

TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



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Inspiring Excellence

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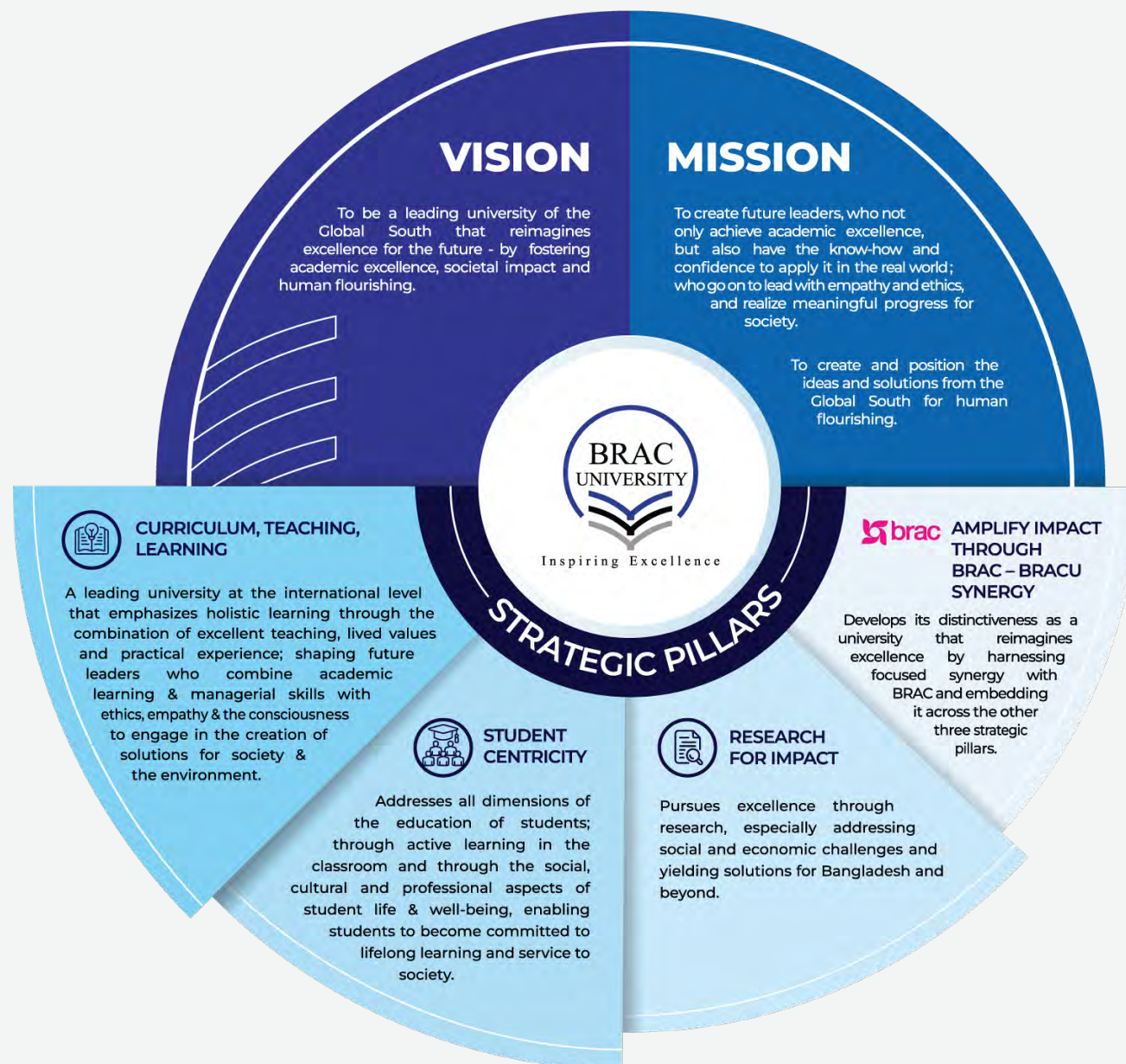
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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TAMARA HASAN ABED

Chairperson, Board of Trustees

In the realm of higher learning, there is a certain magic that flickers to life when the spark of curiosity meets that of possibility. At BRAC University, we tend these flames carefully, believing education to be a compass guiding us through shifting tides, illuminating the path toward discovery, innovation, and service to humankind.

It is in this spirit that we unveil our new strategic vision, “Reimagining Excellence.” Far from a mere motto, this idea stands as a promise—a vow to interlace the threads of collaboration, critical inquiry,

Our commitment to experiential learning further sets us apart – by uniting theory with hands-on application, we prepare our graduates to stride confidently through a world that grows more complex and unpredictable each day. This liberal arts foundation bolsters their capacity for nuanced thinking, problem solving, and communication—qualities that fuse leadership with compassion and integrity.

We also cherish the future of our shared planet. Through green campus projects, forward-thinking waste management, and responsible energy use, we weave sustainability into the routine and rhythm of university life. Our students learn that caring for the environment is not an abstract ideal but a collective responsibility—a cause to champion both in classrooms and beyond.

True to our pledge, BRAC University aligns its goals with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through robust academic inquiry and research, we confront issues such as climate change and social inequities, urging our students to fuse entrepreneurial zeal with a profound sense of social duty. Their discoveries and solutions stand to ripple far beyond our campus, carrying hope to communities that need it most.

Looking ahead, we fix our gaze upon the next generation of leaders—women and men of vision who will tackle the riddles of the 21st century with ingenuity, tenacity, and an unflagging resolve to better the world. We embed in them the values of responsibility, honesty, and empathy, ensuring they grow not merely in knowledge, but in wisdom.

In the grand tapestry of universities, BRAC University is more than a seat of learning: it is a place where dreams, determination and action converge, kindling bright possibilities for all. Together, we step forward, hand in hand, guided by compassion, excellence, and an enduring commitment to building a better tomorrow.



BRAC UNIVERSITY: CONTRIBUTING TO AN EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

DR. SYED FERHAT ANWAR
Vice-Chancellor

At BRAC University, we are inspired by the vision of Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, whose dedication to social change and empowerment guides our mission. We are committed to harnessing the creativity and cultural richness of the Global South to create solutions that uplift our communities.

Our goal is to transform education into a force for good. We believe in moving beyond traditional teaching methods and focusing on experiential learning that equips our students with the skills and

insights to tackle real-world challenges. Education is not just about acquiring knowledge; it is about inspiring our students to become changemakers who care deeply for their country and are motivated to bring about positive change.

Patriotism plays a vital role in our efforts. We want our students to love their country and feel a strong sense of responsibility to serve it. Our strategic pillars guide us in this mission: First, we emphasize a dynamic curriculum that encourages critical thinking, creativity, and ethical leadership, steering away from rote memorization. Second, we prioritize student-centricity, nurturing individual growth through mentorship and engaging in extracurricular activities that enhance their university experience.

Research is also essential to our approach; we view it as a catalyst for positive change. We encourage our faculty and students to explore innovative ideas that generate local knowledge and drive progress within our society. Additionally, our partnership with BRAC allows us to connect deeply with the communities we serve, reinforcing our commitment to meaningful development.

As we move forward, we are dedicated to nurturing compassionate, globally aware leaders who understand the importance of giving back. We aim to foster lifelong learners who actively engage in addressing societal and environmental challenges. By emBRACing our purpose as an institution, we enrich our own lives and empower ourselves to contribute to a brighter, more equitable future for all.



STUDENT LIFE AND ALUMNI

DR. DAVID DOWLAND
Registrar

The move to the new campus is an energizing boost to our drive to build student life. We aim to work with students to optimize the journey of students into, through and beyond the university. We are committed to a principle of student centricity; to understand how students learn and develop most effectively; to address all dimensions of the education of students, through active learning in the classroom and through social, cultural and professional development outside the classroom, as well as careers information, advice and guidance.

The principle of student centricity is based on the vision of our founder, Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, of education as transformation. We seek to help students become leaders, people who will make a thoughtful, sustained, lifelong contribution to society.

Outreach programmes are supporting thousands of students in their transition from school/colleges to university, introducing them to the opportunities offered by university and giving a taste of learning in higher education. The programmes are often hosted at the residential campus in Savar – a place of active learning, learning by doing and through service to others.

Well-being is a central theme – this involves enabling students, and indeed all members of our university community – to have a balanced and fulfilled life, with the resilience to deal with problems and challenges. An integrated approach is essential, drawing together generic student support services, counselling and medical support and extra-curricula opportunities.

Many of our students appreciate opportunities to serve others. Through this annual report, we celebrate countless examples of students who help each other; first year student mentors who assist young undergraduates as they settle into university; the team of mental health mentors across the institution; those who work with the outreach team and many others involved in wide-ranging service within the university community.

Students give a combined total of many thousands of hours of community service beyond the campus; working on BRAC projects, teaching disadvantaged students; blood donations and thalassemia campaign, fundraising. Others are involved in initiatives addressing poverty alleviation or environmental sustainability. The BRAC Centre for Peace and Justice is a leader contributor, alongside UN Women, to the establishment of Peace Cafes- focuses for the development of leadership, especially female leadership and for social projects – with the encouragement of UN Women and other agencies.

The university's Social Impact Lab is an internationally connected resource which helps students to plan and implement social projects. Each year, several dozen students have won UN Academic Impact Millennium Fellowships, in recognition of their promise as young leaders, working on social projects.

The new campus is universally accessible and there have been improvements to the accessibility of the residential campus at Savar. That is a spur to our effort to break the barriers to the entry and success of students with disabilities.

Alumni are also committed to the social mission of the university and the wider BRAC movement. One example is the It's Humanity Foundation. It started with a few young people teaching a few disadvantaged children in 2010. Now, 14 years later, they have educated 4500 children who would not otherwise have had the opportunity. The harder to reach the area, the more likely It's Humanity will be there: mobile schools, schools in the Chittagong Hills Tracts, technical skills training, support for the health and welfare of children and disability inclusion. <https://www.itshumanity.org/>

Our alumni community will soon reach some 25000 graduates. They have a dedicated alumni relations office and their own space on campus and we are introducing a series of benefits for them to reinforce their connection with our university. We celebrate their achievements, including repeated stories of graduates winning major international scholarships and funding for PhDs, and others who are building success in business, industry entrepreneurship and NGOs.



CREATING CHANGE MAKERS FOR ONE WORLD

DR. SAMIA HUQ
Professor & Dean
General Education

In recent times, a changing world and its priorities, new kinds of jobs, opportunities and challenges have shed critical light on higher education to ask whether it provides adequate preparation for productive and meaningful adult lives. Inspired by life and work of Sir Fazle Hassan Abed and the countless lives he touched through BRAC's many initiatives, BRAC University has always understood preparation for a meaningful life to mean creating change for the self through the collective and doing it with empathy and purpose. The goals of harnessing leaderships to identify pathways for change and making change happen for society at large are part of the university's core vision, mission and its DNA.

At BRAC University, we believe that creating changemakers is intrinsically tied to the university's essential functions of teaching and research as well as its extra and co-curricular activities that give rise to curiosity, empathy and the desire to intervene in and improve upon existing conditions. BRAC University is committed to undertake teaching and impart learning in ways that the classroom is taken to the outside world and the outside world brought into the classroom. An engaged pedagogy geared towards critical, creative and solutions-thinking works towards creating freedom and responsibility in thought and action. The education we deliver strives to be relevant and applicable. It must help students think about the many problems facing the world and ideally allow them to innovate with new and creative solutions. Similarly, we give priority to research that helps take forward many societal lags, reorient societal aspirations towards the collective good and facilitate change where required. As students are exposed to such teaching and research, several co-curricular pathways and platforms are also made available to them to fuel their desire and capacity to be the changemakers the country and the world needs.

An area where the curricular and co-curricular converge to create the desire for change is civic engagement. As an essential part of BRAC University's commitment to molding changemakers committed to the common good, departments are encouraged to focus on civic engagement as a pathway to learning. While different departments do this in different ways, the umbrella is provided by the School of General Education that furnishes the university's core curriculum and works in collaboration with departments and other units of the university. The core curriculum ensures courses on civic engagement, ethical leadership, a stream of courses mandated for every student where learning is centered around community needs with a special focus on engaged pedagogy that connects community based organizations to students for their hands-on learning and a

student-led platform (SIL) where active students with a keen interest in changemaking convene to ideate and initiate projects that they can work on together as volunteers. This platform is also a meeting point for various university club leaders whose particular areas of interest may be refined to come up with pathways of activism and engagement.

The focus on civic engagement, which runs throughout a student's four-year journey, is introduced early on as students arrive at the Residential Semester (RS) in the third term. At RS, students take courses in history, politics, language, and ethics. Rooted in the Humanities and Social Sciences, RS academics foster critical thinking and encourages students to engage deeply with both historical and contemporary contexts and learn to live side by side with one another as open and tolerant individuals with a capacity to listen and empathize. Through this experience of learning and living together, they deliberate on key issues related to ethics, community well-being, and leadership. RS offers a unique opportunity for students to participate in workshops, lectures, BRAC exposure sessions, the Social Learning Lab (SLL), and mentoring and leadership training programs that take students out to the communities around them. The learning from these courses and co-curricular programs allow students to ideate and innovate, bringing them recognition on international platforms, including the prestigious Diana Award. These experiences, combined with the university's strong international connections and commitment to civic engagement, shape students into changemakers for a more just and interconnected world.

BRAC University has long-heled partnerships with many universities around the world. In addition to a variety of research collaborations, some partnerships also help take forward the university's

commitment to engaged teaching and learning as well inculcating leadership for change. BRAC University, as an inaugural member of the the Open Society University Network (OSUN) has had the opportunity to engage with many universities around the world to work on curriculum, pedagogy and civic engagement. Many connected and global classrooms have allowed our students to learn with global peers and win prizes for their work on documentary making, on sustainability solutions and more. BRAC University has been sending its students abroad to the Get Engaged conference that convenes a growing network of young student-social entrepreneurs and change agents who utilize liberal arts to address challenges within their communities, proving a platform for developing critical skills, fostering collaboration, and refining their leadership approach. Through these experiences, students grow into impactful change makers. BRAC University is also a member of the Talloires Network of engaged universities <https://talloiresnetwork.tufts.edu/> and plays a leadership role in its Universities as Frontline Responders Collective. These international partnerships allow collaborative thinking and mutual learning for BRAC University students to realize their potential as citizens with a global vision and exposure, rooted in the immediacies and urgencies of their local contexts.

BRAC University's horizons are set by the goals of being ethical, critical, collaborative, deliberative, engaged and of service to local and global communities. It is through these goals that we continue with our mission to revise and re-imagine excellence and to chart new pathways to learn, teach and serve towards the collective good with humility and integrity.



WHERE THE BUILDING AND THE SPACES TEACH: BRAC UNIVERSITY'S NEW CAMPUS

PROFESSOR FUAD H. MALLICK, PHD
Dean, School of Architecture and Design

There are examples of buildings where excellent design contributes to the education of the occupants. Importantly these designs speak to the time and context.



BRAC University's campus located in a growing and crowded metropolis, Dhaka is such a building. In a city where we are desperately short of space this building manages to hold 20000 students in just over 5 acres of land (land area when it was designed) and much more. It is not just that, the building educates the students about, organization, efficiency, togetherness, and most importantly about nature.





A large multi storied building rising some 130 feet above ground level, yet nature prevails all through it. The sun, the breezes, greenery, water, rain and all. Wherever one may be nature is close by.

The building organizes itself within a footprint of about 50% of the site. It provides 130% of the green it has replaced, in terms of the vertical green, the trees on the upper levels and the green roof.



Nature flows through the building in the way it is designed. The five blocks have spaces between them where the breeze from the south flows through.

Natural ventilation is an important feature of this building. About 50% of the building is naturally ventilated and the rest is air conditioned but not in the conventional sense.

Classrooms apart from conditioned air rely on air movement provided by fans

for thermal comfort. This hybrid system is based on the concept of 'adaptive comfort' where air flow allows comfort at higher temperatures than still air conditions, thus saving cooling energy. The air conditioning system pays particular attention to air quality by controlling CO₂ levels in classrooms. All over the building there are large ceiling fans that circulate the air, important particularly during the humid season.



রি সময় এখানে অবস্থান করুন।
earthquake, Stay close to this area

ZONE-D
LEVEL 07

07D 19C



The organization of the functional components this large building is very simple, clear and logical. The 3 basements are mostly car, motorcycle and bus parking and the building services spaces. The first three levels above ground are common spaces such as the reception, student services,

multipurpose hall, auditorium, etc. The ground level also has a large water body, filled with natural treated water, aquatic plants and fish. The next two levels are administrative offices and academic departments, following which on the 6th level is the student forum, which has the large cafeteria and other spaces for student

activities. This level acts as an intermediary between the classrooms, labs and studios and the levels below. Above this are all are teaching spaces until the roof level where there is the green roof and along with some other student activity spaces, such as the gyms and yoga pavillion. Crowning the building is a 400m running track.





The campus has to handle large volumes of human traffic during classes which it does smoothly mainly through escalators. These allow direct movement with waiting for elevators (which are also there) and can handle large volumes of human traffic continuously. It also allows movement without having to be confined in closed elevator spaces and is open to the breeze.



In terms of its structural design, the building is an innovation for Bangladesh. Based on a structural grid of 9m x 9m which is based of a classroom size for 40 students, it is the structural module for the building. Since the lowest three

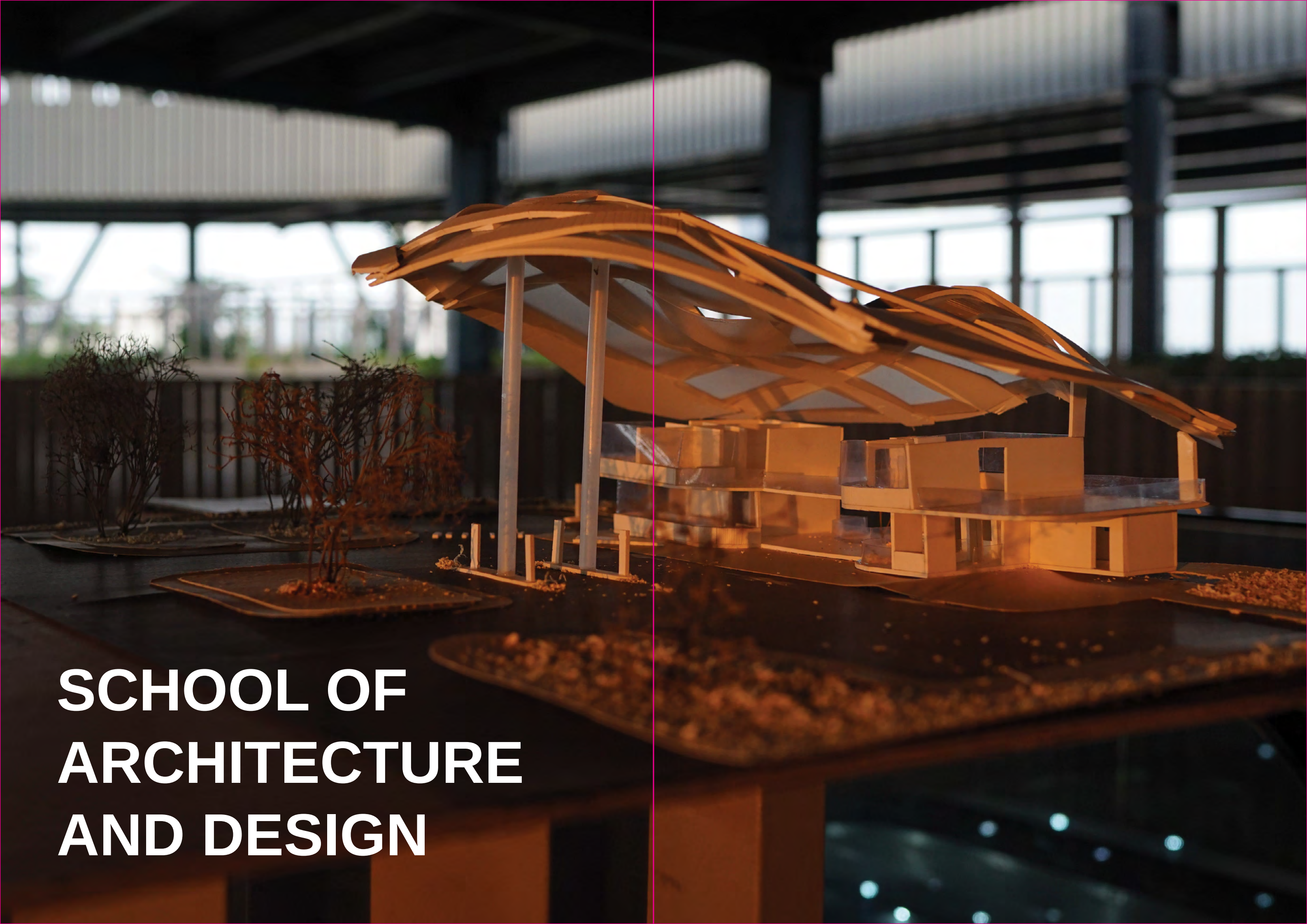
levels includes larger spaces such as the auditorium and multipurpose the load of the upper levels are transferred via 'Y' shaped load transfer elements in the 5th and 4th levels to a bigger spans below.



The building is of simple aesthetics, it stands as its function demands. There are no extra frills but the elements speak of elegant proportions and a functional expression of form finish concrete and exposed brick. Simple and efficient.

The building itself is an educator for its users. It speaks of the time and its context, it teaches how important things in life can be achieved by simple means such connection to nature, being with friends, being free and that learning can be enjoyable.





SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

The School of Architecture & Design (SoAD) promotes the development of creative talent focusing personal interests and abilities through experienced and diverse faculty members. It houses the Department of Architecture, which features interdisciplinary learning and practical input of architects and designers from around the world.



HIGHLIGHTS OF FACULTY MEMBERS

Professor Fuad Hassan Mallick, Dean of the SoAD, became a Visiting Professor in Urban Planning and Design at the Graduate School of Design of Harvard University to conduct studio course "Permanence in Transition" on Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh and seminar course "Building Resilient Communities".



Professor Zainab Faruqui Ali, Chairperson of the Department of Architecture, presented a paper titled "Cool to be Cool: Impact of cool roof coating on the thermal performance of slum houses in Dhaka" co-authored by Lecturer Emmat Ara Khanam at Architectural Research Centers Consortium Conference in Dallas, USA. She was also a guest juror of studio course "Permanence in Transition: The Rohingya Camps" at Harvard University.

Professor Zainab Faruqui Ali, Lecturer Md. Samiur Rahman Bhuiyan and Lecturer Emmat Ara Khanam, alongside the Cell for Adaptation, Resilience, Security and Humanitarian Assistance (CARSHA), received a Department of Architecture Research Award 2023.

Associate Professor Dr. Mohammad Faruk presented a paper at the 3rd International Symposium on Disaster Resilience and Sustainable Development 2023 organized by the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand.



Associate Professor Iftekhar Ahmed and Assistant Professor Tanjina Khan published a research paper titled "Finding post-colonial identity through vernacular and climate responsive adaptations: the architecture of Bangladesh from 1947 to 1971" in Open House International journal. Assistant Professor Tanjina Khan also received "Prime Minister's Fellowship 2023-24" to pursue her Ph.D. studies at Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London in the UK.

Assistant Professor Dr. Imon Chowdhoree and Senior Lecturer Tasfin Aziz published a research paper titled "Renaturing Cities through Water-centric Development: Evaluating a Canal Restoration Project in Narayanganj" in Blue-Green Systems journal. Moreover, Dr. Imon, also Assistant Director for Postgraduate Programs in Disaster Management (PPDM), was nominated as a research committee member of the Department of Disaster Management under the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief for 2023-24.

Md. Samiur Rahman Bhuiyan, Lecturer and Kimberly Clark-MEM Scholar, obtained a master's degree from the National University of Singapore.

Senior Lecturer S.M. Kaikobad received a Research Assistantship and full scholarship at the Department of Architecture of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the USA for a Master of Science in Architecture



Studies degree in Aga Khan Program in Islamic Architecture.

Lecturer Emmat Ara Khanam received OSUN Climate Education Grant 2023 for action research on “Zero Carbon Bamboo Building” in Jhenaidah. The project was featured in the UIA Guidebook for the 2030 Agenda. She also gave a presentation virtually at Livable Cities Conference organized by the New York City College of Technology in New York.

Assistant Professor Abul Fazal Mahmudun Nobi received an “Honorable mention” award in “AI Architecture Competition” by Archi Hacks and Arch Hive.

Associate Professor Dr. Mohammad Habib Reza was elected Vice-President of PRERICO, a committee for places of religion and ritual, of the International Council on Monuments and Sites.

Lecturer Tanveer Ahamed Bin Ali Naser presented a research paper at the International Conference on Planning, Architecture and Civil Engineering organized by the Faculty of Civil Engineering of the Rajshahi University of Engineering & Technology.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

Overall, the faculty members and students made significant progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 4 (Quality Education), 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), 10 (Reduced Inequalities), 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), 13 (Climate Action), 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

“RETHINKING EDGESCAPE”

STUDENTS PRESENT TRANSFORMATIVE URBAN DESIGN PROJECTS AT NAGAR BHABAN

Students presented five of the highest scoring projects under urban design studio (ARC401) before Dhaka North City Corporation Mayor Md Atiqul Islam at Nagar Bhaban. The projects showcased how waterfront redevelopment may regenerate better social, cultural, and ecological systems. Afterwards the mayor sought designs for a small urban park.



GOLAM AHAMMAD SUNNY, JULKARNAIN and **NAFISA ANJUM** won the second prize of 10th International Design Competition 2023 hosted by the Aditya College of Architecture in Mumbai, India.





BRAC BUSINESS SCHOOL

The BRAC Business School (BBS) offers cutting-edge business education to groom competent and ethical future leaders who cater to the interests of all stakeholders. It also advances knowledge in the local and global contexts, promoting sustainable development, equity and universal well-being. It envisions becoming a globally recognized center of excellence in developing business leaders and knowledge dedicated to championing human values.

HIGHLIGHTS

1st International Case Conference on Business and Management (ICCBM) 2023: Enterprise, Practice, and Leadership in Emerging Economies

BRAC Business School hosted the 1st International Case Conference on Business and Management (ICCBM) 2023 in memory of the late Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, KCMG, founder of BRAC. Bearing the theme "Enterprise, Practice, and Leadership in Emerging Economies", the conference showcased local and international teaching case studies relating to business and management and highlighted the achievements of enterprises and leaders from emerging economies. These cases were designed as a teaching content to empower graduates and professionals to understand and navigate local business.



উদ্যমী আশি-Venture Maestras

The Research & Professional Development Center (RPDC) of BRAC Business School (BBS) imparted training for student batches under its flagship women entrepreneur empowerment program named "D"gx Avwg-Venture Maestras" which was launched in 2021. Women were trained on technical aspects of business and addressing challenges, motivating them to start or scale up their businesses.



Uddokta 101

BRAC Business School and BRAC Bank ran the certification course "Uddokta 101" for aspiring women entrepreneurs, including BRAC University alumni and students, with a minimum of one year of business experience to help them hone their managerial and entrepreneurial skills and subsequently sustain and expand their businesses.

"The Power of Alumni Networking: Building Bridges of Success"

BRAC University Marketing Association Alumni organized a seminar titled "The Power of Alumni Networking: Building Bridges of Success", where speakers explained the many benefits of alumni networking. At its core, the exchange of knowledge and relationships among individuals who have traversed similar educational and professional paths enables them to come up with profoundly productive strategies, serving the causes of both personal and professional advancement.



BRAC Business School also made progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as gender equality, quality education and reducing inequality through various events, seminars, case study conferences and industry visits.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

Overall, the faculty members and students made significant progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 4 (Quality Education), 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

SYED ZARIF SAMDANI, an alumni of BRAC Business School, received three awards from International Property Awards Committee for his work in Dream Courtneypark, Canada.



FAIZA TAHIYA, an alumna of Business School and a former Teaching Assistant, secured one of the fully funded Dean's Responsible Business Scholarships for 2023 entry to MSc Business Analytics at the University of Birmingham. The scholarship was based on academic excellence and a high commitment to ethical and responsible business studies and application.

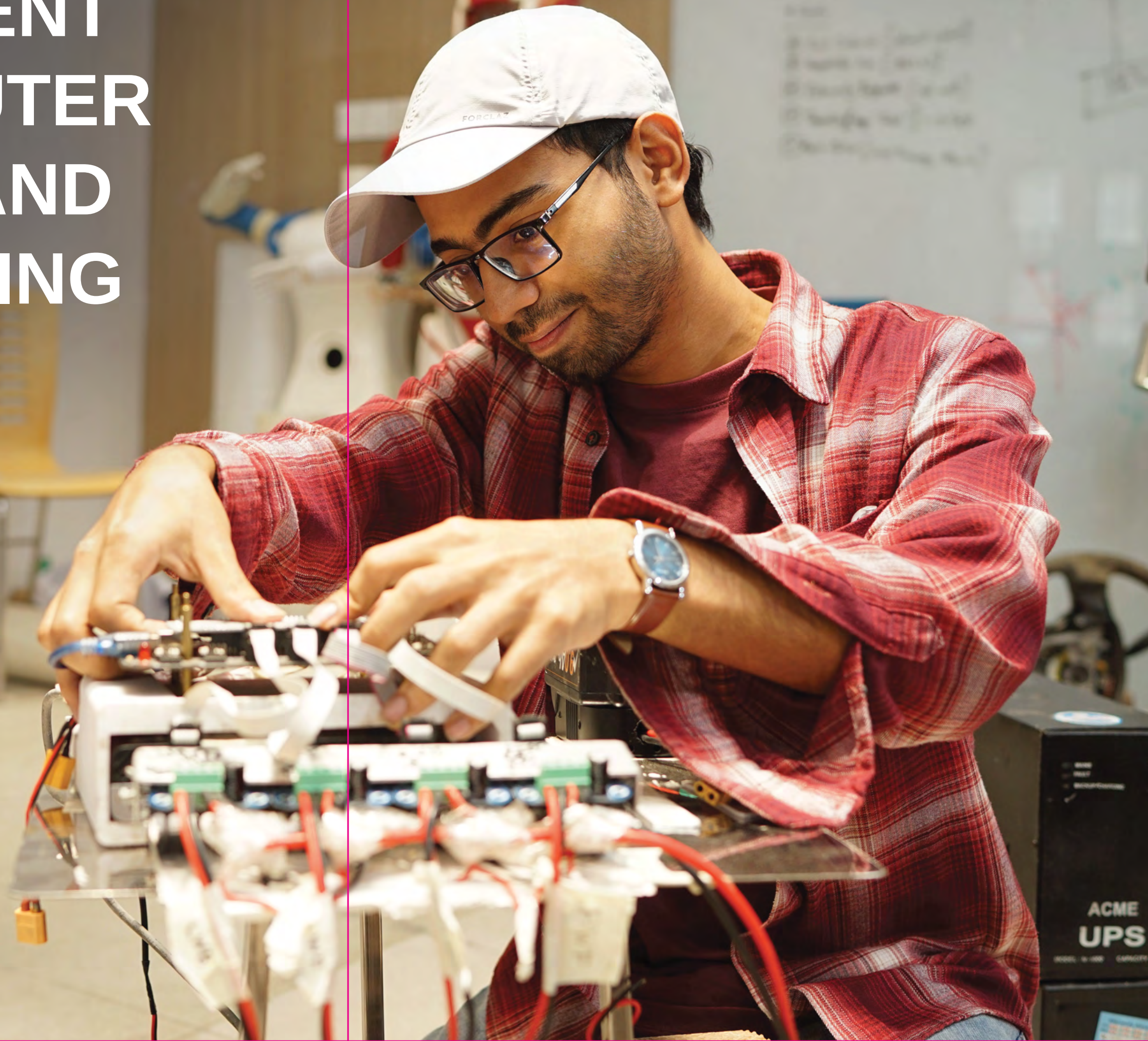


The three are:

-  **BEST DEVELOPMENT MARKETING AWARD 2023 IN CANADA**
-  **BEST DEVELOPMENT MARKETING AWARD 2023 IN SOUTH/NORTH AMERICA**
-  **BEST DEVELOPMENT MARKETING AWARD GLOBAL NOMINEE 2024**



DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING



The Department of Computer Science and Engineering strives to inspire excellence in the creation, application and dissemination of knowledge in computer science and engineering through comprehensive educational programs; research in collaboration with industry, NGOs, and government; diffusion through scholarly publications, and service to the national and international community.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

BRACU Robotics Lab gained sponsors for research and development, including VectorNav Technologies, SBG Systems, Nortek, Blue Robotics, Robi, Walton and Dip Foundation alongside a research grant from ICT Division. It showcased projects at BASIS SoftExpo 2023, BRAC Hope Festival and Bangladesh Education Expo 2023 and intra-university events TechSpectra and Project Manifest and organized learning camps at schools and colleges around the country.

HIGHLIGHTS OF FACULTY MEMBERS

Research, Publications And Other Activities

Professor Md Golam Rabiul Alam received BRAC University's Quality Journal Publication Award for his research and publications on machine learning, deep learning and blockchain in eight Q1 journals, including one on "Feature Cloning and Feature Fusion Based Transportation Mode Detection Using Convolutional Neural Network".



Professor Dr. Md. Khalilur Rahman developed an AI-based fire detection system, which is installed at the Kallyanpur slum. He also developed an AI-based health monitoring system for paralyzed patients and conducted research on quantifying attention levels in individualized online tutoring. Moreover, he led the formation of an underwater robotics-based start-up named DUBOTECH. One of his notable conference papers is "Precision Repairs: Achieving Accuracy During Repair Missions at the International Space Station".



Professor Farida Chowdhury presented two conference papers -- "Unraveling the Intersection of HCI and Neurodiversity in Bangladesh" at the IEEE 26th International Conference on Computer and Information Technology in Bangladesh and "Exploring Optimal Placement of Head-based Hierarchical Marking Menus on Smartphones" at the 20th EAI International Conference on Mobile and Ubiquitous Systems: Computing, Networking and Services in Australia.

Associate Professor Dr. Md. Sadek Ferdous was appointed as an Honorary Research Fellow at Imperial College London. He wrote two policy papers for the education and financial wings of the government outlining how blockchain technology could be leveraged to improve security, resilience of domains that currently apply it and to create new applications in these domains. Moreover, he published two research papers in Q1 journals and presented them in some conferences.

Assistant Professor Dr. Farig Yousuf Sadeque arranged the first Bangla natural language processing hackathon funded and supported by BdOSN, ICT Division, Bangladesh Computer Council and Amazon Web Services. He organized BRACU Brainiac, the first Bangla natural language processing workshop co-hosted with the Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing. He was awarded grants from Research Seed Grant Initiative of BRAC University and the Institute of



Advanced Research of the United International University for research on Bangla natural language processing. Dr. Farig also published over half a dozen research papers at conferences on natural language processing.



Assistant Professor Dr. Jannatun Noor Mukta received a fund from BRAC University's Research Seed Grant Initiative for a Cancer Care Project, a "Quality Journal Publication Award 2024" from BRAC University and "Excellence in Research Award" from the CSE department. She has published research papers on dense neural network-based arrhythmia classification on low-cost and low-compute microcontrollers in four notable Q1 journals and Nature Scientific Reports.

Associate Professor Dr. Taiabul Haque was among 12 people invited by OSUN Humanities Network to attend a "Digital Humanism Summit on AI and Democratic Sustainability" organized by the Digital Humanism Initiative, the OSUN Hannah Arendt Humanities Network at Bard College and the Institute for Human Sciences. Together, they drafted a joint statement on "Digital Humanism Initiative on Generative AI and Democratic Sustainability" informing of the dangers of AI. Haque also featured in a video testimony on the Bard website.

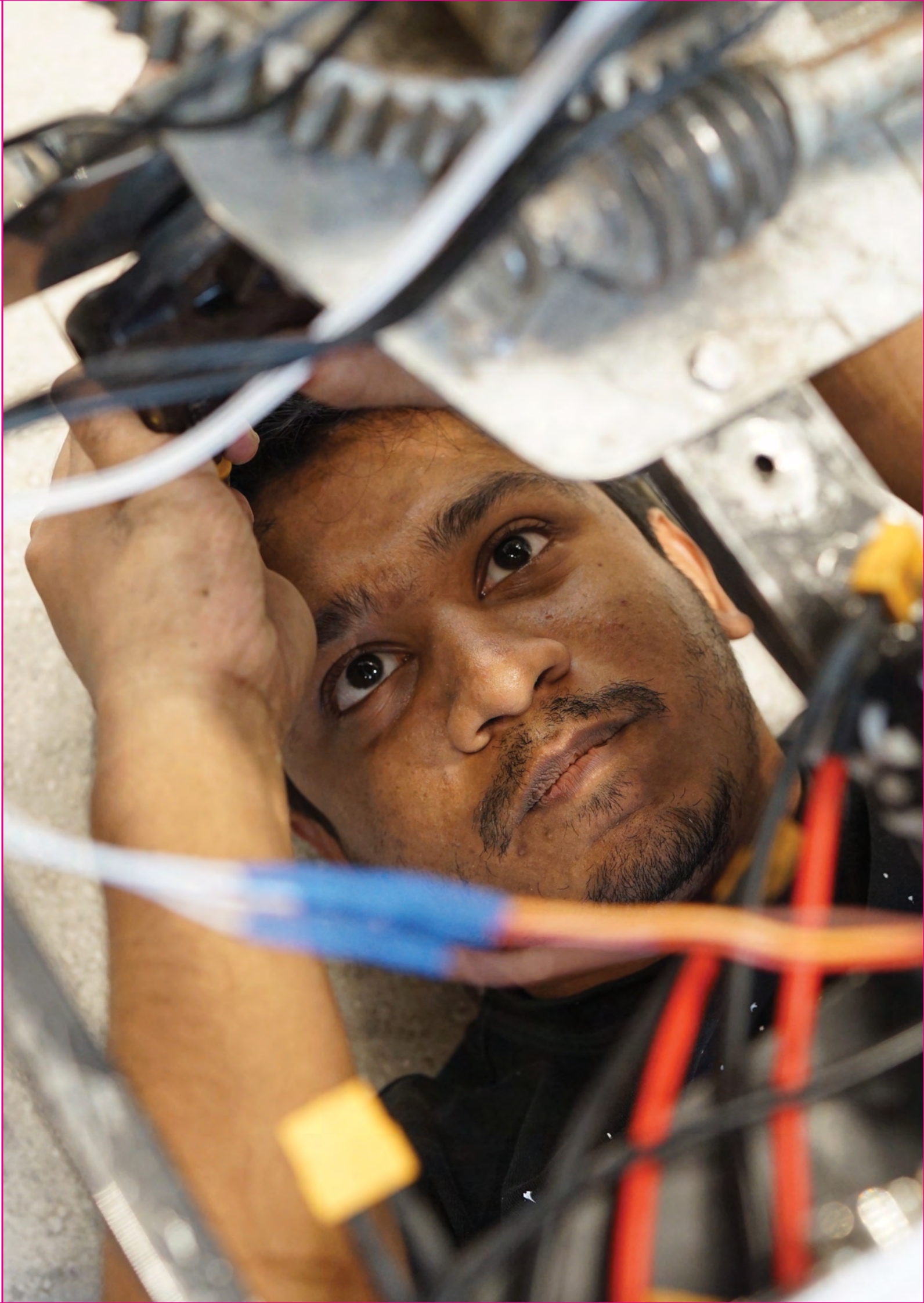
Lecturer Sabbir Ahmed took part in a "Teaching for Active Learning (TAL: Batch 11)" program offered by the Foundation for Learning, Teaching, and Research focusing on interactive strategies and outcome-based education.



Lecturer on leave Meem Arafat Manab received an Erasmus Mundus scholarship for a Master's in Law, Data, and AI at Dublin City University.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

Overall, the faculty members and students made significant progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 4 (Quality Education), 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), 13 (Climate Action) and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).





STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

BRACU_Crows, a team comprising undergraduate students Ruhan Habib, Md. Mazed Hossain and Arman Ferdous, qualified for International Collegiate Programming Contest World Finals. They also placed 8th in Cefalo SUST Inter University Programming Contest 2023, 6th in BUET Inter University Programming Contest 2023, and 2nd runner-up in 2023 ICPC Asia Dhaka Regional Contest.



“Team Atlas”, which has been working on various robotics projects, won gold medals in the World Invention Competition and Exhibition 2023 in Malaysia and International Science and Innovation Fair (ISIF-2022) in Indonesia alongside a “Joy Bangla Youth Award 2023”. They also secured 2nd place in a “Techkriti” competition at IIT Kanpur, India and 4th position in World Robotics Championship in India.



Mars rover prototype MongolTori came in 16th from among 137 contenders at University Rover Challenge in Hanksville, Utah, USA.



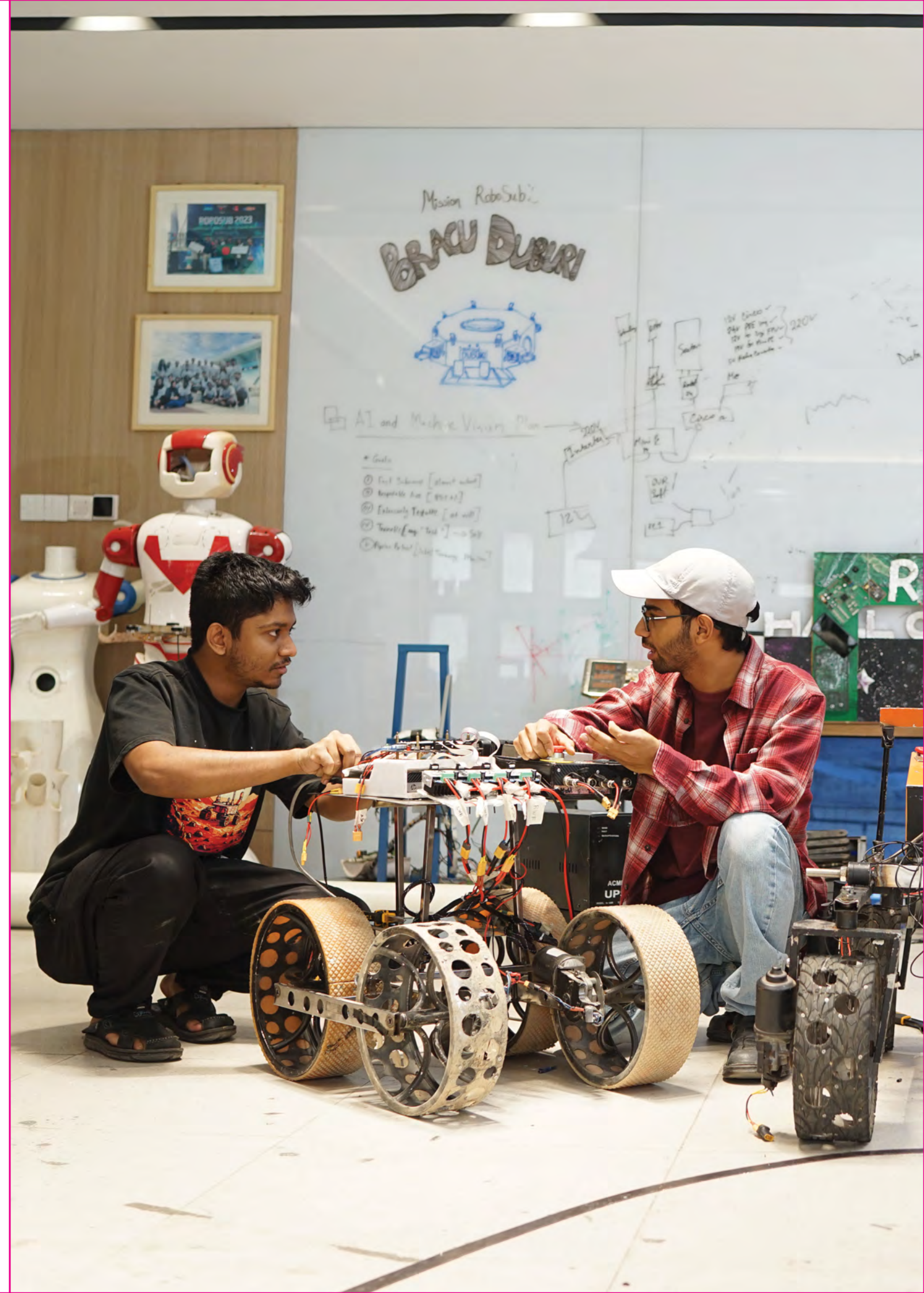
Autonomous underwater vehicle BRACU Duburi became runner-up in RoboSub 2023 in California, US.



The Robotics Club of BRAC University became champions of “Mindsparks 2023” Project Showcasing for their semi-autonomous firefighting vehicle BRACU Ognibir.

BRACU Linguistic Mavericks became second runner-up at the first-ever Bangla Natural Language Processing Hackathon.

Alumnus **Joyanta Jyoti Mondal** received a Blazer Graduate Research Fellowship for a PhD at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS & SOCIAL SCIENCES



HIGHLIGHTS OF FACULTY MEMBERS

Research Grants/projects

Assistant Professor ASM Shakil Haider received a Safia-Asab Foundation Grant with former Lecturer Aflatun Kaeser for research project “Labor Market Games” and a research grant from BRAC University with Professor Mohammad Mujibul Haque for another research project on “Financial Literacy, Financial Decision Making and Financial Wellbeing: Household to SMEs to Corporations in Bangladesh”.

Associate Professor Seuty Sabur secured a grant for research on “Strengthening Intergenerational and Inclusive Women’s Movement in Bangladesh”.

Professor Shahidur Rahman received two research grants from Germany’s GIZ and the Ethical Training Initiative for projects centering on the readymade garment industry of Bangladesh.

Publications (Book Chapters And Journal Articles)

Professor Farzana Munshi wrote a paper on “Towards the implementation of a sustainable cold chain for the livestock value chain in Bangladesh” for 26th International Congress of Refrigeration.

Professor Shahidur Rahman wrote a chapter titled “Bangladesh Ready-Made Garments Industry” in “The Routledge History of Fashion and Dress, 1800 to the Present”.

Assistant Professor Moiyeen Zalat Chowdhury wrote a chapter titled “OTT-Based Digital Sociality: An Exploration of the Viewership Among Urban Youth in Bangladesh” in a book, “Television Publics in South Asia: Mediated Politics and Culture”, published by Routledge.

Associate Professor M. Shafiullah published five papers in high impact journals. The titles are “The economic growth-travel frequency nexus in China: importance of the transport Kuznets curve”, “Do Birds of a Feather Flock Together? Analyzing Environmental

Performance and Tourist Behavior Using a Gravity Approach”, “Asymmetric relationship between Climate Policy Uncertainty and Energy Metals: Evidence from Cross-Quantilogram”, “Examining energy poverty in Chinese households: An Engel curve approach” and “The effect of financial stress on renewable energy consumption: evidence from US data”.

Associate Professor Salma Begum co-authored a paper titled “Nepotism and Job Search: An Investigation on Bangladeshi Graduates” with alumnus Sajid Bin Hasnat in the BIGM Journal of Policy Analysis.

Newspaper Articles, Magazine Articles And Op-eds

Professor Munshi published two articles -- “Aligning education policy with labor market demand” in The Financial Express and “Our child labour issue needs urgent attention” in The Daily Star.

Associate Professor M. Shafiullah published two articles -- “Dhaka’s air pollution is worsening children’s mental health” in The Business Standard and “How climate change impacts productivity and worsens inflation” in The Business Standard.

Assistant Professor Moiyeen published an article titled “Poetics and politics of AI: An Anthropological Perspective” in The New Age.

Shehzad M. Arefin (lecturer on study leave) published an article titled “Making Bangladeshi workers safe for capitalism” in The Daily Star.



Seminars/Conferences/Talks

Associate Professor Muhammad Shafiullah gave a presentation on “Impact of COVID Pandemic and War on the Financial Markets: a wavelet based LSTM machine learning approach” at an ESS department seminar.

Lecturer Sifat Islam Ishty gave a presentation on “Geopolitical Tensions and Artificial Intelligence: Impact on Global Economy & Bangladesh” at an ESS department seminar.

Awards/Honours/ Collaborations

Professor Farzana Munshi was appointed as a Professorial Research Fellow (Honorary) at the University of Manchester, UK.

Assistant Professor Moiyeen Zalat Chowdhury was appointed a Research Fellow of INTI International University, Malaysia.

Associate Professor Muhammad Shafiullah and Assistant Professor ASM Shakil Haider received a Regional Education Award in Teaching Excellency Award category from the London School of DIGITAL BUSINESS, UK for 2023.

Assistant Professor ASM Shakil Haider and former Lecturer Aflatun Kaeser established a Behavioral Experiment Lab at the ESS department.

Lecturer Fatimah Akhtar Momtaz was appointed as a Research Fellow of OXFAM.



CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

Overall, these contributed to progress towards Sustainable Development Goals 4 (Quality Education), 5 (Gender Equality), 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), 8 (Climate Action) and 17 (Partnerships for Goals).

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

SAJID BIN HASNAT enrolled for a Master of Science in Economics degree at Utah State University in Logan, USA from Fall 2023. He is also working there as a Research Fellow at the Center for Growth and Opportunity.

FARIHA KABIR Fariha Kabir enrolled for a Master of Economics degree at Monash University, Australia.

TASFIA AHMED and **PRIYONG SABASTINI** published a research paper in “Human Ecology: An Interdisciplinary Journal” published by Springer.



BRAC INSTITUTE OF EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



The BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BRAC IED) has been closely working with BRAC to provide technical support across projects under early childhood development (ECD) and mental wellbeing to cater to the mainstream as well as the Rohingya communities in Bangladesh. The ECD and mental health innovations have been replicated in East Africa and Asia, specifically in Uganda, Tanzania, Sierra Leone and the Philippines. A key highlight has been a collaboration with the National Curriculum and Textbook Board on developing a 2-year pre-primary curriculum that has been piloted in 3,214 government primary schools across Bangladesh. Another significant achievement is the building of the capacities of about 2,150 government education officials on play pedagogy and child development.



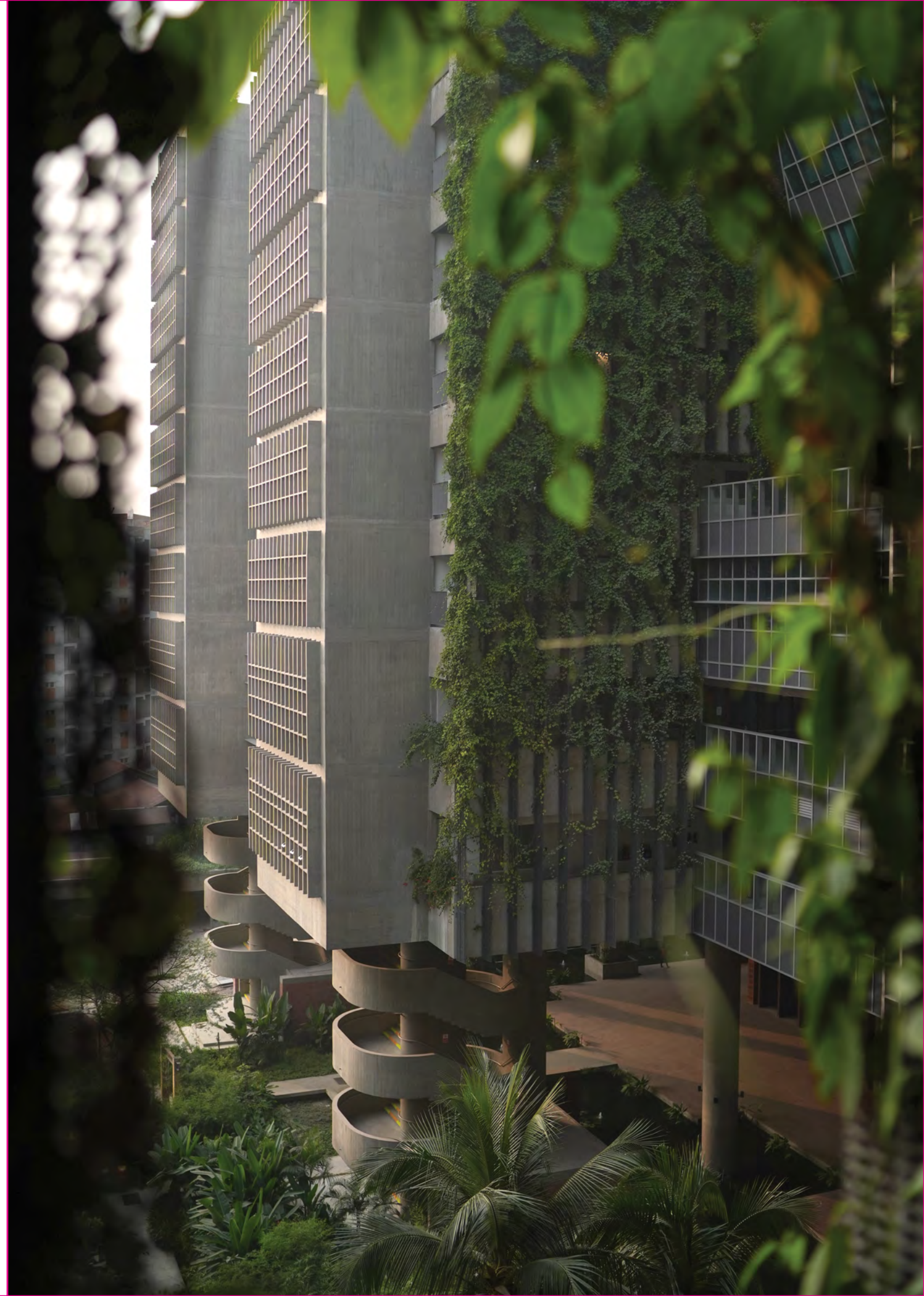
The BRAC IED's academic team this year saw 12 cohorts undertake an MEd program in Education Leadership and School Improvement and 6 cohorts an MSc in ECD program. These cohorts included students from Afghanistan and Syria. Additionally, under the Open Society University Network (OSUN) with the American University of Central Asia, an online course on global education and MA in Teaching was administered while summer university classes were also conducted in partnership with the Central European University. Various guest faculty members were involved in the administering of these classes, where both global and national practitioners and scholars shared their insights.



BRAC IED has been working in Bangladesh with a view to contributing to societal development, offering education opportunities in rural, semi-urban and urban regions and in areas with ultra-poor populations in Bangladesh. Innovations around engagements of fathers in parenting and climate resilience initiatives for early years and beyond have widely contributed to a changed mindset in local communities to enhance daily practices around child development. BRAC IED has also been working to strengthen and systematize livelihood opportunities for local women by developing their capacity to be childcare entrepreneurs, facilitating both the entrepreneurs' and mothers' economic pursuits. This pilot in 2023 has already reached 120 entrepreneurs, with an expectation to reach 300 by 2025.



Furthermore, the institute has been engaged in multiple projects in conflict zones requiring humanitarian aid such as Uganda, Sierra Leone and Bangladesh. The focus has been on providing quality education for children in the early years and ensuring wellbeing through mental health and psychosocial support for the parents, contributing to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and 4 (Quality Education). Lastly, a major focus through 2023 has been around transforming all early years' initiatives into green initiatives nurturing children's relationship with nature and as a result, committing towards SDG 13.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

MUNIA ISLAM MOZUMDER, a pharmacy graduate from Jahangirnagar University, was granted a TFB Fellowship in 2015. She completed her Master of Education in Educational Leadership and School Improvement from BRAC-IED and her Masters in Governance and Development Studies from Jahangirnagar University.



Afterward she joined BRAC-KUMON and became one of the first Kumon instructors in Bangladesh. In 2022, she received a Fulbright Humphrey Fellowship provided by the US Department of State and studied Educational Administration, Policy and Planning at Vanderbilt University. Currently, she is serving as the CEO of Teach For Bangladesh.

IQBAL HOSSAIN is an education sector specialist with over 21 years of experience. He attained a master's in science from Kolkata University, India, and a Master's in ECD from BRAC University, Bangladesh with the highest distinction and a PGD in Development Planning from the National Academy of Planning and Development, Bangladesh. He is currently leading the secondary education, skills for adolescents and out-of-school children portfolio of UNICEF Bangladesh. His expertise lies in early childhood development, primary education and secondary education with a special focus on gender-responsive and inclusive skills-based education. Hossain has played a key role in initiating education for the Rohingya children and has also innovated on remote learning mechanisms through multiple platforms during the COVID-19 crisis.



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH & HUMANITIES



The Department of English and Humanities fosters critical thinking and encourages students to think independently. The emphasis is on inculcating reading and writing habits and preparing students with adequate critical and analytical skills so that they can contribute to society and become an integral part of the contemporary world.



HIGHLIGHTS OF FACULTY MEMBERS

Publications

Professor Nahid Afrose Kabir wrote a book titled “American Muslim Perspectives on Radicalization” published by Palgrave Macmillan and Associate Professor Mahruba Mowtushi wrote another titled “Africa in the Bengali Imagination: from Calcutta to Kampala, 1928-1973” published by Routledge.

Mahruba Mowtushi’s entry on “Bangladesh” was included in “The Journal of Commonwealth Literature”, volume 58, issue 4, and Assistant Professor Roohi Huda’s “Categories of International Migration in Select Works of Amitav Ghosh” in Literary Oracle, volume 7, issue 2.

Moreover, Associate Professor Mohammed Al-Amin wrote a chapter titled “The imposition of silence: an examination of the impact of the urban-rural divide in English language teaching in Bangladesh” in “English Language Education in Rural Contexts: Theory, Research, and Practices” published by Brill and Assistant Professor Gazi Mizanur Rahman wrote another chapter titled “Colonising the penal body: transit of the convicts from Bengal to the Malay Peninsula” published in “Southeast Asia: A Multidisciplinary Journal”.

Assistant Professor Sabreena Ahmed and Professor Asifa Sultana’s paper titled “Challenges of Implementing Higher Order Thinking Tasks in Bangladeshi Secondary English Classrooms” jointly with Sheikh Mohammad Ali was published in the National Academy of Educational Management Journal, 16 (1).



Research

Professor Nahid Afrose Kabir received ethics approval from the University of South Australia for her new project titled “Muslims in India: Identity, Youth, Women and Security”.

Teacher Training

ENH faculty members are also engaged in making a change in the community by contributing to society and education at various levels. Such a step was taken by Sabreena Ahmed, who was invited to train teachers at International Hope School Bangladesh, Uttara, Dhaka in the use of critical thinking techniques in classrooms.

In addition, Assistant Professor Syeda Farzana Sultana and Sabreena Ahmed were invited to impart lessons at 2nd TESOL Society of Bangladesh National Teachers’ Training Workshop 2023.



Fellowship

Assistant Professor Mahruba Mowtushi received a 2023 Baden-Württemberg Fellowship at the South Asian Institute at Heidelberg University.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGs

Overall, the faculty members made significant progress towards SDGs 2 (Zero Hunger), 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 4 (Quality Education), and 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

Students **DOLA SAHA** and **SAIF MAHMOOD MAHIM** were part of a yearlong oral history research program at the Global History Lab of Princeton University (<https://ghl.princeton.edu/>). Both of their articles were published on the Princeton University Blog. They also presented their work at Global History Lab's fourth international annual conference titled "Border-Crossing 2023".



Raina Isabela's paper "Denaturalized Genders in Pajtim Statovci's Crossing: Parody of Becoming and Performance" won the best paper award at 9th Inter-University Student Conference and Cultural Competition, organized by the Department of English and Humanities, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh.

She also presented a paper titled "Degradation of the Self Through the Other: An Analysis of Frankenstein (1818) Through the Bad Faith of Sartre's Being and Nothingness (1943)" in a session titled "Theorizing the Gothic II: Viewing Older Gothic Through Modern Lenses" of an online international conference titled "Progression, Regression and Transgression in Gothic World Literature and Film: New Approaches to the Ethics of Difference" organized by Simon Fraser University, Canada and co-sponsored by the International Gothic Association.





CENTRE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT (CED)

CED endeavors to inspire, devise, nurture, develop, and elevate entrepreneurship through innovation, institutional capacity, and leadership. Major activities of CED are also focused on significant work areas like development projects, research, capacity development, etc. contributing to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1 (No Poverty), 4 (Quality Education) and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

CED CONDUCTED THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

Entrepreneurship Development

Organized the “Pitch Masters” program to inspire the youth entrepreneurs. Three startups, Eco Shelter, Scorem, and Just Dot, won the competition.

Partnered with the University of Oklahoma to implement the Professional Fellows Exchange Program in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Organized a Regional Startup Network (RSN) formative workshop with KIIT-Technology Business Incubator and the US Consulate Kolkata.



Business Incubation Centre of the CED is providing support for 19 student-led startups, comprising around 50 students and alumni, to run operations. Two of them graduated, and one is about to graduate.

Facilitating 55 marginal women through the empowerment program “Academy for Women Entrepreneurs” (AWE - Cohort 2) funded by the US Department of State.



Project Implementation

Mapping all export-oriented RMG factories in Bangladesh under “Mapped in Bangladesh” (MiB) Phase 2, funded by the Laudes Foundation and GiZ (Jun 2022 - Jun 2025).

Leading a Danida research project, “Climate Change and Global Value Chains in the Garment and Textile Industries of Europe and Bangladesh” (July 2021- June 2025).



Signed an agreement for initiating the “EmPower Phase II” project funded by UNEP and UN Women.



Capacity Development

Organized a training on “Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in the Bangladesh



Garment Sector” with University of Aberdeen, UK, funded by the UKRI AHRC.



Industry Collaboration

Renewed collaborative partnership by signing an MoU with BKMEA to work on MiB.



Organized a Pitha Utshab with the diligent RMG industry workers.



Research

“Impact of Global Clothing Retailers’ Unfair Practices on Bangladeshi Suppliers During Covid-19”, study with the University of Aberdeen.

“The Roles of Information and Search Frictions in Determining Working Conditions in

Bangladesh’s Apparel Sector”, research with Columbia University.

“Exploring Adoption of Renewable Energy Technology (RET) among Apparel Exporters in Bangladesh: Policy Landscape, Current Capacities, and Future Pathways”, study with BRAC JPGSPH.

“Fashion’s Climate Breakdown and its Effect on Workers”, study with Cornell University.

Publications

“Role of Social Entrepreneurship in Slow Fashion Evolution through Preserving Textile/Garment Heritage, History, and Arts in Bangladesh”, 11th International Conference on Contemporary Marketing Issues (ICCMI).

“An Upcycling Fashion History of Bangladesh”, 28th Annual Weaving History Conference.

“Transition toward and Contextualization of Environmental Sustainability”, Sustainable Development for Thriving Communities Conference.

Book Chapter: Stakeholders of Sustainability Transition: Interventions in energy and Bangladesh RMG industry, in “Strategic Management and Sustainability Transitions Theory and Practice” by Michael Zhang.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

19 student-led startups, comprising around 50 students and alumni, are operating with support from the Business Incubation Centre, which was established at CED in 2016. Two of them graduated, and one is on way to graduate.



SCHOOL OF GENERAL EDUCATION



The School of General Education provides a common education foundation to all students before they take courses specific to their major and minor fields of study. The program promotes the core aims of the liberal arts curricula—to develop well-rounded individuals who have a broad range of knowledge on a variety of subjects and a mastery of skills that can be used across disciplines.



HIGHLIGHTS OF FACULTY MEMBERS

Professor Syed M Hashemi taught a summer course titled “Civic Engagement: Student as Citizen” at Central European University.



Dr. Samia Huq, Dean and Professor, launched a “Religious Pluralism, Religious Freedom and Dialogue in the Modern World” course as a Network Collaborative Course. The course was taught in collaboration with Bard College. Dr Samia Huq also joined the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) of the Paris Institute for Advanced Study. The SAB members guide the institute’s director on the institute’s scientific policies and the selection of fellows.

Lecturer SM Mahfuzur Rahman launched a Network Collaborative Course titled “Epistemology of Conspiracy Theories” which was taught in collaboration with Bard Early College.

Assistant Professor Dr Ratan Kumar Roy was awarded the Charles Wallace Bangladesh Trust Postdoctoral Visiting Fellowship (2022-23) at the London School of Economics (LSE), UK. He worked on his project titled Digitalization, Online Activism and Civic Politics in Contemporary Bangladesh at the South Asia Centre, LSE between January to April 2023.



Ms. Fahmida Rahman, Senior Lecturer and Program Coordinator, and Ms. Chathuri Kalpana Weerasinghe, Lecturer and Resource Unit Coordinator, won a grant of \$1,500 each from LAS Collab, Parami University for Strengthening the Guide on Liberal Arts Pedagogy and Teaching. This research contributes towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 (Quality Education).



Fahmida Rahman was also appointed as the LAS advisor from LAS Collab, Parami University. Moreover, she received a research grant of \$2,000 from LAS Collab, Parami University, which contributes towards SDG 4, and a grant of \$10,000 from Open Society University Network to launch a Civic Engagement Centre.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

The School of General Education has launched the Social Impact Lab (SIL) which is a student-led organization that serves as a hub for bringing together student impact entrepreneurs and changemakers to design and co-create ideas for positive change in the world and society. The initial success of the SIL can also be attributed to the diligent efforts of the founding team, which consisted of 16 Millennium Fellows, and students engaged from the university.





BRAC INSTITUTE OF GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

The BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD) celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2023, doubling down on its mission of creating knowledge for a better world. Some of the year's most significant achievements and milestones are described below.



One initiative was the relaunching of the Master of Governance and Development (MAGD) program. It has been redesigned to equip a new generation of policymakers, bureaucrats, and other policy actors to address the complex challenges of present times and contribute to sustainable, inclusive development.

BIGD also established Mathkendra, a field center in a village of Satkhira district. It will serve as a center for the institute's senior and young researchers to simultaneously learn and apply the ethos of field research, develop new ideas, and conduct micro-piloting of emerging ideas. These would be made possible through the nurturing of an intimate relationship with the people and local stakeholders, including community-based organizations, local government, and administration. A significant focus of the center will be climate change. Mathkendra is relevant to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 13 (Climate Action) and 17 (Partnership for Goals).



BIGD significantly strengthened its international presence last year. Three international conferences were organized, two of which were on green growth and climate change with the World Bank. The other was conducted with funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) on women's economic empowerment and digital finance. Researchers and practitioners from across the world participated in these conferences. BIGD's global initiative Women's Economic Empowerment and Digital Finance (WEE-DiFine), funded by BMGF, has been successfully extended to the new initiative WEE-Connect, which will conduct research on digital connectivity and women's economic empowerment. Both initiatives aim to build and influence a strong global knowledge base on the issue. These issues are related to SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 13 (climate action), and SDG 17 (partnership for goals).



BIGD also established the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning for Adaptation (MELA) initiative to bridge the gap between the learning and accountability roles of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) tools. The MELA team offers technical advisory services to complex projects with the goal of using M&E for learning and adaptation, utilizing methods such as developmental evaluation, outcome mapping, outcome harvesting, and contribution analysis. This initiative is related to SDG 9 (industry, innovation, and infrastructure).



Finally, BIGD has started an ambitious randomized control trial, also funded by BMGF, on the effectiveness of a low-cost childcare model implemented by BRAC in low-income areas of Bangladesh. Proven effective, this model can be scaled up to allow economically disadvantaged mothers to find paid work and their children to get early childhood education in a safe environment. The project is related to SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 4 (quality education), and SDG 5 (gender equality).

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

JANNATUL FEDOUS IVY, a 2009 graduate of the Master in Development Studies (MDS) program at BIGD, is a filmmaker, human rights activist, and writer. In 2023, Ivy was listed in the BBC 100 Women 2023 for her unwavering advocacy for the rights of female burn accident survivors. Ivy, a burn survivor, uses her platform to raise awareness for people living with disabilities through her human rights organization, Voice & Views, which fights for the rights of women who have survived burns.



ABDULLAH AL MAHDI RAHAT, a 2021 graduate of the Master in Procurement and Supply Management (MPSM) program at BIGD, began his career as a trainee in a local RMG factory. In 2023, he went on to become the first procurement professional from Bangladesh to work at a NASDAQ-listed company, Huntsman Corporation, a notable achievement as Ahmed broke the tradition of only expats being recruited for this crucial role.



QUDRATI AL WASIEW a 2021 graduate of the MPSM program at BIGD, last year received the opportunity to pursue a PhD in building engineering from Concordia University in Montreal. He began his doctoral studies in May this year.



CENTRE FOR INCLUSIVE ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM



Founded in 2017 by Professor Adnan Zillur Morshed, the Centre for Inclusive Architecture & Urbanism (Ci+AU) is a multidisciplinary research platform for critical thinking on community-driven spatial design.

It collaborates with local and international researchers, policymakers, and environmental stakeholders to integrate rigorous research with applied knowledge on urban and environmental issues and promote inclusive, empathetic, and environmentally conscious spatial practices.



By emphasizing urban designs that prioritize community needs and sustainability, the Ci+AU offers innovative solutions and policy guidance to enhance livability, resilience, and sustainability in the built environment.



In 2023, the Ci+AU's flagship project, "Transforming Single-Use Infrastructure into Multi-Use Community Development" focused on revitalizing the neglected spaces beneath Dhaka's flyovers.

Funded by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), this project explored the potential of these underutilized urban areas.

While flyovers in Dhaka primarily support motorized mobility, they also generate significant residual spaces that are often neglected or misused.

The Ci+AU's research uncovered that about

207 acres of neglected spaces under flyovers result in annual economic, social, and environmental losses exceeding USD 2 billion.



Through surveys and stakeholder engagement and taking inspiration from global best practices, the Ci+AU proposed solutions to transform these negative spaces into vibrant community zones.



The proposals were for the creation of urban gardens, sports areas, walking trails, as well as schools for street children, community clinics, cricket clubs, and libraries beneath the flyovers.

The Ci+AU presented its findings and design models to Dhaka North City Corporation, demonstrating how Bangladesh's cities could repurpose these spaces for inclusive, multi-use infrastructure without compromising the flyovers' primary function.



The project aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).

Currently, the Ci+AU is working on projects involving the following:

- * Design of Abinta Kabir Foundation School in Satarkul, Dhaka
- * A book on architect Professor Shamsul Wares
- * A farmhouse in Chattogram
- * BRAC Multistoried Regional Office in Cumilla



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

The Ci+AU has already completed a number of projects. These include providing designs for eight BRAC regional offices across Bangladesh, redevelopment proposals for Chattogram, and a prototype toilet for girls in Barishal.

The Ci+AU has also designed a school for Rohingya children in Kutupalong, a vocational education center at Nilphamari, and interior design and renovations for dormitories and a library at BRAC University's Savar campus.

Notably, in 2017, the Ci+AU earned an honorable mention as a finalist in a national urban design competition for the redevelopment of Dhaka Central Jail into a museum and urban park.





**BRAC INSTITUTE
OF LANGUAGES**

The BRAC Institute of Languages (BIL) enhances students' language skills for academic and professional success through student-centered courses in English and modern languages. The BIL offers programs like Pre-University and Master of Arts in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (MA in TESOL) to cultivate skilled English teachers and leaders.



EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

The BIL hosted a Chinese intercultural pavilion at a cross-cultural event, with support from the Chinese embassy, encouraging language acquisition and promoting scholarships to study in China.

The BIL organized a ceremony to present certificates to 36 IT professionals who completed the English for IT Professionals course.

The BIL conducted a Training of Trainers (TOT) for English instructors under a "Her Power Project" to empower women through ICT.



Faculty members assessed English for Diploma in Midwifery students and the BIL signed a memorandum of understanding with OGSB Institute for Nursing Science over a 30-hour English course.



HIGHLIGHTS OF FACULTY MEMBERS

Research, publications and other activities

Faculty members Mohammad Aminul Islam and Md Mahbubul Islam published a book chapter on mentoring as a strategy to improve student retention during COVID-19.

Faculty members Evita Umama Amin and Abdul Karim published a research paper in the Asian-Pacific Journal of Second and Foreign Language Education.

Faculty members Farjana Afrin received a "Commonwealth Shared Scholarship" to pursue an MA in TESOL at the University of Leeds whereas Imam Zafar Numanee an "NUP Presidential Scholarship" for advanced studies in applied linguistics at Northwestern Polytechnical University in China.





Faculty members Liza Reshmin, Evita Umama Amin, and Fariah Amin received “Quality Journal Publication Award 2024” from BRAC University’s Research Metrics Committee.

Faculty members Mohammad Aminul Islam and Md Mahbubul Islam distributed 200 books among students at Arambaria Government Primary School in a literacy drive.



Faculty members Tanzima Baten and Nafisa Moquit organized a “Joy of Sharing” charity project during Ramadan.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

The MA in TESOL program addressed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 4 (Quality Education) and 10 (Reduced Inequalities) through its core course TSL507: Teaching Practicum-1.



Pre-service teachers of this course provided English language lessons to children of low-resourced schools on the BRAC University campus to ensure fair access to learner-centred, multimedia-aided language classrooms for underprivileged communities.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

Four MA TESOL students became EAP and Academic Writing instructors in the Refugee Higher Education Access Program (RhEAP) in 2023. Operating in Kenya, Jordan, Bangladesh, and Eastern Africa, this program is co-led by OSUN Hubs and the Centre for Peace and Justice at BRAC University.



SCHOOL OF LAW



The School of Law actively engages in intellectual discourse and research, contributing to the development of legal frameworks crucial for sustainable development. Through participation in international events and collaboration with global institutions, faculty members enhance awareness and understanding of legal issues impacting societal and economic progress. Emphasis on topics such as intellectual property rights, environmental law, and human rights underscores the school's commitment to addressing contemporary challenges aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

An academic retreat was organized for students of course LAW203 to foster collaboration and strategic planning.



A workshop on “Moot Court and its Fundamentals” provided students with essential advocacy skills and courtroom experience.



A 4th Intra-University Moot Court Competition served as a platform for students to showcase their legal acumen and advocacy prowess.



A certificate course on “Intellectual Property for Innovation, Creativity and Branding” was launched in collaboration with the Center for Learning Intellectual Property.



Legal studies' scholar Oskar Polanski from the European University Institute joined as an International Teaching Fellow under the OSUN Faculty Exchange Program.





HIGHLIGHTS OF FACULTY MEMBERS

Assistant Professor Md. Mostafa Hosain published a chapter from New York University titled "A Research Guide on the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)" and an article on Bangladesh in The Yearbook of International Environmental Law from Oxford University Press. He also participated in a training on healthy diets and physical activity.

Senior Lecturer Dr. Muhammed Atiqur Rahman presented a paper at a colloquium for teachers of intellectual property organized by World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and World Trade Organization. He also participated in a symposium on health and climate change and co-conducted an online session on intellectual property rights and sustainable development.



Senior Lecturer Md. Saimum Reza Talukder attended Stockholm Internet Forum, taught cyber law at universities in Central Asia and Bulgaria and served on an advisory committee for a digital health project. He also authored a book's chapter on digital constitutionalism and finalized a study on cybersecurity in South Asia funded by think tank Konrad Adenauer Stiftung.



CONTRIBUTION TO SDGS

Overall, the faculty members and students made significant progress towards SDGs 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 4 (Quality Education), 5 (Gender Equality), 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), 10 (Reduced Inequalities), 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), 13 (Climate Action), 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

TARAJI SHEIKH was awarded a full scholarship to undertake a climate change law course of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law.



FAHIM ABRAR ABID won a “Best Researcher” awarded in a 12th Certificate Course on Genocide and Justice organized by the Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice of Liberation War Museum.

SAUD SHAD, FAHIM ABRAR ABID, JOSEPH UMOREN OKON and **SEKYANZI ISMAIL** were accepted into an OSUN Undergraduate Mobility program, which provides educational opportunities at partner institutions to further studies related to Open Society University Network (OSUN) themes.



MD. SHABAB HOSSAIN MEHER from the School of Law teamed up with **SHANEN GOMES** from the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences and **ELIYA NANDI** from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering to win a US \$1500 first prize through their pitch on a social entrepreneurship project at Social Entrepreneurship Practicum taught at BRAC Business School.



DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES



The Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS) has 62 faculty members, around 30% of whom are PhD holders, and 1,700 students. Currently, the department is offering Bachelor of Science degrees in microbiology, biotechnology, physics, mathematics, and applied physics and a Master of Science degree in biotechnology.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

During the 36th BSM Annual Conference, the department accounted for the most student posters and oral presentations.

The department received three prestigious government research grants from the Ministry of Science & Technology.

A number of events were held under the Biotechnology Program, including a Biotechnology Olympiad and a Bioinformatics Workshop Summer 2023.

Similar programs were also held under the Microbiology Program, including ones titled “Prospects & Scopes for Members of the American Society for Microbiology”, “Women in Science: Celebrating International Women’s Day”, “Life Science Debate Competition”, “UTI in Women”, and “Molecular Epidemiology of Dengue: Bangladesh Perspective”.

HIGHLIGHTS OF FACULTY MEMBERS

In 2023, the faculty members reached new heights through their research publications, attaining prestigious awards and attending international conferences.

Professor Tibra Ali and Professor Syed Hasibul Hassan Chowdhury are working on quantum field theory, quantum chaos theory, astrophysics, set theory and group theory.

Professor Mahboob Hossain and Lecturer Akash Ahmed published two research papers, including one in a Q1 journal, contributing to SDGs 12, 13, 14 and 15.



Professor Aparna Islam, a member of the International Society for Biosafety Research and a fellow of the Agriculture and Food Systems Institute, presented 8 research papers and published one.

Dr Firoze H Haque, Assistant Professor Muhammad Lutfor Rahman, Tasnim Kamal Tulka and Professor Yusuf Haider, comprising a condensed matter group under the physics program, are working on advanced and smart materials utilizing both density functional theory (DFT) and experiments, such as on transport properties and solar cells.

Assistant Professor Dr Iftekhar Bin Naser and Lecturer Tushar Ahmed Shishir published multiple research papers on genomics in PLOS One and Springer Nature.

Associate Professor Dr. Nadia Sultana Deen published a research paper in a Q1 journal and received two national and one international research grants for multiple projects in the field of immunology.

Associate Professor Dr. Munima Haque published three research papers and is working on microplastics, neonatal sepsis and SDGs pertaining to clean water and sanitation, as well as good health and well-being.

Associate Professor Dr. Fahim Kabir Monjurul Haque and Lecturer Akash Ahmed published multiple research papers focusing on antimicrobial resistance, including one titled “Assessment of Potential Pathogenic Bacterial Load and Multidrug Resistance in Locally Manufactured Cosmetics Commonly Used in Dhaka Metropolis” published in Springer Nature.





Assistant Professor Dr. Jebunnessa Chowdhury published one research paper while Lecturer Kashmery Khan received a grant under the Research Seed Grant Initiative as the principal investigator of a project.



CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

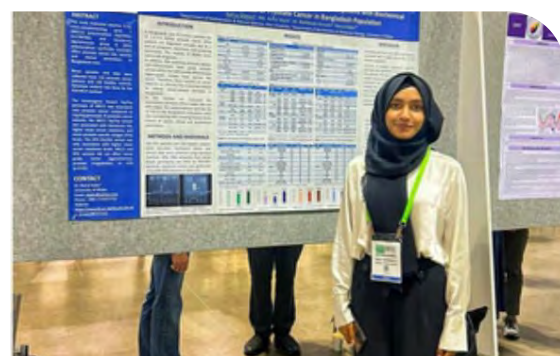
Overall, the faculty members and students made significant progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production).



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

SADAT HUSSAIN, who attained a Bachelor of Science in Physics from the Department of MNS, was awarded the Chancellor's Gold Medal at the 15th Convocation of BRAC University.

NAFISA AHMED, a recent biotechnology graduate of the MNS department, shared her research at the American Association of Cancer Research Annual Meeting in Florida.



SALMAN KHAN PROMON, an alumnus of the MNS department, started working as a graduate researcher in the Center for Nuclear Receptors and Cell Signaling at the University of Houston in the USA.



CENTRE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE



Centre for Peace and Justice (CPJ) is a multi-disciplinary academic institute, which promotes global peace and social justice through quality education, research, training and advocacy. CPJ is committed to identifying and promoting sustainable and inclusive solutions to a wide range of global concerns and issues, including fragility, conflict and violence.

THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ACTIVITIES OF CPJ IN 2023 ARE:

Established a dedicated Capacity Building Unit to increase the strength of communities for peace and social cohesion.



CPJ's Refugee Studies Unit (RSU) in Kutupalong launched an education program for refugee learners titled "Language, Images and Analytical Thinking (LIT)".

Organized a lecture for trainee diplomats at Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) and Foreign Service Academy (FSA). The lecture titled "Myanmar and Arakan in Crisis" featured Laetitia van den Assum, former Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and member of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State.

Convened an annual meeting with Open Society University Network (OSUN) global team at Cox's Bazar. The discussion focused on strategies to strengthen CPJ and OSUN's collaborative efforts.



CPJ researchers collaborated with BRAC Advocacy for Social Change (ASC) to explore the perceptions of Bangladeshis engaged in a range of professions across 28 districts under a "Perceptions Across Professions: A Snapshot into Bangladeshi Professionals' Perceptions of Rohingya Refugees" project.

Partnered with Samata Foundation (Nepal) and Nagorik Uddyog to receive a grant from the US Department of State to support the rights of Dalits and other lower caste communities.

Organized a conference titled "The Intersections of Faith and Development in Bangladesh" partnering with World Faiths Development Dialogue (WFDD), Georgetown University.



Arranged in association with ActionAid Bangladesh a research findings dissemination event on the Legal and Regulatory Framework Affecting the Enabling Environment for Grassroots CSOs in Bangladesh.



Held a 3-day residential workshop on systems mapping for emerging women legal practitioners in collaboration with The Asia Justice Coalition.



Launched a Visiting Researcher Program.



Introduced a Research Seminar Series.



Established Riedwan Aritro Internship Program for fresh graduates.

CPJ researchers started a Model Law Project funded by The Asia Foundation (TAF) and Konrad Adenauer Foundation (Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung). This project shall produce a model law for refugees in Bangladesh.

CPJ researchers are conducting a study to explore fragility dynamics in climate affected borderlands in southwestern Bangladesh. This

project is a part of the FCDO funded XCEPT program.

Currently developing a book on legal empowerment focusing on the historical evolution and social justice implications of Bangladesh's legal landscape.

In 2023, CPJ's education, research, advocacy and capacity building initiatives contributed to SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 13, 16 and 17.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

CPJ facilitated the establishment of "Peace Cafes" at 5 universities of Bangladesh partnering with UN Women which serve as hubs for student-led civic engagement. Strong engagement with these youth groups is sustained through a virtual platform, "Bangladesh Peacebuilders' Network". Peace Café envisions empowering young students to promote a just, peaceful, and inclusive society where every human being will be treated with equal dignity and rights.



SCHOOL OF PHARMACY



The School of Pharmacy (SoP) was formally inaugurated on July 30, 2022, marking a significant milestone in BRAC University's commitment to academic and research excellence.



EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

In 2023, the School of Pharmacy signed a memorandum of collaboration with King's College London, the first of its kind in Bangladesh, to enable students and faculty members from both institutions to engage in academic and research collaborations and exchanges.



A series of events were organized in celebration of World Pharmacists Week 2023. These included a discussion titled "Role of Pharmacists is Integral to a Sustainable Health System" which provided a platform for dialogue between distinguished guests from academia and the pharmaceutical industry.



A number of seminars were also organized as a part of a "Toolbox for Success" series focusing on health and well-being.

HIGHLIGHTS OF FACULTY MEMBERS

As part of the commitment to advancing research, the 25 faculty members of the School of Pharmacy collectively contributed to the publication of 63 peer-reviewed articles in high impact factor journals.

Notably, Associate Professor Dr. Rabiul Islam, with a total of 173 publications, consistently held the 8th position among all researchers and research fields in Bangladesh (Scopus database, 2022 and 2023). In 2023, him and another researcher jointly stood 2nd from among BRAC University faculty members.

Professor Dr. Sharmind Neelotpol received funding from BRAC University for "Can vitamin E intervention attenuate heavy metal toxicities? A clinical study". She was also awarded Gender Grant 2023 from the Association of Commonwealth Universities for a project on helping female faculty members address barriers faced by women in research and to motivate them into staying engaged in teaching and research.

Professor Dr. Raushanara Akter also received funding from BRAC University.

Senior Lecturer Tanisha Tabassum Sayka Khan, who had received BRAC University Vice Chancellor's Gold Medal in 2016 alongside her Bachelor of Pharmacy degree, attained a scholarship to pursue her doctoral studies at Macquarie University in Australia.

CONTRIBUTION TO SDGS

The collaboration with King's College London contributed to SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), the roundtable marking World Pharmacists Week 2023 to SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and the Gender Grant 2023 to SDG 5 (Gender Equality).

The School of Pharmacy's overall efforts through research and development and collaborations with the pharmaceutical industry facilitated innovation and resilience in healthcare and associated infrastructure and



the creation of a skilled workforce. This aligns with SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure).

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

ALIFA AHMED, an alumna, received the Vice-Chancellor’s Gold Medal at the 15th Convocation for her outstanding academic and non-academic performance during her pursuit for a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree.

MEHRIN HAQUE TANISHA, an alumna and a former Teaching Assistant, received a GREAT Scholarship funded by the UK government, British Council and the University of Manchester to pursue a Master of Science degree in Cancer Research and Biomedicine.

SHIHAB UD DOWLA and Nasrin Ahmed Tahrim, alumni and former Teaching Assistants, received full scholarships to pursue master’s degrees in pharmaceutical research, development and safety at the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences of the University of Helsinki in Finland.

SANJIDA AHMED SRISHTI, an alumna and a former senior research assistant at the BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health of BRAC University, was awarded a graduate tuition scholarship and teaching assistantship to pursue a PhD in pharmaceutics and drug design at the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Duquesne University in the USA.



BRAC JAMES P GRANT SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Founded in 2004, BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH), BRAC University, envisions being the leading global public health institute for the world's pressing health challenges affecting disadvantaged communities. The School builds capacity & contributes to Public Health by creating innovative public health leaders & solutions through cutting-edge, experiential EDUCATION, TRAINING, RESEARCH & ADVOCACY (ETRA).

EDUCATION

The Master of Public Health (MPH) Programme

658 Graduates	34 Countries
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The 19th cohort of MPH students, comprising 28 individuals from eight countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Yemen, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Nepal, and Pakistan), commenced and successfully concluded their MPH programme. As a pivotal component of their experiential learning, the cohort actively engaged in eight field trips throughout the year 2023. This diverse exposure enriched their understanding and practical application of public health principles, reinforcing their global perspective in the discipline. In 2023, the students visited:

- Kallyanpur slum under the Introduction to Public Health course
- Korail under the Anthropological Approaches to Public Health course
- Urban Primary Health care Services Delivery Project in Mirpur under the Health Systems Management course

- Matlab (Chandpur) under the Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases course
- Respectful Maternity Care in Rangpur under the Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights course
- icddr hospital under Public Health Nutrition course
- Khilgaon Urban Dispensary & Probin Hitoishi Sangha under Ageing & Health course
- DNCC Waste Management plan in Aminbazar, Gabtoli under course



Midwifery Education Programme (MEP)

1580 students enrolled	1220 graduates in Midwifery Professions
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Midwifery Education Programme (MEP) is a 3-year diploma in midwifery that aims to reduce maternal-neonatal mortality and morbidity in Bangladesh.

In 2023, 312 students from 8th, 9th and 10th batch continued their study. 220 students received financial aid and 200 students of the 7th batch completed their final exam in April 2023. Some key activities include:



- MEP launched the policy brief "Transitioning to Midwifery Models of Care: Advancement Made in Bangladesh" under WHO SEARO, with support from DGNM, Government of Bangladesh.
- Released research paper 'Understanding the Work Environment and Use of Midwifery Skills: A Study on Midwives' on International Safe Motherhood Day 2023.
- MEP organized a Faculty Development Training (FDT) for 42 midwifery teachers, covering curriculum updates, post-partum management, and more.
- UNFPA Midwifery Team visited the Dhaka Midwife Led Care Centre, commending MEP's initiatives and engaging with students and faculty during a Q&A session.



TRAINING

Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD) is the School's International Training Hub since its inception in 2007. Some key figures:

- **38** Skills Building Seminars & Workshops in 2021
- **470+** Professionals Trained in 2023



RESEARCH

5 Centres of Excellences & 4 Hubs:

Centres	Hubs
Gender & Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights	Humanitarian Hub
Health Systems & Universal Health Coverage	Hub for Climate Change, Environment and Health (CCEH)
Urban Equity & Health	Hub for Evidence in Public Health Policy and Practice (HEPP)
Science of Implementation & Scale-up	Hub for Qualitative Inquiry (Qualinq)
Non-communicable Diseases & Nutrition	



Some key figures:

- **100+** Active Engagements with Stakeholders to Influence Programmes & Policies in 2021
- **47+** News Articles & 3 Blogs





Through its four core pillars- Education, Training, Research, and Advocacy; BRAC JPGSPH contributes to SDGs to play its part in the universal call to end poverty and protect the planet. SDG: 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16, 17.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

All BRAC JPGSPH graduates have been recruited by national and International Public Health institutions/organisations such as BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC, BRAC International, icddr, national and international NGOs, WHO, UNICEF, and UNFPA.

The School also connects with each alumnus individually in our alumni network through weekly posts on our existing social media platforms.

Nusrat Homaira, Bangladesh, 1st Cohort, is the Senior Lecturer, School of Women's and Children's Health, University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia.

Lokesh Bhatt, Nepal, 9th Cohort, is the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Specialist, The Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs (CCP).

Md. M. Islam Bulbul, Bangladesh, 8th Cohort, is the Programme Manager at National Nutrition Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh.

Carly Annabelle Comins, rUSA, 11th Cohort, is the Sr. Research Program Coordinator/ Data Analyst at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA.



Bachera Aktar, Bangladesh, 7th MPH Cohort, is the Deputy Director of the Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR) at the School. She is also pursuing her PhD at Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), UK.

Rifat-Ues-Sayeed, Bangladesh, 11th Cohort, is the Reproductive Health Commodity Security Consultant at UNFPA.

Besides being employed at globally recognized organisations, 40 of our alumni are currently pursuing their PhD and 12 have completed their Doctoral Degree.



BSRM SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING



The BSRM School of Engineering (SoE) is a great platform for teaching, learning, research and innovation in engineering education. Its mission is to produce technically competent, socially responsible, best quality engineers equipped with effective communication skills and the highest ethical standards and human values. At present, the school offers two undergraduate and two graduate programs under the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE). The Board of Accreditation for Engineering and Technical Education accredits all the undergraduate programs.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

The school conducted research in the fields of biomedical engineering, control engineering, photovoltaic systems, machine learning, power systems, renewable energy and many more. Numerous research papers have appeared in prestigious journals and conference proceedings, including ACS Nano, IEEE Open Journal of the Communications Society, IEEE Access, IEEE Tensymp, IEEE TENCON, APPEEC, IEEE ICPS, and others.

The Department of EEE has successfully launched an outcome-based education (OBE) curriculum for its two undergraduate programs to create an impact on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 by ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for the students.

Industrial Advisory Panel (IAP) and Alumni Advisory Panel (AAP) meetings were organized separately in 2023 to receive feedback on revisions to the OBE curriculum. The department is working closely with the IAP and AAP for continuous quality improvement to keep the curriculum updated and to make the graduates competitive in the job market.

Furthermore, in collaboration with the IEEE BRACU Student Branch, BRACU Electrical and Electronic Club and BRACU Optics and Photonics Chapter, the department organized around 50 events, workshops, seminars, competitions, orientations, industry visits, project showcases and webinars to promote sustainable energy, which addresses SDG 7.



Among those were seminars “Smart power flow controllers- A necessity for the future power grid” featuring Dr. Kalyan K. Sen, Co-Founder of Sen Engineering Solutions, and “How to Thrive in Engineering: Teaching, Research, Service, and Beyond” featuring Dr. Hasina Huq, Chairperson of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.



HIGHLIGHTS OF FACULTY MEMBERS

The faculty members of the school received internal funds (Faculty Research Fund and VC Seed Funding) and external funds (ICT Division and Optica Society) to continue research related to SDG 3 and create opportunities for international and industrial partnerships related to SDG 17.



Raihana Shams Islam Antara, a Lecturer in the Department of EEE, received the prestigious 2023 IAF Emerging Space Leader Award. She was one of 34 students and young professionals chosen by the International Astronautical Federation from among over 150 individuals shortlisted from over 80 countries to participate in the 74th International Astronautical Congress and get the opportunity to extend networks, gain knowledge and meet space experts.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

The vision of the school is to be the leading institution in the region and garner global recognition. The school worked on several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) throughout 2023, including SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & ALUMNI SUCCESS

A four-member student team from the Department of EEE won a People's Choice Award in the 2023 ICRA Roboethics Competition. The four, **UPAMA ADHIKARY, ZAFIRA TAHSEEN HOQUE, RIFAT RAHMAN AND SAYEF MAHMOOD**, presented a report and video titled "Runaround' for Today: Asimov's Law to Ethically Resolve Dilemmas in Robotic Assistance". Their mentors were Lecturers ABDULLA HIL KAFI AND RAIHANA SHAMS ISLAM ANTARA.



MASUBA AARON, a student of the Department of EEE, achieved the title of "Ethics Champion" of IEEE Region 10 (Asia Pacific) scoring at least 70% in an IEEE Code of Ethics awareness assessment.



BRACU ALTER, a team from the BSRM SoE, was one of the qualifying teams for the RoboCup Rescue Robot League 2023. The team is working on an advanced rescue rover under the university's Laboratory of Space Systems Engineering and Technology.





AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Brac University
Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2023

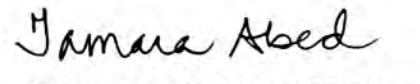
Prepared using the Reporting Form-PUFR-III. A (a) prescribed by University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2023	30 June 2022
ASSETS:			
Non-Current Assets	4.00	24,446,110,887	19,384,540,884
Property, Plant and Equipment	4.01	21,393,462,774	16,349,874,261
Donated Assets	4.02	2,857,882,475	2,852,319,895
Intangible Assets	4.03	14,540,638	2,121,728
Investment	4.04	180,225,000	180,225,000
Net Current Assets		1,141,912,718	354,971,108
Current Assets	5.00	4,793,055,813	3,579,428,158
Current Liabilities	6.00	3,651,143,095	3,224,457,050
FUND EMPLOYED (Non-Current Assets plus Net Current Assets)		25,588,023,605	19,739,511,991
FINANCED BY:			
Funds		9,212,636,707	8,309,372,478
Reserve Fund	7.00	50,000,000	50,000,000
General Fund	8.00	1,966,820,429	1,078,640,960
Special Fund	9.00	6,374,480,525	6,414,074,308
Accumulated Depreciation Fund	10.00	821,335,753	766,657,211
Liabilities		16,375,386,898	11,430,139,513
Long Term Liabilities	11.00	16,375,386,898	11,430,139,513
FINANCED BY (Funds plus Liabilities)		25,588,023,605	19,739,511,991

The Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes and schedules.


Treasurer


Pro Vice-Chancellor
& Acting Vice-Chancellor


Chairperson of the Board of Trustees

Signed for and on behalf of
MABS & J Partners
Chartered Accountants

Nasir U Ahmed
FCA, FCS, ACMA (UK), CGMA, FCA (England & Wales)
Deputy Managing Partner
ICAB Enrollment No. 535
DVC No: 2401040535A5259017

Dated: 04 JAN 2024
Place: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Brac University
Income & Expenditure Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2023

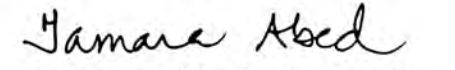
Prepared using the reporting form PUFR-III. A (b) Prescribed University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2023	30 June 2022
A. Income - Academic		3,995,582,122	2,793,302,700
Academic Income	12.00	3,966,025,851	2,767,031,705
Admission Income (Sale of Forms)		29,556,271	26,270,995
B. Expenditure -Academic		3,116,155,600	2,535,802,784
Academic Expenses	13.00	2,435,015,403	1,924,928,445
Admission Expenses	14.00	29,141,505	17,219,851
Academic Research Expenses		643,878,185	588,349,642
Publications Expenses		8,120,508	5,304,847
C. Excess of Income over Expenses-Academic (A-B)		879,426,522	257,499,916
D. Income -Non Academic		1,231,531,887	1,217,690,963
Non-Academic Income	15.00	1,231,531,887	1,217,690,963
E. Expenditure -Non Academic		1,251,402,466	1,042,815,911
Non Academic Expenses	16.00	1,251,402,466	1,042,815,911
F. Income over Expenditure-Non Academic (D-E)		(19,870,579)	174,875,052
G. Operating Income over Expenses (C+F)		859,555,943	432,374,967
H. Financial Income over expenses		185,361,080	101,785,441
Interest Income/Profit from Investment	17.00	193,206,240	107,417,930
Less: Financial Expenses		7,845,160	5,632,488
I. Net Excess of Income over Expenses Before Tax(G+H)		1,044,917,023	534,160,409
J. Income Tax (with adjustment)	18.00	156,737,553	80,124,061
K. Net Excess of Income over Expenses After Tax (I-J)		888,179,469	454,036,347

The Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes and schedules.


Treasurer


Pro Vice-Chancellor
& Acting Vice-Chancellor


Chairperson of the Board of Trustees

Signed for and on behalf of
MABS & J Partners
Chartered Accountants

Nasir U Ahmed
FCA, FCS, ACMA (UK), CGMA, FCA (England & Wales)
Deputy Managing Partner
ICAB Enrollment No. 535
DVC No: 2401040535A5259017

Dated: 04 JAN 2024
Place: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Brac University
Statement of Changes in Funds
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Prepared using the Reporting Form-PUFR-III. A (b) prescribed by University Grants Commission
(UGC) of Bangladesh

Statement of Changes in Reserve Fund
As at 30 June 2023

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2023	30 June 2022
Opening Balance	7.00	50,000,000	50,000,000
Add: Received during the year		-	-
Closing Balance		50,000,000	50,000,000

Statement of Changes in General Fund
As at 30 June 2023

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2023	30 June 2022
Opening Balance:		1,078,640,960	624,604,613
Add: Net Excess of Income over Expenditure during the year	8.00	888,179,469	454,036,347
Closing Balance		1,966,820,429	1,078,640,960

Statement of Changes in Special Fund
As at 30 June 2023

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2023	30 June 2022
Opening Balance		6,414,074,307	6,305,517,862
Fund received during the year	9.00	67,086,383	219,053,692
Interest earned during the year		24,656,303	25,526,027
Utilised during the year		(131,336,468)	(136,023,273)
Closing Balance		6,374,480,525	6,414,074,308

Statement of Changes in Accumulated Depreciation Fund
As at 30 June 2023

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2023	30 June 2022
Opening Balance		766,657,211	710,274,535
Addition during the year	10.00	159,388,320	109,512,670
Adjustment made during the year		(104,709,778)	(53,129,995)
Closing Balance		821,335,753	766,657,211

The Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes and schedules.

M. S. Rahman
Treasurer

Mahfuzul Karim
Pro Vice-Chancellor
& Acting Vice-Chancellor

Hamara Abed
Chairperson of the Board of Trustees

Dated: 04 JAN 2024
Place: Dhaka, Bangladesh



Brac University
Cash Flow Statement (Indirect Method)
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Prepared in the prescribed form PUFR-III. A (d) of University Grants Commission (UGC) of
Bangladesh

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2023	30 June 2022
a) Cash Flow from Operating Activities:			
Excess of Income over Expenses Before Tax		1,044,917,023	534,160,409
Non Cash Expenses		176,075,587	114,291,987
Change of Working Capital		144,961,801	(107,913,979)
Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities		1,365,954,411	540,538,417
b) Cash Flow from Investing Activities:			
Purchase/Acquisition of Fixed Assets/ Investments		(4,731,234,070)	(3,792,335,034)
Sale Proceeds Disposal of Fixed Assets/Investments		20,252,286	4,148,706
Net Cash Flow from Investing Activities		(4,710,981,784)	(3,788,186,328)
c) Cash Flow from Financing Activities:			
Increase of Finance/Donated Fund /Loan		4,758,572,963	3,202,640,724
Net Cash Flow from Financing Activities		4,758,572,963	3,202,640,724
		1,413,545,590	(45,007,187)
Cash and Cash Equivalent Surplus/(Deficit) for the year			
Cash and Cash Equivalent at Beginning of the year		363,858,556	408,865,742
Cash and Cash Equivalent at the End of the year	5.04	1,777,404,146	363,858,556

The Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes and schedules.

M. S. Rahman
Treasurer

Mahfuzul Karim
Pro Vice-Chancellor
& Acting Vice-Chancellor

Hamara Abed
Chairperson of the Board of Trustees

Dated: 04 JAN 2024
Place: Dhaka, Bangladesh



BRAC University
Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2024

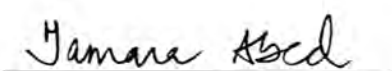
Prepared using the Reporting Form-PUFR-III. A (a) prescribed by University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
ASSETS:			
Non-Current Assets	4.00	29,275,666,832	24,446,110,887
Property, Plant and Equipment	4.01	26,186,121,994	21,393,462,774
Donated Assets	4.02	2,869,869,025	2,857,882,475
Intangible Assets	4.03	39,450,813	14,540,638
Investment	4.04	180,225,000	180,225,000
Net Current Assets		(1,115,349,169)	1,558,611,892
Current Assets	5.00	3,885,675,657	4,793,055,813
Current Liabilities	6.00	5,001,024,826	3,234,443,921
FUND EMPLOYED (Non-Current Assets plus Net Current Assets)		28,160,317,663	26,004,722,779
FINANCED BY:			
Funds		10,274,807,381	9,212,636,707
Reserve Fund	7.00	50,000,000	50,000,000
General Fund	8.00	2,707,467,904	1,966,820,429
Special Fund	9.00	6,302,747,943	6,374,480,525
Accumulated Depreciation Fund	10.00	1,214,591,534	821,335,753
Liabilities		17,885,510,282	16,792,086,072
Long Term Liabilities	11.00	17,885,510,282	16,792,086,072
FINANCED BY (Funds plus Liabilities)		28,160,317,663	26,004,722,779

The financial statements should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes and schedules.


Treasurer


Vice-Chancellor


Chairperson of Board of Trustees

Signed as per annexed report of same date

Signed for and on behalf of
MABS & J Partners
Chartered Accountants



Masud Alam Chowdhury, ACA
Partner
ICAB Enrollment No. 2088
DVC No: 2501222088AS499870

Dated: 22 JAN 2025
Place: Dhaka, Bangladesh

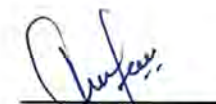
BRAC University
Income & Expenditure Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2024

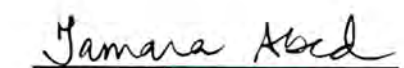
Prepared using the reporting form PUFR-III. A (b) Prescribed University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
A. Income - Academic		4,959,798,398	3,995,582,122
Academic Income	12.00	4,922,648,380	3,966,025,851
Admission Income (Sale of Forms)		37,150,018	29,556,271
B. Expenditure -Academic		4,060,579,843	3,116,155,600
Academic Expenses	13.00	3,087,675,057	2,435,015,403
Admission Expenses	14.00	33,503,608	29,141,505
Academic Research Expenses		934,649,195	643,878,185
Publications Expenses		4,751,983	8,120,508
C. Excess of Income over Expenses-Academic (A-B)		899,218,555	879,426,522
D. Income -Non Academic		1,678,474,618	1,231,531,887
Non-Academic Income	15.00	1,678,474,618	1,231,531,887
E. Expenditure -Non Academic		1,348,982,165	1,251,402,466
Non Academic Expenses	16.00	1,348,982,165	1,251,402,466
F. Income over Expenditure-Non Academic (D-E)		329,492,453	(19,870,579)
G. Operating Income over Expenses (C+F)		1,228,711,008	859,555,943
H. Financial Income over expenses		(357,629,890)	185,361,080
Interest Income/Profit from Investment	17.00	171,341,668	193,206,240
Less: Financial Expenses		528,971,558	7,845,160
I. Net Excess of Income over Expenses Before Tax(G+H)		871,081,118	1,044,917,023
J. Income Tax (with adjustment)	18.00	130,662,168	156,737,553
K. Net Excess of Income over Expenses After Tax (I-J)		740,418,950	888,179,469

The financial statements should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes and schedules.


Treasurer


Vice-Chancellor


Chairperson of Board of Trustees

Signed as per annexed report of same date

Signed for and on behalf of
MABS & J Partners
Chartered Accountants



Masud Alam Chowdhury, ACA
Partner
ICAB Enrollment No. 2088
DVC No: 2501222088AS499870

Dated: 22 JAN 2025
Place: Dhaka, Bangladesh

BRAC University
Statement of Changes in Funds
For the year ended 30 June 2024

Prepared using the Reporting Form-PUFR-III. A (b) prescribed by University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh

Statement of Changes in Reserve Fund
As at 30 June 2024

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Opening Balance	7.00	50,000,000	50,000,000
Add: Received during the year		-	-
Closing Balance		50,000,000	50,000,000

Statement of Changes in General Fund
As at 30 June 2024

Particulars	Note No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Opening Balance:	8.00	1,966,820,429	1,078,640,960
Add: Net Excess of Income over Expenditure during the year		740,418,950	888,179,469
Adjustment made during the year		228,525	-
Closing Balance		2,707,467,904	1,966,820,429

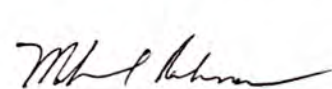
Statement of Changes in Special Fund
As at 30 June 2024

Particulars	Note No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Opening Balance	9.00	6,374,480,525	6,414,074,307
Fund received during the year		35,038,722	67,086,383
Interest earned during the year		29,416,544	24,656,303
Utilized during the year		(136,187,848)	(131,336,468)
Closing Balance		6,302,747,943	6,374,480,525

Statement of Changes in Accumulated Depreciation Fund
As at 30 June 2024

Particulars	Note No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Opening Balance	10.00	821,335,752	766,657,211
Addition during the year		561,765,263	159,388,320
Adjustment made during the year		(168,509,482)	(104,709,778)
Closing Balance		1,214,591,534	821,335,753

The financial statements should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes and schedules.


Treasurer


Vice-Chancellor


Chairperson of Board of Trustees

Dated: 22 JAN 2025
Place: Dhaka, Bangladesh



BRAC University
Cash Flow Statement (Indirect Method)
For the year ended 30 June 2024

Prepared in the prescribed form PUFR-III. A (d) of University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2024	30 June 2023
a) Cash flow from operating activities:			
Excess of income over expenses before tax		871,081,118	1,044,917,023
Non cash expenses		554,492,912	176,075,587
Change of working capital		640,044,173	144,961,801
Net cash flow from operating activities		2,065,618,203	1,365,954,411
b) Cash flow from investing activities:			
Purchase/acquisition of fixed assets/ investments		(4,076,419,783)	(4,731,234,070)
Sale proceeds disposal of fixed assets/investments		25,855,174	20,252,286
Net cash flow from investing activities		(4,050,564,609)	(4,710,981,784)
c) Cash flow from financing activities:			
Increase of finance/donated fund /loan		547,386,787	4,758,572,963
Net cash flow from financing activities		547,386,787	4,758,572,963
Cash and cash equivalent surplus/(deficit) for the year		(1,437,559,619)	1,413,545,590
Cash and cash equivalent at beginning of the year		1,777,404,146	363,858,556
Cash and cash equivalent at the end of the year	5.04	339,844,527	1,777,404,146

The financial statements should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes and schedules.


Treasurer


Vice-Chancellor


Chairperson of Board of Trustees

Dated: 22 JAN 2025
Place: Dhaka, Bangladesh





Inspiring Excellence