the workshop on the same day.

➤ Dr. Fuad Mallick, Professor and Dr. Zainab Ali, Associate Professor presented a paper titled "**Sustainable Architecture in the Tropics: Contemporary Interpretation of Tradition**" at the "International Conference on Sustainability in Higher Education" held at the University of Liberal Arts on 24th March.

➤ Khondaker Hasibul Kabir presented a co-authored paper, "**Aspiring Above the Line: Spaces in Rural Homesteads of Bangladesh**" on March 23. The paper was co-authored by Prof. Fuad H Mallick, Chairperson, Department of Architecture.

➤ Yasmin Ara presented a paper "**Crossing the Line of Temporality: A Refugee Camp in Dhaka**" on behalf of herself and co-author A.K.M. Sirajuddin on March 24.

➤ On the same day Imon Chowdhoree presented a paper titled "**Urban Mass Transportation of Chittagong and Potential of Present Rail Tracks Services**" which was co-authored by Kanu Kumar Das.

➤ Imon Chowdhoree, presented a paper authored by him and Yasmin Ara also a lecturer of the Department, titled "**Blessing or Blight? Impacts of Khilgaon Flyover on its Vicinity**" in the 'Asia Link Asia Urbs Conference'- Emerging South Asian Urban Design Practices and Paradigms hosted by University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. The conference was held from the 07th to 09th June, 2007 at the Centre for Housing Planning & Building (CHPB) of the University.

Special and Guest Lectures

A number of guest lectures, attended by

teachers and students of the Department of Architecture were organized under the “Angan” lecture series program of the Department

➤ On 25th February, 2007 Angan organized its 45th event titled “Ecologically Sustainable Design Practice in Contemporary Architecture of Sydney by architect Tanvir Ahmed, Graduate Student, Sustainable design, University of Sydney. Mr. Ahmed discussed the issue of sustainable design practice through some case studies. The lecture gave the students an exposure to the contemporary architectural practices of Sydney and its approach towards sustainability.

➤ On 18th March, 2007 Angan organized its 46th event titled 'Cultural Heritage Conservation: An Introduction' by Dr. Sharif Shams Imon, Assistant Professor, Institute for Tourism Studies, Macao. The Chairperson, teachers, architects and students attended the lecture and participated in the discussion that followed.

➤ Angan 'Travel Sketch: Srimongol' by Freshmen I students was held on 22nd March, 2007. Students shared their experience of their trip to study nature in Lawachara, Srimongol through photographs and musical performance.

➤ Another Angan lecture titled "MAKING" by Dan Wheeler, principal of Wheeler Kearns Architects Inc. was held on 28 March, 2007. Mr. Wheeler who is also the Interim Director of School of Architecture, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA presented their works through a lively slide show.

➤ Angan 'Odyssey at Dinajpur' by the students of Rural Architecture was held on 19th April 2007. Students shared their experience of the trip from 23rd to 26th March, 2007 to study rural architecture of Bangladesh in Dinajpur through photographs and videos. They visited Asrayan Prokalapa, Gucchagram and did some hands on construction there.

On 27th June, 2007 Angan organized a special event with a lecture titled “Emerging Material, Technologies, Architecture and Computers” by Professor Mike Silver, Pratt Institute, USA. Professor Silver talked about the use of advanced industrial technology in Architecture. Audience comprised teachers and students of BRACU as well as other universities.

➤ On 31st July, 2007 an Angan lecture titled, "NYARMA: The Architecture of the Mandala in the Western Himalaya" was presented by Gerald Kozicz, lecturer of TUGRAZ, Austria. As part of his ongoing research “Architectural Principles of Vajrayana Buddhism based in North-Western India/ Western Tibet” funded by Australian Science Fund (FWF), Mr. Kozicz came to Bangladesh to visit Paharpur and Maynamati Buddhist Vihara.

➤ On 10th September, 2007 Dr. Salma Samar Damluji, an architect, historian and architectural educator based in London and Dr. Aydan Balamir, an architect, critic and Associate Professor at METU Turkey delivered lectures on “*The Wadi Dawan Project: Architectural Rehabilitation*” and “*Response to Culture, Climate and Site: The Dutch Embassy in Addis Ababa*”. Both projects are recipients of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture 2007. Students, faculty members, architects and academicians attended the event.

➤ The 50th session of Angan lecture took place on the last day of the Architecture Week and was attended by a large number of students and teachers of BRACU and other universities, and architects. The guest speakers were noted architects Nahas Khalil from Arc Architectural Consultants, Iqbal Habib and Ehsan Khan of Vitti Sthapati Brindo Ltd. The speakers talked about regional and local issues in architecture demonstrated through the examples of their design works. Conducted by Dr Zainab Faruqui Ali, the event ended with a lively question and answer session.

➤ As part of ARC 293: Music Appreciation course, Simona Popova, eminent musicologist & faculty, American International School delivered a lecture on Rock & Roll on 8th August, 2007 at the Department of Architecture. The lecture focused on 'The History of American Music'. Teachers and students from different departments attended the lecture.

➤ Gerald Kozicz, lecturer of TUGRAZ, Austria delivered a lecture on 'Modern Architecture within a Cultural Heritage Site' on 1st August, 2007 at the Department of Architecture, BRAC University. Mr. Kozicz discussed how the heritage city of GRAZ, Austria is exploring the potential of modern Architecture within the limited scope.

Visits and Other Activities

➤ Prof. Dan Wheeler, Interim Director of the School of Architecture of the University of Illinois at Chicago visited the Department of Architecture for a week from 24th till 30th March.

➤ During his visit Prof. Wheeler conducted a one day design project for 20 students, gave a talk to the students of the Rural Housing course and delivered a lecture in the Department's lecture series 'Angan'. He had a series of meetings with the faculty members and visited all studios and met with the students on an individual basis to discuss their projects.

➤ Twelve students from the Architecture Association School of Architecture (AA School) London of Diploma 7 level came for a two week long visit in Bangladesh with their tutors. Department of Architecture organized a visit to the Parliament House for them. They also visited the cyclone-affected regions to develop their academic projects. An exhibition of their works was held in the lobby space on 8th floor of CB. The exhibition ended on 12th December with a discussion session with the students of the Department about their studio works and experience in Bangladesh.

➤ Department of Architecture organized the Architecture Week 2007 from 18th to 22nd November. Vice-Chancellor Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury inaugurated the event on 18th November. Different activities were organized throughout the week including Exhibition of students' work Angan public lecture, Freshmen I Openhouse, Film show, Open House for Arch.KIDs Open house and a cultural program. The following were the events of the Architecture Week 2007:

- ◆ The main event of the Week was the exhibition of selected works of the students of all levels from the last academic year. The exhibits included drawings and models of various architectural, landscape and interior design projects, study reports, researches, photographs and sculptures. The event was visited by students of others universities, professionals and guardians. The exhibition was arranged in the Civil Engineers building from levels 7 to 10.
- ◆ Freshmen I Open House was organized as part of the activities of Architecture week for the guardians of freshmen I students on 22nd November. Nurur Rahman Khan, Shams Mansoor Gani and Mohammad Nafisur Rahman, studio teachers, discussed the architecture curriculum especially the nature of studio works. Dr. Fuad H Mallick, Chairperson, Dr Zainab Faruqui Ali and the class teachers answered questions from the guardians. The session ended with a tour of the exhibition.
- ◆ Department of Architecture in association with BRACU Film Club organized the screening of the movie 'Fountainhead' on 20th November. The film depicts the struggle of an architect to solve the dilemma between his own desire to express and the need of the people, a theme common in the beginning years of modern movement in architecture.

- ◆ Openhouse for the Arch.KIDs was arranged on 21st November. Huraera Jabeen and Muhammad Nafisur Rahman, lecturers of the department coordinated the program along with student volunteers. The students, aged 5 to 12, from various schools attended the event, which started with a children's movie. The children were taught Origami and mask making by student volunteers. After an enthusiastic tour of the exhibition they were asked to interpret their idea of architecture through drawings, and they rendered inspiring ideas through buildings and forms in vibrant colours.
- ◆ The Architecture Week took on a lively atmosphere during the cultural program organized by the students of the Department in the evening of 21st November. The students presented song, dance, recitation and instrumental music. The program ended with farewell songs for the graduating students.
- The students of the Department during the week through sale of t-shirts raised Tk. 9000 as donation to BRAC's relief fund for Sidr victims.
- Department of Architecture organized two study trips for the Junior I and II students to Boga Lake, Bandarban and Srimongol from 31st October to 4th November and 8th to 10th November 2007. Junior I students were meant to observe nature in detail to discover the underlying principles and order that is inherent in it. The objective of the trip of Junior II was to study the natural landscape along with the sustainable aspect of living of the tribal community and gain insight to interpret them in their design projects. The respective course teachers guided the study tours. The students made sketches and presentations as part of their tours.

Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)

Seminars

The Department organized a total of six seminars mostly by international visitors-

- Prof. S. M. Deen, Emeritus Professor of Computer Science at the University of Keele, Staffordshire, UK, conducted a seminar on "Security and Cryptography".
- Dr. Vincent Chaillou, President of ESI Group/Enosis, Germany, presented the Engineering Application Software that they developed for the automotive and aerospace industry.
- Dr. Tarik A. Chowdhury, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, BRAC University, conducted a seminar on "Automatic Computer Aided Detection of Colonic Polyp Using Statistical Features in CT (Computed Tomography) Colonography".
- Md. Mafijul Islam, Senior Lecturer, CSE Department, BRAC University and PhD student, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden, conducted a seminar on "Chip Multi-processors: Challenges and Opportunities".
- Mr. Jalal Mahmud, Doctoral Student, Department of Computer Science, State University of New York at Stony Brook, USA conducted a seminar on "Web Transaction with Constrained Modality: Problems and Solution".
- Mr. Muhammad Sayeed Rahman, Commonwealth Office of Technology,



Frankfort, USA, conducted a Seminar on "IT Project Management and How to become a PMP (Project Management Professional)".

Publications

Faculty members of the Department were actively involved in research and published 14 papers in international journals/ conference proceedings. Here is a list of publications:

- “A High Performance Domain Specific OCR for Bangla Script”, Md. Abul Hasnat, S. M. Murtoza Habib and Mumit Khan, *Proc. ICS²E*, (2007).
- “Isolated and Continuous Bangla Speech Recognition Implementation, Performance and Application Perspective”, Md. Abul Hasnat, Jabir Mowla and Mumit Khan, *Proc. Statistical Natural Language Processing*, Pattaya, Thailand, December, (2007).
- “Building a Foundation of HPSG-based Treebank on Bangla Language for Probabilistic Analysis”, Altaf Mahmud and Mumit Khan, *Proc. 10th ICCIT, Dhaka, December, (2007).*
- “Comparison of Unigram, Bigram, HMM and Brill's POS Tagging Approaches for Some South Asian Languages”, Fahim Muhammad Hasan, Naushad UzZaman and Mumit Khan, *Proc. Conference on Language and Technology (CLT07)*, Pakistan, August 7 - 11, (2007).
- “A Light Weight Stemmer for Bengali and Its Use in Spelling Checker”, Md. Zahurul



Islam, Md. Nizam Uddin and Mumit Khan, *Proc. 1st Intl. Conf. on Digital Comm. and Computer Applications (DCCA 2007)*, Irbid, Jordan, March 19-23, (2007).

- “Segmentation free Bangla OCR using HMM: Training and Recognition”, Md Abul Hasnat, S M Murtoza Habib and Mumit Khan, *Proc. 1st Intl. Conf. on Digital Comm. and Computer Applications (DCCA 2007)*, Irbid, Jordan, March 19-23, (2007).
- “Text To Speech for Bangla Language using Festival”, Firoj Alam and Mumit Khan, *Proc. 1st Intl. Conf. on Digital Comm. and Computer Applications (DCCA 2007)*, Irbid, Jordan, March 19-23, (2007).
- “Error-tolerant Finite-state Recognizer and String Pattern Similarity Based Spell-Checker for Bengali”, M. Asadullah, M. Z. Islam, and M. Khan, *Proc. ICON 2007*, Hyderabad, India, January, (2007).
- “Extreme Ultraviolet Holographic Lithography: Initial Results”, Y. Cheng, A. Isoyan, J. Wallace, M. Khan, and F. Cerrina, *Applied Physics Letters*, 90, 023116, (2007). [Peer reviewed]
- “Emission Constrained Hydrothermal Scheduling Algorithm”, Md Sayeed Salam, *Proc. Intl. Conf. on Computer, Electrical, and Systems Science, and Engineering (CESSE 2007)*, Bangkok, Thailand, December 14 -16, (2007).
- “Unit Commitment Solution Methods”, Md Sayeed Salam, *Proc. Intl. Conf. on Computer, Electrical, and Systems Science, and Engineering (CESSE 2007)*, Bangkok, Thailand, December 14 -16, (2007).
- “A Fully Automatic CAD-CTC System Based on Curvature Analysis for Standard and Low Dose CT Data”, Tarik A. Chowdhury, Paul F. Whelan and Ovidiu Ghita, *IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering*, Vol. 55, No. 3, pp. 888-901, (2007).
- “Development of a Synthetic Phantom for the Selection of Optimal Scanning Parameters

in CAD-CT Colonography”, Tarik A. Chowdhury, Paul F. Whelan, Ovidiu Ghita, Nicolas Sezille and Shane Foley, *Medical Engineering & Physics*, Vol. 29, No. 8, pp. 858-867, (2007).

➤ “Multi-Rate Sampled-Data Systems With Decentralized Control Structure”, A. M. Azad, *Proc. IET China-Ireland Intl. Conf. on Information and Communications Technologies*, Dublin, Ireland, pp.129-136, August 28-29, (2007).

Teachers' Activities

➤ Dr. AKM Abdul Malek Azad, Department of Electronics, ICS in Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia and Dr. Tarik Ahmed Chowdhury, School of Electronic Engineering, Dublin City University, Dublin, Ireland, joined the department as Assistant Professors in January 2007.

➤ Eight teachers went to various Universities in Australia, Canada, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, and USA, on study leave to pursue their higher studies.

Department of English and Humanities (ENH)

ACHIEVEMENTS

➤ MA in English Launched

The Department of English and Humanities started its classes for the MA program in English on 1st February, 2007. The MA program offers concentrations in Literature and Applied Linguistics & ELT.

➤ Writing Lab Initiated

The Department of English and Humanities (ENH) has instituted a Writing Lab, a student run writing tutorial centre. This centre is aimed to help ENH students identify and overcome various writing difficulties through peer

review and individualized tutorial sessions by the students of the department. The tutors of the writing lab Shayera Mowla, Sanam Amin, Afrina Chowdhury, Sharmin Chowdhury Shumi and Tamara Zaman brought in a combination of good academic writing skills and experience in professional writing in newspapers and magazines. Each tutor has two designated hours per week for the tutoring task that includes providing support at all stages of the writing process. Students can drop by the Writing Lab during available hours or sign up for a specific slot of time with a specific tutor of their preference. Tabassum Zaman, Lecturer, ENH is in charge of the lab. The lab is situated in AH 702.

DEPARTMENTAL EVENTS

➤ Talk by an American Author

The Department of English and Humanities in association with the American Centre arranged a talk by an American author Nell Freudenberger entitled “How I became a writer” on February 26, 2007. Based on her personal experiences, enriched by her travels to different countries, the half-hour talk was followed by a lively question and answer session where Nell dealt with various questions ranging from writing fiction to her experience of being an American living abroad.

➤ Poetry Reading by Kaiser Haq

The Department of English and Humanities (ENH) hosted a lively poetry reading by



Professor Kaiser Haq on March 19, 2007. Kaiser Haq is the leading English language poet in Bangladesh. He read from his recently published book titled *Published in the Streets of Dhaka: Collected Poems 1966-2006* which brings together four decades of writing. He is a Professor in the English Department at Dhaka University, and a Visiting Professor at the Department of English and Humanities at BRACU. Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam chaired the session. Many students and teachers of the Department attended the session and thoroughly enjoyed the reading.

➤ **Brine Pickles at BRAC University**

Brine Pickles, a young writers' group affiliated with the British Council did a literary performance of their work on 29th of May 2007 at UB 403. The very lively show had performances ranging from poetry recitations, music video presentations to songs and comic skits. This program was a part of their series of shows being held in different private universities to promote their first international publication, *Maps & Metaphors* writings by young writers from Bangladesh and the UK. The show was very well received by the audience, comprising students from different departments of the university, teachers and guests. The program ended with tea and refreshments as the members of Brine Pickles shared and exchanged ideas with the audience.

➤ **Creative Writing Workshop**

The Department of English and Humanities hosted a Creative Writing workshop conducted by Shamim Azad, a bilingual writer and performance poet based in London. The workshop was open to students from all departments, and took place over three Saturdays, from July 21 to August 4. The workshop was very interactive and included activities and exercises designed to enhance creativity. The participating students thoroughly enjoyed the informal and interactive nature of the workshop.

➤ **Talk on “Feminism and Literature” by Dr. Radha Chakravarty**

Dr. Radha Chakravarty Associate Professor, Department of English, Gargi College, University of Delhi and recipient of the Dr. Radhakrishnan Memorial Award was invited by the Department of English and Humanities, BRAC University to speak on “Feminism and Literature” on the 12th November, 2007. Dr. Chakravarty addressed a roomful of highly attentive audience comprising students, teachers and guests from other Universities. Her lecture was followed by a very lively questions & answers session. Later, the speaker had a more casual interaction with the guests over tea.

➤ **Talk on Modernism by Dr. Syed Manzoorul Islam**

Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam delivered a lecture on the topic “Travelling Ideas: Modernism Revisited” on Monday, 17th December 2007 at 4:30 pm in UB 104. Along with the students of ENH, BRAC, faculty members from different departments of the university and some guests from AIUB and Stamford University also attended the lecture. Professor Manzoorul Islam, who writes in the post modernist style, spoke about the darker side of Modernism. He explained how ideas and theories travel from one place to another and gather the flavour of the new place to assume a new shape.

➤ **Writing Workshops**

- ◆ The English Department arranged a three-day writing workshop from 10-12 September for students of the English Department. The workshop was conducted by Ms. Nausheen Eusuf (Lecturer, ENH) and focused on effective writing techniques and argumentation.
- ◆ The writing lab at the Department of English and Humanities organized a daylong writing workshop for the students of ENH on Saturday, the 10th of

November 2007. Supervised by Tabassum Zaman and Mahmudul Huq, faculty members of the department, the workshop was conducted by the writing lab tutors, who are students of the department, to help students strengthen their hold on basic academic writing skills and bridge the gap between their knowledge and performance in class. Students from both undergraduate and graduate levels took part in the workshop.

➤ **Courses Taught by Visiting Faculty**

Dr. Radha Chakravarty, Associate Professor of English at Delhi University, gave a series of guest lectures for ENG 366: Major Texts of the Feminist Tradition in the West, taught during Summer 2007. Dr. Chakravarty is a well-known scholar, critic, and translator.

Ruhma K. Chowdhury, a doctoral student at Columbia University (USA), taught two courses in the Department of English and Humanities during Summer 2007. She taught ENG 327: Second Language Acquisition at the undergraduate level, and ENG 647: World Englishes at the Master's level.

➤ **New Appointments**

- ◆ Mahmudul Haque joined BRACU as a Lecturer in the Department of English and Humanities on 1st February, 2007. He completed his BA and MA in English (Linguistics) from East West University.
- ◆ Razeen Abhi Mustafiz joined BRACU as a Lecturer in the Department of English and Humanities on 23rd September, 2007. He completed his MA in English (TESOL) from North South University and his BA in English (Linguistics) from East West University

Students' Activities:

➤ **ENH Students Attended ELT Seminar**

Three students from the Department- Naufela Nafisa Ahmad, Salma Sultana and Tamara

Zaman attended a workshop entitled "Teaching English and its Professional Applications in the Context of Globalization", organized by Eastern University on February 13, 2007. They spoke in the seminar on their English learning experience at BRACU. The audience consisted of local and foreign ELT experts and students of various universities of the country.

➤ **Study Trips**

The Department of English and Humanities (ENH) organized two-day long study trips for the students of ENG 115: Introduction to English Prose. On February 03, 2007 the group visited various bookstores around Dhaka city. Tabassum Zaman, Sahana Bajpaie and Asma Anis Khan, Lecturers, ENH accompanied the students. The aim of the trip was to acquaint the students who are mostly freshmen with the variety of books available locally and the right places to look for resources. This was followed by another trip to the Ekushey Boi Mela on February 10, 2007. As students of literature students were acquainted with one of the largest literary and book selling events in the country as well as the spirit of the language movement. As part of the course, the students were given assignments on their visits.

➤ **Theatre Visits**

- ◆ On March 24, 2007, the students of ENG114: Introduction to Drama, accompanied by their course teacher Ms. Rukhsana R. Chowdhury and Mr. Mahmudul Haque (faculty member), went to the "Natto Utshab" at the Experimental Theatre Hall to watch the play Khanchar Bhiton Ochin Pakhi. This exposure to actual theatre was very helpful in reinforcing their understanding of drama and its different components. It was a highly enjoyable experience, which instilled a new zeal in the students regarding drama.

- ◆ Students of ENG 217: Shakespeare and ENG 114: Introduction to English Drama, from the Department of English and Humanities visited the ongoing Dhaka University Theatre Festival at TSC auditorium, on 22nd November 2007. They watched Samuel Beckett's widely acclaimed play "Waiting for Godot," organized and produced by the students of the Department of Dramatics and Music, Dhaka University. Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam, Tabassum Zaman and Rukhsana Rahim Chowdhury, faculty members of ENH accompanied the students.

➤ **ENH Students participated in Exchange Program**

Naufela Nafisa Ahmed and Tamara Zaman of the Department of English and Humanities were among four students selected from BRAC University to participate in the US State Department funded South Asian Undergraduate Student Leaders Institute. They toured various cities, universities, and historical monuments, lived with local host families, and participated in a cultural show.

➤ **Undergraduate Thesis Presentation I**

As a requirement of the ENG 466: Thesis course, seven graduating students (Spring 2007) of the Department of English presented their thesis on 2 and 3 May 2007. The name of the students and the respective titles of their papers are:

- ◆ Nusrat Hossain: "Code Switching in Informal Contexts at the Department of English of BRAC University"
- ◆ Segupta Islam: "Women in Folk Literature: A Comparative Study of Meyeli Geets and Baromasis"
- ◆ Srabonry Dey: "An Evaluation of the Reading Skills in English of the Students of Class X in two Bengali-medium schools"
- ◆ Nazia Khan: "Motivational Orientation and English Language Proficiency of the

Students of the Department of English of BRAC University"

- ◆ Najifa Nawar: "Women in Ballads: A Comparative Study of the Chittagong and Mymensingh Gitikas"
- ◆ Morshada Islam: "An Analysis of Error Correction done in Different Schools in Dhaka City"
- ◆ Aroop Saha: "An Evolving Language: 'Other Englishes' in the Post Colonial World"

➤ **Undergraduate Thesis Presentation II**

The students of the department graduating in Summer 2007 gave their thesis presentations on 3rd September 2007. The following is a list of thesis presentations given by the graduating batch:

- ◆ Sadia Afrin: "Encouraging students' oral participation in ESL classrooms"
- ◆ Sadia Afrin: "Teaching Grammar Creatively at Elementary Level"
- ◆ Tahera Akhter: "Giving Feedback and Correcting Errors in ESL Classrooms"
- ◆ Bilkis Fahmida: "Classroom Management: An Essential Aspect of Teaching"
- ◆ Farzana Khan: "Techniques to teach grammar used in an English medium school"
- ◆ Rabeya Nasrin Khan: "Effective Grammar Teaching in ESL Classrooms"
- ◆ Nadia Mehjabin: "Teaching techniques that I use in my ESL classes: pros and cons"
- ◆ Samia Rahman: "Teachers' Attitude towards students in an ESL classroom"
- ◆ Farhana Zamil Tinny: "A Newsroom in a Private TV Channel in Bangladesh: Its Structure and Operation"
- ◆ Samia Zerine: "Teaching Writing to Young Learners"

TEACHERS' ACTIVITIES

➤ ENH Chairperson Attended Centenary Seminar

Professor Firdous Azim, Chairperson, ENH Department attended the centenary conference of the English Department of the University of Calcutta from January 9-11, 2007. This also coincided with the 150th founding anniversary of the University, which along with the Universities of Madras and Bombay were the first institutes of higher education in South Asia. She delivered a paper entitled "Regional Literatures in an Age of Globalisation."

➤ Lecturer Left on Fulbright Program

Asma Anis Khan, Lecturer, Department of English and Humanities, left for Rutgers University (USA) in September on the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship (FLTA) program for one academic year.

➤ Lecturers Attended Workshop on Media, Gender and Representation

Tabassum Zaman and Sahana Bajpaie, faculty members of the Department of English and Humanities attended a workshop on Media, Gender, and Representation from November 11-15, 2007, at BRAC Centre, Dhaka. Organized by Pathways of Women's Empowerment Research Program, South Asia, the workshop was facilitated by Shohini Ghosh, Professor, A.J.K. Mass Communication, Research Centre, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi, India.

Department of Economics and Social Sciences (ESS)

➤ The year 2007 was quite successful for the Department of ESS (Economics and Social Science) in many respects. One of the most prominent outcomes was the launching of the MSAE (Master of Science in Applied

Economics) Program in Fall 2007 with six students. This degree was mainly designed with an aim of creating highly competent economics professionals to serve in the private and public sector of Bangladesh.

During 2007 ESS made significant progress towards the purpose of providing high quality research and teaching. In order to improve the quality of teaching methods the Department appointed qualified teachers from home and abroad. The Department also encouraged junior faculty to go for higher studies abroad, as a result of which some left to pursue further studies.

Enrollment

Last year during the three semesters a total of 38 students enrolled in the Department from various streams of education. Overall 103 of various courses that were offered by ESS Department and a total of 2545 students attended those courses over the year. 9 students graduated last year. Among them some did theses work on some interesting topics. 'Factor Affecting the Level of Awareness about Water Scarcity in Bangladesh: A Case of High Rise Building in Dhaka City' by Nirvana Mujtaba, was a case in point.

Teachers' Activities

➤ Abu Zafar Mohammad Shahriar, Lecturer, ESS, left for Purdue University, US to do his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics. He completed his Master in Development Economics from Williams College, US under Fulbright Scholarship, 2006. Fiona T. Rahman, another faculty of ESS left to pursue Ph.D. in Applied Economics at the University of Waterloo.

➤ Ms. Sakiba Zeba, Lecturer, ESS left to pursue Masters in Development Economics at New York University, US on Fulbright Scholarship, 2007.

➤ Humayra Hossain, Lecturer, ESS left in September, 2007 to pursue a Master Program

in Economics at Nottingham University, UK. She has received partial scholarship from Nottingham University for her study.

➤ Shaila Parveen, Lecturer, ESS went on a study leave to pursue her Master of Arts (MA) in Economics at Southern Illinois University, USA. On the other hand, Afifa Shahrin, Dina Tasneem, Ishrat Jahan, Wahida Ferdousi and Navil Mansur Chowdhury joined the department as full time Lecturer.

➤ Dr. Wasiqur Rahman Khan, Assistant Professor and the coordinator of MSAE Program worked with Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) on a research project 'The Micro Level Impact of Foreign Remittance in Bangladesh: A Measurement Approach Using the Propensity Score'. Two of the M.A. students Sarah Salahuddin and S. M. Shahadot Hossain of the ESS Department assisted him during the whole research period.

➤ Md. Jahangir Alam Chowdhury, Lecturer, ESS Department, presented a paper in Australian Health Economic Society Conference (AHES) 2007, held on 27th and 28th September 2007, Brisbane, Australia. The title of the paper was 'Economic Cost of Diarrheal Prevalence and Duration in Children under Five Years of Age in Dhaka City Slums in Bangladesh'.

➤ Dr. Manzur Karim, Associate Professor, ESS gave lecture in a seminar on "How Banks and Funds Effect Development: A Discussion on Neo-Liberalism" on December 06, 2007. The seminar was organized by VOICE', a Non Government Organization of Bangladesh. He gave another lecture on "Linking IFI and Investment to Climate Change" in a citizen meeting on December 13, 2007, organized by the same organization.

➤ Ms. Afifa Shahrin, Lecturer, ESS completed a weeklong course on 'Health Equity'. Organized by World Bank Institute, James P. Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University and ICCDR, B. this course was adapted for participants from Bangladesh.

Discussions

The Department of ESS arranged a discussion on Popularizing Green Accounting in Bangladesh at ESS Conference Room on October, 2007. The discussion was organized to create a network of Faculties among the selected private universities who are interested in green accounting and explore possibilities of offering a green accounting course in the future. Abu Naser Khan from 'Poribesh Bachao Andolon' and Dr. A K Enamul Huq from East West University joined in the discussion to explain how environmental activists and academic researchers could collaborate to make green accounting popular to different organizations in Bangladesh. Faculty of Independent University Bangladesh and BRAC University also participated in the discussion.

Students' Activities

In keeping with the philosophy "think in depth"- a new club 'Monon' was inaugurated on 28th November, 2007 under the guidance of the ESS Department. The club aimed to create an opportunity for the students of the university where they will be able to explore their mind, share their feelings and replenish them. Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Vice Chancellor, inaugurated the opening ceremony of the club. Ms. Mahbuba Naznin Sani, Lecturer of the Department is working as advisor to the club.



➤ **Students Organized Bangladesh Fair**

Students of Bangladesh Studies organized Bangladesh Fair in Savar campus for the second time. Mr. Fazle Hasan Abed, Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Chairpersons of different Departments, faculty members, students, administrative staff and support staff of both BRAC and BRACU were present at the Fair and visited different stalls. The Fair was organized to give students an opportunity to reflect on what they have learnt from Bangladesh Studies course. Students put up colorful stalls and displayed rural culture and urban culture, different types of rural and urban occupations. Hindu and Muslim marriage ceremonies were also staged by students. In addition display of traditional Bangla food, pottery, merry-go-round, pithas and the art of snake charmers marked the Fair.

Study Trips

Throughout the year of 2007 different visits and programs were arranged by Bangladesh Studies course.

➤ As part of the academic program of Bangladesh Studies course, the students of the residential semester of BRAC University visited the health, education, human and legal rights, micro credit programs of BRAC and Ayesha Abed Foundation at Manikganj and Gazipur.

➤ A different group of student visited the Liberation War Museum and Bangladesh National Museum where the Liberation War Museum authority screened a documentary on the history of Bangladesh and organized a quiz competition for all visiting BRACU students.

➤ In line with the spirit of Liberation war, a group of 11 students of BRACU performed at the Victory Day Program, organized by Liberation War Museum. Students recited poems, rendered songs focusing on liberation war and the freedom struggles of Bangladeshi people. Dr. Nurul Huda Abul Monsur, Ms.

Moshahida Sultana and Mr. Kamrul Hasan, Course Instructors of Bangladesh Studies, led the BRACU team.

Visits by Eminent Writer and Singer

➤ Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, popular writer and Professor of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST), Sylhet, met the students of Bangladesh Studies in residential semester at TARC.

➤ Another famous singer and professor of Music and Drama of Dhaka University, Dr. Mridul Kanti Chakrabarty gave a lecture on Bangla Music for the students of Bangladesh Studies, at TARC, Savar. He discussed the contribution of the 'Five Poets' of Bengali Music and about modern Bengali music.

Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS)

Departmental Seminars

➤ Mr. Md. Anisur Rahaman, Lecturer of Physics in the Department of Mathematics & Natural Sciences gave a talk entitled “A comparative study of the concentrations of fluorine in different regions of Savar and its effects on the environment” on Thursday, March 15, 2007.

➤ Mr. A. K. M. Shafiq Ullah, Lecturer of Physics in the Department gave a talk entitled “Study of the Size and Shape of Small Particles by Small Angle Neutron Scattering” on Thursday, May 10, 2007.

➤ Iftekhar Mohammad Shafiqul Kalam, Lecturer of Statistics in the Department gave a talk entitled “A study of some selected socioeconomic, demographic & health related factors of ageing in Bangladesh” on Thursday, June 7, 2007.

➤ The Department of Mathematics & Natural Sciences initiated a series of

postgraduate seminars on some important topics of biotechnology. Three seminars in this series were held on Thursday, July 5, 2007. Ms. Farhana Naznine, Mr. Mahfizur Rahman and Ms. Jebunnesa Chowdhury, students of M.S in Biotechnology Program gave talks on “Microbial Biotechnology- Past, Present and Future”, “Cloning: Prospects and Controversies” and “Golden Rice -Genetic Technique and Its Impact” respectively.

➤ Mr. Md. Maruf Ahmed, Lecturer of Mathematics in the Department gave a talk entitled “Generalized Inverse and its Applications” on July 19, 2007.

➤ Dr. Aparna Islam, Assistant Professor, Biotechnology Program, MNS Department conducted a seminar entitled “Transgenic plants: looking through safety goggles” at the Department, BRAC University, Dhaka, on August 02, 2007.

➤ Dr. Fahmeed Hyder, Associate Professor of Diagnostic Radiology and Biomedical Engineering, Yale University, USA, gave a talk on “Imaging Brain Function” on August 9, 2007.

➤ Ms. Nazlee Sharmin, Teaching Assistant of Biotechnology in the Department gave a talk entitled “Bioinformatics- Computational Approach to Life” on August 9, 2007.

➤ Ms. Sharmina Hussain, Lecturer of Mathematics in the Department gave a talk entitled “Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) Study of Mass Transfer and Fluid Flow Behaviour in Spacer Filled Membrane

Modules” on August 16, 2007.

➤ Professor Jamal Nazrul Islam, Professor Emeritus of the University of Chittagong gave a talk entitled “DNA, Origin of Life and the Genome” on the September 10, 2007.

➤ Ms. Moushumi Zahur, Lecturer of Geography in the Department gave a talk entitled “Solid Waste Management of Dhaka-Community compost Projects” on November 8, 2007.

National and International Seminars, Workshops, and Conferences:

➤ Alliance Française, Dhaka and Bangladesh Astronomical Association jointly organized the 13th National Space Science Training Workshop. The inaugural ceremony of the workshop was held on January 13, 2007 with Prof. J.R. Choudhury Vice Chancellor, BRACU as the chief guest. Dr. Dipen Bhattacharya, Associate Research Professor of Astrophysics (Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, University of California, Riverside, USA) and a Fulbright Fellow at the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, BRAC University gave a seminar talk in this workshop entitled “Aajker Bisshe Jotirbiggan Gabeshana” on January 27, 2007.

➤ Alliance Française, Dhaka and Bangladesh Astronomical Association jointly organized the 13th National Space Science Training Workshop from January 13 to March 24, 2007. The workshop was inaugurated on January 13, 2007 at Alliance Française, Dhaka with Prof. J.R. Choudhury Vice Chancellor,



BRACU as the Chief Guest. Prof. A. A. Z. Ahmad, Chairperson of the MNS Department, BRAC University gave a lecture in this workshop on “Space Science, Satellite Systems and Remote Sensing & Its Applications” on Saturday, March 3, 2007.

➤ Dr. Aparna Islam, Assistant Professor of Biotechnology Program at Mathematics and Natural Sciences Department conducted a seminar entitled “Plant biotechnology, genetically modified crop and biosafety” at the Plant Tissue Culture & Biotechnology Conference, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 9th-10th March 2007.

➤ Dr. Aparna Islam, Assistant Professor of Biotechnology Program at Mathematics and Natural Sciences Department gave a seminar entitled “Plant defense for improving plant resistance” at the International conference entitled *Promotion of Biotechnology in Bangladesh: National and International Perspectives, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 6th-8th, April, 2007.*

➤ Dr Aparna Islam participated in the national workshop entitled “Mid-term National Workshop on National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environment Management” organized by IUCN Bangladesh and the Government of Bangladesh, Dhaka, 17th-18th April 2007.

➤ Professor Naiyyum Choudhury participated in the 23rd Annual Conference of Bangladesh Society of Microbiologists held on 22nd June, 2007 at the Department of Microbiology, University of Dhaka and chaired the keynote session on Microbiological Quality Control of Food and Pharmaceuticals.

➤ Professor Naiyyum Choudhury presented a paper on “Biotechnology Policy of Bangladesh: Linkage with Modern Biotech and Biosafety” in the National Workshop on Risk Assessment and Risk Management of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) held from 23rd to 24th June, 2007 at IDB Bhavan.

The workshop was organized by the Ministry of Environment and Forest GOB.

➤ Professor Naiyyum Choudhury presented another paper on “Recent Government Initiaves in Biotechnology” in the Workshop on Medical Biotechnology for Medical Teachers and Scientists held from 26th to 27th June, 2007 at the Conference Hall of Dhaka Medical College and organized by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GOB.

➤ Professor A.A.Z Ahmad presided over a National Seminar on “Tsunami Vulnerability Assessment of the Urban Growth Centres in South-Eastern Coast of Bangladesh” held at the auditorium of the Atomic Energy Centre, Dhaka on June 29, 2007 organized by National Oceanographic and Maritime Institute (NOAMI).

➤ Professor A.A.Z. Ahmad presided over the Closing and Certificate Awarding Ceremony of the 14th National Workshop on Astronomy at the Alliance Française on June 30, 2007. The workshop was jointly organized by the Bangladesh Astronomical Association and Alliance Française, Dhaka. Held from April 21 to June 30, 2007 the event was attended by over 50 participants from different academic backgrounds and levels.

➤ Dr. Aparna Islam, Assistant Professor of the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, participated in a two-week training course on Plant Molecular Biology entitled “A Biosystems Approach to Combat Plant Stress Effects in Arid Areas” in Germany, from 1st to 14th July 2007. It was organized by the Leibniz University, Hanover, Germany with financial assistance from DAAD and Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. She presented a paper entitled “Role of a Small Cysteine-rich Antifungal Protein Isolated from Chickpea in Host Defense Mechanism”.

➤ Prof. A.A. Z. Ahmad presided over a seminar entitled “Study of Magnetic Polarity Field Intensity of the Earth's Crust along Both Sides of Dauki Fault in Bangladesh” organized

by National Oceanographic and Maritime Institute (NOAMI). The seminar was held at NOAMI's office at 10/8 Eastern Plaza, Sonargaon Road, Dhaka on July 14, 2007.

➤ Dr. Dipen Bhattacharya, Associate Research Professor of Astrophysics, Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, University of California, Riverside, USA and a Fulbright Fellow at the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences gave a talk on "The First Star" on the occasion of the 14th Death Anniversary of late Professor Abdul Jabbar, the noted pioneering astronomer of Bangladesh. The event organized by the Bangladesh Astronomical Association was held on Sunday, July 22, 2007 at the Russian Cultural Centre, Dhaka.

➤ Dr. Aparna Islam, Assistant Professor of the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, participated in a three-day long training workshop on Biosafety Clearing House (BCH) from July 28-30, 2007. The workshop was organized by the Department of Environment (DoE), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

➤ Dr Aparna Islam participated in a workshop entitled "Capacity Building in Bangladesh Institute of Higher Education" organized by BRACU in coordination with American Institute of Bangladesh Studies, in Dhaka, on August 4-7, 2007.

➤ Professor Naiyyum Choudhury participated in the Executive Committee Meeting of the Inter Academy Panel on International Issues held in Canberra, Australia from September 25-27, 2007 at the invitation of the Australian Academy of Sciences. Professor Choudhury presented reports on the activities of the Networks of Academies of Sciences in the countries of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (NASIC) and those of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences.

➤ Professor A.A.Z. Ahmad was the Chief Guest at the 50th Anniversary Celebration "Sputnik Fest" commemorating the launching

of "Sputnik"- the first man-made satellite to orbit the earth. The event was jointly organized by the Bangladesh Astronomical Association and the Russian Science and Cultural Centre at its office at House # 510, Road # 7, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209 on Thursday, October 4, 2007.

➤ Professor Naiyyum Choudhury presented a paper on legal issues in eye banking in the International Symposium on Eye Banking organized jointly by ORBIS, New York, USA, Sandhani National Eye Donation Society, Dhaka and the L.V. Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad, India at Hotel Sheraton, Dhaka on 20-21 October 2007.

➤ Dr Aparna Islam participated in the national workshop entitled "Final National Workshop on National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environment Management" organized by IUCN Bangladesh and the Government of Bangladesh, Dhaka, on 28th October, 2007.

➤ Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed, Chairperson, MNS, delivered a lecture at the 15th Astronomy Workshop, jointly organized, by Bangladesh Astronomical Association and the Russian Science and Culture Centre at its office at House # 510, Road # 7, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209 on Saturday November 3, 2007. The topic of the lecture was "The Universe and its Process of Evolution". The 2-hour lecture was supplemented by a video presentation titled "Super-massive black holes".

➤ Mr. Anisur Rahaman, Lecturer of Physics at the department attended The 16th Asian Conference of Radiological Technologists (ACRT) & 9th National Conference of Indian Association of Radiological Technologists (NCIART), held at Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, India from 15th 18th November, 2007. He also present a paper entitled "Manual and treatment planning system based dosimetry in remote after loading Brach therapy".

➤ Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed presented a paper entitled “On dark solutions generated by gravitational waves in astrophysical plasmas” in the 8th Asia Pacific Plasma Theory Conference (APPTC-2007), from 11-14 December, 2007, held at the Institute for Plasma Research, Bhat, Gandhinagar, India.

Publications

➤ “On generation of dark solitons by gravitational waves in a strongly magnetized pulsar plasma,” U. A. Mofiz, *Physics of Plasmas*, 14, 112906 (2007).

➤ “Scenario of Black Hole Plasma and Radiation trapping.” U. A. Mofiz, *Bangladesh Journal of Physics*, Vol. I, No. 1, p. 112 (2007).

➤ “On Gamma-Ray Emission from Pulsar Magnetosphere.” U. A. Mofiz and Dipen Bhattacharya, *BRAC University Journal*, Vol. IV, No. 1, p. 89 (2007).

➤ “On Dark Solitons Generated by Gravitational Waves in Astrophysical Plasmas.” U. A. Mofiz, *Books of Abstract 8th*

Asia Pacific Plasma Theory Conference, 11-13 December, 2007, Institute For Plasma Research, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India.

➤ “Measurement of the Concentrations of Fluorine in the Soil of Different Areas of Savar and Its Effects on Environment,” Molla, A.R., Haque, A.K.M., & Haue, K.M., *BRAC University Journal*, Volume IV, No. 1, pp. 13-17, 2007.

➤ “Analysis of Molecular and Morphological Characteristics of Plants Transformed with Antifungal Gene.” Aparna Islam, A Hassari and VS Reddy. 2007. *Bangladesh J. Bot.* 36(1): 47-52.

➤ “Glimpse on Child Labor: A Study of Child Labor Situation in Dhaka City Corporation Area”. M. Shafiqul Kalam, *BRAC University Journal*. vol. IV, no.1, 2007, pp.19-29.

➤ “Determinants of Health Status of Elderly People in Bangladesh”. M. Shafiqul Kalam and Dr. Hafiz T.A. Khan, *Asian Profile*, Vol. 35, No. 1, February 2007, pp. 71-82.

SCHOOLS

BRAC Business School (BBS)

The Business school offers two core programs BBA and MBA. A testimony to the quality of education of the school is the rising number of applicants for admission into the two programs. The school employs some of the finest faculties in the country and supplements academic courses with inputs of guest lectures by business practitioners and assignments linked to business houses spread over the country. With the release of more graduates, BBA and MBA, the school now has a sizable number of alumni who are conduits of the school to the business world. Employers' interest on the school's output demonstrates a healthy growth. Putting all these efforts together the school is well poised towards becoming the leading business school in the region.

DEPARTMENTAL EVENTS

➤ Residential Week Introduced

In order to enhance the effectiveness of the MBA graduates, the school introduced residential weeks of internal training at the Savar Campus where courses on communication and related areas were given to enable participants sharpen their skills on presentation, discussion and negotiation. Some of these sessions were extremely formal to generate boardroom stiffness.



➤ Collaboration with Foreign Universities

The school believes that global competitive strength is derived from global connectivity. Hence, along with its effort to strengthen linkage with the local business houses, the school has also stretched collaboration with the foreign universities. Currently, the school has three strong collaborations with the business schools in Australia, USA and UK. The initial objective was sharing of resources from faculty to students. The modes of collaboration framed so far include options of doing internship in the host school, doing a semester in the host school, faculty sabbatical spent in the host school, joint degree programs at the doctoral level and faculty exchange. The sources of funding explored so far have resulted in some return visits of faculty and student scholarship. Under one such scheme the Dean spent a month at the Business School of George Washington University looking at their total design from mode of operation to class room pedagogy. Two students of BBA program visited University of South Australia under this scheme.

➤ Facilities Refurbished

To create a corporate environment within the school the conference room, the computer lab and related facilities have been refurbished. Students can also avail the wireless Internet within the premises of the school. The support services combined with excellent faculty profile makes BRAC Business School a very desirable place of learning and grooming.



STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES

The Business School students organized and participated in several events that ranged from social activities to corporate presentations. These were organized through the associated clubs i.e. Entrepreneurship Development Forum (EDF), BizBee and MBA Forum. Some of the events organized by these clubs are as follows:

- The events organized by the EDF included field trips (PRAN Agro Industry at Natore, Reptile Farms Ltd at Valuka, Kazi and Kazi Tea Garden at Panchogar), corporate seminars creative advertisement, and workshops on presentation skills.
- The activities of BizBee included relief operations in distressed areas, inter-university quiz competitions and corporate nights with presentations by senior management of business houses such as BATB, Banglalink, Grameen Phone, Reckitt Benckiser and Westin. Some of the seminars had presentations by visiting faculty from American, Australian and British Universities on topics such as globalization and e-governance. The crowning event of the MBA Forum in association with the Internship Program was a Job Fair held at Brac Centre Inn.
- The Business School also participated in several nation-wide competitions such as the Battle of Minds organized by BATB and Financial Quiz Competition by the banking group Citi NA.

OPPORTUNITIES

The school held an enviable record of full placement and number of internship offers exceeding the number of applicants in 2007. It is expected that with more floor space available from next year the school will be able to accommodate more students as well as open up some of the much needed programs such as the Executive MBA.

School of Law

Teachers' Activities:

➤ Assistant Professor at the Consumer Leaders Training Workshop

Assistant Professor Tureen Afroz of the School of Law was invited as a resource person by the Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) to conduct two working sessions of national workshops and to make presentations before the district level consumer leaders. The workshops took place between 16-17 and 25-26 April 2007 at the BIAM Auditorium, Dhaka. Tureen's topic was *Consumers Protection Law: Bangladesh Perspective*.

➤ Key Note Paper Presentation

Assistant Professor Dr. Tureen Afroz of the School of Law presented key note papers on two following important occasions:

- ◆ **“Consumer Protection Law for Bangladesh: A Dire Need of Time”** at the roundtable discussion seminar on Consumer Rights in Bangladesh: In Need of Effective Law organized by The Consumers Trust (TCT) at the Chittagong Press Club Auditorium on March 31, 2007.
- ◆ **“Energy Consumers Bill of Rights for Bangladesh”** at the Discussion Meeting on Drafting the Energy Consumers Bill of Rights for Bangladesh, jointly organized



by the Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the National Association of the Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) at CIRDAP Auditorium, Dhaka on 22nd April, 2007. The meeting was attended and actively participated by the members of the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC), Power Development Board (PDB), Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industries (DCCI), Nagorik Shomaj, LawDev (Bangladesh), Farmers Voice, German Development Cooperation and many other social workers and activists from the energy sector.

◆ **Conference of Thematic Issues of UN Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor (CLEP) National Consultation Process**

A daylong conference on Thematic Issues of CLEP National Consultation Process was held at the BRAC Centre Auditorium on March 03, 2007. The conference deliberated on three of the four thematic issues identified by the Commission for alleviation of poverty and their relevance to the legal system of Bangladesh. The conference was held at the behest of the Commission in collaboration with the School of Law (SOL), BRACU (BU) under the direct supervision of the Chairperson of SOL, Dr. Shahdeen Malik. Mr. F H Abed, Chairperson, BRAC and Commissioner of the CLEP inaugurated the day. It was followed by the opening remarks made by Naresh Singh, the Executive Director of CLEP, New York.

- ◆ The first session had the presentation of the paper on **“Legal Mechanism to Empower Informal Business”** by Dr. Sharif Bhuiyan, Advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. It was followed by a

critical comment on the same paper by Assistant Professor Dr. Tureen Afroz of the School of Law. Two students of the SOL of BRACU, M. Sanjeeb Hossain and Izmet Nashra Khan presented case studies. Eminent lawyer Dr. Kamal Hossain chaired this session.

- ◆ The second session had the presentation of the paper on **“Property Rights of the Poor”** by Mr. Afsan Chowdhury, Director of the Advocacy and Human Rights Unit of BRAC, followed by a critical commentary by Barrister Sara Hossain. Barrister Amirul Islam, President of the Supreme Court Bar Association, chaired this session.

- ◆ The third session included the presentation of the paper **“From Rule of Law to Legal Empowerment for the Poor in Bangladesh”** by Dr. Ferdous Jahan, Associate Professor, Department of Public Administration, Dhaka University. It was followed by a critical commentary made by Dr. Abdullah-Al Faruque, Assistant Professor of the Department of Law of Chittagong University. Dr. Shamsul Bari, Chairperson of Research Initiatives of Bangladesh, chaired this session. Barrister Moinul Hosein, former Advisor of the Non-Party Caretaker Government and the Chief Guest of the concluding session of the conference delivered his speech emphasizing the importance of the Commissions work.

➤ **Presentation at BATC**

Mr. K Shamsuddin Mahmood, Head of Undergraduate Program, School of Law, was invited by the Bangladesh Airlines Training Centre (BATC) to conduct two working sessions and made presentations before the participants of General Management Course Program on March 11-15, 2007. Mr. Mahmood's presentation was on the *Legal Regime of Service Conditions of Workers in*

Industrial and Commercial Establishment and Statutory Safety Requirements for Employees. The principal of the Centre inaugurated the course with a short introduction to the program and emphasized the need of such courses to enhance good governance and total performance in management, specifically after the enactment of the new law, The Bangladesh Labor Code 2006 repealing many of the old labour laws.

➤ **South Asia Study by the Minority Rights Group International (MRG)**

Assistant Professor Dr. Saira Rahman Khan of the School of Law is currently leading a research team for the Bangladesh Chapter of a project entitled, Pluralism and Diversity in Asia: Protecting and Promoting the Rights of Religious Minorities through Education and Training, which is part of a South Asia Study conducted by the Minority Rights Group International (MRG).

➤ **Paper Presentation at the 4th Asian Law Institute (ASLI) Conference on Voices from Asia for a Just and Equitable World at the University of Indonesia**

Assistant Professor Dr Tureen Afroz of the School of Law was invited to present her paper, “**CEDAW and Legal Polygamy in Bangladesh: A Saga of Unjust Inequity**” at the 4th Asian Law Institute Conference on Voices from Asia for a Just and Equitable World, which was held at the University of Indonesia on May 24-25, 2007.

➤ **Seminar on Leadership in Parliament: Victoria, Canada**

World Bank Institute (WBI) in collaboration with Royal Roads University and Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) organized a seminar on Leadership in Parliament as part of their Parliamentary Strengthening Program. K. Shamsuddin

Mahmood, Head of Undergraduate Program, School of Law, BRAC University attended the seminar as representative for the Centre for Governance Studies, BRAC University.

Four key note papers were presented concerning different important issues on- Creating global support for fighting corruption, Measuring corruption for strategic change, Understanding and managing conflict and Poverty reduction by eminent scholars such as Mr. Rick Stapenhurts, Prof. Gregory Cran, Mr. John Williams M.P., and Mr. Andrew Imlach of WBI, Royal Roads University, GOPAC and CPA respectively. Participants comprising of parliamentarians and academicians from nine different countries of Asian and African States took part in the conference. The conference venue was the famous age old Hatley Castle of Royal Roads University situated in a scenic and eco-friendly environment of British Columbia, Victoria, Canada.

➤ **Training of District Level Consumer Leaders**

Assistant Professor Tureen Afroz of the School of Law was invited as a resource person to conduct a working session of the National Workshop jointly organized by the USAID, Unnayan Sammanay and Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB). The workshop took place on 13 - 14 May 2007 at BIAM Auditorium, Dhaka. Tureen's topic was *Consumers Protection Law: Bangladesh Perspective*.

➤ **Annual Picnic**

All teachers, students and staff of the School of Law went on its annual picnic to the LGED Guest House at Rajindrapur. The occasion was graced by the presence of Dr. Sahehuddin Ahmed, Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRAC University. The students organized sports and musical events in which the faculty members also enthusiastically participated.

James P. Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH)

MAJOR EVENTS AT THE SCHOOL

Workshop on Sexuality and Rights

BRAC School of Public Health conducted a one day workshop on 'Sexuality and Rights' on January, 2007 at BRAC Centre. The idea of the workshop was to have a small informal brainstorming session along with presentations among a group of 15-20 individuals to-

- ◆ Learn more about the topic, existing research and work/interventions experiences
- ◆ Prioritize what needs to be done - be it further research; interventions or training and
- ◆ Create a core group of stakeholders to build from and guide future activities in this area.

JPGSPH Won European Commission Grant

The BRAC School of Public Health won a competitive grant from European Commission (EC), Brussels under the latter's 'Asia-Link' program. The grant of Euro 749,000 will support some of existing activities of the School with its European partner universities and initiate new activities. The activities that will get support through this include curriculum review and development, participation of European faculty in teaching, capacity building (including pedagogic and PhD level training), promoting South-South partnership in higher education, and institutional system development.

JPGSPH's partners are Kerala School of Public Health in India, Karolinska Institute in Sweden, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and University of Amsterdam.

Health Equity Workshop

The World Bank Institute in collaboration with the School of Public Health and ICDDR, B jointly offered a course on 'Equity in Health'. This course was tailored particularly for Bangladesh. The four-day course took place from 4th to 7th June, 07 at BRAC Centre. Mr. Ehsan-ul-Fattah, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh attended the inaugural ceremony as chief guest. Abdo Yezbeck, lead economist from World Bank Institute and Davidson R. Gwatkin facilitated the workshop.

This course aimed to share knowledge and policy experience on how health systems can mitigate the effects of poverty and improve equity in the financing and delivery of health care services. The target groups of participants were health sector managers, government officials and public health experts involved in health sector reform.

International Conference on Gender and Sexuality

The School hosted International Workshop on Gender and Sexuality, from July 28 to 30 at BRAC Centre. Invited participants were faculty members and researchers of relevant discipline from all universities within the country, human rights activists, NGO personnel, and a number of international activists, experts and researchers joined from India, Pakistan, Turkey, Kenya, UK and USA. The idea of the workshop was to generate awareness on Gender and Sexuality, build



networks and eventually develop a curriculum. One output of the workshop will be a resource pack with documentation of the workshop with selected presentations as reading materials for teaching or training purposes.

This workshop was organized under the auspices of the Research Programme Consortium (RPC) on Realising Rights: Improving Sexual and Reproductive Health for Poor and Vulnerable Populations (funded by DFID 2005-2010). Some of the partners are: African Population and Health Research Centre, Kenya; BRAC School of Public Health, Bangladesh; Engender Health, USA; INDEPTH Network; Ghana; Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex UK, and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK. Among the international representatives from partner organizations at this workshop were Hilary Standing, Director of the Realising Rights RPC, and Susie Jolly from the Institute of Development Studies and Chi Chi Undie, from the African Population and Health Research Centre, Kenya. Dr. Sabina Faiz Rashid serves as the coordinator for the RPC.

Integrated Workshop

A 3-day long workshop on Integrating Public Health Skills was conducted by Jon Rhode and Cole P Dodge from the 16th to the 18th of October 2007. The aim of this workshop was to a) identify essential public health functions and assess competencies, b) review learning objectives of each course and their contribution to the essential public health functions, c) assess skills and competencies needed for jobs, d) assess essential competencies for research and attributes of a sound research proposal, e) review essential information, management, and planning needs for a comprehensive public health intervention.

Courses on Healthcare Financing

World Health Organization supported two consecutive short courses on Health Care

Financing in Bangladesh for Upazila-level health and family planning officials. Each course was for two weeks, the first one started on November 4th. The courses dealt with the dynamics of decision-making in allocation of financial resources for health. In short, it discussed the fundamental principles of health economics as well as that of healthcare financing in the context of Bangladesh. Professor Anwar Islam coordinated the course.

The School successfully completed the capacity building training in Health Care Financing for the second batch of 16 UHFP Officials (6-17 Jan). The World Health Organization provided financial support for the course. The course dealt with the dynamics of decision-making in allocation of financial resources for health and discussed the fundamental principles of health economics as well as that of healthcare financing in the context of Bangladesh. Professor Anwar Islam coordinated the course.

➤ Course on Health Equity

The School in collaboration with World Bank and the World Bank Institute, Washington D.C. and ICCDR, B offered the second course on Equity in Health tailored for participants from Bangladesh. It was a five-day course for the health sector managers, government officials and public health experts involved in health sector reform from November 11th 15th, 2007 at BRAC Centre.

Poverty and social inequality impact on the performance of health systems, and conversely, the design of the health system has the potential to improve the welfare of the poor and reduce social inequalities. This course aimed to share knowledge and policy experience on how health systems can mitigate the effects of poverty and improve equity in the financing and delivery of health care services.

The course was facilitated by Dr. Davidson Gwatkin of the World Bank, Dr Richard Cash of Harvard University, Dr. Abbas Bhuiya of

ICDDR, B and Dr. Mushtaque Chowdhury of BRAC University. This course was the second after successful completion of the first course held in June 2007. This course had 38 participants involving midlevel government officials, health experts working in different NGOs, private universities, donor agencies and private sector.

Monograph Series Published by JPSPH

The school brought out a Monograph Series on the following areas:

- ◆ Reproductive tract infections and sexually transmitted infections of women in Bangladesh: A Literature Review
- ◆ Violence against women in Bangladesh: Situational Analysis / Existing Interventions

New Elective Course Offered at the School

In the academic year 2007-2008, the School offered a new elective course on Monitoring and Evaluation along with Principles of Health communication that was offered previously. Following were the learning objectives of the course: Define program evaluation theory and practice, describe the history and evolution of the field of evaluation, describe major evaluation designs and methods, and their appropriate use and application, explain the importance of evaluation in the current public health environment, describe and apply the steps in conducting program evaluation, using CDC's evaluation framework, explore and apply the four major standards for "good" evaluation and describe the Guiding Principles for Evaluators.

Food Security Nutritional Survey

The School, in partnership with Helen Keller International and Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, submitted a proposal titled National Food Security Nutritional Survey (FSNSP) to European Commission. This project proposed

to strengthen and institutionalize the nutritional surveillance system in Bangladesh.

NIPORT Training Grant

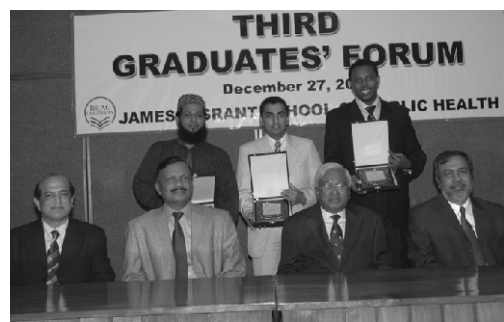
The School submitted two proposals for large-scale training of public health professionals and national level research on Reproductive and Sexual Health Issues in June 2007. JPSPH was short-listed along with four other organizations. The school is still waiting to hear the outcome of the bid.

UNAIDS and JGSPH Collaboration

A concept note was developed for possible collaboration between the Joint United National Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the School. The proposed initiative for this partnership was from November 2007 to October 2009. The collaborative effort between the School and UNAIDS will establish a Centre at the School, that can network nationally, regionally and internationally enabling Bangladesh to share in country experiences and obtain evidence on best practices from other countries and limit the spread and impact of HIV in the country.

Executive Certificate in Public Health Management Program

MoHFW approved the School's proposal for strengthening the capacity of public sector health professionals through a 10-week long Executive Certificate in Public Health Management program, to be started by July, 2008.



Bangladesh Health Watch

Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW) a civil society initiative, secretariat located in the James P. Grant School of Public Health and Research Training and Management International, was launched in August 2007.

Dean Conferred PESON Oration Medal

The Dean of the school was conferred the PESON Oration Medal for his work in the field of maternal and newborn health. The medal was formally handed over to him by Professor Rita Thapa, President of the Perinatal Society of Nepal in the presence of Ms. Surjalekha Yadav, the Deputy Speaker of the Interim Parliament of Nepal. PESON is the most prestigious and respected professional association of top health experts in Nepal.

JPGSPH Became a Member of the APACPH

Profile of APACPH New Member

Adapted from APACPH Newsletter (February 2008)

Two new members have recently joined the APACPH family. One of them is the BRAC University James P Grant School of Public Health in Bangladesh which is led by Prof Mushtaque Chowdhury.

Established in 2005, two batches of 51 participants from more than 12 different countries have now graduated from BRAC through its Master of Public Health (MPH) program. While some of the students have continued on to doctoral-level studies, most are now back in their own countries and have

Public health schools: six portraits

(Adapted from the Bulletin of the World Health Organization | December 2007, 85 (12))

The **James P Grant School of Public Health** was established in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in 2004 by the world's largest development nongovernmental organization, BRAC (formerly the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee), to train future public health managers and leaders. The idea of setting up the school grew out of BRAC's work alleviating poverty in disadvantaged parts of the world, says the school's dean, Professor A Mushtaque R Chowdhury. He says that the school's goal is to "improve the health of the population by training future leaders in public health". BRAC collaborated with prestigious public health schools in developed countries, such as Johns Hopkins and Columbia universities to develop the curriculum. Guest professors from those schools also teach in some of the school's courses. "We wanted to make it a centre of excellence, so we talked to different schools of public health in different parts of the world and launched the [MPH] programme with their help," Chowdhury says. The master's of public health (MPH) programme was launched in February 2005. The course covers diverse topics, including biostatistics and epidemiology, health economics, communicable and non-communicable diseases, and lasts for a year. Students spend half of that time learning about the health challenges faced by rural communities in field locations in Bangladesh. This experience also gives students themes and ideas for their final year dissertations. Chowdhury says: "We feel that it is very important that the students are given exposure to real life."

taken up jobs in various Government, donor agencies, media and non-governmental organizations. Links are thus formed between BRAC and these organizations, ensuring a more effective and practical approach to public health through close interaction with policy-makers and implementers of interventions. For the current year there are 12 students from 11 countries of Asia, Africa, Europe and North America and 18 local students from Bangladesh, participating in the 4th batch of the MPH programme. BRAC has also initiated collaborative research with other existing research groups in the country, such as BRAC's Research and Evaluation Division (RED) and the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B). Through the research carried out at the school the students learn issues and challenges in global health. The Students select a topic from among the many health interventions being implemented in Bangladesh for their final end-of-the-year Master's thesis.

Starting with a small nucleus recruited from within the BRAC organization, the faculty is now growing through recruiting more from among the school's own graduates. With the school gaining popularity, there is also some interest among non-resident Bangladeshis to return. To overcome staff shortage and to bring diversity, adjunct faculty from partner institutions have been employed who also train BRAC's own faculty in good teaching practices. Curriculum development is an ongoing process and it is constantly reviewed for further improvement and relevance. The BRAC School promotes a field- and problem-based experiential learning approach. Rural exposure is the foundation of the program. The students spend six months (half of the academic year) in a village campus allowing continuous interactions with villagers as well as the local health systems. International students are paired with their local counterparts to tackle the language barrier. The inextricable link between health and economic development is now well established in

Bangladesh. Other than the MPH, the school has also initiated short courses for the mid level Health sector managers, government officials and public health experts involved in health sector reform to receive comprehensive knowledge on effects of poverty and improve equity in managing, financing and delivery of health care services.

JPGSPH Featured in the WHO Bulletin

The widely circulated Bulletin of the World Health Organization published a feature on James P Grant School of Public Health in the December 2007 issue. The article stated that the School “is one of a new breed of public health institutions based in a developing country. It offers courses relevant to Bangladesh as well as international public health issues, and attracts students from both developing and developed countries.”

JPGSPH Graduates Awarded

Razia Sultana and Om Prashad Gautam, both graduates of the third batch 2007-2008, received a research and actions grant project from ProVention Consortium. The ProVention Consortium is a global coalition of international organizations, governments, the private sector, civil society organizations and academic institutions dedicated to increasing the safety of vulnerable communities and to reducing the impacts of disasters in developing countries. It provided a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on disaster risk reduction and a framework for collective action. For the year 2007-2008, 90 projects from 40 countries were selected among 261 proposals received from the world. Razia and Om's proposal was selected from among them. The title of their project was “*Disaster Risk Analysis, Risk Reduction and Preparedness Plan in Secondary School of Dhaka*”.

JPGSPH Graduates Attended Training on Child Survival at Uppsala University, Sweden

Four BSPH graduates attended a training held

at the Department of International Maternal and Child Health (IMCH) at Uppsala University, Sweden, titled “Child Survival Reaching the Target” and funded by SIDA. Held during the period of 9Th April - 5th May 2007 the course was attended by Ayesha Sania and Taskeen Chowdhury from Bangladesh, Lashmi Durga Chava from India and Zabiullah Maroof from Afghanistan.

Graduates Presented Papers in Amsterdam

Amit Bhandari (Nepal) and Nang-Mo Hom (Myanmar), graduates of MPH program of 2007, were invited to present at the '5th European Congress of Tropical Medicine and International Health' in the gender and health at Amsterdam on 26th May.

Seminar Series

The School organized seminars for students, and invited a series of distinguished speakers working in the area of public health. The speakers covered topics such as management problems in public hospitals, health environments, religion and public health, reproductive health and rights of adolescents and shared experiences with students and faculty throughout the year.

➤ Susan Rifkin from the London School of Economics and London School of Hygiene and tropical Medicine presented a seminar on health policy in developing countries 'The Future of Health Care' on 3rd May 2007. She gave a brief review of the history of Primary Health Care with its principles of equity and participation. Focus on 3 main challenges to the policy in the present global environment 1) selective vs. comprehensive PHC in the context of global funding for specific diseases 2) the influence of health sector reforms and the evidence for health improvements among the poor 3) the advocacy on health as a human right and its influence on issues around empowerment and human resources.

➤ Ferdous Osman, Associate Professor, Department of Public Administration,

University of Dhaka presented a seminar on Health Policy.

➤ Davidson R. Gwatkin from the World Bank Institute presented a seminar on 'Equity in Health'. He talked about ways of measuring equity in health.

➤ Reza-ul-Haque, Director Rural Health Program, Gonoshathya Kendra, presented a seminar on Health insurance.

➤ Jamil H. Chowdhury, Director - Research & Evaluation, RTM International, presented on 'Public Expenditure Review 2003-04 of the Health Nutrition and Population Sector Programme (HNPSP)'. This review was conducted on behalf of the Health Economics Unit of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to track its expenditure by sources of funding, function and providers of health care services. It also examined the current resource allocation system by linking the system with poverty and health needs and discussed equity and efficiency of the system as well.

➤ A seminar titled, 'Occupational Health' was presented by Hasnat Alamgir, Scientific Director of Occupational Health & Safety Agency for Health Care, Vancouver, Canada & Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Health Science Simon Fraser University Bernaby, Canada.

➤ Dr. Hilary Standing of the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex UK, presented a seminar session titled “Gender and Health Equity - international challenges”. During the session, she examined the ways in which gender is implicated in the production of inequities in health. These ways included inequities in access to health resources and in utilization of services. She also talked about some of the conceptual underpinnings of these inequities and some of the structural issues within health systems, which lead to different gender outcomes.

➤ Dr. Lincoln Chen, founder and director of the Global Equity Center at Harvard Kennedy School of Government and President of China

Medical Board of New York presented a seminar on “The Human Resources Crossroads for Health: Field and Policy Action” on November 29th at the Sasakawa Auditorium of ICDDR, B.

➤ Dr. M.A. Hannan, Deputy Director, Knowledge Creation Program, Research Portfolio, Canadian Institutes of Health, Research, Ottawa, Canada and Visiting Professor, University of Wales Institute, Cardiff, U.K. presented a Seminar on cancer prevention and control in Sasakawa Auditorium, ICDDR, B.

STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES

Seminars

Students also presented a series of seminars on global and national public health issues in the first semester. The topics were selected from all 17 chapters of the book “Saving Million Lives” (Publisher: Centre for Global Development, Washington DC, 2004).

Research Projects

As part of the MPH course, the students carried out an independent research study for nine weeks at the end of the year, conducting primary research on a public health topic of their choice. The purpose of the independent study for the students was to demonstrate ability to synthesize and integrate the full range of MPH knowledge and skills at the end of the coursework period through research of a public health problem or program. Each student carried out research using both qualitative and quantitative skills.

Topics selected by the students included a wide array of health issues for their exploratory research. Some of the topics included workplace TB control program, drug abuse by street children, health micro-insurance, breastfeeding and nutrition, perception towards responsiveness of health workers, black fever control interventions, menstrual regulation services, mental

resiliency in the face of disasters, hygiene and sanitation, obesity and physical activity, community knowledge of malaria, sexuality and sexual behaviour, geriatric population, hypertensive patients, postnatal depression, perception of illnesses, spinal cord injury, children with oral cleft, and use of mobile phone as a health communication channel.

Teachers' Activities

➤ Dr. AMR Chowdhury, Dean attended a two-day Symposium on 'Measurement of impact of Safe Motherhood' organized by University of Aberdeen, England, on February, 2007.

➤ Dr. Chowdhury attended the Global Health Council Meeting in Washington DC as a panellist on 'Health Systems Development' on May, 2007.

➤ Dr. Chowdhury also participated in the International Conference on School Fee Evaluation, Planning for Quality and Financial Sustainability, along with a 6-member delegation from Bangladesh. The delegates included members from Ministry of Education, Primary and Mass Education Department, Education section of UNICEF. The conference took place in Banaka, Mali.

➤ Dr. Shahaduz Zaman, MPH Coordinator and Associate Professor chaired the module on 'Social, Cultural and Historical Dimensions of Infectious Disease' at Medical Anthropology Department, University of Amsterdam, on January, 2007

➤ On May, 2007, Dr. Zaman spoke as the keynote speaker at 'The Amsterdam Masters in Medical Anthropology (AMMA) Conference, The Netherlands; 10 Years of AMMA: Teaching and Applying Medical Anthropology'.

➤ On November, 2007 Dr. Zaman also attended the Inter Country Meeting on Public Health, Yangon, Myanmar, Organized by WHO at Yangon, Myanmar. This meeting was

to share experiences of running public health institutions in South Asia, where he presented the teaching approach of BRAC School of Public. Other participating institutes included, Mahidol University, Thailand, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, University of Indonesia, and University of Hong Kong.

- Dr. Sabina Faiz Rashid, Assistant Professor attended a workshop titled 'Good Practices: Adolescent Interventions,' on February, 2007. The workshop was organized by EU/UNFA in Bangkok.
- On March, 2007 Dr. Rashid presented a paper on “Chinta Rog: Protesting Injustices of the Body” during a conference called “Body in Asia” organized by the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore.
- On May, 2007 Dr. Rashid was invited by UNAIDS (joint United Nations program on HIV/AIDS) for pre-workshop consultation for AIDS commission held at IDB Bhaban. This was followed by a civil society presentation on the country level strategy for the prevention of HIV AIDS at Radisson hotel, Dhaka.
- On June 2007 Dr. Rashid was invited as a Plenary speaker to present at “The Transitions-health and mobility in Asia and Pacific” conference at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia. She was awarded a grant by AusAid to present on 'Social exclusion of urban slum population in Bangladesh'. She was also invited to attend the “Women in Asia conference” at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore.
- Dr. Rashid also attended the Realising Rights Consortium mid term review meeting at the Institute Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK, on December 2007.
- Mizanur Rashid Shuvra, Lecturer attended a meeting on World Bank Development Marketplace in Washington DC and later for a follow up meeting in New York City from May 20-30th.

Continuing Capacity Development

In 2007 BSPH staff participated in several training, workshops and conferences:

- Nominated by the School, Farhana Sultana, Research Associate participated in the training workshop on 'Equity in Health' from 4th June to 7th June, 2007. She also attended the 38th Union World Conference on Lung Health held in Cape Town, South Africa from November 8-12. Three thousand delegates and leaders in TB control attended the conference. The latest research and developments in TB control were announced during the 5-day conference.
- Ms. Sultana was awarded the 'Endeavour Postgraduate Award 2008' by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Australia to pursue her postgraduate studies in Epidemiology from the University Of Melbourne. The Endeavour Awards are internationally competitive, merit-based awards funded by the Australian Government and managed by the Department.
- Dr. Nasima Selim, Research Associate attended the Ninth Short Course in Biostatistics in CMC-Vellore, jointly sponsored by the Department of Biostatistics, India CLEN. INCLIN, Boston University, USAID and WHO jointly sponsored this four-week course.
- Dr. Kausar Iqbal, Research Associate, attended the Scientific Writing Workshop from November 26-28, jointly organized by FRONTIERS Program of Population Council and World Health Organization. She also attended the Fulbright seminar organized by the American Centre on 24th May 2007. She also attended the “National Dialogue on Women's Empowerment” on 21st January 2008 at BRAC centre Inn, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka. The event was organized by Pathways of Women's Empowerment Program, South Asia.

➤ Mahrukh Mohiuddin, Research Associate, attended a workshop on Gender, Media and Representation from November 11-15, jointly organized by Pathways of Women's Empowerment Research Program and Development Studies Program of BRAC University.

➤ Ilias Mahmud, Research Associate attended the National Conference on Emerging Issues in Public Health 10-13, January 2008 at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India. In the conference he gave a presentation on "Sexual and Reproductive Health Concerns of Married Men and Access to Health Services in a Rural Area of Bangladesh".

Membership of Boards/Committees

Dr. AMR Chowdhury joined Boards/Committees of the following:

- ◆ Editorial Board of "Global Public Health" published from USA.
- ◆ Editorial board of "PLoS Medicine" published from USA.
- ◆ Interim Steering Committee of the Partnership on Maternal Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH)
- ◆ Board member of Important Gifts Inc, New York
- ◆ Foundation Council, Global Forum on Health Research, WHO, Geneva
- ◆ Technical Committee, Bangladesh Demographic & Health Survey (BDHS)

Teaching Assignments Abroad

➤ Shahaduz Zaman Ph.D., Associate Professor and MPH Coordinator of BRAC School of Public Health taught the module on 'Social, Cultural and Historical dimensions of Infectious Disease' to graduate students at the

Medical Anthropology department of University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands during 4-23 January 2007.

➤ Sabina Faiz Rashid taught "Gender, Health and Society" to Masters level students at Charite Universitätsmedizin Berlin Campus Virchow-Klinikum Germany in March 2007.

Graduation 2007-2008

The Third Graduates' Forum of the JPGSP was held at ICDDR,B on December 27. The batch consisted of 26 students from Afghanistan, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Myanmar, Singapore, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia, USA, and Bangladesh, all of whom successfully completed their degree in Masters in Public Health. Dr. AMR Chowdhury, Dean, School of Public Health, delivered the welcome address and Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRAC University Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed chaired the forum.

Professor Richard Cash of Harvard University delivered the keynote address titled "In the Eye of the Storm: Contributions of Bangladesh to the Reduced Public Health Impact of Natural Disasters." Dr. Abbas Bhuiyan also spoke on behalf of ICDDR,B.

Abebul Zerihun of Ethiopia won the 'FH Abed Award for Best Overall Performance to an International Student' while the 'Allan Rosenfield Award for Best Overall Performance to a National Student' went to Tarique Md Nurul Huda. Om Prasad Gautam from Nepal won the 'WB Greenough III award for the Best Dissertation.' Fazle Hasan Abed distributed the prizes among the winners.

Five students were selected to present their dissertations on treatment compliance of tuberculosis, physical activity and obesity, community knowledge of malaria, perception of importance of illness by the elderly and care-seeking behaviour for menstrual regulation services.

INSTITUTES AND PROGRAMS

Institute of Educational Development (IED)

The Institute of Educational Development, BRAC University represents a key element of BRAC's overall effort to support the national education system.

Through out the year, IED's activities were carried out through six sections or units, each with a team of professionals and program specialists. The sections were- Early Childhood Development, Teacher Development, Primary Education, Secondary Education, Non-formal Education and Life-long Learning, and Research, Policy Studies and Advocacy. There was also an Academic Program Development team in which professionals from different sections were involved.

IED kept developing institutional linkages with reputed national and international educational institutions, and resource persons from these worked with IED teams to develop its programs and academic courses. Among these were the Dhaka University Institute of Education and Research, University of Manchester UK, Columbia University, George Washington University, Aga Khan University, Pakistan. Other partners included the Open Society Institute of the Soros Foundation, UK,



Institute of Educational Development (IED)

FIVDB, CAMPE, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Grameen Shikkha, BRAC Education Program, and others.

The year 2007 was full of activities and events for the Institute, highlights of which are given below.

ECD Professional Development Program, Offered by IED

The BRACU Academic Council gave its approval on 12 September, 2007 to a proposal for Early Childhood Development (ECD) professional development program. This program was a joint collaboration of IED, Columbia University and Open Society Institute in London. The program comprised a Post-Graduate certificate course, Post-Graduate Diploma and a Master of Social Science in ECD. This was the first ECD professional development program ever offered in Bangladesh. The diploma and degree programs were designed and are expected to be offered after obtaining UGC approval.

M.Ed and Post-Graduate Diploma on Educational Planning, Leadership and Management

IED submitted a proposal for M.Ed and Post-Graduate Diploma in Educational Leadership, Planning and Management to be offered in 2008. The proposal is currently awaiting UGC approval. A team from IED worked with Michael Harrison, ex-Dean for Teaching and Learning at the School of Education, University of Manchester in the UK, on the details of planning, content and delivery of the programme. The program intended to develop participants' selected from within the Bangladeshi education community including government personnel understanding of theories and principles of leadership and to help them see how these concepts can be applied to improve performance of students and institutions.

IED at Education Research Conference

IED participated in the Tenth Educational Researchers' conference for dissemination of

research studies organized by UNESCO-BAFED (Bangladesh Forum of Educational Development) Researchers Forum on 8th July, 2007 at IDB Bhaban, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Two staff members of the Early Childhood Development Resource Centre (ECDRC) of IED presented two research findings titled *“Playing with Mathematics: A Pilot Intervention to Develop Basic Mathematical Skills among the Preschoolers in Bangladesh”* and *“A Literacy Intervention for Preschool Children in Bangladesh: the Benefits of Dialogic Reading”*.

IED at Oxford Education Conference

Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Director of IED, attended the United Kingdom Forum for International Education and Training (UKFIET) a biennial education forum held at Oxford University from 13 to 16 September, 2007. IED was invited to make a presentation on its research work on access and participation in education undertaken collaboratively with institutions from UK, India, South Africa and Ghana. The five-year project under the auspices of the Consortium for Research on Educational Access, Transitions and Equity (CREATE) was funded by DFID.

IED Launched Research Report on Access to Education in Bangladesh

A study conducted by IED was launched on March 06, 2007 at BRAC Center Auditorium. The study titled *“Access to Education in Bangladesh: A country Analytic Review of Primary and Secondary Education”* was the first output in Bangladesh of the Consortium for Research on Educational Access, Transitions and Equity (CREATE) a five year, multi-country research project supported by DFID. IED is the Bangladesh member of the consortium, one of eight institutions from Bangladesh, India, Ghana, South Africa and U.K.

Education Policy Roundtable Co-hosted by IED

IED, jointly with Campaign for Popular

Education (CAMPE), UNESCO, and the Daily Star, hosted a Roundtable on Education on 28 April, 2007. Over 30 invited participants including senior government officials, former Ministers of Education and Members of the Council of Advisers, civil society leaders and academics joined in the roundtable. The Roundtable was a key event of the Education for All Global Action Week, which was observed worldwide to raise awareness and renew commitment for achieving the Education for All Goals and fulfilling the right to education. The Roundtable was preceded by three thematic forums on preschool and primary education, secondary and technical/vocational education and literacy and non-formal education held on 25 and 26 April.

IED at ECD World Forum 2007

Early Childhood Development Resource Centre (ECDRC) of IED was represented at the World Forum on Early Care and Education on May 15-18, 2007 at Kuala Lumpur. Major themes explored at the 2007 World Forum included poverty and children, curriculum models, teacher education, nature education, advocacy, staffing, funding, and indicators of quality.

IED at Review of National Primary Education Development

A civil society consultation during midterm review of the Second Primary Education Development Program of the country (PEDP II) was organized by Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE) & Education Watch Group in the LGED Auditorium on 5 November 2007. Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Director, IED and Member of Education Watch Advisory Board chaired the meeting. About 120 participants including concerned government agencies, particularly, the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (MOPME), Directorate of Primary Education (DPE), civil society groups, researchers, development partners, persons of different print and electronic media, academicians, and national and international NGO personnel attended the consultation.

Second National ECD Conference 2007

Early Childhood Development Resource Centre of IED organized the Second National ECD Conference with the slogan 'Our Children Our Future' on 10-11 December, 2007 at Bangladesh Shishu Academy (BSA) premises. About five hundred Early Childhood Development program implementers, facilitators, teachers and professionals including representatives from governmental, non-governmental, international agencies participated in the two-day-long conference. International participants from Columbia University and Open Society Institute, London also presented papers. The objectives of this conference were to share and exchange information and innovations in the field, increase awareness of the importance of early childhood development and consider future directions of the Network. The two-day-long program included four plenary sessions and fourteen concurrent sessions, exhibitions of ECD programs, activities and materials, children's performance, and video shows.

Agreement between IED and the World Bank

As part of its support to the Government of Bangladesh for a project on Social Protection of the Poor, World Bank commissioned IED to develop a proposal for a sustainable Early Childhood Development (ECD) model for the urban poor in two secondary cities-Narayanganj and Munshiganj. An agreement was signed recently between IED and the World Bank. The Early Childhood Development Resource Centre (ECDRC) at IED was to design a low-cost and replicable ECD model for slum dwellers in the two cities. The proposed model included operational guidelines and definition of responsibilities of local/ municipal governments, communities and mothers/ parents groups in the provision of services.

After its trial in the two cities, this model could be implemented more widely through implementation mechanisms involving the government, the non-government organiza-

tions and academic/ research institutions.

IED International Visitors

➤ Professor James H. Williams, Director of the International Education Program at the George Washington University (GWU) visited IED and BRAC University during August 07-27, 2007, as part of GWU-BRACU partnership. Professor Williams' primary purposes were to work on a collaborative research effort to critically examine PEDP II program at its mid-point, to consider how such a program might better achieve its purpose of educating all eligible primary age children in Bangladesh. Interviews and discussions were held with a number of development partners and other stakeholders in primary education.

➤ Professor R. Govinda of National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA), Delhi, India was at IED from August 4 to 10, 2007. Dr. Govinda is the partner institution coordinator in India for the Consortium for Research on Educational Access, Transitions and Equity (CREATE), an international research collaboration supported by DFID, of which IED is also a partner.

➤ Professor Keith Lewin, Director Centre for International Education, University of Sussex and International Director of the CREATE Project, visited IED from 30 July to 4 August, 2007. Prof. Lewin joined in a field visit to Khanshama Upazila in Dinajpur where field work for the Community and School Studies were underway.

➤ Professor Michael Harrison, retired Dean for Teaching and Learning at the School of Education, University of Manchester in the UK, visited IED from 13 to 26 July, 2007. Prof. Harrison is now a consultant for the National College for School Leadership. His visit was in connection with the planning of the Post-Graduate Diploma and MEd program, expected to be offered in 2008.

➤ Dr. Carolyn A. Brown, professor of Education at George Washington University,

USA visited IED in December, 2007. Dr. Brown's visit was in connection with the work that IED was carrying out to develop a teacher education program for the students of BRAC University.

Institute of Governance Studies (IGS)

The Institute of Governance Studies (IGS) is a research, training and teaching institute of BRAC University. In 2007, the Institute responded to the great political changes seen in Bangladesh at the turn of the year. As a result of these changes the Institute experienced a number of major changes, which placed it at the forefront of cutting edge research and genuine two-way partnership with the government. On 22nd July 2007 the Centre for Governance Studies (CGS) became the Institute of Governance Studies (IGS).

IGS Helped Prepare Report Entitled 'UNCAC: A Bangladesh Compliance & Gap Analysis'

The Institute provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs (MoLJPA) in producing 'UNCAC: A Bangladesh Compliance & Gap Analysis' report. The MoLJPA presented the report at the second Conference of the States Parties for UNCAC held in Bali, Indonesia. The Bangladeshi delegation was headed by Mr

Manzoor Mannan, Commissioner, Anti-Corruption Commission; other delegates included several senior government officials, and Mr Manzoor Hasan, Ms Tahmina Rahman & Mr Saiful Bhuiyan from the Institute.

The report 'UNCAC: A Bangladesh Compliance & Gap Analysis' was a result of an extraordinary effort of coordination and cooperation among all concerned government institutions of Bangladesh, the Institute, and the German Technical Cooperation. A first of its kind, the report provided an analysis of the entire set of anti-corruption laws, institutions and processes of Bangladesh against the UNCAC standards. The report concluded that in terms of legal regime, Bangladesh is largely compatible with standards and principles of the UNCAC and highlighted a number of initiatives undertaken by the government in critical areas of governance that helped address weaknesses with regard to both gaps in the law and practice. It recommended the development of a time bound action plan taking into account ongoing initiatives to addressing challenges and improving practice.

IGS Assisted Government of Bangladesh in Developing Anti-Corruption Strategy

The Institute commenced discussion with the Cabinet Division, Government of Bangladesh (GoB) to develop an integrated anti-corruption strategy for Bangladesh to be known as Bangladesh National Integrity Strategy (NIS). IGS will be providing technical assistance to GoB to formulate the NIS in 2008.

IGS Commences Second Masters Batch

The Masters program offered at the Institute continued in 2007. The University conferred Masters Degree in Governance & Development to 15 students at the Third Convocation. Ms Asma Dina Ghani was the first student from the Institute to receive the Vice Chancellor's medal for her academic achievements. The second batch of the Masters program began in July 2007 at the Training & Resource Centre (TARC), Savar.



Institute of Governance Studies (IGS)

IGS Students Visited South Korea and China

As part of their Masters program the second batch of students of IGS went on a month long tour of South Korea and China in November. The Korea Development Institute (KDI) hosted the students for fifteen days which included workshops and seminars aimed at enhancing and providing a rounded understanding of the processes of governance from an international perspective. After completing their trip to Korea, the students travelled to Sichuan Province, China, where they were hosted by Sichuan University.

Agreement between IGS and University of Manitoba, North-South University, George Mason University

The Institute is committed to broaden the horizon of governance in Bangladesh. Keeping this in mind, the Institute signed a MoU with the University of Manitoba, Canada to develop a Certificate course on Environmental Governance in partnership with and assistance from Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA); this will be offered from the Institute in 2008. The Institute also signed a MoU with North-South University (NSU) and Centre for Natural Resources Studies (CNRS) to facilitate this course. The Institute signed a MoU with George Mason University (GMU) in November to facilitate closer ties with faculty and research staff of both institutions. Another significant note series is on *Institutions of Accountability*. The research conducted by the Institute is designed to enhance the knowledge and to constructively engage with public institutions in the reform process dialogue. The findings and recommendations were disseminated through policy notes and background papers.

IGS Hosted Two International Workshops Independence, Accountability, Effectiveness and Efficiency.

In 2007 the Institute hosted the two international workshops on the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) and the Public Service Commission (PSC) as part of the

series. Government officials, civil society organisations, donor agencies and academia attended both workshops. The Institute published policy notes on the basis of research conducted and discussions from the international workshops. The policy notes were widely disseminated and made available on the Institute's website (www.igs-bracu.ac.bd).

IGS Prepares 'The State of Governance in Bangladesh 2007' Report

After the successful launch of 'The State of Governance in Bangladesh 2006: Knowledge, Perception, Reality' report, the Institute earnestly began research on 'The State of Governance in Bangladesh 2007' report. The report aimed to track and document events as they happened and provided an analytical narrative of the year of change and uncertainties in 2007. The report was divided into four sections: *Political Governance*, *Enabling Environment for Good Governance (national survey)*, *NGO Governance and Reports from the frontline of bad governance: evidence on crime, violence and human insecurity*. A national survey was conducted to secure a quantitative analysis of the state of governance under the caretaker government in 2007. A summary of the findings of the survey was included in 'The State of Governance in Bangladesh 2007' report, available on the IGS website.

IGS Organised Course on 'Sustainable Water Management and Good Governance'

For the first time the Institute organised a two-week course on 'Sustainable Water Management and Good Governance' for twenty young professionals of the Bangladesh Water Development Board between February March 2007 at BCDM Rajendrapur, as part of the Institute's professional training program. The course familiarised the participants with the principles of good governance and their importance for management of natural resources through a series of lectures, case studies, participatory exercises and participants' presentations.

International Visits and Seminars

The Institute also hosted seminars where international scholars presented the findings of their latest research paper. Dr Jose Campos, Lead Governance Adviser for Bangladesh, World Bank, presented his paper on 'Managing the Politics of Reform: Overhauling the Legal Infrastructure of Public procurement in the Philippines' in September. Dr Paul Posner, Programme Director, George Mason University presented his paper on 'Third Party Governance: Transformations in Public Management' in November. Dr Akhlaque Haque, Visiting Fulbright Professor and Associate Professor at The University of Alabama at Birmingham, presented his paper on 'Local Government Capacity Building Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS)' in December.

Scholarly Work by Faculty and Staff

➤ The Institute encouraged faculty and research staff to submit scholarly work for publication.

➤ Mr Haydory Akbar Ahmed, presented a keynote paper at the workshop organised by Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) on 'Right to Transparent Governance: Bangladesh Perspective' held at CIRDAP auditorium, Dhaka.

➤ On the invitation of the Young Economists Forum at North South University (NSU), Mr Ahmed also presented the keynote paper on 'Bangladesh Bank Autonomy: Some Thoughts at the International Conference of Young Economists 2007' in June.

➤ Mr Manzoor Hasan & Dr Shahnaz Karim presented the Keynote paper, 'Harnessing the potentials of Good Local Governance', at *Local Governance: Grassroots Experiences & Perspective* workshop held in September.

➤ Mr Manzoor Hasan also presented a paper, 'Public Sector Corruption in Bangladesh: Political & Bureaucratic', at the *Victory Day Commemorative Seminar*

organised by the Bangladesh International Institute for Strategic Studies (BIISS).

➤ The Institute co-hosted with the South Asian Institute of Advanced Legal & Human Rights Studies, the launch of Dr Sharif Bhuiyan's first book, *National Law in WTO Law: Effectiveness and Good Governance in the World Trading System* published by Cambridge University Press. Dr Bhuiyan is a faculty of IGS, teaching 'Laws of International Governance & Cooperation' on the Masters program.

IGS Recruited New Faculty

The Institute recruited 12 additional staff & faculty in 2007. They are-

- ◆ Dr Shahnaz Karim, Assistant Director
- ◆ Mr Sanjan Haque, Research Associate/ Lecturer
- ◆ Mr Mohin Khan Program Development Officer
- ◆ Mr Niloy Ranjan Biswas, Research Assistants
- ◆ Mr Asif Shahan, Research Assistants
- ◆ Ms Afroja Khanam, Program Assistant (academic)
- ◆ Mr Arsil Islam, Program Assistant
- ◆ Ms Tahmina Rahman, Research Coordinator
- ◆ Mr Quazi Tarique-ul-Alam, Program Manager (admin)
- ◆ Dr M Emdadul Haq, Professor
- ◆ Mr Morshed Alom, Research Associate
- ◆ Mr Sydur Rahman Molla, Project Officer.

Visiting Faculty and Researchers

Throughout the year, the Institute hosted visiting faculty and researchers. In 2007, the Institute hosted three Fulbright Scholars; Mr Steven Micetic joined IGS in a Research capacity. Dr Akhlaque Haque, a visiting Fulbright Professor and Associate Professor at The University of Alabama at Birmingham, joined the Institute to conduct research in governance & Global Information System (GIS). Dr David Skully, Fulbright Fellow, joined the Institute to carry out research in the State of Governance in Bangladesh project. Mr

Saiful Bhuiyan joined the Institute as Project Associate (part-time) on the 'UNCAC: A Bangladesh Compliance & Gap Analysis' project. The institute also hosted two research interns Ms Rabab Ahmed & Ms Nuzhat Jabin for the 'State of Governance in Bangladesh' project.

In May, the Institute moved into its permanent new premises. The new location is a two-storied building in the vicinity of the diplomatic zone.

Postgraduate Programs in Disaster Management (PPDM)

With the aim of developing manpower in the field of disaster management, the Postgraduate Programs in Disaster Management (PPDM) was initiated by BRAC University in 2005.

BRAC University, among both private and public universities in the country is the first to introduce the Post Graduate Program on Disaster Management (PPDM). This is a modular program of three semesters, with a progressively higher level of academic degree (certificate, diploma and master's degree) awarded at the end of each semester. At the end of the first two semesters, students may decide either to leave the program with the certificate for that semester or move on to the next semester for the higher level of certificate.

The PPDM is generously supported by Oxfam GB and student tuition fees are also sponsored by the Comprehensive Disaster Management Program and CIDA.

Students

The Spring Semester started with 9 continuing students (enrolled in Fall 2006) in January 2007. The other students from the Comprehensive Disaster Management Program (CDMP) completed the certificate course in Fall Semester 2006, and left the PPDM.

For the first time, BRAC University took two intakes for the postgraduate students. For this reason, the second admission test of the PPDM took place on September 07, 2007. 12 students were selected for enrollment in the Masters Program.

A group of 12 students were nominated by the Comprehensive Disaster Management Program to attend the certificate course in Fall 2007.

Graduation

The first batch of ten students received their Master in Disaster Management degrees in the convocation held on 8th February 2007. The list of the students along with the dissertation titles is given bellow-

- Mirza Abdul Ali: Unplanned Urbanization of Dhaka City: Increase of Rainfall Induced Flood Vulnerability
- Mushfequa Ferdous: Role of the Corporate Sector in Earthquake Disaster: A Case Study of Dhaka City
- Ahmed Shahnewaj Chowdhury: Investigation into Replication Issues of Brick-walls in Flash Flood Mitigation
- Mohammad A Rahman: Exploring the state of Disaster Management Activities in Dhaka City
- Omar Farook: Coping Mechanisms at *Chars*: Case Study of Sirajganj
- Mohammed M Rahman: Assessing the Level of Cyclone Awareness at the Household Level among the People of Coastal Region in Bangladesh
- Md Ruhul Amin Munshi: Natural Disaster Mitigation: Landuse Planning
- Ratish Chandra Ray: Capacity Building for Flood Preparedness: Comparison between Government and NGO

- Zinat Ara Begum: An Overview of Government Stand on Landuse in the Coastal Zone: Prospects and Possibilities
- Kaiser Rejve: Changes in Livelihood Pattern of Inhabitants in Waterlogged Areas in South-West Region in Bangladesh
- Shahnaz Zakaria: Flood Proofing Project at *Char* and *Haor* Areas: A Study to Oversee Impact of Household Food Security of Vulnerable Communities

The Certificate Awarding Ceremony of the Post Graduate Programs in Disaster Management was held on 16 April 2007 at the BRAC Center Inn Auditorium. Mr. Tapan Chowdhury, Honourable Adviser, Ministry of Food and Disaster Management, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh addressed the audience as the chief guest and handed over the certificates among the nine awardees. Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Vice-chancellor of BRAC University also addressed the audience. Professor Fuad Hassan Mallick, Director of the PPDM, faculty members, former and current students of the PPDM and many of representatives of the national and international agencies were also present in the ceremony.

MAJOR EVENTS AT THE INSTITUTE

MOU with DELPHE Project

The PPDM became a part of the DELPHE project with the Disaster and Development Centre (DDC), Northumbria University, UK and Disaster Management and Sustainable Development Centre (DMSDC), Katmandu University, Nepal. Mainly dealing with the dissemination and sharing of knowledge and information on disaster management, the project also aimed to help develop the course curriculum of the institutes on disaster management. The director of DDC along with a research scholar visited the PPDM of BRAC University in January this year in order to sign the MOU.

Short Training Course in Collaboration with AIDMI, India

A short training course on “Disaster Risk Management and Risk Transfer” was conducted by the PPDM of BRAC University in collaboration with the AIDMI (All India Disaster Mitigation Institute), India during 8-12 September, 2007. A total of 19 participants from different organizations including public, private and NGOs attended the course. Professor Dr. Jamilur Reza Choudhury, honourable Vice-chancellor of BRAC University inaugurated the training course as the chief guest. In the five-days' training course, resource persons both from India and Bangladesh presented very important papers covering all aspects of disaster risk management. The vice-chancellor of BRAC University also delivered a lecture on earthquake disaster mitigation. In the closing session, Professor Fuad H. Mallick distributed the certificates among the successful trainees. In the occasion, faculty members of the PPDM, Dr. Iftexhar Ahmed, Training Coordinator, PPDM coordinator, Mr. Md. Humayun Kabir and others were also present.

Guest Lecture

Dr Robert Hodgson, a consulting civil engineer and research fellow in the School of Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Exeter in Southwest England delivered a lecture on 08 July, 2007 on 'Housing and Hazards: mitigating disaster with stronger homes' at the Department of Architecture, BRAC University. The lecture was focused on Housing and Hazard (H&H) group's experience in Bangladesh through educational links, workshops and demonstration projects in rural areas.

PPDM Faculty Participated in International Events

- As part of the continuing collaboration of the DELPHE project, a faculty member of the PPDM visited Kathmandu University of Nepal on March 2007. Later on, the faculty members of the PPDM Mr. Md. Hafizul Hasan, Ms.

Dilruba Haider, Dr. K. Iftekhar Ahmed and PPDM coordinator Mr. Md. Humayun Kabir attended the Nepal-UK-Bangladesh Seminar on “People Centred Hazard and Vulnerability Mitigation in Disaster Risk Management through Risk and Resilience Committees in Bangladesh and Nepal” held during 31 June to 3 July 2007. The facilitators of this seminar were academics from Disaster and Development Centre (DDC), Northumbria University, Disaster Management and Sustainable Development Centre (DMSDC) of Kathmandu University, the Postgraduate Programs in Disaster Management (PPDM), BRAC University, Bangladesh and B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences (BPKIHS). The PPDM staff contributed to the seminar by presenting papers.

➤ Professor Fuad H. Mallick, Director of the PPDM was invited by Northumbria University, UK to participate in the conference on “Disaster Risk Management” conducted by Northumbria University held during 4-7 September, 2007. In the conference Dr. Mallick presented a paper on “Planning Sustainable Villages for Disaster Resilience in Bangladesh”.

➤ Mr. Md. Aminur Rahman, Research Assistant of the PPDM joined an international training on “Disaster Risk Reduction” in Northumbria University of UK from 24 October to 22 November, 2007.

English Language Program (EL Pro)

BRAC University's English Language Program (EL Pro) is the only English language department that assesses each student and matches the student with the level of class that is appropriate for their language skills. There are five levels of English classes plus the Advanced Writing and Presentations class. This wide variety of classes ensures correct placement for the students.

The year 2007 was a year of growth for the English Language Program (EL Pro). The Department increased the number of courses offered, and the quality of these courses was regularly monitored and improved.

EL Pro realizes that language learning takes place outside the classroom, with social interaction. The Department initiated and participated in extra-curricular activities at the university's residential campus in Savar. These activities helped develop the students' creative abilities and assisted in their language fluency.

In 2007, the faculty also focused on redesigning the pre-university program, giving Bangla medium school graduates the opportunity to improve their English language and study skills, and making their transition as BRAC University students easier and successful.

The faculty was busy with BRAC's course for middle managers, the Development Professional Program. This program was designed for the BRAC managers to prepare them for more challenging positions both in Bangladesh and abroad. To make the program available to a wider range of BRAC employees, a fourth level, the pre-DevPro level was added. This year, business communications and world history were added to the curriculum for the fourth and highest level to complement the Pre-DevPro and Dev-Pro, designed in ascending level of difficulty.

The partnership between BRAC and EL Pro was further strengthened, when the BRAC



Education Department's PACE program requested English training for their Program Organizers (POs). The POs work in the field with rural teachers and provide feedback on their teaching practices. Since they work with many English teachers, their own language skills are important. In addition to language development, the program included classroom teaching methodologies and observation and feedback techniques to help them assist the rural teachers with an improvement plan.

The Department began a relationship with the BRAC University Institute of Educational Development (IED), and the faculty provided English language classes for the students in the Masters in Early Childhood Development program. The EL Pro faculty also designed and delivered an academic English program for the IED staff. This curriculum, especially designed for the staff included the four skills of speaking, listening, reading, writing, business report writing and presentation skills.

A training program for the Aarong customer service employees was successfully initiated. In addition to improving their English language skills, the participants were expected to learn about customer relations and personal style and etiquette.

The personal style theme is also included in a business education program for BRAC Bank employees. Their curriculum included business communication and corporate culture.

The Department initiated a corporate training program, and the first workshop was a presentation skills class for a consortium of communication companies. The English for Professional Development courses, designed for working people who want to expand their language skills, as well as the IELTS training program continued.

The year 2007 was a productive and creative one for the English Language Program. The faculty and staff are looking forward to an exciting 2008, when the Department becomes a language teaching centre.

Development Studies Program (DSP)

The Development Studies Program (DSP) at BRAC University conducts research and academic training to promote an analytical understanding of development issues. The Program consists of two research projects, "Pathways of Women's Empowerment" and "Deepening Democracy, Building Citizenship and Promoting Participation", and a postgraduate academic program -- the Masters in Development Studies (MDS).

The Masters in Development Studies (MDS)

The MDS program seeks to create professionals who have the conceptual clarity, the analytical skills and the academic knowledge to effectively address strategic and practical challenges in development. It is a multi-disciplinary program, offering evening courses to a wide variety of students, mid-career NGO and government professionals, graduate students and young researchers. Faculty members include academics and professionals from home and abroad. In addition, MDS frequently draws on the vast human and field resources of BRAC for its courses.

In 2007, there were two intakes of fresh batches of students. Five students from different batches graduated and received their certificates at the Convocation Ceremony. Shumona Sharmin Salaam received the Vice Chancellor's Award for the highest CGPA in this program.

Students pursued research in a wide variety of topics such as gender, education, micro-credit, health, environment, international trade, etc. After successful completion of the degree, students advanced their career in organizations like Care, Oxfam, BRAC, etc.

The MDS program offered a variety of courses in 2007. These included-

- Development Perspectives

- Rights Based Approach to Development
- Economics and Development
- Environment and Development
- Fundamentals of Social Science
- Global Dimensions of Development
- Governance and Development
- Poverty: Concept Measurement and Policy
- Rural Development
- Research Methods and Concepts
- Statistics and Computer Skill Development

Pathways of Women's Empowerment

DSP is a member of the Pathways of Women's Empowerment -- an international research consortium. The consortium includes universities in Ghana, Brazil, Egypt and IDS at Sussex University, as well as UNIFEM. The purpose of the research program is to understand the process of empowerment for women how women achieve economic, political and reproductive rights in practice. The research intends to make these empowerment pathways visible to bring about radical shifts in policy and practice.

The Pathways research analyzes the factors that contribute to women's empowerment. The four broad themes of the research include conceptions of women's empowerment, empowering work, building constituencies for justice and equality and changing narratives of sexuality.

In April 2007, a Regional Planning Meeting



was hosted in Dhaka to plan the framework, design research and communication strategies and decide on methodologies and resources to use. The Pathways South Asia Hub also hosted a Religion and Women's Empowerment workshop in April, 2007. This workshop was part of the research under the culture/changing narratives of sexuality theme. It explored how women experience religion in their daily lives. The discussions highlighted how women are redefining themselves from an urban, cultural and religious trajectory.

Empowering Work

The work team completed the household census in eight districts of Bangladesh. Surveys are scheduled to begin from March 2008. The team hopes to highlight the differences recorded in women's work by comparing it with the data from the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.

Building Constituencies for Justice and Equality

The Bangladesh team working on "Women in Local Government in Bangladesh and Pakistan" continued to study the enabling and disabling factors resulting in women's efforts at creating voice. The research work started in June 2007. The first phase of the fieldwork included a sample survey of women UP members, interviews of women and male members and focus group discussions with UP councils and local community members from six divisions.

Changing Narratives of Sexuality

Pilot tests of the focus group discussions and in-depth interviews under the 'Religion and Empowerment' research for the Changing Narratives of Sexuality theme were completed in May. A Workshop on Gender, Media and Representation was conducted by Shohini Ghosh, Professor of Mass Communications at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi from November 11-15. It was attended by 29 participants including Pathways staff, researchers from other IDS projects, students and a variety of media personnel.

Collaborations

Pathways contracted the Collective for Social Science Research in Pakistan to conduct research on “Lady Health Workers Changing Lives: The Unintended Consequences of a Government Programme in Pakistan”. The first round of interviews with community-based Lady Health Workers in several districts of Pakistan was completed. Preliminary findings were shared at the December meeting on the work theme held in Ghana. A contract was signed with Neelam Hossain of Simorgh, Lahore to conduct an action research in several districts of Pakistan titled “Changing Narratives of Empowerment: Trajectories of Desire and Mediation of Socio-Culture Spaces” with an aim to understand the impact of media and the dars (women's religious group gatherings) on women's lives in and around Lahore.

The Pathways team inaugurated a photography exhibition on “Changing Images of Women” in December 2007, to coincide with BRAC's 35th Anniversary celebration. The photo exhibition, held in Dhaka, Rajshahi, Khulna and Chittagong included focus group discussions with students, artists, garments workers, journalists, development workers to understand their reactions to the images and their thoughts on empowerment. A photo-essay, with reflections and reactions of viewers, will be published in the refereed journal “Inter-Asia Studies”.

The Pathways team also participated in several capacity building initiatives including communication and methodology workshops and a four-week long course on “Sexuality, Culture and Society”.

Deepening Democracy, Building Citizenship and Promoting Participation Research Program

There are three main themes of this research. The first is to determine how concepts of democracy and citizenship have changed for people at the local level. The second is to understand the diverse processes that

grassroots organizations adopt to mobilize people to understand and assert their rights as citizens. And third, to analyze how these mobilization practices lead to specific outcomes, such as improvement in economic and social conditions, reductions in vulnerability, improvement in access to services, participation in the community, the economy and in politics.

The research was conducted in partnership with eight grassroots organizations in seven districts of Bangladesh -- to mobilize poor women to access micro credit (Grameen Bank and ASA); to mobilize poor women and men for micro credit plus non financial services such as health, education, legal aid, etc (BRAC and Proshika); to mobilize poor women and men around rights to resources (Nijera Kori and Samata); and to mobilize agricultural workers around labor rights (Kormojibi Nari and Bangladesh Sramajibi Kendra). A quantitative survey of 2400 members of these eight organizations in southwest Bangladesh was conducted from April to September 2007. Data entry and preliminary data analysis was also completed.

Qualitative studies of the 8 organizations were also conducted through reviews of reports and documents and in-depth interviews of policy makers, program designers, and field implementers. The aim of these studies is to understand the ideological approaches to mediation and strategies for mobilization and their implementation. The interviews were completed.

Four video documentaries of stories on emerging citizenship practices were made by four organizations. These videos were produced directly by the men and women from the sample survey.

Simeen Mahmud attended the Citizenship DRC meeting held in UK in April, 2007 and the DRC/RPC DFID Learning Event in UK in September.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Clubs and Forums

The Student Affairs Office supervises the activities of all student clubs and forums at BRAC University to provide an environment for a 'complete learning experience'. It strives to make the co curricular activities more student-centric. There were a total of 26 clubs and forums formed by students and advised by faculty advisors in the categories of arts, community service, culture, entrepreneurship, international, science, sports and subject related in 2007. Student activities were conducted under the 'co curricular activities guidelines' of the university.

In 2007, following events took place along with numerous other events conducted by the student clubs and forums:

- **AIESEC in BRACU** arranged an HIV/AIDS Awareness Campaign in the university, in cooperation with the UNFPA and BUEC. AIESEC organized Bangladesh National Leadership Development Seminar, NLDS at Proshika, Manikgonj.
- **Art Society** organized an Art Exhibition of the students in the Indoor Games Room. It



also conducted an Art Competition followed by a Concert later in the year.

- **National Heritage Forum, BUNHF** arranged rallies on the Independence day and the Victory Day in collaboration with BU Film Club.
- **BRAC University Rural Development Club, BURDC** conducted a field trip on a pilot project named "Sustainable Rural Development" at Kesharpar, Noakhali.
- **BU Film Club, BUFC** organized *Adda*, an informal discussion session with the eminent architect and film maker Enamul Karim Nirjor on his latest film '*Aha*'.
- **BUFC** went to Center of Rehabilitation for the Paralysed (CRP), Savar to screen a film for the patients. **BUFC** also took part in an inter-university short film/ documentary competition arranged by Dhaka University Film Society.
- **BRAC University Cricket Club** played a friendly cricket match at the ULAB cricket ground with the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, ULAB and Independent University Bangladesh, IUB.
- **BRAC University Cultural Club, BUCuC** held its biggest event of the year, the Annual Cultural Program at the National Museum Auditorium in July. BUCuC also organized '*Jalsha*', a musical soirée by two very popular singers and recent graduates of the university, Rupam and Tahmid, at the indoor games room. BUCuC also held a three day long Annual Cultural Competition among the students.
- **BRAC University Natural Sciences Club, BUNSC** arranged a STAR GAZING SESSION on the rooftop of BRAC Center. The club arranged a trip to the Atomic Energy Centre, Dhaka.
- **BRAC University Economics Club, BUEC** went on an educational tour in Bandarban, Chittagong.

➤ **Entrepreneurship Development Forum, EDF** conducted a tour of PRAN Agro Industrial Park, Natore.

➤ **BRAC University Social Development Forum, BUSDF** organized a blood donation program with the help of the Bangladesh Thalassaemia Hospital for the patients of the hospital.

➤ A team from **BRAC University Debating Club, BUDC** participated in the 3rd National Debate Festival '07 coordinated by BRB Cables.

➤ **Football Club of BRAC University, FCBU** organized a Victory day Friendly Football match between BRAC University main campus team and Savar campus team. FCBU organized a football quiz competition at BRAC University Trimatrik Club Fair in May.

➤ **BIZ BEE, the Business Club** of BRAC Business School organized a seminar on 'Globalization and its Impact on the 3rd World Political & Economics Dimensions'.

➤ **BRAC University Social Entrepreneurship Forum, BUSEF** in collaboration with the Quantum Foundation hosted a voluntary blood donation program at the indoor games room.

➤ An Intra University TeleMpiad (Telecommunication Olympiad) was organized by **BRAC University Computer Club, BUCC**. The club also invited top 20 teams from Daffodil Inter University Programming Contest 2007 to an Inter-University



Invitational Programming Contest at BRAC University.

➤ **Oikos Dhaka** at BRAC University organized a Tree Plantation Program on 30 June 2007.

➤ **MBA Forum** successfully inaugurated the Indoor Games Competition on Chess, Carom and Table Tennis in August, 2007.

➤ **Rotaract Club of BRAC UNIVERSITY, RCBU** participated in a community service by collecting and donating books donation among 145 poor students in a school in Dhaka.

➤ With the slogan 'Know Thyself, **MONON Club** was inaugurated. The Inauguration Ceremony in November was followed by a fair where various IQ tests and games were introduced to the students.

➤ **BRAC University Indoor Games Club, BUIGC** conducted the 2nd UIU Inter Private University Table Tennis Tournament Championship 2007.

➤ Members of **BRAC University Environment Awareness Forum, BUEAF** designed and decorated the children's school at Center for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed, CRP. The members had earlier worked on a garden specially designed for the patients at CRP.

SAO Coordinated Activities

➤ A day-long festival was arranged by the SAO to celebrate the **Pohela Boishakh, 1414** at the Gulshan municipal park with activities ranging from handicraft stores, painting competition, debate competition, kite flying, Ferris wheel ride, musical soirées, and a concert attended by about 5,000 people.

➤ The SAO organized a **Certificate Giving Ceremony** at the Indoor Games Room for 'Outstanding Contribution to Co-curricular activities' at BRACU during the period of 2001 to 2006.

➤ The students of the university, with the help of the Student Affairs Office have started

a fund named '**Students for Students Fund**' to directly help students in need. They have collected money by selling tickets to concerts and film shows.

➤ **Student volunteers who helped in Convocation 2007 Ceremony attended a dinner hosted by Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury**, Vice Chancellor of BRAC University.

➤ With the coordination of the SAO, All clubs and forums jointly organized '**Help Cyclone SIDR Victims**' drive at the university, and collected a large amount of clothing, food, medicine and money, which was distributed to the cyclone victims through BRAC.

Schools and College Visits in Dhaka and Chittagong

A BRAC University team with Pro-VC Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Professor Fuad Hassan Mallick, Chairperson, ARC, Ms. Shamsun Nahar Rahman, Asst Director, RMO and Mr. Aminul Islam, Asst. System Administrator visited different schools and colleges in Dhaka and Chittagong with the intention of introducing the quality of the education in BRAC University to the students.

The program generally included a video presentation on BRAC University, a briefing about BRAC's various programs such as its microfinance, non-formal primary education, enterprises such as Aarong and BRAC Bank. Emphasising that BRAC decided to establish a university to nurture and develop the next generation of leaders, students were given a briefing on BRAC and the successes that BRAC has achieved so far at home and abroad. The team mentioned the recently declared "Shadhinota Podok" award which BRAC has received in recognition for its outstanding social services.

After a short brief on BRAC University, the visiting team interacted with the students and explained to them different academic sides of BRACU. The members also talked about the rich faculty resources and job placement facilities at BRAC University. At the end of the seminar they enthralled the students by their experiences at BRAC University and the Savar Residential semester, which created great impact among all the students. In the question answer session questions about the Residential semester program with its unique features, the high quality of BRAC University faculty, scholarship program and credit transfer system were answered.

School/College Visit-2007

Sl	School/College	Date
01	Aga Khan School	22 nd February, 07
02	St. Joseph	22 nd March, 07
03	Mastermind School	28 th February, 07
04	Scholastica School	12 th February, 07
05	Notre Dame College	21 st March, 07
06	Bangladesh International Tutorial (BIT)	08 th November, 07
07	Maple Leaf School	12 th February, 07
08	European Standard School (ESS)	21 st November, 07
09	Holy Cross College	11 th March, 07
10	ISD International	14 th February, 07
11	Summer Field School, Chittagong	11 th April, 07
12	William Cary Academy, Chittagong	11 th April, 07
13	Green Herald School	15 th March, 07
14	Oxford International School	22 nd April, 07
15	International Turkish Hope School	19 th November, 07

THE RESIDENTIAL SEMESTER

All BRACU students spend one full semester in Training and Resource Centre (TARC), Savar, a well-designed BRAC campus with 17.5 acres of land. Characterized by its successful integration of curricular and co-curricular activities and fully equipped with all modern learning facilities the RS is a compulsory event for all BRACU students to fulfill the requirements for their degree.

Activities of Residential Semester 2007

In 2007, the Residential Semester hosted 465 students in three separate semesters i.e. Spring, Summer and Fall. Of them, 232 were girls and 233 were boys. The spring semester started on January 20 and terminated on April 19, 2007. 96 students attended the Spring semester from the departments of BBS, ARC, CSE, ECE, ESS, ENG, LLB, and PHY. Out of them, 47 were girls and 49 were boys. The Summer semester started on May 19 and completed on August 16, 2007. The number of the students was 175. Of them, 93 were girls and 82 were boys. The students were from BBS, ARC, BBS, CSE, ECE, ESS, ENG, PHY, and LLB. The Fall started on September 16 and terminate on December 19, 2007. There were 193 students, of them, 92 were girls and 101 were boys.



All three semesters started with a two-day long introductory workshop conducted by Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, the Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRACU where the Campus Superintendent acted as the co-facilitator. The department Chairs, the Deans, and the relevant Faculties were present in the workshop. All the parents of the students were invited on the second day of the workshop.

The students were taught the normal academic courses during the residential semester. In addition, they were involved in some social activities like, museum visits, social lab exercise, CfL activities, RS dinner, preparing wall magazines, film shows, visits to BRAC programs in the rural areas, trip to the archaeological sites in Bogura and Naogaon and different sports and cultural activities. The students also observed the important days of national and international significance, such as, the International Mother Language Day, Independence day, Victory Day etc.

In the middle of the Fall semester, all the parents were invited to a discussion session, where they exchanged views about the progress of their children and the impact of the residential semester on them.

The students of Spring organized a Bangladesh Fair in collaboration with the Department of Development Studies and CfL on December 08, 2007. Mr. Fazle Hasan Abed, the President of BRACU and the founder Chairperson of BRAC attended the fair.



Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury, the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, the Pro-Vice Chancellor were also present in the fair. The students displayed self-created

crafts, and performed variety of cultural activities in the fair like, songs, dances, drama, drawing in traditional events from Bangladeshi culture.

A picture of total students enrolled at residential semester in 2007:

Dept	Spring			Summer			Fall			Grand Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
ARC	5	9	14	7	13	20	00	00	00	12	22	34
BBS	11	16	27	25	30	55	47	41	88	83	87	170
CSE	2	1	3	7	3	10	02	00	02	11	04	15
ECE	16	4	20	32	17	49	43	23	66	91	44	135
ESS	7	9	16	4	14	18	02	08	10	13	31	44
ENG	3	4	7	4	11	15	03	19	22	10	34	44
PHY	5	2	7	1	0	1	00	00	0	06	02	8
LLB	0	2	2	2	5	7	05	01	06	07	08	15
Total	49	47	96	82	93	175	102	92	194	233	232	465

Note: The number of girls and boys is almost equal among the students attending the RS in 2007.

CAREER SERVICES OFFICE

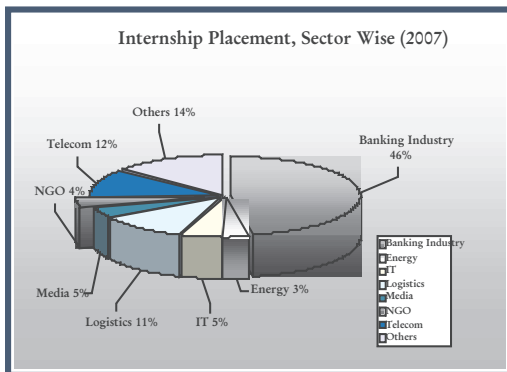
At the start of the 2007 recruiting season, there were positive job opportunities for all the disciplines. There was a sharp increase in recruitment activity for both full-time jobs and internships. The total number of companies recruiting BRACU students increased by 22% compared to the previous year.

Of those graduating seniors who were actively engaged in a job or graduate school search, 66% (different placement rates for different disciplines) reported employment in 2007 year versus 87% on average in 2006. Internship recruiting was very strong in 2007 with a 43% increase in the number of companies recruiting interns. For the third consecutive year, the top hiring companies were the different financial institutions, BRAC Bank being the star employer with Standard Chartered Bank following the lead.

Internship Data

Internship program is compulsory for the BBA and the MBA students at BRACU, though only BBAs earn credits for undertaking an internship program.

Students from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) are eligible for an internship placement once they have completed their thesis; however their preference is a job placement. Internship for



MBAs, CSs, CSEs, English, Economics and any other discipline do not earn any credit. Of the 199 BBA students who were seeking internship during 2007 for internship placement, approximately 60% were placed by the Career Services Office as opposed to approximately 80% on an average in the previous years. This is good sign that students are able to market themselves and the BRACU students are being recognized. Internship programs are a good way to apply classroom learning in practice with a hope that a job can be secured at the end of the internship period. Banking sector remained the favorite internship placements with the BBA students.

Full-Time Employment Data

On an average 66.5% of the graduates during 2007 were employed while 19% on average were pursuing higher studies mostly abroad. 85% of those who were unemployed were so voluntarily.

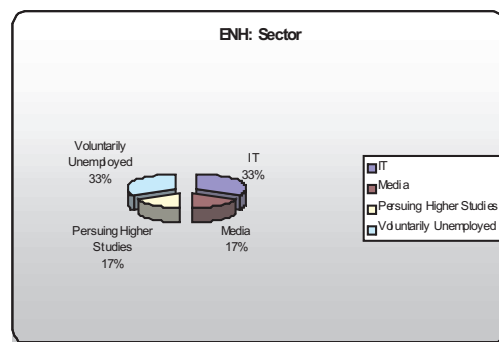
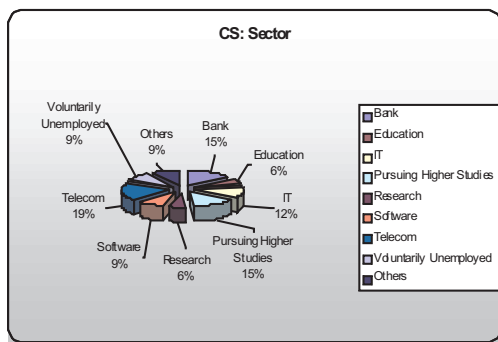
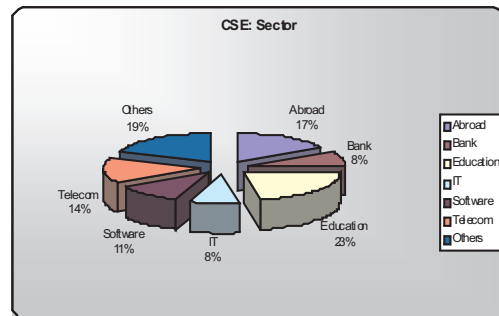
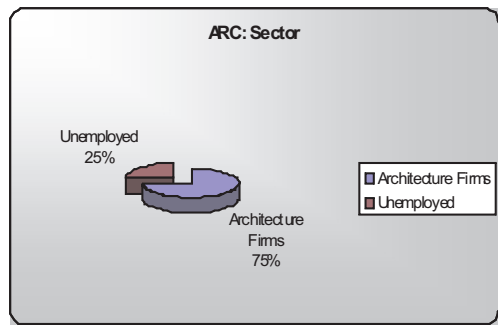
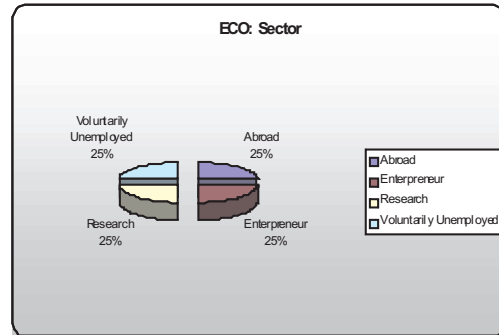
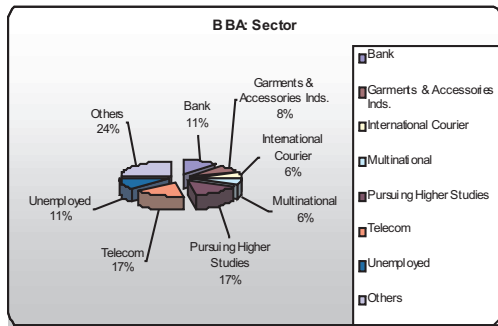
Full-Time Employment Data

	Employed	Unemployed	Pursuing Higher Studies	Total %
ARC	75	25	-	100
BBA	78	8	14	100
CS	76	9	15	100
CSE	83	-	17	100
Economics	50	25	25	100
English	37	36	25	100
Average %	66.5	20.6	19.2	

On an average 66.5% of the graduates during 2007 were employed while 19% on average were pursuing higher studies mostly abroad. 85% of those who were unemployed were so voluntarily.



Undergraduate Sector Wise Employment:



Graduate Placement Data

	Employed	Unemployed	Unable to trace	Total %
MBA	92	8	-	100
MDS	100	0	-	100
MAGD	100	0	-	100
MPH	58	42	-	100
PPDM	62	8	30	100
Average %	82.4	11.6	30	

On an average 82% from the graduate program were employed while approximately 125 were unemployed, out of which 80% were voluntarily unemployed.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

BRACU provided a number of scholarships and financial assistance for students. These supports were available to students who:

- Performed well in their HSC/ SSC or O/A Levels prior to joining BRACU
- Performed well in BRACU
- BRAC-FORD students
- Children of BRAC employees
- Had other siblings studying at BRACU
- were physically challenged

- Were financially disadvantaged (need-based).

Furthermore, all female students continued getting a waiver of Taka 500 per credit for every course they take.

Financial Aid-2007

Sl	Semester 2007	Amount in Tk.
01	Spring-07	14,096,753.67
02	Summer-07	10,570,729.67
03	Fall-07	10,419,278.67
	Total	35,086,762.01

12% of total revenue

FACILITIES FOR LEARNING

Faculty

BRACU faculty comprises a unique blend of teachers, researchers and practitioners. The faculty consists of a distinguished body of scholars with proven teaching and research excellence. Many have doctoral degrees from universities abroad. Many are postgraduate degree holders and professionals with varied experience. Visiting faculty members from USA, Canada, UK, Australia and other countries bring diversity and richness in the learning environment.

Campus

The present campus of the University located at 66, Mohakhali in Dhaka City has excellent communication links to all parts of the city as well as outside the city. Taxis, baby taxis, rickshaws, and buses are readily available. Moreover, the campus is situated five minutes away from Mohakhali's Premium and Volvo bus stand. The five-storied University Building accommodates a lounge, an information desk, a student counseling office, classrooms, seminar rooms, computer laboratories, the Registrar's office, administrative office, Accounts office, the Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) Department, Executive floor, a cafeteria, a student's common room and a semi outdoor sitting plaza (Prangan). BRACU occupies eighteen floors of Aarong House (AH), a twenty-storied building situated adjacent to the University building. The BU library extends over two floors of this structure. BRAC Business School (BBS), English and Humanities (ENH) Department, classrooms, computer labs and internet facilities for students are also located there. The University also occupies six floors of Civil Engineers Bhaban (CB), a building located a block away from the main University building. These floors house the Departments of Architecture, Economics and Social

Sciences and Mathematics and Natural Sciences and the Schools of Law and Public Health. The Institute of Governance Studies (IGS) is located in Gulshan, while the Institute of Educational Development (IED) is in Niketan.

The University plans to shift its activities to the new campus in 4 to 5 years. The process of acquiring land in Badda, Gulshan and constructing the permanent building is under process.

Classrooms

BRACU has classrooms of various sizes, ranging from regular ones that can hold 30-50 seats, to large ones with a capacity of 60-80 seats. Each classroom is fully air-conditioned and equipped with multimedia projectors, overhead projectors and computers with access to the Internet. Some classrooms have, in addition to these, televisions, VCR and equipments that can be used for teleconferencing. Furthermore, BRACU has access to facilities at BRAC Centre Inn and BRAC support facilities all over Bangladesh for the use of teachers and students during field visits.

Computer Labs

Currently there are three labs at the University Building (UB), six at Aarong House (AH), including the library, one at the Civil Engineer's Building, four in the Savar campus, including a SPSS lab that is used exclusively by MPH students, and one in the Institute of Governance Studies (IGS) at Gulshan. These computer labs have a total of 345 computers, of which 80 are in the Savar campus and 26 are in the Rajendrapur campus. These are all latest model personal computers with built-in multi-media connected to IBM xSeries 226 and 236 Servers by a Windows NT local area network (LAN). For all lab work, there is one computer for each student. Computers are connected to a host of other peripheral devices such as scanners, printers, digital cameras, etc. Suitable UPS units back up electric power supply to all computers and peripheral devices.

Furthermore, stand-by generators back up other electric equipment. All these facilities are continually being upgraded to keep pace with changing technology. Furthermore, all servers have been upgraded with new configurations, as have the student, staff and faculty main servers.

Digital Lab

The purpose of establishing a separate digital lab was to enhance students' understanding of microprocessors, circuits and electronics. This lab contains a wide variety of equipment, including oscillo-scopes, trainer boards, microprocessors, digital multimeters, ammeters, wattmeters, rheostats, generators, inductors and other such equipment.

Electronic Systems Laboratory

This laboratory provides support for instruction and research in the areas of basic analog and digital logic design, discrete component testing, fundamental circuit design, microprocessing interfacing, assembly language programming and communication theory. The laboratory is equipped with digital systems development including FPGA/VHDL for advanced course work and thesis research, CAD facilities capable of schematic capture, circuit simulation and fault detection. The lab utilizes various test equipment to include but not limited to oscilloscopes, signal generators, spectrum analyzer, DSO & logic analyzer, multimeters and high-speed data acquisition equipment.

Telecommunication Laboratory

The telecommunications laboratory, a state-of-the-art facility, is fully equipped with hardware and software to support a multitude of instructional and thesis/ project activities on the broad area of digital communications, wireless and mobile communications, multimedia communications and network simulation. Lab facilities also include PCM analyzer/ Frame analyzer, PCM performance analyzer and trainer for modulation and keying (e.g., PSK, FSK, ASK, QPSK etc).

Signal Processing Laboratory

This laboratory supports instruction and thesis/research in the area of Digital Signal Processing. Research and thesis work include data modeling and processing, image analysis and modeling, signal detection and classification, multi-rate processing and other areas. Lab facilities include several PCs equipped with the latest MIDAS Engineering hardware and standard software package.

Electromagnetics Laboratory

This laboratory supports instruction and project/thesis in the area of microwave systems and technology. This is accomplished with a mix of hardware, instruments and test systems. The Lab facilities include Microwave communications teaching set (scanTEK 2000) with CT60 and CT60IS.

Control Systems Laboratory

This laboratory emphasizes problem based learning and research using pilot plant. Lab facilities include servo control stations (CA06, LJ Group) and associated computers (equipped with A/D and D/A data acquisition cards, Matlab/SIMULINK software and RT-Linux for RTS) that are used to conduct simulations and physical experiments, modeling, analysis, and design of control systems.

Optical Electronics Laboratory

The Optical Electronics Laboratory provides educational and project/thesis support in the areas of fiber optics, integrated optics and electro-optics. The Lab facilities include fiber optics instrumentation (optical fibres DL 3155M63, De Lorenzo Group) set. This laboratory supports ECE340 and ECE410 courses.

Cisco Networking Laboratory

The Cisco Laboratory of BRACU has the Cisco Premium Bundle 1.6, which includes 2600 routing products, switching products and other support products. Students will learn how to install and configure Cisco switches and routers in multiprotocol networks using local-and wide-area networks (LANs and

WANs), provide Level 1 and 2 troubleshooting services, and improve network performance and security. Additionally, instruction and training are provided in the proper care, maintenance, and use of networking software tools and equipment. The laboratory caters to the networking courses into which the CCNA certification Program has been integrated. Along with that this lab is also used for some introductory and intermediate Computer Science and Engineering courses' laboratories.

Linux Laboratory

BRACU has a dedicated Linux Laboratory using the Fedora Core 6 distribution at the time of this writing. The Linux Laboratory is used for all the advanced Computer Science and Engineering laboratory courses, as well as for some of the introductory and intermediate ones. It is also heavily used for undergraduate thesis projects. The Linux Laboratory is set up so that the software on the client computers can be installed, or upgraded, and managed using a solution that does not require any operator intervention.

Laboratory Facilities of the Mathematics and Natural Sciences Department

For its undergraduate program in physics laboratory experiments on different topics of physics have been set up. These labs supplement the theory courses and strengthen students' theoretical concepts. Students of other departments taking physics courses can also carryout experiments using the physics lab facilities in addition to their theory classes.

MNS Department also has a mathematics lab where students solve mathematical problems on calculus, numerical analysis, matrices, ordinary & partial differential equations etc. using the athematica software.

A unique feature of the MS. in biotechnology course run by the MNS Department is to give emphasis to lab exercises. This is facilitated by having MOU'S with BRAC ARDC at Gazipur, ICDDR,B and the University of Dhaka. These agreements will make it possible for the

students to use these lab facilities whereby they can acquire the very necessary hands on experience. It is also envisaged to set up the different biotechnology labs at BRACU gradually.

ENH Writing Lab

A Writing Lab a student run writing tutorial centre is instituted at the Department of English and Humanities for the students of the Department. This centre is aimed to help ENH students identify and overcome various writing difficulties through peer review and individualized tutorial sessions by the students of the department. Each tutor has two designated hours per week for the tutoring task that includes providing support at all stages of the writing process. Students can drop by the Writing Lab during available hours or sign up for a specific slot of time with a specific tutor of their preference. The lab is situated in AH 702.

THE UNIVERSITY-WIDE WRITING CENTRE?

Video Conferencing Centre

BRACU is the only university that has its own Video Conferencing Centre. This is located on the 18th floor of Aarong House and is used to conduct live meetings, corporate affairs, seminars and presentations among people who are geographically apart. Furthermore, it enables virtual tours and participation in global events. Around 20 people can participate at a time.

IT Network

The IT Network of BRACU enables all members, students and faculty alike, to maintain personal user accounts with an email account and a home folder. In addition to this, all members can access certain common folders. This makes sharing and distribution of class lectures, assignments and other such information a mouse click away. BRACU now has 620 workstations linked together through Local Area Network (LAN) and Wide Area Network (WAN).

Architecture Studios

There are eight architecture studios at BRACU, each equipped with large drawing tables, worktables, equipments such as rulers, lockers and plenty of space in which to display the final outcomes. Each of these studios can hold up to 20 students at a time.

BRACU Cafeteria

The Cafeteria of the university is a spacious and well-lit area that can hold up to 150 students at any given time. It serves a variety of snacks, meals and drinks. Adjacent to the cafeteria is the Indoor Games Room, with provisions for playing table tennis, carom and chess.



Prangan

Prangan, located on the first floor of the University Building, is an open-air garden with a capacity of 100 students. This area includes a snack bar that serves tea, coffee and snacks, a provision for indoor games such as carom and chess and plenty of seats where students can lounge around and enjoy the fresh air.



Career Services Office (CSO)

The chief mission of the Career Services Office (CSO) at BRACU is to prepare students for the job market in Bangladesh. CSO will provide a knowledge base in career planning skills & tools. The activities at CSO are partnership-effort oriented; it makes a match between the individual student and the employing organization. CSO provides a variety of programs, workshops, and individual counseling opportunities to help students to develop themselves professionally. The services provided to students are consistent with the institution's mission.

Ways to develop skills:

- Internships
- Through BRACU Clubs, Organizations, Extracurricular Activities
- Professional Skills Development Program (PSDP)
- Workshops

Services that we offer from the office are:

- Career counseling
- CV referrals for jobs
- CV critiquing
- Arranging internships
- Arranging networking sessions

Services we offer to assist in the job search process:

- Job postings
- Job search materials
- Professional Skills Development Program
- Networking opportunities

Teaching Learning Centre (TLC)

The Teaching Learning Centre (TLC) at BRACU works both with faculty and students to examine attitudes towards teaching and learning. TLC was introduced in the year 2006 with the mission to build awareness among students, encourage and facilitate a student centered learning environment across the departments of the University. TLC organizes:

- Retreat two-day workshops for teachers
- Two-day orientation workshops for students that introduce as well as

implement the concept of self-rules at the Residential Semester

- Study skill workshops for Residential Semester students
- Individual counseling for students with study problems

In addition, TLC offers support in developing student centered learning courses. Recently, it has helped restructure the Ethics and Culture course that is conducted at the Residential Semester of BRACU. The course now includes self-reflection essays, discovery of self, Ethics Committees and dramas. Evaluation has shown that students now enjoy, participate and learn much more in the course.

Center for Languages (CfL)

Center for Languages (CfL) is devoted exclusively to teaching, training, improving and supporting the English language skills of students and professionals of all stages. All faculty members are English language specialists with extensive experience in teaching at all levels. The facilities provided by CfL are varied and customized and focused on the maximum output in terms of teaching delivery, assessment, course design and logistics. CfL believes that language learning has a parameter beyond the scope of classrooms. Hence, it involves students in extra-curricular activities in its residential campus in Savar to bring out students' latent potential and talent.

Centre for Research on Bangla Language Processing (CRBLP)

The Centre for Research on Bangla Language Processing is the only research centre in Bangladesh that is dedicated to software localization. It was established in 2005 with seed funding from the International Development Research Corporation (IDRC) of Canada through its PAN Localization Network (PanL10n) program, and has since secured additional support from the Microsoft Corporation of USA. CRBLP has a 3-fold mission: (i) to develop multilingual ICT

solutions to aid national development, (ii) to build human resource capacity in the field of Computational Linguistics to develop these technologies, and (iii) to advance policy to bring sustainability and focus to this effort in Bangladesh. For more information on CRBLP, please visit its website at <http://www.bracu.ac.bd/research/crblp/>.

Economics and Social Sciences Research Cell (ESSRC)

The Department of Economics and Social Sciences (ESS) has established a research cell to facilitate research by its faculty and graduate students. The objective of this cell is to create a supporting environment for research by providing services ranging from basic research and data collection, to the broader issues of problem identification and mentoring by senior faculty. The cell organizes regular seminars and workshops as a means to disseminate research results, and to foster collaboration among the researchers within and beyond the university. The ESS research cell is planning to bring out a journal annually to disseminate original research findings, and to create a database of primary and secondary data.

BRACU Journal

Six issues of BRACU journal were published. The journals contained articles relevant to the departments of BRACU. The contributions came from both within and outside BU.

Student Activities

BRACU's mission is to achieve excellence in all round education. The components of all round education, i.e., learning, development and identity formation are interactive and add to each other. The students can experience all of these through participating in co curricular activities along with regular studies. University's Student Affairs Office (SAO) provides full support in this respect.

Clubs and Forum

The co curricular arena of the university is quite vibrant and student-oriented. There are a

total of 28 student clubs and forums in categories of:

- Arts/Culture
- Social Welfare/Community service
- International
- Entrepreneurial
- Subject related
- Sports
- Science

These clubs and forums provide opportunities for developing leadership, confidence, goal setting, sense of ownership, time management, collaboration and teamwork. The clubs and forums are:

- AIESEC BU (International Club)
- Football Club FCBU
- Art Society BU
- Global Affairs Forum GAFBU
- Business Club Biz Bee
- Indoor Games Club BUIGC
- BU Student Newsletter
- MBA Forum (for MBA Students)
- Computer Club BUCC
- MIS Club
- Cricket Club BU Cricket Club
- OIKOS Dhaka (International Club)
- Cultural Club BUCuC
- National Heritage Forum BUNHF
- Debating Club BUDC
- Photography Club BUPC
- Drama and Theater Forum BUDTF
- Natural Sciences Club BUNSC
- ECE Club
- Social Development Forum SDF
- Economics Club BUEC
- Social Entrepreneurship Forum BUSEF
- Entrepreneurship Development Forum EDF
- BRACU MIS Forum
- Environment Awareness Forum BUEAF
- Rotaract Club of BRACU
- Film Club BUFC
- Rural Development Club BURDC

The composition of each club or forum includes teacher/staff advisors, a coordinator and student representatives. Enrolment of members is done during the club fair held each

semester. The Director of the Student Affairs supervises the activities with the help of an assistant director and a department coordination officer.

A multi-use hall, two eighty-seat lecture halls, cafeteria and a planted semi-outdoor space with technical support are used for seminars, workshops, exhibitions, indoor games, competitions, fairs and cultural activities. The residential campus in Savar provides a play field for outdoor games. The facilities of BRAC throughout the country such as training centers with dormitories, transport and guides are available for tours and other events.

A yearly award system has been introduced for the students with major contributions as well as for the most active club. The SAO has currently adopted the 'Ambassador Program', where students good in leadership, time management, collaboration and teamwork are selected from clubs and forums and trained to represent the university.

Annual assessment of the co curricular activities has been conducted since 2006. University rules have been introduced for participating in the activities without hindering academic performance.

Major activities of clubs and forums include:

- Club Fair
- Film Show
- Cricket, Football and Indoor Games
- Trade Fair
- Voluntary Blood Donation Campaign
- Community Volunteer Work
- Art, Photography and Hobby Exhibition
- Seminar and Workshop
- Competitions in Art, Debate, Music,
- Celebration of national and international events such as Pohela Boishakh, International Mother Language Day, Independence Day, Victory Day.
- Business plan, Photography, Computer programming
- Publishing Newsletter
- Study Tour

- Annual Drama
- Archives
- Annual Cultural Program
- Research
- Concert
- Help group/Help sessions

The Student Affairs Office emphasizes on the wholeness of university experience through synchronized development of body, mind and spirit. It aims at integrating co curricular with academic learning, and stresses on service learning through community volunteer work.

BRACU Alumni Association

Objective of this association is to promote the interests of BRACU Alumni network, guide and mentor students and alumni and ensure that BRACU stays dynamic and constantly updated in response to the changing needs of society.

Our mission is to connect alumni to BRACU and, provide each other valuable benefits, services and resources and support to the University's mission of teaching, research and service.

The association provides professional and personal enrichment opportunities for alumni and friends through educational, informational and social events. Working closely with the University, the Association informs alumni of the University's events and news provides a forum for continued dialogue with the University.

The association is intended to provide services such as helping students finding jobs, career advice for freshers, sharing job experiences, building fund-raising support, providing suggestions to change the BRACU curriculum which will meet the current demands of the market and strengthen BRACU's outreach.

Any graduate of BRACU, who has obtained an honorary or regular degree (undergraduate or postgraduate), certificate or diploma from BRACU, or was formally enrolled at BRACU

as a full-time or part-time student for a period of not less than two semesters or equivalent; as well as all alumni of BRACU, is considered to be members of the BRACU Alumni Association. An executive committee consisting of six members carries out the operations of the association. Each executive committee stays in office for one year. To assist the executive committee in their duties, there are several subcommittees, each in charge of different aspects of the organization.

Ayesha Abed Library

In 2007 BRAC University Ayesha Abed Library continued to make progress towards the realization of the key strategies designed to improve support for the University's learning, teaching and research activities. The library has developed and improved its core services and products this year. In 2007, 1242 books added to the main collection through purchasing and donations. The library was able to extend the range and depth of the collection through the subscribing following e-resources via PERI under the Bangladesh INASP PERI consortium program:

- American Chemical Society
- American Physical Society
- Annual Reviews
- Blackwell-Synergy
- Cambridge University Press
- Cochrane Library
- Institute of Physics
- Mary Ann Liebert
- Mineralogical Abstracts
- Multilingual Matters
- Oxford University Press



- Royal Society
- Springer
- University of California Press
- Wiley Interscience

The library has also subscription of a number of databases such as JSTOR, eGranary, AGORA, HINARI, EOLSS. Throughout the year the library provided orientations to a wide variety of groups and individuals. Among the guests Ms Sue Allcock, E-Librarian and Ms Lisa Jolliffe, Marketing Coordinator of BLDS University of Sussex, visited the library in December 2007. The library continued to provide a valuable borrowing service to all library members. The number of registered library members was 862 in 2007 and more than 5600 books were issued to library members. The Library Staff attended the following training and workshop in order to improve their professional and technical skills:

- Workshop on “Internet as Resource Sharing Tool”, November 30 2007, UN Information Centre, Dhaka
- “Optimizing the Use of Electronic Resources available via PERI”, October 23 to 25, 2007, ICDDR, Dhaka.
- “Training on Building Digital Libraries: Application of DSpace”, September 3 to 5, 2007, DELNET, New Delhi, India
- “Building Administrative Capacity in Bangladesh Institutions of Higher Education”, 6 August 2007, organized by American Institute of Bangladesh Studies and Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Dept of State, USA.

Several initiatives were in progress throughout the year. The library received a fund from INASP to establish an Institutional Repository to support and promote the research and intellectual output of the university under BRACU-DR Project. A MOU was signed between the Global Development and Environment Institute at Tufts University and BRAC University for distributing the Social Science Library CDs. The CDs will contain approximately 6,000 carefully selected and organized articles, divided among seven disciplines: Anthropology, Economics,

History, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology and Political Science with an emphasis on sustainable development and human well-being. An initiative was also taken **to improve the existing library web page.**

Library Hours

Over sixty computers are located on the 2nd floor of Aarong House, which provide on-line access to the Internet. The library is open from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on all working days and from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Finance & Accounts Department

Activities

Finance and Accounts department receives tuition fee, other fees and donations from students and donors respectively and usually make all types of payments, and prepare and provide various reports to the management such as weekly fund position, monthly central budget variance report, quarterly department-wise budget variance report, annual financial statements, Ford Foundation yearly report, provident fund financial statements, fund management, donors report etc. BRACU is also running more than 20 donor projects and maintain all the activities like students' enrollment & registration, accounting, payroll, fixed assets management system, cheque management systems, provident fund, income tax, etc. through the touch of modern softwares. Finance and Accounts Department also provides information and all types of analysis, various reports, etc to the management for assist in the decision making.

Achievement and Successes

In the year 2007, Accounts Department developed Accounting Manual, Procurement Procedures and Loan Policy. Income for the year 2007 was Taka 312.7 million where as in the year of 2006 it was Taka 238.2 million, which represents 31% increases. During 2006 BRACU had a deficit of Taka 11.8 million. But in 2007 the University had a net surplus of Taka 10 million. The University also succeeded in paying off the Bank overdraft of Taka 47.5 million during 2007.

ANNEX-A**List of Faculty Member****ARCHITECTURE****Full Time Faculty**

Sl Name	Designation
1. Prof. Fuad Hassan Mallick	Chairperson
2. Dr. Zainab F. Ali	Associate Prof. & Director, Student Affairs
3. Dr. Q M Mahtab-Uz-Zaman	Associate Professor
4. Mr. Iftekhhar Ahmed	Senior Lecturer
5. Mr. Tariq Mahbub Khan	Senior Lecturer
6. Ms. Huraera Jabeen	Lecturer
7. Ms. Nesfun Nahar	Lecturer
8. Mr. Khondaker Hasibul Kabir	Lecturer
9. Ms. Yasmin Ara	Lecturer
10. Mr. Abu Muhammad Rahat Mujib	Niaz Lecturer
11. Mr. Imon Chowdooree	Lecturer
12. Ms. Rehnuma Parveen	Lecturer
13. Mr. Golam Sarwar	Lecturer
14. Mr. Muhammad Nafisur Rahman	Lecturer

Part Time Faculty

1. Mr. Shams Mansoor Ghani
2. Dr Farida Nilufer
3. Mr. B. K. S Inan
4. Dr. Mafizur Rahman
5. Mr. Md. Shah Alam Talukder
6. Mr. Ehsan Khan
7. Mr. Mustafa Hasan Shamim
8. Mr. Mustasim M Khan
9. Mr. Ruhul Amin
10. Mr. Shafiqul Islam
11. Mr. Kawsar Ahmed
12. Dr. Shahaduzzaman
13. Mr. Md. Mizanur Rashid
14. Mr. Nurur Rahman Khan
15. Mr. Obaidul Fattah Tanvir
16. Mr. Sirajul Karim
17. Mr. Atiqur Rahman
18. Ms. Marina Tabassum
19. Mr. Mustafa Hasan Shamim
20. Mr. Qazi Muhammad Arif

Teaching Assistant

1. Mr. Mohammad Aminur Rahman
2. Mr. Md. Imtiajul Alam

COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING**Full Time Faculty**

Sl Name	Designation
1. Dr. Sayeed Salam	Chairperson
2. Dr. Mumit Khan	Associate Professor
3. Dr. AKM Abdul Malek Azad	Asst. Prof.
4. Dr. Tarik Ahmed Chowdhury	Asst Prof.
5. Dr. Md. Abdul Matin	Assistant Professor
6. Ms. Sadia Kazi	Sr. Lecturer
7. Mr. Matin Saad Abdullah	Sr. Lecturer
8. Mr. Risat Mahmud Pathan	Sr. Lecturer
9. Ms. Amina Hasan Abedin	Sr. Lecturer
10. Ms. Bushra Tawfiq Chowdhury	Lecturer
11. Ms. Farzana Rashid	Lecturer
12. Mr. Abdussamad Ahmed Muntahi	Lecturer
13. Ms. Anita Quadir	Lecturer
14. Ms. Rubaiya Rahman	Lecturer
15. Ms. Sonia Ahsan	Lecturer
16. Mr. Mohammad Anwar Hossain	Lecturer
17. Mr. Md. Imrul Hossain	Lecturer
18. Ms. Rezwana Karim	Lecturer
19. Mr. Sarwar Alam	Lecturer
20. Mr. Abu Mohammad Hammad Ali	Lecturer
21. Ms. Nusrat Sharmin Islam	Lecturer
22. Mr. IMr.an Ahmed	Lecturer
23. Mr. Syed Islam	Lecturer
24. Ms. Afroza Sultana	Lecturer

Part Time Faculty

1. Mr. Md. Abul Hasnat
2. Dr. Md. Quamr. ul Huda
3. Dr. Md. Shafiqul Islam
4. Mr. Ehtesham Kabir

Lab Technical Officer

1. Mr. Md. Safiul Alam
2. Mr. Sahidul Islam
3. Mr. Shahin Shaikh
4. Mr. Md. Al-Mahmud
5. Mr. Md. Sadat Mursalin Chowdhury
6. Mr. Rakib-ul-Hoque
7. Mr. Sangeet Saha
8. Mr. Md. Shariful Alam

Sl Name	Designation
9. Mr. Mohammad Abdus Salam	
10. Mr. Md. Mynuddin Saleh	
11. Mr. Tapan Biswas	
12. Mr. Altaf Mahmud	
13. Mr. Md. Nizam Uddin	
14. Mr. Munshi Asadullah	
15. Mr. Md. Shoaibe Anwar	

ENGLISH & HUMANITIES

Full Time Faculty

Sl Name	Designation
1. Professor Firdous Azim	<i>Chairperson</i>
2. Ms. Sohana Manzoor	<i>Lecturer</i>
3. Ms. Rukshana Rahim Chowdhury	<i>Lecturer</i>
4. Ms. Sahana Bajpaie	<i>Lecturer</i>
5. Ms. Tabassum Zaman	<i>Lecturer</i>
6. Mr. Mohammad Mahmudul Haque	<i>Lecturer</i>
7. Mr. Razeen Abhi Mustafiz	<i>Lecturer</i>

Part Time Faculty

1. Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam
2. Ms. Shenin Ziauddin
3. Ms. Nausheen Eusuf
4. Professor Kaiser Md. Hamidul Haq
5. Ms. Zerine Alam
6. Professor Jahanara Huq Chowdhury
7. Dr. Ahmed A Jamal
8. Professor Ahmed Jamal Anwar
9. Professor Anisuzzaman
10. Mr. Mir Ashfaquazzaman
11. Dr. Nuzhat Amin
12. Dr. Feroza Yasmin
13. Mr. Hakim Arif

Teaching Assistant

1. Mr. Aroop Saha
2. Ms. Umme Salma Lipi

ECONOMICS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Full Time Faculty

Sl Name	Designation
1. Professor Dr. Anwarul Hoque	<i>Chair</i>
2. Dr. Manjur Karim	<i>Associate Professor</i>
3. Mr. Khondaker Ekramul Haque	<i>Assoc. Prof.</i>
4. Dr. Wasiqur Rahman Khan	<i>Assst Professor</i>
5. Mr. Tanzir Ahmed	<i>Senior Lecturer</i>

Sl Name	Designation
6. Ms. Shaila Parveen	<i>Lecturer</i>
7. Mr. Mohammad Jahangir Alam	<i>Lecturer</i>
8. Ms. Mahbuba Naznin Sani	<i>Lecturer</i>
9. Mr. Md. Kamrul Hasan	<i>Lecturer</i>
10. Ms. Moshahida Sultana	<i>Lecturer</i>
11. Ms. Ishrat Jahan	<i>Lecturer</i>
12. Ms. Dina Tasneem	<i>Lecturer</i>
13. Ms. Afifa Shahrin	<i>Lecturer</i>
14. Ms. Wahida Ferdousi	<i>Lecturer</i>

Research Assistant

1. Mr. Syed Mahtab Pervez
2. Mr. Muhammad Rezaul Hoque

Part Time Faculty

1. Dr. Abdur Rob Khan
2. Dr. Nurul Huda Abul Monsur
3. Mr. Navil Monsur Chowdhury
4. Mr. Ananta Zakaria Neelim

MATHEMATICS & NATURAL SCIENCES

Full Time Faculty

Sl Name	Designation
1. Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed	<i>Chairperson</i>
2. Professor Naiyyum Choudhury	<i>Coordinator, Biotechnology Program</i>
3. Dr. Aparna Islam	<i>Assistant Professor</i>
4. Mr. Shafiq Ullah	<i>Lecturer</i>
5. Ms. Sharmina Hussain	<i>Lecturer</i>
6. Mr. Iftekhar Md Shafiqul Kalam	<i>Lecturer</i>
7. Mr. Mohammad Maruf Ahmed	<i>Lecturer</i>
8. Ms. Moushumi Zahur	<i>Lecturer</i>
9. Ms. Gulshan Khatun	<i>Lecturer</i>
10. Ms. Ferdousi Ara Begum	<i>Lecturer</i>
11. Mr. Md. Anisur Rahman Molla	<i>Lecturer</i>
12. Mr. Mahabobe Shobahani	<i>Lecturer</i>
13. Ms. Hasibun Naher	<i>Lecturer</i>
14. Ms. Fahmida Homayra	<i>Lecturer</i>

Part Time Faculty

1. Professor A. A. Ziauddin Ahmad
2. Professor Amal Krishna Halder
3. Professor. Sajeda Banu
4. Professor Syed Sabbir Ahmed
5. Professor Kh. Mezbahuddin Ahmed
6. Professor Dr. Amin Hasan Kazi

Sl Name	Designation
7. Dr. Laek Sazzad Andallah	
8. Professor Haseena Khan	

Teaching Assistant

1. Ms. Nazlee Sharmin
2. Mr. Muhammad Lutfur Rahman

BRAC BUSINESS SCHOOL**Full Time Faculty**

Sl Name	Designation
1. Professor Iftekhar Ghani Chowdhury	<i>Dean</i>
2. Mr. Mahmudul Haq	<i>Assistant Professor</i>
3. Mr. Zahidul Alam Khandaker	<i>Asst. Prof.</i>
4. Ms. Afsana Akhter	<i>Sr. Lecturer</i>
5. Mr. Suntu Kumar Ghosh	<i>Sr. Lecturer</i>
6. Mr. Md. Zakir Hossain Sharkar	<i>Sr. Lecturer</i>
7. Mr. Ali Salman	<i>Lecturer</i>
8. Mr. Ashiqur Rahman Khan	<i>Lecturer</i>
9. Mr. Anup Chowdhury	<i>Lecturer</i>
10. Mr. Suman Paul Chowdhury	<i>Lecturer</i>
11. Ms. Syeda Rownak Afza	<i>Lecturer</i>
12. Mr. Shamim Ehsanul Haque	<i>Lecturer</i>
13. Mr. Probal Dutta	<i>Lecturer</i>
14. Ms. Fahria Afrin	<i>Lecturer</i>
15. Ms. Syeda Shaharbanu Ahmed	<i>Lecturer</i>
16. Ms. Sharawwat Islam	<i>Lecturer</i>
17. Mr. Mohammad Khaleq Newaz	<i>Lecturer</i>
18. Ms. Anna Rahman	<i>Lecturer</i>
19. Mr. Edward Probir Mondol	<i>Lecturer</i>

Part Time Faculty

1. Ms. Sabina Khan
2. Professor Md Ali Akkas
3. Mr. Mohiuddin Ahmed
4. Mr. Anup Chowdhury
5. Mr. Probal Dutta
6. Ms. Farhana Zahir
7. Dr. Sadia Shermeen
8. Mr. Dominic Bennett
9. Dr. Saiful Majid
10. Mr. Aktaruzzaman
11. Dr. Mizanur Rahman
12. Dr. Shahadat Hossain
13. Mr. Shabab Hossain
14. Shireen Abedin

Sl Name	Designation
15. Mr. K. Shamsuddin Mahmood	
16. Mr. Mohammad Abdul Kadir	
17. Mr. Thoufiqul Islam	
18. Ms. Sabina Khan	
19. Ms. Farzana Choudhry	
20. Ms. Syeda Shaherbanu Ahmed	
21. Mr. Probal Dutta	
22. Ms. Sabera Sultana	
23. Mr. Mehbuber Rahman	
24. Dr. Sadia Sharmin	
25. Dr. Nurur Rahman	
26. Dr. Bozlul Hoq Kh.	
27. Professor Momtazuddin Ahmed	
28. Ms. Rebecca Moudud	
29. Dr. Mojib Uddin Ahmed	
30. Dr. Jahangir Alam	
31. Mr. Abu Hena Reza Hasan	
32. Mr. Abed Ali	
33. Professor Hasibur Rashid	
34. Ms. Chowdhury Saima Ferdous	
35. Mr. Ali Ahmed Mojumder	
36. Dr. Mubina Khondoker	
37. Mr. Md. Mohiuddin	

SCHOOL OF LAW**Full Time**

Sl Name	Designation
1. Mr. K. Shamsuddin Mahmood	<i>Head, Undergraduate Program, Law</i>
2. Dr. Saira R Khan	<i>Assistant Professor</i>
3. Ms. Tureen Afroz	<i>Assistant Professor</i>
4. Ms. Sharmin Jahan Tania	<i>Lecturer</i>

Part Time

1. Dr. Shahdeen Malik *Director*
2. Professor Dr. Taslima Monsoor
Head, LLB (Evening) Program
3. Mr. M. Iktedar Ahmed
4. Dr. Quazi Reza-Ul Hoque
5. Barrister Abdul Halim
6. Ms. Dalia Parveen
7. Mr. Adilur Rahman Khan

Teaching Assistant

1. Ms. Sabera Ekram
2. Ms. Mahua Zahur

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**Full Time Faculty**

Sl Name	Designation
1. Dr. A. M. R. Chowdhury	<i>Dean</i>
2. Dr. Anwar Islam	<i>Visiting Faculty</i>
3. Dr. Shahaduz Zaman	<i>Associate Professor</i>
4. Dr. Sabina F Rashid	<i>Assistant Professor</i>
5. Dr. Md. Mizanur Rashid Shuvra	<i>Lecturer</i>

Adjunct Faculty

1. Dr. Tahmeed Ahmed
2. Dr. ShaMs. El- Arefeen
3. Dr. Abbas Bhuiyan

EL-PRO

Sl Name	Designation
1. Ms. Syeda Sarwat Abed	<i>Director</i>
2. Mr. A T M Sajedul Haq	<i>Lecturer</i>
3. Ms. Shaheen Ara	<i>Lecturer</i>
4. Ms. Jesmine Zaker	<i>Lecturer</i>
5. Ms. Mahmuda Yasmin Shaila	<i>Lecturer</i>
6. Ms. Effat Hyder	<i>Lecturer</i>
7. Ms. Mousume Akhter Flora	<i>Lecturer</i>
8. Ms. Sadra N. Siddiky	<i>Lecturer</i>
9. Ms. Samina Nasrin Chowdhury	<i>Lecturer</i>
10. Mr. Md Golam Jamil	<i>Lecturer</i>
11. Mr. Sheikh Fazle ShaMs.	<i>Lecturer</i>
12. Ms. Liza Reshmin	<i>Lecturer</i>
13. Ms. Mithila Mahfuz	<i>Lecturer</i>
14. Mr. Ivan Shafaat Bari	<i>Coordinator</i>
15. Mr. AQM Khairul Basher	<i>Lecturer</i>
16. Ms. Tanzina Halim	<i>Lecturer</i>
17. Mr. Sanjoy Banerjee	<i>Lecturer</i>
18. Ms. Ishrat Jahan	<i>Lecturer</i>
19. Ms. Janette Mary Jenkins	<i>Part Time Faculty</i>
20. Ms. Farrah Jabeen	<i>Lecturer</i>
21. Mr. Mohammad Aminul Islam	<i>Teacher</i>
22. Ms. Naima Afrin	<i>Teacher</i>
23. Ms. Rumana Rahman	<i>Teacher</i>
24. Ms. Moutushi Khandaker	<i>Lecturer</i>

Teaching Assistant

1. Ms. Israt Ara Islam
2. Ms. Suma Saha

DEVELOPMENT STUDIES PROGRAM

Sl Name	Designation
1. Dr. Imran Matin	<i>Director, DSP</i>
2. Dr. Ferdous Jahan	<i>Academic Coordinator</i>

Part Time Faculty

1. Dr. Mirza M. Hasan
2. Dr. Mahbub Alam
3. Dr. Akhlaque Haque
4. Dr. Ferdous Jahan
5. Mr. Manash Mitra
6. Mr. Munshi Sulaiman
7. Mr. Narayan C. Das

INSTITUTE OF GOVERNANCE STUDIES

Sl Name	Designation
1. Mr. Manzoor Hasan	<i>Director</i>
2. Dr. Shahnaz Karim	<i>Assistant Director</i>
3. Dr. Rizwan Khair	<i>Academic Coordinator</i>
4. Ms. Tahmina Rahman	<i>Research Coordinator</i>
6. Professor Dr. M. Emdadul Haq	<i>Professor</i>
7. Mr. Mohin Khan	<i>Program Develop. Officer</i>
8. Mr. Haydory Akbar Ahmed	<i>Lecturer/Research Associate</i>
9. Mr. Md. Morshed Alom	<i>Lecturer/Research Associate</i>
10. Mr. Sanjan M. Shahrear Haque	<i>Lecturer/Research Associate</i>
11. Mr. Niloy Ranjan Biswas	<i>Research Assistant</i>
12. Mr. Asif Md. Shahan	<i>Research Assistant</i>
13. Mr. Md. Sydur Rahman Molla	<i>Project Officer</i>
14. Mr. Quazi Tarique-Ul-Alam	<i>Program Officer</i>
15. Mr. Muhammad Arsil Islam	<i>Program Assistant</i>
16. Ms. Afroja Khanam	<i>Program Assistant</i>

PROJECT & RESEARCH**COMODIS TB Project**

Sl. Name	Designation
1. Dr. Farhana Sultana	<i>Research Associate</i>
2. Dr. Shahaduz Zaman	<i>Principal Investigator</i>

DSP Research Project (DDBCPP)

SI Name	Designation
1. Mr. Saiful Islam	<i>Field Coordinator</i>
2. Ms. Lopita Huq	<i>Research Fellow</i>
3. Ms. Kobita Chowdhury	<i>Research Associate</i>
4. Ms. Simeen Mahmud	<i>Coordinator</i>

Pan Asia Networking

SI Name	Designation
1. Mr. KaMr.ul Hayder	<i>Linguistic Consultant</i>
2. Mr. Matin Saad Abdullah	<i>Research Programmer</i>
3. Mr. Md Zahurul Islam	<i>Research Programmer</i>
4. Mr. Abdur Rahman	<i>Lab Tutor</i>
5. Mr. Firoj Alam	<i>Research Programmer</i>
6. Mr. S.M. Murtoza Habib	<i>Research Programmer</i>
7. Mr. Md. Abul Hasnat	<i>Research Programmer</i>
8. Dr. Mumit Khan	<i>Team Leader</i>

RPC

SI Name	Designation
1. Mr. Ilias Mahmud	<i>Research Associate</i>
2. Mr. Mahbub-Bin-Zaman	<i>Research Assistant</i>

SANDEE-Jahangir

SI Name	Designation
1. Mr. Mohammad Jahangir Alam	<i>Principal Investigator</i>
2. Mr. Md. Nasir Uddin Khan	<i>Research Assistant</i>

South Asian Empowerment

SI Name	Designation
1. Ms. Simeen Mahmud	<i>Core Team Member</i>
2. Ms. Maheen Sultan	<i>Course Coordinator</i>
3. Ms. Samia Afroz Rahim	<i>Research Assistant</i>
4. Ms. Sahida Islam Khondoker	<i>Research Assistant cum Administrator</i>
5. Ms. Fouzia Mannan	<i>Research Fellow</i>
6. Ms. Samia Huq	<i>Research Fellow</i>
7. Ms. Ismat Jahan	<i>Project Coordinator</i>
8. Mr. Md. Moniruzzaman	<i>Assistant to the Project Coordinator</i>

Urban Slum Project

SI Name	Designation
1. Dr. Sabina F Rashid	<i>Coordinator</i>

CISCO

SI Name	Designation
1. Ms. Sadia Kazi	<i>Main Legal Contact</i>

Disaster Management

SI Name	Designation
1. Dr. Fuad Hassan Mallick	<i>Director</i>
2. Mr. Humayun Kabir	<i>Coordinator, Disaster Management</i>

Health Watch

SI Name	Designation
1. Ms. Mahrukh Mohiuddin	<i>Research Associate</i>

CRBLP

SI Name	Designation
1. Ms. Urmi Lohani	<i>Research Officer</i>
2. Mr. Mahmud Hossain	<i>Technical Staff Member</i>
3. Ms. Farhana Rahman	<i>Technical Staff Member</i>
4. Mr. Shahrear Talukder	<i>Technical Staff Member</i>
5. Ms. Farhana Mahbub Fabin	<i>Technical Staff Member</i>
6. Mr. Md. Nasimul Amin	<i>Technical Staff Member</i>
7. Ms. Farzana Islam Mouri	<i>Technical Staff Member</i>
8. Ms. Rozina Sultana	<i>Technical Staff Member</i>
9. Mr. Gholam Maruf Ovee	<i>Technical Staff Member</i>
10. Ms. Farhana Faruqe	<i>Research Programmer</i>
11. Ms. Arpita Urmee	<i>Technical Staff Member</i>
12. Ms. Samera Afroge	<i>Technical Staff Member</i>
13. Mr. Minhajur Rahman	<i>Technical Staff Member</i>
14. Ms. Tanzana Rahman	<i>Technical Staff Member</i>
15. Ms. Dil Afroza Sultana	<i>Technical Staff Member</i>

ANNEX-B**Administration and Management**

Name	Designation
Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury	<i>Vice Chancellor</i>
Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed	<i>Pro-Vice Chancellor</i>
Mr. Sukhendra K Sarkar	<i>Treasurer</i>
Mr. Mahmood Hasan	<i>Registrar</i>
Vice Chancellor's Office	
Mr. Obaidullah Al-Zakir	<i>Public Relations Officer</i>
Ms. Rofequnnesa Amin	<i>Secretary to the VC</i>
Office of the Registrar	
Ms. Shreyasee Sarma Pati	<i>Deputy Registrar</i>
Ms. Iris Pervin	<i>Assistant Registrar</i>
Mr. Md. Arifuzzaman	<i>Sr. Registration and Program Officer</i>
Ms. Nazmus Sabeka	<i>Examination & Transcript Officer</i>
Mr. Sreekanta K. Chowdhury	<i>Admission & Registration Officer</i>
Students Affairs	
Dr. Zainab F. Ali	<i>Director</i>
Mr. Mohammad Jahangir Alam	<i>Assistant Director</i>
Career Services Office	
Ms. Farzana Choudhury	<i>Sr. Assistant Director</i>
Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah	<i>Career Services Officer</i>
Mr. Mir Sajjad Hussain	<i>Career Services Officer</i>
BRAC University Writing Lab	
Mr. A T M Sajedul Huq	<i>Coordinator</i>
Accounts	
Mr. Monojit Kumar Ojha	<i>Head of Accounts</i>
Ms. Tanjima Tamanna	<i>Senior Accounts Officer</i>
Mr. Emdadul Islam	<i>Accounts Officer</i>
Mr. Suman Chandra Das	<i>Accounts Officer</i>
Mr. Md. Golam Kibria	<i>Accounts Officer</i>
Ms. Nusrat Zahan	<i>Junior Accounts Officer</i>
Relationship Management Office	
Ms. Shamsun Nahar	<i>Assistant Director</i>
Mr. Saiduzzaman Shikder	<i>Student Counselor</i>
Human Resources Office	
Ms. Rosy Sharif	<i>Senior HR Officer</i>
Ms. Erin Islam	<i>HR Officer</i>
BRAC University Savar Campus	
M Habibur Rahman	<i>Campus Superintendent</i>

IT Systems Office

Mr. Mohammad Hossain
 Ms. Fahima Khanam
 Mr. Mohammad Rezaul Islam
 Mr. Aminul Islam
 Mr. Ali Al Asadullah Md. Shafi
 Mr. Aurongojeb

Sr. System Administrator
Sr. System Administrator
Asst. System Administrator
Asst. System Administrator
Asst. System Administrator
Network Support Engineer

Medical Center

Dr. Mahbuba Ferdous
 Ms. Lovely Mendes

Medical Officer
Resident Nurse (Savar Campus)

Administration Office

Mr. Md. Nurul Islam
 Mr. Md. Shahidul Islam

Administrative Officer
Administrative Officer

Procurement Department

Mr. Abdul Moghni Chowdhury

Procurement Manager

Logistics

Mr. Md. Luthfur Rahman

Logistics Officer

Counselor Office

Ms. Mahbuba Naznin Sani

Counselor

Campus Supervisor (Mohakhali)

Mr. Muhammad Shahjahan

Campus Supervisor

Departmental Coordination Officers

Mr. Md Lutfor Rahman
 Mr. Mostak Ahmed
 Mr. Satyajit Modak
 Mr. Javed Rasel
 Ms. Momena Begum
 Mr. Theophil Nokrek
 Mr. Nurul Ahad Md. Saifur Rahaman
 Ms. Shadia Alam
 Ms. Nurunnesa Sabera
 Mr. Mohammad Shamim Azad
 Mr. Rayhanul Haque
 Ms. Sadeka Banu
 Mr. Donald Bapi Das
 Mr. Atiqur Rahman

DCO, Department of Architecture
DCO, BRAC Business School
DCO, MBA, MBM Program
DCO, BRAC Business School
DCO, Dept. of Computer Science & Engineering
DCO, Department of Economics and Social Sciences
DCO, Department of English and Humanities
DCO, Center for Languages
Asst. DCO, Center for Languages
DCO, Mathematics and Natural Sciences
DCO, School of Law
DCO, Development Studies Program
DCO, School of Public Health
DCO, Students Affairs

Ayesha Abed Library

Ms. Hasina Afroz
 Ms. Syeda Nasima Begum
 Mr. Kh. Ali Murtoza
 Mr. Md. Kamal Parvez
 Mr. Md. Ahmad Parvez
 Mr. Md. Shahadat Alam
 Mr. Halal Rabbani

Deputy Librarian
Senior Assistant Librarian
Assistant Librarian
Junior Librarian (IT)
Library Assistant
Junior Librarian
Junior Librarian (Savar Campus)

ANNEX-C

S F AHMED & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
Since 1958

■ House 25, Road 13A
 Block D, Banani
 Dhaka 1213
 Bangladesh

■ Telephone: (880-2)9894026, 9894346
 8815102, 8833327
 Fax: (880-2)8825135, 8814713
 E-mail: sfali@connectbd.com
 sfacoali@bttb.net.bd
 sfaco@dhaka.net

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**To the Governing Board of BRAC University**

We have audited the accompanying Balance Sheet of BRAC University as of 31 December 2007 and the related Statement of Income and Expenditure and Cash Flows together with notes 1 to 28 for the year then ended. The preparation of these Financial Statements is the responsibility of the management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these Financial Statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Bangladesh Standards on Auditing (BSA). These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Financial Statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the Financial Statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles and significant estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall Financial Statements presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the Financial Statements, prepared in accordance with Bangladesh Accounting Standards (BAS), give a true and fair view of the state of the University's affairs as on 31 December 2007 and of the result of its operations and its Cash Flow for the year then ended and comply with Private University Act 1992 and other relevant laws and regulations.

We also report that:

- (a) we have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit and made due verification thereof;
- (b) in our opinion, proper books of account as required by law have been kept by the University so far as it appeared from our examination of those books;
- (c) the university's Balance Sheet, the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Cash Flows are in agreement with the books of account; and
- (d) the expenditure incurred were for the University's purposes;



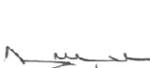
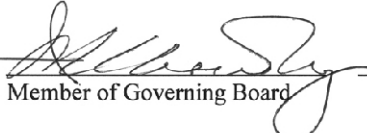
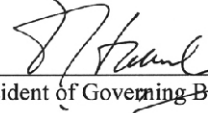
Dated, Dhaka
 27 March 2008

S. F. Ahmed
S. F. Ahmed & Co.
 Chartered Accountants

BRAC University
Balance Sheet
as at 31 December 2007

	Notes	2007 Taka	2006 Taka
Assets			
Fixed assets	3	28,451,107	31,767,276
Current assets			
Receivables	4	5,082,472	5,193,119
Prepayments	5	9,699,040	6,339,174
Fixed deposit receipts	6	50,000,000	50,000,000
Cash and cash equivalent	7	55,295,178	51,468,265
Total current assets		120,076,690	113,000,558
Total assets		148,527,797	144,767,834
Fund and liabilities			
Fund			
Scholarship endowment fund	8	52,815,811	51,658,895
Reserve fund	9	50,000,000	50,000,000
Deferred Income	10	4,379,880	5,827,376
Grant received in advance	11	31,388,862	1,997,375
Gratuity fund		3,399,563	1,550,932
Shohayota Fund	12	194,403	-
Deficit of income over expenditure	13	(17,461,131)	(27,507,467)
Total fund		124,717,388	83,527,111
Liabilities			
Fees received in advance	14	4,526,914	4,267,797
Outstanding liabilities	15	17,510,612	9,506,658
		22,037,526	13,774,455
Provision for taxation		1,772,883	-
Bank overdraft		-	47,466,268
Total liabilities		23,810,409	61,240,723
Total fund and liabilities		148,527,797	144,767,834


The annexed notes form an integral part of these statements

 Treasurer	 Member of Governing Board	 President of Governing Board
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As per our annexed report of the even date.



Dated, Dhaka
27 March 2008


S. F. Ahmed & Co.
Chartered Accountants

BRAC University
Statement of Income and Expenditure
For the year ended 31 December 2007

Income:	Notes	2007 Taka	2006 Taka
Revenue	16	272,470,081	196,204,728
Interest	17	6,176,089	6,544,840
Income from endowment fund		3,968,250	3,351,740
Gain on sales of fixed assets		189,277	-
Donor grants	18	29,989,984	32,126,731
Total Income		312,793,681	238,228,039
Expenses:			
Salaries and benefits of faculty		97,895,372	79,698,308
Salaries and benefits of staff		27,681,885	23,626,909
Traveling and transportation		10,890,471	9,147,101
Computer operating expenses		3,015,659	2,505,588
Students admission expenses	19	1,014,506	480,101
Medical expenses		99,521	91,478
Repair and maintenance	20	6,534,885	4,974,023
General expenses	21	9,922,044	8,178,794
Rent and utilities	22	44,093,616	36,525,194
Food and accommodation for residential students		19,053,374	13,270,923
Scholarship to students	23	35,086,762	34,972,939
Service charge for internet and intranet	24	4,211,179	4,310,005
Honorarium		198,695	121,500
Seminar and conference workshop		909,966	947,583
Publicity and advertisement		3,902,837	2,897,814
Journals and periodicals		740,488	431,472
Consultancy fees		1,405,558	706,690
Audit fees		104,275	104,275
Training		612,663	532,437
Co-curricular activities of students		2,912,845	2,014,612
Interest on loan		1,315,766	2,691,988
Salaries and benefits of research associates		3,245,340	3,379,033
Convocation		7,249,715	2,584,857
Depreciation on fixed assets	3	18,877,040	15,872,788
Total expenses		300,974,462	250,066,412
Surplus/(Deficit) of income over expenditure		11,819,219	(11,838,373)
Provision for taxation		1,772,883	-
Net Surplus/(Deficit) of income over expenditure (transferred to balance sheet)		10,046,336	(11,838,373)

The annexed notes form an integral part of these statements.

 Treasurer	 Member of Governing Board	 President of Governing Board
--	--	--

As per our annexed report of the even date.



Dated, Dhaka
27 March 2008

S. F. Ahmed
S. F. Ahmed & Co.
Chartered Accountants